

**Board of Supervisors
Safety and Security Committee**

**February 24, 2026, 1:30 p.m.
Government Center Conference Room 11**

Board of Supervisors (Board) Members present:

Rodney Lusk, Franconia District (Committee Chair) – In Person

Jeff McKay, Chairman – In Person

Walter Alcorn, Hunter Mill District – In Person

James Bierman, Dranesville District – In Person

Pat Herrity, Springfield District – In Person

Andres Jimenez, Mason District – In Person

Dalia Palchik – Providence District – In-person

Rachna Sizemore Heizer, Braddock District – In Person

Kathy Smith, Sully District – In Person

Dan Storck, Mount Vernon District – In Person

The Safety and Security Committee (Committee) meeting was called to order at **1:34 p.m.**

Drone as a First Responder: 1:35 p.m.

Assistant Police Chief Bob Blakley, Assistant Fire Chief Eric Craven, and Major Hudson Bull provided an update on the Drone as a First Responder (DFR) pilot, including the results of the study period, future deployment options, and planned technology integrations. The Board of Supervisors expressed support for the program's continued progress and recognized the strong interagency collaboration that has supported its development. The Board indicated that it looks forward to receiving an additional update once the program is fully operational.

During the discussion, the Board requested that the Police Department provide follow-up information regarding progress toward integrating DFR flight activity information into the public-facing website, continued incorporation of mental health training and awareness into the program, and ongoing efforts to promote public transparency and community education.

The Police Department will continue to advance the program in alignment with these priorities and will provide future updates as implementation progresses.

FCPD School Crossing Updates: 2:24 p.m.

Assistant Police Chief Bob Blakley and Major Scott Colwell provided an update on the school crossing program, focusing on budget considerations, staffing changes, and the potential expanded use of private vendors within the School Crossing Guard (SCG) program. Key discussion points included whether high school (HS) crossings should be eliminated, what criteria and data would guide those decisions, and how any reductions would impact safety and the FCPD budget.

The BOS was pleased with the progress and agreed that the changes needed to be made. Questions were raised about contractor training standards, certification requirements, and whether private crossing guards would meet the same training foundation and operational expectations as FCPD guards. Questions also centered on whether private guards could direct traffic, how they would be deployed (particularly at higher-conflict Level 2 crossings), and how coverage gaps or vendor no-shows would be handled.

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The BOS reiterated that they did not want to replace the SCG program and wanted the private vendor to work in conjunction with the SCG program. The BOS asked FCPD to follow up on the overtime and other cost reduction numbers, continued recruitment efforts, the total number of high schools in the county, and the financial comparison between private guards and FCPD staffing.

Coordination with FCPS Office of Safety and Security, communication with students and the community, and planning for future guard requests were highlighted as priorities. Overall, the discussion acknowledged that change is difficult but stressed the importance of maintaining safety, data-driven decision-making, fiscal responsibility, and transparent communication moving forward.

Additional Information: N/A

The Committee meeting adjourned at **2:55 p.m.**

The next Committee meeting is March 10, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.