



January 11, 2018

While Fairfax County continues to face significant challenges, there were many great things accomplished in 2017. Listed below are some of the common sense initiatives I was able to move forward as a minority member of the Board of Supervisors.

Herrity Customer Service Survey

Thank you to all that participated in my customer service survey over the past week. We have received over 750 responses, and I am heartened by the positive and constructive feedback I have received. If you have not yet taken a survey, please [click here](#) to give me your thoughts, questions, and concerns.

Save The Date: Springfield District Budget Town Hall

On Thursday, March 22 at 7 pm, I will host the Springfield District Budget Town Hall at my West Springfield Office (6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA). I am pleased to say both the new County Executive and CFO will be in attendance. More information will be released in the next month or two.

Other Happenings

- Springfield District Land Use Committee Meeting - Feb 5
- Design Public Hearing for Rolling Road Widening Project - Feb 27
- Save the Date: Springfield District Tax Relief Workshop - Mar 5
- 2018 Shredding Event Dates - Jun 16
- Community Meeting to modernize Fairfax County's Zoning Ordinance - Jan 24
- Lake Accotink Master Plan Meeting - RELOCATED - Jan 22
- Public Comment: FCPA Fee Proposals - Jan 17
- Pohick Creek Tributary Restoration Work to Begin
- RSVP N. VA to Host Volunteer Orientation in Springfield - Jan 23

2017 In Review

While Fairfax County continues to face significant challenges, there were many great things accomplished in 2017. Listed below are some of the common sense initiatives I was able to move forward as a minority member of the Board of Supervisors:

No Tax Rate Increase: Largely in response to the message that voters sent with the defeat of the meals tax, the Board passed a budget that did not increase the real estate tax rate after increasing taxes 24% in the preceding 4 years. I am glad the message on fiscal responsibility I helped deliver during the meals tax referendum defeat was received.

Pension Review Again Underway: I led the effort to reform the county's overly generous pensions in 2010, and again over the last two years. In 2017 I was successful in getting the Board to agree to take another look at pension costs. I hope this time we will enact meaningful pension reforms for new employees. The county is currently paying county-funded social security payments on top of pensions that are more generous than surrounding jurisdictions to retirees as early as age 55. This competes with our ability to fund quality county services and hinders our ability to give our county employees and teachers much-needed salary increases-- not to mention the fact that it is financially unsustainable.

Addressing the Opioid Public Health Crisis: While deaths from opioids increased in the county again in 2017, from 78 in 2016 to 108 in 2017, the increase was lower than that seen in the rest of Virginia. I have continued to carry the message on the dangers of this public health crisis which I discuss in every community meeting I attend because it is happening in all of our neighborhoods. In 2017, I successfully worked with Delegate Hugo to add restrictions on opioid doses of more than 7 days and we opened the first Fairfax County drug take back box pilot at the West Springfield Government Center. Much more is planned for 2018 to address this crisis.

Big Year for Golf, Baseball, and "Going Ape" at South Run: It was a big year for Springfield District parks as we cut the ribbon on a state of the art covered and heated driving range and a new clubhouse at Burke Lake Park (with a new putting green on the way). The addition of four 90 foot baseball diamonds by Willow Springs ES took several big steps forward and are expected to be under construction soon. We also opened an exciting public private partnership with Go Ape at South Run Park. This tree top adventure of ropes courses and zip lines is the first of its kind in Northern Virginia. Hidden Pond also received a facelift, with installation of a new shelter, new playground, and a rain garden.

Opportunities for Teens to get Jobs: In 2017, my office hosted four teen job fairs (two more than the previous year) -- each of which attracted over 400 students. These job fairs offer teens the opportunity to speak with potential employers and

many walked away with their first job. Partnering with the Connection Newspapers, several Supervisors, and Fairfax County Public Schools helped make our 2017 job fairs a huge success. We will be expanding to six teen job fairs across the county this spring.

Sports Tourism Task Force: Sports tourism has become a growing \$9 billion dollar industry in the U.S. While Fairfax County has some of the best sports facilities in the country, they have not been clustered or designed to capture a share of the sports tourism market. With the Board's approval I have established a task force to look at how the County can capture a share of that market and at the same time meet the financial and sports facilities needs of our community. This task force brings together parks, schools, colleges, Visit Fairfax, the athletic council for the first time and is making exciting progress.

Libraries/Transportation: A beautiful, newly-renovated Pohick Regional Library reopened to the delight of the community. We took another big step towards relieving the [bottleneck on the Fairfax County Parkway at Popes Head Road](#) and the [widening of Route 29 west of Fairfax between Union Mill Road and Buckley's Gate Road](#).

Springfield District Land Use Committee Meeting

The Springfield District Land Use Committee will be meeting on Monday, February 5 at 7:00 pm in the West Springfield Government Center Community Room. They will be reviewing an application from Christopher Land, LLC, who is seeking approval from the County for the construction of seven single-family dwellings at the terminus of Maritime Lane near Seabrook Lane and north of the Fairfax County Parkway. The proposal is a rezoning from the R-1 to the PDH-3 District. Planning Commissioner Murphy as well as County staff will be present to answer any questions. The application can be reviewed on the [Springfield District Land Use Committee website](#). If you have any questions about this meeting or the application, please contact Marlae Schnare at 703-451-8873.

Design Public Hearing for Rolling Road Widening Project

The Virginia Dept. of Transportation will be hosting a Design Public Hearing for the project to widen Rolling Road from two to four lanes between Viola Street and Old Keene Mill Road. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 27 at 6:30 p.m. at Irving Middle School (8100 Old Keene Mill Road in Springfield). The snow date is March 5.

For more information, [click here](#) to visit the project webpage.

Save the Date: Springfield District Tax Relief Workshop

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is hosting a series of free tax relief workshops in late February and March at several locations throughout the County. The Springfield District workshop will be held at the West Springfield Government Center (6140 Rolling Road in Springfield) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday, March 5. Real estate and vehicle tax relief is available for older adults over 65 years of age and people with disabilities who meet certain qualifications. Staff from the Fairfax County Department of Tax Administration (DTA) will be at this workshop to assist with filling out the application form, as well as answer any questions residents may have. No appointment is necessary and residents may attend the workshop that is most convenient for them regardless of where they reside.

For the full list of workshops, visit the [Dept. of Tax Administration website](#).

2018 Shredding Events

The Fairfax County Dept. of Public Works has announced its annual list of dates for free shredding services. The Springfield District event is set for Saturday, June 16, there are other events nearby scheduled earlier than June. Visit the [Dept. of Public Works website](#) for the full list of dates.

Community Meeting to modernize Fairfax County's Zoning Ordinance

Fairfax County is holding its first community meeting on January 24th at 7 pm in Conference Rooms 4 & 5 of the Fairfax County Government Center as it moves forward to modernize its 40-year-old Zoning Ordinance. This effort will make the overall ordinance easier to use and establish new, more general zoning use categories. The public is also encouraged to take an [online survey](#) that will be available through January 31st. For more information, [click here](#).

Lake Accotink Master Plan Meeting - RELOCATED

There has been a change of location for the upcoming [Lake Accotink Master Plan Community Meeting](#). The location has been changed to North Springfield Elementary School, located at 7602 Heming Court, Springfield, Virginia. The meeting is still scheduled for Monday, January 22nd, 2018 from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m.

Public Comment: FCPA Fee Proposals

The Fairfax County Park Authority will hold a public comment meeting on proposed fee adjustments on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 7 p.m. in Room 106 of the Herrity Building located at 12055 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax. The public may share their thoughts at the meeting, letter, or email. For more information, please [click here](#).

Pohick Creek Tributary Restoration Work to Begin at Greentree Village Park

Restoration work within the Greentree Village Park is set to begin by the end of this month. The project will restore roughly 2,900 linear feet of the degraded tributary of Pohick Creek, from Field Master Drive to Old Keene Mill Rd. The restoration will help control the channel and prevent future erosion and degradation. At times, the trail will be temporarily closed to ensure public safety. Project construction will conclude in March of 2019. For questions or additional information, please contact Project Manager Yudhie Brownson at 703-324-8511 or [click here](#).

RSVP N. VA to Host Volunteer Orientation in Springfield

RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) Northern Virginia will hold a volunteer orientation at the Richard Byrd Library in Meeting Room 1 in Springfield, Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 3:30 p.m. The hour-long event is free and open to anyone 55-years-young or greater.

RSVP offers its volunteers more than 200 different opportunities, many located in the Springfield area, including providing rides, support and meals to older neighbors, assisting local veterans in need and helping prepare communities for disasters.

To sign up for the Jan. 23 orientation, please email RSVP Volunteer Specialist Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call the RSVP Hotline at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, please visit www.rsvpnova.org. RSVP Northern Virginia is a volunteer program of Volunteer Fairfax, Volunteer Arlington, and Volunteer Alexandria.