



County of Fairfax, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/XX/2022

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Stella Koch, Chairman
Environmental Quality Advisory Council

SUBJECT: Tree Conservation Code's Exemption of Linear Projects

The Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) share the concerns regarding loss of tree canopy due to linear projects as highlighted in the Tree Commission's memo to the Board of Supervisors on December XX, 2022.

EQAC supports the requests that advise:

1. That the Board of Supervisors direct the County Attorney to reexamine the exemption of linear projects from Chapter 122 of the Tree Conservation code and whether that is required by Virginia code.
2. If, as expected, the exemption is not legislatively mandated by Virginia code, that relevant agencies be directed to include in linear project planning an accounting of the mature trees that could be affected by the project, to what extent they can and will be protected and whether new trees plantings will be feasible and included, and if not, to require payment into the Tree Fund.

We look forward to learning more about this important issue.

cc: Cindy Speas, Tree Commission Chair
Fairfax County Planning Commission
Department of Planning and Development
Urban Forestry Management Division, DPWES
Barbara Byron, staff support to Chairman McKay
Camela Speer, staff support to Supervisor Stork