

Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay
Board Matter
July 14, 2020
Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment
Public Facilities element of the Policy Plan

Background:

The Public Facilities element of the Comprehensive Plan's Policy Plan is closely tied to the development review process for the County's public facilities, known as "2232 Review". Public projects must be found to be in harmony with the Comprehensive Plan in terms of character, location, and extent. Staff bases this analysis on the goals and policies outlined in the Public Facilities element of the Policy Plan, as well as on the maps and tables of public facilities located throughout the Comprehensive Plan. There are two recent actions that demonstrate that it is an appropriate time to consider updates to this section of the Comprehensive Plan; the Planning Commission's recommendations related to the Public Schools section of the Plan, and this Board's recent approval of the Capital Improvement Program.

On April 21, 2020 the Planning Commission forwarded to the Board a series of recommendations for revisions to the Comprehensive Plan from the Planning Commission's Schools Committee Joint Task Force. This task force included the members of the Planning Commission Schools Committee, School Board members, and staff from Fairfax County Public Schools Facilities Planning and the Public Facilities Branch of the Department of Planning and Development. The recommendations are in response to the October 2016 direction to create a Joint Work Program for collaboration on shared priorities between the two boards. The recommendations focus on the topics of Long-range Student Population Forecasting, School Proffers, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Recommendations, Co-location of Facilities, Equity and Access, and Economic Development.

In addition, during the annual Capital Improvement Program process, staff and the Planning Commission worked to more closely align the CIP with the Comprehensive Plan. On April 22, 2020, the Planning Commission recommended that the Board authorize a Comprehensive Plan amendment to update the Public Facilities element of the Policy Plan, including reviewing the alignment of those updates with the CIP. On June 23, 2020, this Board approved the CIP and accepted the Planning Commission recommendations.

Motion:

Therefore, I move that the Board of Supervisors direct staff to consider a Comprehensive Plan amendment to update the Public Facilities element Policy Plan and related updates to Area Plans, including reviewing the alignment of those updates with the CIP. This effort should begin with the Public Schools element of the Public Facilities section of the Policy Plan and include the School's Committee recommendations referenced above.