

HISTORIC
HUNTLEY



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Board Matter

February 23, 2009

Madam Chairman— The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was signed into law on February 17, 2009. The final bill includes \$787 billion in spending increases and tax reductions intended to spur economic growth. The majority of the funding will be distributed through existing federal funding programs, and guidance from the federal government about much of this funding is still being developed.

A significant amount of funding available to local governments in Virginia will be coming through the state for distribution. In December 2008, the Board sent a list of shovel ready infrastructure projects to the County's Congressional delegation, demonstrating the need that exists in the County and how quickly an infusion of federal funding could jump start the local economy. These projects include transportation, wastewater/stormwater solutions, and construction and renovation of facilities for schools and public safety, with the majority projects ready to begin construction in 2009, and all ready to begin by 2010. In addition to these infrastructure projects, Fairfax County will likely have a number of opportunities to compete, at the state and federal level, for a variety of other stimulus funding sources, as well as formula funding which could come to the County directly.

Moreover, President Obama has made a commitment to provide for more green infrastructure, and the bill includes an emphasis on green projects. The County list reflects that emphasis by including many County capital projects which would be built to green standards, as well as a significant focus on rail, transit and pedestrian infrastructure, and watershed improvements beneficial to the Chesapeake Bay.

Therefore Madam Chairman, I move that the Board approve sending the attached letter and project list to the Governor, under the Chairman's signature, transmitting the County's priority projects for federal stimulus funding. The list has been revised with some technical changes.

I also move that the Board direct staff to post the County's federal projects on the Governor's website, www.stimulus.virginia.gov, as required by the Governor's office for transparency purposes.