

- Data driven analyses into whether or not there is a public safety risk related to or stemming from panhandling.
- Recommended solutions/options if such issues are identified.

The report back to the Board should occur no later than July 31, 2022.



JEFFREY C. MCKAY
CHAIRMAN

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Board Matter

May 10, 2022

Over the last several months, my office has received numerous inquiries from residents as it relates to panhandling throughout the County. While courts have maintained repeatedly that panhandling is protected speech, the concerns residents have shared are in regard to public safety, that is, worries over the individual(s) who panhandle, as it often takes place at busy intersections.

Furthermore, Fairfax County and this Board have invested extensively in human services and resources aimed at ensuring residents do not have to turn to alternative means to meet their basic needs.

To be clear, neither I nor the County have any interest or desire to infringe or limit any individuals' Constitutional rights. The interest at hand is ensuring that all of our residents and our broader community remain safe.

Therefore, and with that in mind, I move that our Board direct the Office of the County Attorney, Fairfax County Police Department, the Fairfax County Department of Transportation, and the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness to coordinate and submit to the Board a memorandum containing the following: