

# **Dear Neighbors**,

At Tuesday's meeting, the Board approved the advertisement of the **County Executive's proposed FY 2023 County budget**, the Capital Improvement Program, and the Board's set **maximum real estate tax rate of \$1.14 per \$100**, which is consistent with the **current tax rate**. When we finalize the budget, the Board has the option to**consider a lower tax rate**, but **cannot go higher** than the advertised rate, which is the **current tax rate**. As I have said, I **strongly support lowering the tax rate** and will be working with my colleagues to determine how we **balance our County priorities and services** to make this happen.

I will be hosting my **Budget Town Meeting** with School Board Member **Karen Corbett Sanders** and the **Mount Vernon Council of Citizen's Associations** on **Wednesday**, **March 23 at 6 p.m.** via zoom. More information...

The Board approved the creation of the **Hollin Hills Historic Overlay District (HOD)**. In a process **first requested by the community** in 2017, County staff members and I initiated a **broad and deep engagement** with Hollin Hills residents through dozens of meetings, a special community task force and **polling every household** to confirm there was **strong support** for creating an HOD. Hollin Hills was one of the **first planned communities**, designed by architect Charles Goodman, with **mid-century modern architecture** in the region. Developed between 1949 and 1971, Hollin Hills is on the **National Register of Historic Places** and Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites. I am very pleased that we were able to work closely with the Hollin Hills residents to add this additional protection to **preserve the history, heritage and agricultural character** of this unique neighborhood.

In addition, the Board approved a **grandfathering clause** associated with the Hollin Hills HOD, which would grandfather in **any building permits and site-related plans currently under review or in process** to be approved before the effective date of the HOD. Next, the Architectural Review Board (ARB) will decide on adopting the proposed **Hollin Hills HOD design guidelines** on **March 10 at 6:30 p.m**. View the agenda and meeting link.

#### **Other meeting highlights:**

- Approved **adjustments to Election Precincts and Polling Places** based on state redistricting changes.
- Proclaimed March 13 19 as National Flood Awareness Week to promote community awareness.
- Recognized March as Alternative Dispute Resolution Month.
- Recognized a resolution in support of the United Nations Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women.

Respectfully yours in public service,

Dan Storck Supervisor, Mount Vernon District Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

The following are **highlights from the Board of Supervisors March 8, 2022 meeting,** including items of particular interest to Mount Vernon residents. For additional information, please go to the County's Board Agenda and Meeting Schedule. The clerk to the board's official **Summary of Board Actions** is available the week following each meeting. Information is also available by a **video linked to the board agenda** and the **Board of Supervisors Highlights podcast.** 

Para recibir la información de **nuestro boletín electrónico en españo**l, o **para hablar con un hispanohablante**, comuníquese con **Madeleine Carcamo Reyes** a su preferencia, por teléfono al (703) 780-7518 o por correo electrónico: Madeleine.CarcamoReyes@fairfaxcounty.gov.

#### To view the March 8, 2022 Board Package click here.

# **Proclamations and Recognitions**



Recognition of Shirley Ginwright and Leadership with the Communities of Trust



Support of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women



**Redistricting Advisory Committee Service** 

# **Advertised Tax Rate**

The Board advertised the **FY 2023 proposed Real Estate tax rate** as **\$1.14 – flat from last year**. This is the ceiling of the tax rate that we will now have a full County conversation and public hearings on, <u>not</u> a decision being made today. I know that the very desirable place we live is driving up home prices. I am committed to working with my Board colleagues to continue offering the excellent County services you expect, providing the funding to offer the **higher wages** needed to fill the many vacant teacher, police, fire, technical and custodial positions, and lowering your property tax rates.

#### Key points:

- **Tax assessment:** Real estate values are determined by the Department of Taxation though the analysis of sales of homes of comparable value in comparable neighborhoods. It's based on the real estate market, or the price for which you could likely sell your home.
- **Tax rate:** Set by the BOS annually with budget adoption. It is currently at \$1.14 per \$100 of assessed value.

• These two things must be considered together to **determine individual impacts**. View the proposed budget plan...

# FY 2023 Budget Timeline



# **Administrative Items**

**Item 5:** Approved Department of **Neighborhood and Community Services** to apply for accept grant funding in the **amount of \$1,101,893** from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services associated with the **Early Head Start Child Care Partnership and Expansion grant**. *The full item can be read on pages 60 - 66 of the Board Package.* 

**Item 6:** Approved Department of **Neighborhood and Community Services** to apply for accept grant funding in the **amount of \$10,190,837** from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services associated with the **Head Start and Early Head Start grant** *The full item can be read on pages 67 - 73 of the Board Package.* 

**Item 7:** Approved **advertised publication** of the **FY 2023 budget and required tax rates**, tax rate increase and the Advertised Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2023-2027. *The full item can be read on pages 74 - 96 of the Board Package.* 

**Item 8:** Approved **Department of Economic Initiatives** to apply for and accept **grant funding** in the **amount of \$4,170,000** from the **Virginia Tourism Corporation** for the American Rescue Plan Act Tourism Recovery Program. *The full item can be read on pages 97 - 109 of the Board Package.* 

### Authorized public hearings on:

 An ordinance to amend the Fairfax County Code relating to sewer availability charges, services charges and hauled wastewater charges. Public hearing will be held on April 12 at 3:00 p.m. The full item can be read on pages 14 - 59 of the Board Package.

# **Action Items**

**Item 3:** Approved the **Forest Pest Management Program** for calendar year 2021. This program helps **protect the County's forests**. *The full item can be read on pages 124 - 147 of the Board Package.* 

**Item 4:** Approved the **annual Disease Carrying Insects Program**. The full item can be read on pages 148 - 203 of the Board Package.

# **5th Annual Ides of Bark Dog Festival at Grist Mill Park**

On **Sunday, March 27**, the Mount Vernon District and the Fairfax County Park Authority are hosting the annual Ides of Bark Dog Festival from **1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Grist Mill Park**. Participants will receive many treats from **local canine businesses**, play in the dog park, watch demonstrations by the **Fairfax County Police Canine Unit**, learn pet care and **pet CPR** from pet technicians, and have the opportunity to participate in a **canine obstacle course**. The Festival is a really great day with our furry, four legged friends and their humans to **meet others and enjoy a day in the park**.

This **amazing community event** could not happen without the incredible support of the Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax County Police Department, Fairfax County Fire Department, **local animal organizations** and our wonderful vendors. My sincerest appreciation goes out to each of these groups and **I invite everyone to join us on March 27**!

#### Action

Directed the Office of Public Affairs to advertise and promote the Ides of Bark Dog Festival.

# **Recognizing March as Alternative Dispute Resolution Month**

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) refers to several **processes and techniques used to manage and resolve conflict**. ADR is an alternative to traditional adversarial processes and **helps disputing parties reach mutually agreeable outcomes** that consider the needs of all involved and minimize cost, while improving communication and morale. ADR services continue to be helpful during the **pandemic as stress and isolation** have played a part in creating and intensifying conflict.

Fairfax County has historically celebrated March as ADR month, and each year chooses a leader in this field to receive recognition. **This year's recipient is Sally Campbell**, who previously served as the Dispute Resolution Services Manager in the **Department of Judicial Services** of the Office of the Executive Secretary for the **Supreme Court of Virginia** for the past 15 years. In her role with Division of Dispute Resolution Services (DRS), Ms. Campbell oversaw the **certification of mediators and mediation training** programs in Virginia, as well as enforced the standards of ethics and training guidelines for certified mediators. Read more...

#### Action

Directed:

- Recognized March as Alternative Dispute Resolution Month in Fairfax County.
- Preparation of a proclamation with Chairman McKay's and my signature to be presented out of the Board room to Ms. Sally Campbell.

## **Recognizing March 13 - 19 as Flood Awareness Week**

Fairfax County wants residents to **learn about their flood risk** and protect their life and property with **flood insurance**. Flooding is the **most common and costly natural disaster** in the United States, but only 3% of Virginians have flood insurance. Only 1 inch of water in a home can cause more than \$25,000 in damages. And, flooding is becoming **more frequent and severe with climate change**.

Flood Awareness Week is **recognized by municipalities nationwide** throughout the year. In the Commonwealth of Virginia, we recognize Flood Awareness Week in March, as we head into the typical rainy season. The County wants to **recognize March 13 – 19 as Flood Awareness Week** and encourage residents and owners to learn about their flood risk and **protect themselves**. Read more...

### Action

Directed:

- Recognized March 13 through March 19, 2022 as Flood Awareness Week in Fairfax County.
- Preparation of a proclamation to be signed by Chairman Jeff McKay, myself, and Supervisors Penny Gross and John Foust to be presented out of the Board room to the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, the Department of Emergency Management and Security, the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District.

# **Adjustments to Election Precincts and Polling Places**

Approved **changes to our local voting precincts and polling places** due to the <u>state</u> <u>election redistricting</u>. Proposed changes can be viewed starting on page 211 of the Board package.

# **Hollin Hills Historic Overlay District**

Approved the creation of the **Hollin Hills Historic Overlay District (HOD).** The Board also approved a **grandfathering clause** associated with the Hollin Hills HOD, which would grandfather in **any building permits and site-related plans currently under review or in process** to be approved before the effective date of the HOD.

# **Upcoming Land Use Cases**

# **Board of Supervisors**

#### March 22:

- DECISION ONLY: PA-2021-00006: 2806 Popkins Lane SSPA 2021-IV-4MV. Consideration of a Comprehensive Plan amendment to evaluate a plan option for Residential use at 5 – 8 du/ac, with considerations for workforce housing in the development and an evaluation of the localized transportation network to determine the optimal site access and minimize potential conflicts on streets surrounding the site. The amendment should include staff review of the adopted watershed plans and include appropriate recommendations as part of the staff analysis.
- DECISION ONLY: Consider amendments to the County Code to establish regulations on running bamboo and to establish civil penalties.

## **Planning Commission**

March 16: PCA-2009-MV-018 Scannell Properties #117, LLC and Scannell Properties #82, LLC. Amend proffers associated with RZ 2009-MV-018 North of Telegraph Road, West of Fairfax County Parkway and South of Cinder Bed Road.

# **Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA)**

### March 16:

- SP-2021-MV-00092 Lance Ohlsson & Carlee Cardwell 8124 Wellington Road, Alexandria. Permit a reduction of setback requirements to permit an accessory structure (detached garage/studio with deck) 7.9 ft. from the east side lot line, a freestanding accessory structure (detached garage/studio with deck) at 21.0 feet in height on a lot 36,000 sq. ft. or less, and an increase in the maximum permitted cumulative square footage of all enclosed freestanding accessory structures on a lot 36,000 sq. ft. or less
- DECISION ONLY: SPA-81-V-066-04 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints –
  2000 George Washington Memorial Parkway, Alexandria. Amend SP 81-V-066 previously approved for a place of worship (religious assembly) to modify site conditions and allow construction of a pavilion. (deferred from 2/9/22)

**March 23:** SP-2021-MV-00124 Peter MacGregor – 6901 Quander Road, Alexandria. To permit an **increase in fence height in the front yard** adjacent to Dartmouth Drive and Quander Road.

# COVID-19

What You Need to Know about CDC's New COVID-19 Community Levels

Last week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shared **new guidance about the prevention steps** you should take based on **new COVID-19 community levels** that are based on hospitalizations, hospital capacity, and cases within a community. Jurisdictions in the Northern Virginia region, including the Fairfax Health District, are **now at a low level**. To see community levels, visit the CDC's COVID-19 by County page.

# **District Information & Upcoming Events**



## **Traveling While Black - VR Exhibit**

In Traveling While Black VR, the **immersion of 360° footage** draws us into **living history lessons** told around a booth in **Ben's Chili Bowl**. The Washington, D.C., restaurant has been a **mainstay of the African-American community** since 1958, bearing witness to significant **Civil Rights milestones** that are woven into the film in **powerful snippets of footage**. From the stirring memories of **Civil Rights leader Courtland Cox** to the heartbreaking words of **Samaria Rice**, whose young son Tamir was killed by police in 2014, VR allows Williams to connect the **parallels of the past to the present**.

The exhibit runs through April 2. Tuesday and Wednesdays 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Thursday - Saturday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Learn more...

## **Stuff the Bus**

Donate to Stuff the Bus on **Saturday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Locations near us support **United Community**:

- Mount Vernon Fire Station, 2601 Sherwood Hall Lane
- Gerry Hyland Government Center, 8350 Richmond Highway

### Food Business Accelerator & Entrepreneurship Center Planned for Original Mount Vernon High School

Fairfax County has issued a "**Request for Expressions of Interest**" (**RFI**) for the adaptive reuse of the Original Mount Vernon High School (OMVHS). As part of its plan to redevelop the historic building and campus into a **vibrant community hub**, the county is seeking out organizations interested in creating a **food-based business accelerator and entrepreneurship center**. The food business accelerator will serve as an **anchor tenant** and will join the **teen and senior center** already on site. Future development includes a theatre, space for **education and workforce development**, childcare, and a separate technology-based business center. The renewal of this **historic landmark** is expected to provide economic opportunities, encourage business growth, and contribute to the **economic diversification** of this rapidly growing corridor. Learn more...

## Supporting the People of Ukraine

As war continues in Ukraine, there are **several organizations seeking support** that have activated **local and international relief efforts**. How you can help...

