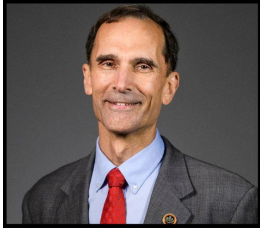


BOS BRIEF

MOUNT
VERNON
DISTRICT



The highlight of Tuesday's **Board of Supervisor's (BOS) meeting**, was the presentation of the **FY 2020 Proposed Budget Plan** by County Executive Bryan Hill. I am pleased that County Executive Hill's plan continues to **fund County priorities, fully funds the School Board's request** for a 2nd consecutive year and **maintains the Real Estate Tax Rate** with no proposed increases this year. County funding priorities include Diversion First, One Fairfax and a **new Environment and Energy Department**. School funding priorities include finishing the work begun last year to provide **market competitive compensation packages** to attract and retain the best teaching and administrative talent. One major disappointment in this Budget package is the limited Market Rate Increase (MRI) or Cost of Living Allocation (COLA) for County employees. The recommended increase is 3.51%, however, the **current Budget proposal only includes a 1% MRI for our valued employees**. The County Executive has committed to continuing to look for ways to increase MRI employee compensation in the final budget.

Top 3 Things You Need to Know from the BOS Meeting:

1. Advertised the **County Executive's FY 2020 Proposed Budget** funding County priorities and **fully funding schools**.
2. Endorsed the **Richmond Highway Widening Project** so the County's Department of Transportation can apply for **grant funding** through the U.S. Department of Transportation.
3. Approved new **"\$200 Additional Find for Speeding" signs** on Lorton Station Boulevard.

The Board recognized February 2019 as **African American History Month** in Fairfax County. During the presentation, I acknowledged the **Gum Springs Community** and the **Quander Family** for their many important contributions to the Mount Vernon community and as **pillars of African American heritage**. Monday, I had the honor of laying a wreath at President George Washington's tomb in honor of President's Day. **We also paid tribute at the Mount Vernon Slave Memorial**. This **sacred ground was used as a cemetery** for those enslaved, and a few free blacks, who worked in Mount Vernon in the 18th and 19th centuries.



The following are **highlights from the Board of Supervisors February 19, 2019 meeting**, including items of particular interest to Mount Vernon residents. For additional information, please go to the [County's Board Agenda and Meeting Schedule](#). You may listen to highlights from the Board meeting on your computer or listen directly on iTunes. Subscribe to the podcast, or choose a program and listen in.

The Board also designated:



February 2019 TB Awareness Month

To view the February 19, 2019 Board Package [click here](#).

Proposed FY 2020 Budget and FY 2021 Multi-Year Budget Plan

Fairfax County Executive Bryan Hill presented his **Advertised (proposed) Fiscal Year 2020 Budget** to the Board of Supervisors. The proposed General Fund budget is **\$4.44 billion**, a \$156.9 million (or 3.67%) increase over the current FY 2019 Adopted Budget. Including other appropriated funds such as federal and state grants, the **total proposed budget is \$8.86 billion**.

The proposed budget **maintains the current real estate tax rate of \$1.15 per \$100 of assessed value**. However, approximately 75.6% of residential property in the County increased in value over the past year, with an **average increase of 2.36%**. As a result of this change, the **average tax bill will increase by \$149.16**.

From **County Executive Bryan Hill**, *"I am presenting a **balanced budget**, with **no increase in the Real Estate Tax rate**, which provides compensation increases for our valuable employees and **meets the full operating request from the Fairfax County Public Schools**. This budget proposal includes **investments in human services, public safety, and transportation** and relies upon **savings generated from operational efficiencies**."*

View the County Executive's presentation:



Investing in Our Public Schools

The County Executive's recommended General Fund transfers to Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) **total \$2.35 billion**. This is a **3.82%, or \$86.46 million, increase** over the current FY 2019 Budget.

The proposed operating transfer **fully funds the School Board's requested transfer**. The top priorities for the FCPS FY 2020 Budget are compensation and instructional programs. FCPS receives approximately **72% of its funding** from the County government. It accounts for **52.9% of the county's General Fund budget**. [Read FCPS FY 2020 Proposed Budget...](#)

Investing in County Priorities

In addition to our public schools, the FY 2020 proposed budget includes **investments in our County priorities**. Examples include **public safety and human services** initiatives such as:

- **Staffing for the future South County Police Station**
- Diversion First
- Gang Prevention
- Opioid Task Force

The proposed budget also includes **partial funding of the employee compensation plan**. The proposal includes a **1% market rate adjustment for all employees**, as well as funding for performance, merit and longevity increases for non-uniformed and uniformed employees.

Looking Forward

A few of the **key issues impacting the County budget**, which the County Executive noted in his presentation, include:

- A **slight improvement in the revenue picture**, attributable to overall real estate growth of 3.6%.
- Insufficient projected resources to meet expenditure requirements, including full employee compensation funding.
- Ongoing **collaboration with FCPS** to meet joint priorities.
- Reorganizations and efficiencies reflected in the budget proposal.
- Funding and positions for **multi-year strategies** to support Board priorities such as Diversion First, gang prevention and the opioid task force.
- Funding and positions for the continued phase-in of the **Public Safety Staffing Plan**.
- Ongoing **Metro funding requirements**.

We Want to Hear from You!

While I have much to review and consider in the Proposed FY 2020 Budget, I **look forward to hearing from you**, our residents, about your priorities. Join me, County staff and FCPS staff for two **Budget Town Halls** in the Mount Vernon District.

TONIGHT! Thursday, February 21, 7:30 p.m.
Mount Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parkers Ln., Alexandria

Monday, February 25, 7 p.m.
Laurel Hill ES Library, 8390 Laurel Crest Dr, Lorton

You can also **provide input** during the budget **public hearings** at the Fairfax County Government Center on **April 9, April 10 and April 11**. **Sign up to speak at [here](#)**. Send written testimony [here](#).

Additional Resources

- [Who We Are: Fairfax County Demographics](#)
- [Watch: How Our Budget is Built in Fairfax County](#)
- [2019 Real Estate Assessments Available Now](#)
- [FY 2020 Advertised Budget Plan](#)
- [Citizen's Guide to the FY 2020 Advertised Budget Plan](#)
- [Budget Question & Answer Repository for FY 2020 and previous Budgets](#)

Administrative Items

Item 3: Approved new **"\$200 Additional Find for Speeding" signs** on Lorton Station Boulevard as part of the **Residential Traffic Administration Program (RTAP)**. A similar **request for signs on Mount Vernon Highway was deferred**. *The full item can be read on pages 39 - 44 of the Board Package.*

The Board authorized public hearings:

- On a proposed amendment to **County Code to repeal Chapter 71, Expedited Building Plan Review**, in its entirety. Based on new State Code, the County Code is now **outdated and unnecessary**. The hearing will be held **March 19, 2019, at 4:00 p.m.**
- On a [proposed amendment](#) to the **Zoning Ordinance** in response to **2018 legislation on wireless telecommunications infrastructure** and the Declaratory Ruling and Order adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The hearing will be held **April 9, 2019, at 2:30 p.m.**

Action Items

Action 1: The Board endorsed the **Richmond Highway Widening Project** for submission to the **US Department of Transportation's** Infrastructure for Rebuilding America FY 2019

Discretionary Grant Program. *The full item can be read on pages 84 - 87 of the Board Package.*

Action 2: The Board approved the Fairfax Connector's March 2019 service changes. Changes impacting the Mount Vernon District include:

- **Routes 161 and 162 Hybla Valley: Elimination of the 10:38 p.m. weekday trip** on Route 161 due to low ridership. **Options for riders include** the 9:38 p.m. trip on Route 161 or the 10:16 p.m. trip on Route 162.
- **Route 308 Franconia-Springfield Metrorail/VRE Station – Mount Vernon Hospital:** This new will provide a much **faster and more direct connection** between Richmond Highway, South County Government Center and Springfield.
- **Route 334 Newington Circulator:** Minor route change.

The full item can be read on pages 88 - 131 of the Board Package.

Action 4: The Board endorsed the **Residential Traffic Administration Program (RTAP)** revised traffic calming general operating procedures. *The full item can be read on pages 147 - 187 of the Board Package.*

Board Matters

Amend Plan Amendment Authorization for PA 2018-IV-MV5

This motion relates to **Plan Amendment 2018-IV-MV5** involving Sub-units A1, A2, and A3 of the **North Gateway Community Business Center (CBC)** along the Richmond Highway Corridor. The Plan amendment initiated by the Board on September 25, 2018 **directed staff to evaluate increasing the intensity** of Sub-units A1 and A2; altering the language regarding parcel consolidation with Sub-unit A3; and **reconfiguring the planned road network** within the CBC.

Staff has also identified an **opportunity to develop additional land use, open space, and urban design guidance** for the North Gateway CBC through the ongoing work on the **Urban Design Guidelines** for the Richmond Highway Corridor. The resulting guidance would **closely follow the format and nature** of the guidance that was **adopted for the other CBCs** on the corridor during the Embark Richmond Highway amendment, **without extending the timeline** of the amendment process. In addition, there is an opportunity to consider options for a **trail connection across Richmond Highway** between the planned **Cameron Run Trail**, shown along the northern boundaries of Sub-units A-1 and A-2, and the **existing Mount Vernon Trail**, which runs along the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

Action

Amended the authorization for PA 2018-IV-MV5 to broaden the scope of work to allow for consideration of urban design and open space guidance for the entire North Gateway Community Business Center, in addition to the original considerations, and directed staff to evaluate options for trail connections across Richmond Highway, connecting Cameron Run and Mount Vernon Trails.

Visit our Website

Mount Vernon District Office | 703-780-7518
MTVernon@fairfaxcounty.gov | FairfaxCounty.gov/MountVernon

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