

Sull-E Newsletter



A message from Kathy Smith

Below you will find information from the Board of Supervisors' meeting that took place on Tuesday, February 20, 2018. The full [meeting agenda and board package](#) are available online. You can also watch a [video](#) of the meeting online on the county's website.

Sincerely,

Kathy

Presentations



Supervisor Kathy Smith recognized the Westfield High School Field Hockey Team for winning the 2017 state championship.



Supervisor Kathy Smith recognized the Westfield High School Football Team for winning the 2017 state championship.

Appointments



Karen Ampeh

Supervisor Kathy Smith appointed Karen Ampeh to the Trails and Sidewalks Committee. Her term is for two years. Karen was previously a volunteer with local Boy Scouts and presided over many Eagle Scout review boards. For the past 10 years she has been a volunteer and youth leader with 4H. Karen has been involved with local equestrian groups, including United States Pony Club, and Hunter Valley Riding club, for many years. Karen earned a Bachelor's degree from

the University of California, Berkeley in International Development and Master's degree in Development Management from The American University. She has been a resident of the Sully District since 1998.

County Executive's Presentation of the Proposed FY 2019 and FY 2020 Multi-Year Budget Plan

Fairfax County Executive Bryan Hill presented his Advertised (proposed) [Fiscal Year 2019 Budget](#) to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, February 21, 2018. The proposed General Fund budget is \$4.29 billion, a \$192.32 million (or 4.69 percent) increase over the current FY 2018 Adopted Budget.

Including other appropriated funds such as federal and state grants, the total proposed budget is \$8.42 billion.

The proposed budget includes a 2.5 cent increase in the real estate tax rate, which would result in an average tax bill increase of \$268 for homeowners. The real estate tax rate would increase from the current rate of \$1.13 to \$1.155 per \$100 of assessed value.

The county executive's recommended general fund transfers to FCPS total \$2.26 billion. This is a 4.38 percent, or \$95.10 million, increase over the current FY 2018 budget.

The proposed operating transfer meets the [School Board's requested transfer](#) after accounting for an anticipated increase in state revenues. The [top priority for the FCPS FY 2019 Budget is teacher salaries and benefits](#).

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) receives almost 72 percent of its funding from the county government. It accounts for 52.8 percent of the county's general fund budget.

[Read FCPS FY 2019 Proposed Budget](#)

Investing in County Priorities:

In addition to our public schools, the FY 2019 proposed budget includes investments in our county priorities. Examples include public safety and human services initiatives such as:

- Staffing for the [South County Police Station](#)
- [Diversion First](#)
- [Gang Prevention](#)
- [Opioid Task Force](#)
- [Expansion of Early Childhood Education](#)
- [New School-Age Child Care Rooms](#)
- Support for [Area Agency on Aging](#)

The proposed budget also includes fully funding employee compensation to retain and attract quality county employees. This would be only the third time in 10 years that compensation is fully funded for both uniformed public safety and general county employees.

[Learn more about the Board of Supervisors Priorities](#)

Looking Forward:

A few of the key issues impacting the county budget, which Hill noted in his presentation, include:

- Restrained revenue growth anticipated for the foreseeable future.
 - Expenditure needs will continue to outpace resources; fiscal constraint will be required.
 - Focus on Board of Supervisors priorities; balance with available resources. □
- Continued uncertainty about U.S. fiscal policy and impact of tax reform.
- County will continue to monitor the [Commonwealth of Virginia's budget](#) and the impact on our local budget.
- County and regional response to address ongoing [Metro](#) funding requirements.
- A commitment to work collaboratively with FCPS to meet joint priorities.

Providing Input:

Information is forthcoming on multiple ways for you to provide input on the proposed budget, including town hall meetings and email. You can also [sign up](#) to attend a public hearing at the [Government Center](#) on these dates:

- **April 10**
- **April 11**
- **April 12**

Additional Budget Resources for Residents:

- [Who We Are: Fairfax County Demographics](#)
- [Watch: How Our Budget is Built in Fairfax County](#)

Administrative Items

Supervisor Gross moved approval of Administrative Items 1-3. Supervisor Kathy Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Admin - 1

Authorization to Advertise a Public Hearing to Consider Amendment to The Code of the County of Fairfax, Virginia - Chapter 4 (Taxation and Finance) to Add a New Article 28 to Provide a Real Estate Tax Exemption for Surviving Spouses of Certain Persons Killed in the Line of Duty

The Board authorized the advertisement of a public hearing on March 20, 2018 at 4:30 p.m. to consider adoption of the ordinance.

As part of the budget guidance for the development of the FY 2019 budget, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to pursue implementation of the option to grant real estate tax relief for surviving spouses of first responders killed in the line of duty. The ordinance would allow those certain persons referenced in Article 2.5 to claim the real estate tax exemption for qualifying property owned in Fairfax County. If approved, the ordinance would allow those certain persons to apply for the tax exemption in accordance with law back to January 1, 2017.

Action Items

Action - 6

Approval of Adjustment to Fairfax Center, Centreville, Tysons, Tysons-Wide, Tysons Grid of Streets, and Reston Road Funds and Approval of Route 7 Alternatives Analysis. (Dranesville, Springfield, Hunter Mill, Braddock, Sully, and Providence Districts)

Supervisor Foust moved approval of:

- The attached rate schedule ([Attachment 1](#)), including a 2.5 percent adjustment of the existing contribution rates in all fund areas with the new rate effective March 1, 2018.
- Funding up to \$950,000 for a Route 7 alternatives analysis using Tysons Road Fund proffer dollars.

The motion was seconded jointly by Supervisor Hudgins and Supervisor Linda Smyth. The motion carried by unanimous vote.