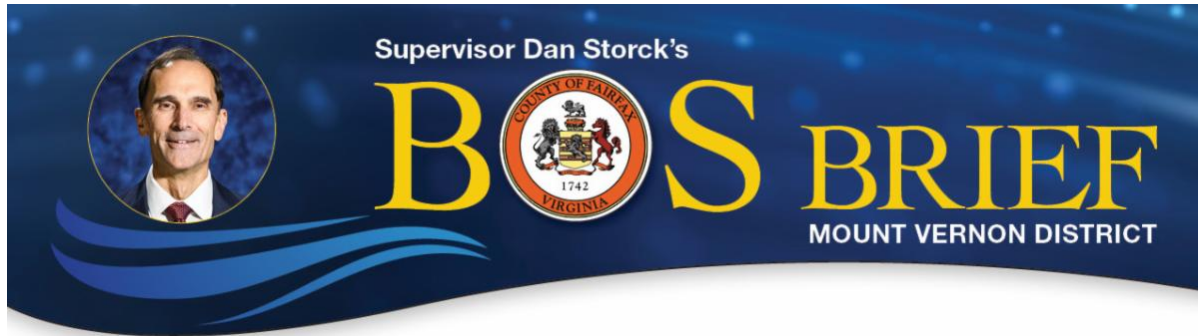


April 12, 2022



Dear Neighbors,

At Tuesday's Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting, we began **three days of public hearings** on the **County Executive's Proposed FY 2023 Advertised Budget Plan** that will continue through **Thursday evening**. [Ways you can submit testimony...](#)

I brought forward a Board Matter to recognize the **Mount Vernon Trail's 50th Anniversary**. The **first 4.5-mile stretch** of the trail opened in 1972 due to the efforts of many volunteers and their service. The Mount Vernon Trail has become a **vibrant recreational and transportation corridor** in the region, is now an **18.5-mile anchor** in our region's trail network with approximately **one million annual users** and is still maintained by dedicated volunteers. The **Friends of the Mount Vernon Trail** and I invite you to the **50th Anniversary Celebration** this **Saturday, April 16 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.** at Daingerfield Island.

Other meeting highlights:

- Authorized the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) to apply for additional grant funding for the FY 2022 Program for the **Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)** Project.
- Proposed potential expansion of **tax relief for Military Surviving Spouses** of those killed in the line of duty, but not in action.
- Proposed a **Budget Consideration Item to Adjust the Machinery & Tools Tax**, in particular to help our growing local breweries. This will be one of the budget consideration items the **Board will consider approving** as part of the FY 23 Budget process.

While located in the Lee District, the long awaited **Elm Street Communities** was approved at the intersection of **Richmond Highway and Buckman Road**, a gateway location on the highway. The developer committed to a \$200,000 contribution to **underground future utilities** along the highway and to underground their utilities along Buckman Road. This is the second **Economic Improvement Program (EIP) project** on the corridor after the approval of Alex Crossing and is the type of thoughtful, environmentally-friendly and planned communities that are the **future of the Richmond Highway Corridor**.

Respectfully yours in public service,

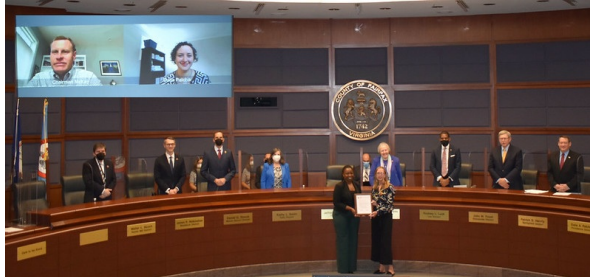
Dan Storck
Supervisor, Mount Vernon District
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

The following are **highlights from the Board of Supervisors April 12, 2022 meeting**, including items of particular interest to Mount Vernon residents. For additional information, please go to the [County's Board Agenda and Meeting Schedule](#). The clerk to the board's official **Summary of Board Actions** is available the week following each meeting. Information is also available by a **video linked to the board agenda** and the **Board of Supervisors Highlights podcast**.

Para recibir la información de **nuestro boletín electrónico en español**, o **para hablar con un hispanohablante**, comuníquese con **Madeleine Carcamo Reyes** a su preferencia, por teléfono al (703) 780-7518 o por correo electrónico: Madeleine.CarcamoReyes@fairfaxcounty.gov.

To view the April 12, 2022 Board Package [click here](#).

Proclamations and Recognitions

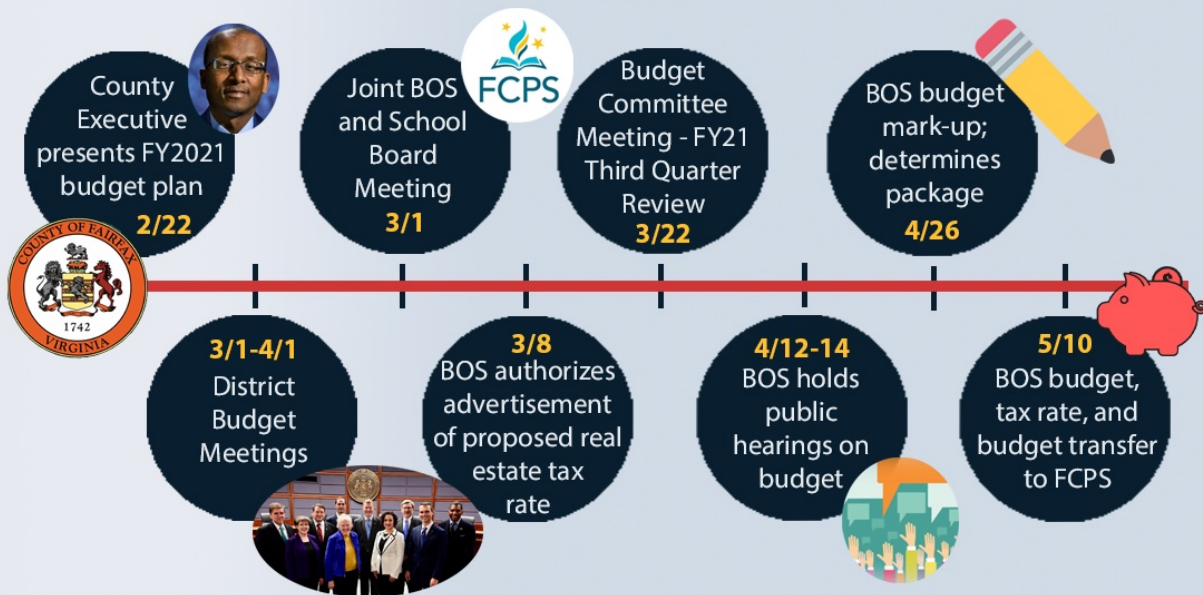


April as Autism Awareness Month
[Available Resources...](#)



April 11 - 15 as Community
Development Week

FY 2023 Budget Timeline



Administrative Items

Item 6: Approved a second amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between the **Community Business Partnership** and the Board of Supervisors to administer the Fairfax County **Small Business COVID-19 Recovery Microloan Fund**. *The full item can be read on pages 44 - 63 of the Board Package.*

Item 7: Authorized the Department of Transportation to apply for and accept grant funding from the United States Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration Virginia **Federal Lands Access Program**. The funding request includes more than **\$6 million** to complete the **Mason Neck Trail** from High Point Road to the Great Marsh trailhead parking lot. *The full item can be read on pages 64 - 67 of the Board Package.*

Authorized public hearings on:

- Amend and readopt the **large area community parking districts** to reflect the 2021 redistricting of election/magisterial district. Public hearing will be held on **May 4 at 4:00 p.m.** *The full item can be read on pages 7 - 13 of the Board Package.*
- A proposal to vacate and abandon portion of **Quander Road**. Public hearing will be held on **May 24 at 3:30 p.m.** *The full item can be read on pages 16 - 28 of the Board Package.*

Action Items

Item 5: Adopted an emergency uncodified ordinance to provide for a **per trip taxicab fuel surcharge of one dollar** to be enforced for no more than sixty days in accordance with Virginia Code. *The full item can be read on pages 147 - 165 of the Board Package.*

Board Matters

Mount Vernon Trail 50th Anniversary - Joint with Chairman Jeff McKay

On April 15, 1972, the **first 4.5-mile stretch** of the Mount Vernon Trail opened to the public. The gravel path ran from **Belle Haven** in Alexandria to the **Memorial Bridge** in Arlington and was the brainchild of two Alexandria women, **Ellen Pickering and Barbara Lynch**. In 1971, the two gathered over **700 petition signatures** to create a trail alongside the George Washington Memorial Parkway. The **National Park Service** was sympathetic to the plea and agreed to provide the **right-of-way, gravel, and tools** if Ms. Pickering and Ms. Lynch could provide volunteers to do the work. Ms. Pickering and Ms. Lynch organized **40 volunteers**, and **every Saturday** that winter they spread gravel. In total, 400 recruits spread 4,200 tons of gravel, contributing **5,300 hours of labor** to start the trail that would become a vital recreational and transportation corridor in the region. Today, the Mount Vernon Trail is an **18.5-mile anchor in our region's trail network** with approximately one million annual users. It is part of the East Coast Greenway, the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, as well as the Arlington Loop. [Read the full Board Matter...](#)

Action

Directed a proclamation be signed by the Chairman and myself to be presented on April 16 to the Friends of the Mount Vernon Trail for 50 years of service to our community.

4th Annual Environment Expo: Get Outdoors! Learn & Do!

The Mount Vernon District will host its 4th Annual Environment Expo: Get Outdoors! Learn and Do! on **Saturday, April 23, 2022, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Fort Hunt Park**. We are excited to partner with the National Park Service, Clean Fairfax and many County agencies again this year. This **FREE family-friendly festival** will feature activities and exhibitors sharing information about climate action, environmental challenges we face and solutions we can participate in to make Fairfax County, and the world at large, a **healthier, more sustainable place**.

Attendees will be treated to workshops, live music, **reptile and owl demonstrations**, nature walks, giveaways, solar cooking, robot demonstrations, and more. New this year, **Billy B, the Natural Science Song and Dance Guy**, will be entertaining and educating simultaneously and is guaranteed to please, with have kids and parents dancing along. Please [visit my website](#) to learn more about the event! **Join us to LEARN, ENGAGE and ACT to save our environment!**

Action

Directed the Office of Public Affairs to advertise the Environment Expo.

Request for Concurrent Processing SEA-88-V-064-05 (Original Mount Vernon High School)

The Original Mount Vernon High School (OMVHS) is located at 8333 Richmond Highway and owned by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The OMVHS facility is identified on the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites and listed on the **National Register of Historic**

Places and Virginia Historic Landmarks. The OMVHS project includes the renovation and adaptive reuse of the existing historic OMVHS facility and associated site improvements. The ultimate vision for OMVHS is to **create a "Human Development Center"** directly located on the Richmond Highway Corridor. [Read the full Board Matter...](#)

Action

Directed the Director of the Department of Land Development Services to accept concurrent and simultaneous review of a site plan, architectural drawings, building permits and/or other plans and permits as may be necessary to implement the improvements proposed with this Special Exception Amendment application.

Request for Special Permit Fee Waiver Simple Changes Therapeutic Riding Center

Simple Changes, a **non-profit therapeutic horseback riding center**, has been in operation in the **Mason Neck** area of Lorton since 2005, and has been serving hundreds of individuals with special needs from all over Fairfax County and the Northern Virginia Region. The organization provides **adaptive riding lessons and hippotherapy sessions** to more than 60 individuals with physical and cognitive challenges each week. In addition, they also provide equine assisted activities to **seniors with dementia, brain injury survivors, veterans suffering from PTSD, and at-risk youth.**

Simple Changes had been operating on a special recreation permit from the Bureau of Land Management at the **Meadowood Recreation Area** until September 2020. Since then, they purchased **Bayview Farm LLC**, a nearby equestrian facility at 10800 Belmont Boulevard, and have been operating at this location. [Read the full Board Matter...](#)

Action

Directed the Department of Planning and Development Zoning Evaluation Division to waive the Special Permit application fee for a riding and boarding stable for Simple Changes at 10800 Belmont Blvd, Lorton VA 22079.

FY 2023 Budget Consideration Item - Adjustment to Machinery & Tools Tax - Joint with Chairman Jeff McKay and Supervisors Dalia Palchik, Kathy Smith and James Walkinshaw

Currently, the M&T tax rate in Fairfax County is **\$4.57 per \$100 of assessed value**. It is assessed at 80 percent of the original cost for the first year of ownership and 10 percent less each succeeding year, until it reaches a floor of 20 percent in the seventh year. Va. Code §58.1-3507 **permits local governing bodies to carve out the M&T tax** as a separate class of Personal Property tax. Localities can adopt a **lower tax rate** and a more **favorable depreciation schedule**. Fairfax County **does not** currently have a separate tax rate or depreciation schedule for M&T tax as Prince William County and Loudoun County do. It should also be noted that there have been **no changes to depreciation schedules** since FY 2004, when the schedule depreciating computer equipment was last adjusted. [Read the full Board Matter...](#)

Consideration item

We therefore propose that we change the M&T rate **from \$4.57 per \$100 of assessed value to \$2.00 per \$100 of assessed value**. It is also requested that the Director of Tax Administration review the **depreciation schedule** to potentially assess at 50 percent of the original cost for the first year of ownership and 10 percent less each succeeding year, until it reaches a floor of 10 percent in the fifth year. The reduction of the County's M&T rate to \$2.00 per \$100 of assessed value and implementation of the revised depreciation schedule as outlined above would result in a **revenue reduction of approximately \$1 million.**

Public Hearings

FY 2023 Effective Tax Rate Increase

The **County Executive recommended no Real Estate Tax rate change** from last year's rate of \$1.14 per \$100 of assessed value. Subsequently, the **Board set a maximum tax rate of \$1.14 per \$100**. When it finalizes the budget, the Board has the **option to consider a lower tax rate, but cannot go higher than the advertised rate**, which is the current tax rate. **Action on the tax rate** is recommended to take place on **May 10**, as part of the **annual adoption** of the tax rate resolution, after the public hearings on the FY 2023 Advertised Budget Plan, and the **Board markup on April 26**. The **public record will be remain open for written public comment until April 26**. [How to submit testimony...](#)

Proposed Amendments County Code Relating to Sewer Service Charges, Base Charges, Availability Charges, Fixture Unit Charges, Introduction of Charges for Hauled Wastewater and License Fees for Sewage Handlers

A public hearing was held for these **proposed amendments to the County Code**. The amendments will be voted on as part of the Budget approval process. The **public record will be remain open for written public comment until April 26**. [How to submit testimony...](#)

County Executive's Proposed FY 2023 Advertised Budget Plan, the Advertised Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2023-2027 (CIP) (With Future Fiscal Years to 2032) and the Current Appropriation in the FY 2022 Revised Budget Plan

The Budget public hearing will continue through April 14 and the **public record will remain open for written public comment until April 26**. [How to submit testimony...](#)

Upcoming Land Use Cases

Board of Supervisors

May 10: [PCA-2009-MV-018](#) **Scannell Properties LLC**

Amend proffers/conditions associated with RZ-2009-MV-018 to permit last mile distribution center, 8991 Belvoir View Place, Lorton, VA 22079.

Planning Commission

April 27: [SEA-84-V-035-03](#) **Huntwood, LLC**

Amend SE 84-V-035 previously approved for increase in building height to allow for addition of land area, increase in FAR, site modifications and uses in a floodplain 5845 and 5863 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA 22303.

Board of Zoning Appeals

April 20: [SP-2021-MV-00124](#) **Peter MacGregor**

Appl. to permit an increase in fence height in the front yard adjacent to Dartmouth Drive and Quander Road. Located at 6901 Quander Rd., Alexandria, 22307 on approx. 10,885 sq. ft. of land zoned R-4. Mount Vernon District.

District Information & Upcoming Events

Opioids and Illegal Drugs

With **fantanyl becoming more prevalent** in drugs being purchased illegally - including **pills like oxycodone and valium** - the County is sharing information and resources to prevent opioid abuse. [Study released by the NIH...](#)
[County resources and information you can use...](#)

Due to the **rise in opioid overdoses** in the Fairfax Health District, which is consistent with national and state trends, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) has partnered with Fairfax County Government to provide an **educational live webinar** on youth substance use trends and supports.

Topics Include:

- Substances used frequently by youth
- Reasons youth use substances
- What parents and adults should look for
- Available prevention/intervention supports
- How to connect with supports

The webinars are offered at the following dates from 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

- **April 20 at 7:00 p.m.**
- **April 26 at 7:00 p.m.**
- **April 28 at 7:00 p.m.**

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion: Barriers and Bridges to Fair Housing

In Honor of Fair Housing Month, the Fairfax County Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs in collaboration with the Equal Rights Center (ERC), Legal Services of Northern Virginia (LSNV), and the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors® (NVAR) is pleased to invite you to register for a **FREE fair housing webinar on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, 9:30-11:30 a.m.** Topics include: **Housing Discrimination Based on Source of Funds, Disability (Reasonable Accommodations), and Legal Updates-Fair Housing Laws.**

The webinar is **FREE** and there is no charge to register. [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Public Meeting: Fiscal Year 2023-2028 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program

The **Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)** will conduct a public meeting to give the community the opportunity to provide comments on **transportation projects and programs** to be included in the Fiscal Year 2023-2028 Six-Year Improvement Program (FY23-28 SYIP). These projects and programs, which include **highway, rail and public transportation initiatives**, represent important improvements to address safety, congestion and preservation of Virginia's transportation network.

This CTB meeting as required by §33.2-214.3 code of Virginia, will serve as the **joint public meeting** for the following six agencies: the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT), the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA), the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), the Virginia Railway Express (VRE), and the newly established Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPR). Each organization will have information available for review and comment related to their respective projects, evaluation, and selection criteria for funding.

The public meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 4 at the VDOT Northern Virginia (NOVA) District Office**, located at 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax. The **open house** will begin at **5:30 p.m.**, followed by a **listening session at 7:00 p.m.** Formal **public comments** on projects proposed to be included in the draft SYIP will be **accepted at the meeting and online until May 23.**

Regional Challenges Need Smart Solutions!

Do you have a solution to make our **region smarter, more livable, resilient and sustainable** for all our residents? If the answer is YES, we invite you to join the **Smart Cities 2022 Challenge**. We are looking for individuals or teams to come together over a six-week period, from **May 2 – June 16, 2022**, to create innovative solution in the areas of transportation, health, water, and carbon neutrality, and we are **especially excited to see solutions from underrepresented founders.**

Cash and in-kind prizes will be awarded, including pilot project opportunities, participation in the Smart City Works accelerator, membership in Refraction, and Amazon Web Services credits. Prizes, including a chance to **pilot a project** with Fairfax County, will be awarded based on innovation, equity and inclusivity, practicality of application and regional impact, as outlined in the judging criteria. **Bring your solution to the table and register today!** [Learn more...](#)

Supporting the People of Ukraine - Collection Ends April 15

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees more than **3 million residents of Ukraine have fled their country** due to the Russian invasion of their country. More than 2 million have arrived in neighboring Poland. In the past the residents and businesses of Northern Virginia have been **extraordinarily generous to those people in need.** The Northern Virginia Regional Commission is organizing a coat/blanket/socks and gloves drive. **Items can be dropped off in boxes located outside our office at the Mount Vernon District Office.**

We are asking donations for the following:

- New/Gently Used Coats
- New Blankets
- New Pairs of Sweat Socks/Heavy Socks
- New Pairs of Gloves

In addition, there are **several organizations seeking support** that have activated **local and international relief efforts**. [How you can help...](#)



ENVIRONMENT EXPO

Get Outdoors! Learn and Do!

Supervisor Dan Storck and the National Park Service invite you to participate in the **4th Annual Mount Vernon District Environment Expo: Get Outdoors! Learn and Do!** on **Saturday, April 23, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.** at Fort Hunt Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. Attendees will learn about the environmental and climate challenges we face on a daily basis and **actions you can take** to help.

FREE Family Friendly Festival including: Exhibitors, Workshops, **Live Music by Billy B the Natural Science Song and Dance Guy**, Live Reptile & Owl Programs, Electric Vehicles, Nature Walks, **Junior Ranger Program**, Recycle Right, Touch-a-Truck, CCTV Robot Demos, Purple Glass Monster (bring your glass!), **Give-aways** and more! [Learn more...](#)



Laurel Hill Central Green

Saturday, May 7, 2022, at 2 p.m.



A new playground will open at Laurel Hill and you are invited to join in the fun of the opening celebration.

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board and Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck will hold ribbon cutting ceremonies for the new playground at Laurel Hill Central Green on Saturday, May 7, 2022, at 2 p.m. Please join us for brief remarks from local officials, refreshments. The park is located at 8780 Lorton Road in Lorton, Va.

The playground is appropriate for children ages 2 to 12 years old. Features include a large spinning ADA accessible play structure, small tot play composite and a large unique play structure for children 5 to 12 years old.

For more information contact the Public Information Office at 703-342-8662.



Laurel Hill Central Green

8780 Lorton Road
Lorton, Va.

703-324-8563
TTY: Va. Relay 711

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Fairfax County, Va. • 4/22

Visit our Website

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

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