

February 4, 2022

Re: Fairfax County Redistricting Advisory Committee about Springfield District

Dear Paul Berry,

The Fairfax County Redistricting Advisory Committee (RAC) met two weeks ago to decide which district names should possibly be changed in line with the One Fairfax Policy that has been enacted by the Board of Supervisors. One of those names under discussion was changing the name of Springfield District to better reflect that area now that the voter redistricting was complete. Much of West Springfield was removed. The question was posed by the Chair, "Is the name Springfield no longer relevant?"

In our list of questions to ask about each county district/ precinct on whether to stay the same name or be changed, our fifth question of seven was asked, "Is it confusing to residents or not geographically representative of the District?" This threshold gave way to further research and discussion. It was added to our list.

At our next meeting, on January 25, 2022, the Honorable Fairfax County Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity came to speak before the RAC during the public comments section. He was informed about this new development. He chose to come in person (zoom) to speak on this topic. He said:

1. No one has registered a complaint from the public in his district for a name change.
2. The Government Center, Police, Fire and Rescue, Post Office, and West Springfield High School are still in Springfield District.
3. If you are going to change the name for these reasons, then you need to consider Providence and Braddock Districts, for example, since the same criteria would apply.
4. Providence is named after the old city name of Fairfax. Fairfax City is not even in their district limits.
5. Braddock District is named for the road that goes through it. Braddock Road goes through other districts, too. As a matter of fact, Springfield District has Braddock Park and other Braddock named entities.
6. If you change one for those reasons, you need to change them all.

Conclusion: There were a few comments of clarification except appreciation from former Mount Vernon District Supervisor Hyland who is on the RAC committee. The exchange about hosting a town hall meeting was accepted.

On February 1, 2020, the Springfield RAC members met. I was selected as chair because of my living there and appointment by Supervisor Pat Herrity. I repeated all Mr. Herrity talking points. There were no dissenting comments. We will vote after the Springfield Town Hall meeting.

There is scheduled a virtual Springfield District Town meeting on this topic on Feb. 9, 2022, at 7:00 pm led by Mr. Herrity. You may find the log in information on his Facebook page or Twitter account.

Sincerely,



Jenée Lindner

Fairfax County Redistricting Advisory Committee Member