



Hunter Mill Highlights

From Supervisor Cathy Hudgins

North County Government Center
12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston, VA 20190
703-478-0283 (O), 703-736-4460 (TTY), 703-471-6847 (FAX)
E-mail: hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov
Web: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill



April 22, 2014

Fiscal Year 2015 Advertised Budget Mark-up

At Tuesday's meeting, the Board of Supervisors held its mark-up session for the FY 2015 Budget.

The Mark-up Package is the result of collaboration and compromise by the Board of Supervisors and the residents of Fairfax County. With more than five hundred pieces of correspondence, the Community Summit on the Budget, the Hunter Mill District Budget Committee's excellent work and subsequent report, and three days of compelling testimony from our Public Hearings on the Budget, it can truly be said that that citizens truly had the opportunity to be heard.

The 6-4 affirmative vote increases the real estate tax rate $\frac{1}{2}$ a cent, from \$1.085 to \$1.090. That represents a \$25 annual increase in the average residential taxpayer's bill. This \$10.9 million of additional revenue, combined with \$6 million in savings achieved on the General County side of the budget will be used to increase the FCPS School Transfer by \$17 million, up from 2% in the Advertised Budget to 3%. With this added one percent, the total increase in the School Transfer will be \$51 million. An expected increase in State funding of approximately \$30 million will help to fund remaining School requirements.

An additional \$10.5 million in savings/reductions was achieved within the FY 2015 Advertised Budget and reallocated to increase compensation for employees. The Mark-up package adds 1% increase to the advertised Market Rate Adjustment of 1.29%, for a combined 2.29% increase for county employees. Moreover, step increases for Public Safety employees will resume for those who are eligible (on their anniversary date) at the beginning of the Fiscal Year on July 1st.

The complete Mark-up Package can be found on the county's web page at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2015/fy2015-budget-markup-package.pdf>.

Meals Tax Referendum

The Board approved formation of a task force to consider a meals tax referendum. A meals tax would provide the County with a new revenue source, taking some of the heat off property taxes. If established at the same rate as used by towns and cities in and around Fairfax County, a 4 percent meals tax would generate approximately \$88 million.

The task force will decide whether to proceed with a referendum, and if so, how the revenues would be used. Former Board of Supervisors Chairmen Kate Hanley and Tom Davis have

agreed to co-chair this effort. Joining the Chairmen will be representatives from both political parties, business interests, citizen/taxpayer/voter associations, education associations, and representation from human services, public safety, and parks and library foundations. The task force will submit their recommendations to the Board on June 17, 2014.

Cathy Hudgins

4-22-2014 Board Action Highlights

For additional details from the April 22, 2014 Board of Supervisors meeting, please go to the County's [Board Agenda and Meeting Schedule](#) section on the County's webpage. You may listen to [highlights from the Board meeting](#) on your computer or listen directly on iTunes. You can subscribe to the podcast, or choose a program and listen in.

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