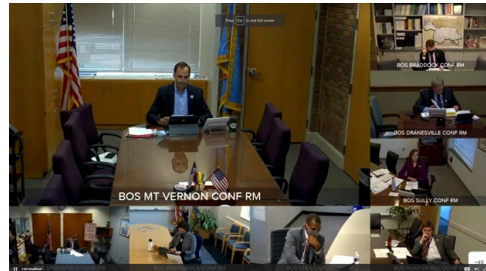


April 13, 2021



At yesterday's Board of Supervisor's meeting we took a **next important step** in **preserving River Farm** for our community. The Board heard from many of you at the public hearing and **I thank everyone** for your engagement, particularly **Alan Rowsome, Katherine Ward, Anne Fafara** and all the other members of the **community advocacy group Save River Farm**, and your respective organizations, for your continued support. Following the public hearing, the Board **unanimously approved the establishment of the Wellington at River Farm Historic Overlay District (WHOD)**. While the County does not have the right to preclude development of this property in this **existing R-2 zoned district**, the WHOD procedural safeguards to reduce the potential of inappropriate development. **More on other exciting news** about our [Save River Farm](#) efforts in the public hearing section below.



Also at the meeting, we began **three days of public hearings on the proposed FY 2022 Budget**. Public hearings on the **County Executive's Proposed FY 2022 Advertised Budget Plan will continue through Thursday evening**. [Ways you can submit testimony...](#)

Additional Meeting Highlights:

1. Authorized the County Redevelopment and Housing Authority to issue a **\$3 million loan** to finance the acquisition of the **Landings II at Fort Belvoir** for renovation and **future committed affordable housing**.
2. Approved acquisition of land to **construct the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway Trail** from Gristmill to Southwood Drive.
3. Announced **Solarize Fairfax 2021** is underway through June 30.

I was also pleased to announce the **2021 Mount Vernon District Community Champion** at the meeting. **WoodlawnFaith United Methodist Church Reverend Dr. Brian Brown** recognized the critical needs of the community during the Pandemic, especially their **emotional and spiritual needs** as the **Black Lives Matter** movement and awareness grew in our community and around the country. Working with our office and our District and County public safety officers and traffic enforcement to coordinate logistics, he organized a **safe, peaceful protest** in support of black citizens around the country who have lost their lives to police action. **Attracting over 1000 participants**, and with speeches encouraging **peaceful action as leverage for change**, this March helped lead a community in grief and frustration toward positive growth. **Thank you for your service and congratulations Reverend Brown!**

You can read more about COVID-19 updates, **upcoming community meetings** and information below.

Respectfully yours in public service,

Handwritten signature of Dan Storck in black ink.

Dan Storck
Supervisor, Mount Vernon District

The following are **highlights from the Board of Supervisors April 13, 2021 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.

Para recibir la información de **nuestro boletín electrónico en español**, o **para hablar con un hispanohablante**, comuníquese con **Diego Rodriguez Cabrera** a su preferencia, por teléfono al (703) 619-4339 o por correo electrónico: diego.rodriuezcabrera@fairfaxcounty.gov.

To view the **April 13, 2021 Board Package** [click here](#).

Administrative Items

Item 10: Approved the Department of Family Services to accept **grant funding in the amount of \$364,360** to support nutrition services which include **home delivered meals and congregate meals**, administered by the **Fairfax Area Agency on Aging**. *The full item can be read on pages 75 - 80 of the Board Package.*

Item 11: Approved the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board to apply for and accept **grant funding** in the amount of \$500,000 to support a new **Drug Court Treatment Coordinator** grant position for the four years of the grant program. *The full item can be read on pages 81 - 84 of the Board Package.*

Item 12: Approved the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services to apply for and accept **grant funding in the amount of \$116,288** to support Head Start and Early Head Start. *The full item can be read on pages 85 - 93 of the Board Package.*

Authorized Public Hearings on:

- **Spot blight abatement ordinances** for three properties in the District that are either abandoned or unsafe for occupancy (**2506 Fleming Street, 7704 Schelhorn Road and 7821 Belvedere Drive** all in the Fort Hunt/Groveton area). All three public hearings will be held on **June 8 at 4:00 p.m.**
 - Proposed amendments to Chapter 118 (**Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance**) of the County Code and Chapter 12 (**Tree Preservation**) of the Public Facilities Manual (PFM) Re: **Resource Protection Area (RPA) planting requirements**, including **required planting densities**. Public hearings will be held before the **Planning Commission on May 12 at 7:30 p.m.** and before the **Board on June 22 at 4:00 p.m.**
 - A proposed **Zoning Ordinance amendment** Re: agritourism and related changes. Proposed changes will establish a **definition for agritourism**, provide a tiered approach to **regulating agritourism activities**, and include associated standards related to agritourism uses. The amendment also updates the **definition of agricultural operation**; expands regulations for a **bed and breakfast** when in association with an agricultural operation; clarifies and expands the regulations for **wayside stands** including the size and products to be sold; permits **farm worker housing** as an accessory use to an agricultural operation; and, allows **food trucks** in association with an agritourism use, farm winery, limited brewery, or limited distillery with appropriate standards. Public hearings will be held before the **Planning Commission on May 12 at 7:30 p.m.** and before the **Board on June 8 at 4:00 p.m.**
-

Action Items

Item 1: Authorized the County's Redevelopment and Housing Authority to issue a Housing Blueprint Loan to **finance the acquisition of Landings II** Fort Belvoir apartments. Funds will be used to support the **acquisition and renovation** of existing "market affordable"

housing at The Landings II Fort Belvoir and its **transition to becoming “committed affordable”** to households earning no more than 60 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). *The full item can be read on pages 111 - 129 of the Board Package.*

Item 4: Approved an amendment to the MOU between the Community Business Partnership and the Board of Supervisors to administer the **Fairfax County Small Business COVID-19 Recovery Microloan Fund**. Among other things, the amendment:

- **Added home-based businesses, sole proprietorships, financial services, e-commerce, and seasonal businesses** to the list of those eligible to receive Revolving Fund loans.
- Eliminated the prohibition regarding businesses who's **primary products and services are age-restricted for consumers**, and clarifying that adult-entertainment businesses and payday lenders are NOT eligible.
- **Raising the MAXIMUM loan amount from \$20,000 to \$30,000.**

The full item can be read on pages 151 - 168 of the Board Package.

Public Hearings

Permit a Restaurant with Drive-Through - Dunkin' Donuts

Approved a Dunkin' drive-thru restaurant at **Woodlawn Shopping Center**. The restaurant will replace a vacant bank location and provide upgrades to the site, including **outdoor seating, landscaping and bike racks**, as well as **green building practices**, where applicable for an existing building.

Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment to Establish the Wellington at River Farm Historic Overlay District, on a Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment PA 2020-IVMV1, and on Rezoning Application RZ 2021-MV-001

Approved a zoning ordinance amendment to **establish the Wellington at River Farm Historic Overlay District (WHOD)**. This amendment establishes regulations for the WHOD, which, among other things, preserves contributing structures and features, while only **allowing the property to be developed** with the uses permitted by right in the **existing R-2 district** and requiring that the Board **approve a special exception** for all other uses. The Board also directed that the County Executive identify funds to complete a **cultural landscape survey** and a Phase I **Archaeological Survey** of the property.

Timing of this decision could not be more perfect. **New state legislation** recently approved by the House and Senate allows the County to **further protect the land** by permitting inclusion of a provision in the WHOD that would **allow public access to an historic area**, landmark, building, or structure, or land pertaining thereto, or **providing that no subdivision shall occur within any historic district** unless approved by the Architectural Review Board (ARB) or, on appeal, by the governing body of the locality as being **compatible with the historic nature** of such area, landmarks, buildings, or structures. In addition, **Governor Northam also approved a bill** that will **provide \$2 million to preservation of the property**. A big thank you to our state **Senators Scott Surovell and Adam Ebbin, Representatives Paul Krizek and Mark Sickles**.

Thank you to **all of the people who testified** at the Planning Commission in support of this proposal, **in-state and out of state**. A huge thank you to **Keister Evans**, former director of the **American Horticultural Society (AHS)** who was in charge when River Farm was acquired in the 1970s, for your testimony, and to **Lida Matheson Stifel**, the granddaughter of Malcolm Matheson, for her letter of support.

Finally, this week, we received a letter from **The Annenberg Foundation**, in support of **preserving River Farm as important green space for public use**. Walter H. Annenberg, founder of The Annenberg Foundation was the **trustee in a Charitable Trust Agreement made by Enid A. Haupt** in 1952 to hold the trust funds in perpetuity and distribute the funds that **ultimately went to AHS to purchase River Farm** for prescribed charitable purposes. The letter also states that the **sale of River Farm by AHS is in conflict** with both the **Grant Agreement and the Contract Agreement** with AHS and urges AHS to adhere to the representations and directives in both of these documents. It also states that these documents **contain express limitations on AHS' use of the property** - specifically for its **national headquarters and as a horticultural center** - and **AHS cannot use the River Farm for any other purpose**.

Acquisition of Certain Land Rights Necessary for the Construction of

Mount Vernon Memorial Highway Trail from George Washington's Gristmill Entrance to Southwood Drive

Approved the acquisition of land rights along nine properfor the construction of **Mount Vernon Memorial Highway Trail** from George Washington's Gristmill entrance to Southwood Drive.

FY 2022 Effective Tax Rate Increase

The **County Executive recommended a 1-cent Real Estate Tax rate decrease** from \$1.15 to \$1.14 per \$100 of assessed value per \$100 of assessed value. Subsequently, the **Board set a maximum tax rate of \$1.15 per \$100**, which is consistent with tax rate over the **past two years**. 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 4**, as part of the **annual adoption** of the tax rate resolution, after the public hearings on the FY 2022 Advertised Budget Plan, and the **Board markup on April 27**. The **public record will be remain open for written public comment until April 27**. [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 27**. [How to submit testimony...](#)

County Executive's Proposed FY 2020 Advertised Budget Plan, the Advertised Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2020-2024 (CIP) (With Future Fiscal Years to 2029) and the Current Appropriation in the FY 2019 Revised Budget Plan

The Budget public hearing will continue through April 15 and the **public record will remain open for written public comment until April 27**. [How to submit testimony...](#)

Board Matters

Concurrent Processing of Building Permits associated with SE 2020-MV-020/ PCA 89-V-059 The Shoppes at Lorton Valley

Lorton Valley Retail, LLC (the "Applicant") is currently processing two concurrent applications identified as SE 2020-MV-020 and PCA 89-V-059, located in the **Shoppes at Lorton Valley at 8971 Ox Road**. The site is zoned C-6 and is developed with a suburban shopping center.

The applications propose to **convert a vacant financial institution into a restaurant with a drive-through, where a Popeyes is planning to locate**. The proposed Special Exception will not alter the footprint of the existing building, but simply **change the stacking lanes** to accommodate restaurant operations. The Applicant has been working diligently with staff and the community to receive a recommendation of approval and would like to **pursue building modifications** as soon as possible. Accordingly, the Applicant seeks **concurrent processing of the building plans** with the pending application.

Action

Directed the Director of Land Development Services to accept for concurrent and simultaneous processing any building plans or other drawings as may be necessary in conjunction with the application filed on behalf of the Applicant.

Solarize Fairfax County

For the past four years Fairfax County has joined the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and the nonprofit **Local Energy Alliance Program** to offer **Solarize Fairfax County**. This campaign helps **make solar panels more accessible to our residents and businesses** and has been very successful. Since 2014, more than **540 solar contracts**

have been signed in Northern Virginia in connection with this program.

I am happy to announce that this year Fairfax County will offer the Solarize campaign once again. The campaign **began April 12 and will conclude on June 30**. Once again, homeowners and businesses will be able to receive a **free, no-obligation solar site assessment**. Participants who decide to install solar panels will benefit from **discounted prices**, access to a **pre-qualified vendor, financing options**, a **federal tax incentive**, and Fairfax County's solar incentives which include a **waiver for the permit application fee** and a five-year solar energy **equipment tax exemption**.

This year, for the first time, the Solarize program is offering participants the opportunity to **install battery storage systems at a discount** in conjunction with their solar arrays. Residential Solarize participants are also eligible for a complimentary, **virtual home energy assessment** to help improve their home energy performance holistically. Finally, Solarize allows participants to **bundle electric vehicle charging stations** with their solar system purchase, making EV charging technology available at a discount.

Action

Directed the Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination to proceed with the promotion of the 2021 Solarize Fairfax County campaign.

Concurrence in Filing on RZ Application LMC Alexandria Crossing Holdings LLC

LMC Alexandria Crossing Holdings, LLC (the "Applicant") has recently submitted a **rezoning application** to the Department of Planning and Development. The application is filed on approximately **7.61 acres that represents a consolidation of 15 parcels on Richmond Highway between Shields Avenue and Quander Road**.

The Applicant has been in discussions with the Fairfax County Department of Transportation regarding the **feasibility of a request to vacate and/or abandon that portion of right-of-way** that is no longer required for roadway purposes. Under the proposed site layout, the applicant is seeking to **include right-of-way owned by the BOS** that would be vacated.

County requirements specify that applications on property owned by a party other than the applicant **require the endorsement of the property owner** before such an application can be heard. Because the **County owns this parcel**, the applicant is requesting Board concurrence in the filing of the application.

Action

- *Indicated its concurrence of the inclusion of approximately .3108 acres of right-of-way previously dedicated for Quander Road to be included in a rezoning application submitted by LMC Alexandria Crossing Holdings, LLC.*
- *Authorized the County Executive and/or his designees to act as agent of the Board in connection with this application, subject to the execution of an agreement indemnifying the Board as to any proffered conditions associated with the rezoning application.*

Adoption of the Current and Unedited Version of the International Energy Conservation Code, and Establishment of a Voluntary Fairfax County Program for Green Building - Joint with Supervisor Kathy Smith, Chairman Jeff McKay and Supervisor John Foust

On February 5, 2019, the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted the **Fairfax Green Initiatives Board Matter**, introduced by myself, Supervisor John Foust and (now Chairman) Jeff McKay. Of these initiatives, **Land Development Services (LDS)** has the lead role in item 2.b., which proposed the following:

*"2. Refer to the Development Process Committee for discussion and consideration whether County staff should review and report back to the Committee on the **costs and benefits** of the following:"*

- *"b. Building design and code changes, including the **International Green Construction Code**, that could inspire and **expedite energy saving practices** on all new construction and significant renovations."*

In discussions with staff, it is apparent that the **County does not currently have the delegated authority** from the state necessary to adopt the International Green Construction Code (IgCC) as a requirement for construction. However, the Board can pursue this **energy conservation goal in two complimentary mandates**. [Read the full Board Matter...](#)

Action

Direct the Director of LDS to do the following:

- Make every possible effort at the state-level to seek adoption of the current and unedited version of the IECC and the energy provisions of the IRC into the USBC during the 2021 code development cycle.
- Establish a voluntary program within 90-days that publicly recognizes designers and contractors who build green in Fairfax County. This program will be detailed to the Board in a future NIP.

Board Appointments (from March 23 meeting)

Mount Vernon residents were appointed or reappointed to the following:

- Athletic Council – **Lester Munson**
- Athletic Council (Alternate) – **John Corley**

Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining!"

Upcoming Land Use Cases

Board of Zoning Appeals

April 21: SP 2021-MV-011 Gary Buchheim, 8604 Rockdale Lane, Springfield.

Reduction of certain yard requirements to **permit accessory structure** 10 feet from a side lot line.

May 5:

- SPA 93-V-021 Pillar Church of Dumfries Inc., 9001 Woodlawn Road, Alexandria. To amend 93-v-021 previously approved for a place of worship to allow the **modification of site and development conditions**.
- VCA 88-V-005 and SP 2021 MV-009, Walter and Jennifer Kelley, 2202 Woodmont Road, Alexandria. APPL. UNDER SECT. 18-400 of the zoning ordinance to permit an amendment to vc 88-v-005 previously approved for **construction of a new dwelling** 25.0 feet from the front line to permit an addition (front entry surround) 28.4 feet from the front lot line. APPL. UNDER SECT. 8-914 of the zoning ordinance to permit a reduction to the minimum yard requirements based on errors in building location to permit: 1.) a **deck** 4.9 ft. from the western side lot line, 5.9 ft. from the eastern side lot line and 20.0 ft. from the front lot line , and 2.) a **patio** 3.8 ft. from the eastern side lot line.

District Information & Upcoming Events

Community Meetings: Penn Daw Fire Station, Emergency and Supportive Housing

April 24 at 10 a.m.

April 26 at 7 p.m.

The **Penn Daw Fire Station** will soon have a new home on the **former Hybla Valley Nursery**. The proposed larger, updated Fire and Rescue station will be a **modern, green facility**, with direct access to Beacon Hill Road allowing for **faster emergency response times** in the community. The 3.5-acre site on Beacon Hill Road is large enough to include **emergency and supportive housing**, as well. As we re-envision the Richmond Highway corridor, we must do it in a **strategic way** that **enables residents who want to continue living here** that opportunity. That means single family homes, townhomes or high rises for those who want them, affordable homes for those who need them and emergency homes for those who need an extra hand up. Learn more about the project at

two virtual meetings on Saturday, April 24 and Monday, April 26. [Learn more...](#)

Headstart and Early Head Start Openings in Our Area

The Fairfax County Head Start/Early Head Start program is **currently enrolling eligible families** in programs throughout the County. HS/EHS **provides early childhood education and family supports** for children ages birth to five years old and their families, at **no cost to families**. Women who are pregnant can also receive services and support through EHS. Services are provided in a variety of early childhood programs including Higher Horizons Day Care in Falls Church, **Gum Springs Children's Center and Gum Springs Glen in Alexandria, Fairfax County Public Schools classrooms, and family child care programs** throughout the County. **Don't miss this opportunity to be part of Head Start!** For more information, visit Fairfaxcounty.gov and search for "Head Start", call the Office for Children at 703-324-8290. [View the flyer...](#)

Springfield To Quantico Enhanced Public Transportation Feasibility Study

A number of **significant transit improvements** are planned for the corridor including **additional express bus services, VRE expansion, and plans for bus rapid transit** in the Richmond Highway corridor. This study will assess the **feasibility of additional enhancements** to the corridor transit network. The study team will seek **public input during spring/summer 2021**. Your input is vital in shaping the study's final recommendations. [Learn more...](#)



COVID-19 Updates

[Johnson & Johnson Vaccine Will Not Be Administered Until Further Notice](#)

[The Volunteers Behind the Pandemic Response: Fairfax Medical Reserve Corps](#)

[COVID-19 Call Center Updates](#)

[Moving Toward Food Security: How to Get Help From and Donate to Local Food Pantries](#)

[Volunteers Needed for Inova Vaccination Center](#)

[The Volunteers Behind the Pandemic Response: Fairfax Medical Reserve Corps](#)

Johnson & Johnson Vaccine Update

Yesterday, the CDC, the FDA, and VDH recommended **pausing all Johnson & Johnson vaccinations** because of the occurrence of a potentially rare side effect. As a result, **Fairfax County will not be administering J&J vaccines** until further notice.

While this is **concerning for nationwide vaccination efforts**, as many states and localities were dependent on vaccine, **this will not impact Fairfax County vaccine appointments**. This is because we were **already experiencing a shortage of J&J vaccine** doses due in part to a nationwide shortage. **No new shipments** of this particular vaccine were **scheduled for the next few weeks**.

If you have received the J&J vaccine and have developed a **severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain, or shortness of breath** within three weeks of vaccination, you should contact your healthcare provider.

Mask up, Virginia!
You may not know you're sick.

- Not everyone with COVID-19 feels or looks sick.
- We all need to wear cloth masks to stop the spread.
- You can help save lives.

VIRGINIA'S HEALTH IS IN YOUR HANDS.
Do your part, stop the spread. vdh.virginia.gov

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

[Visit our Website](#)

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