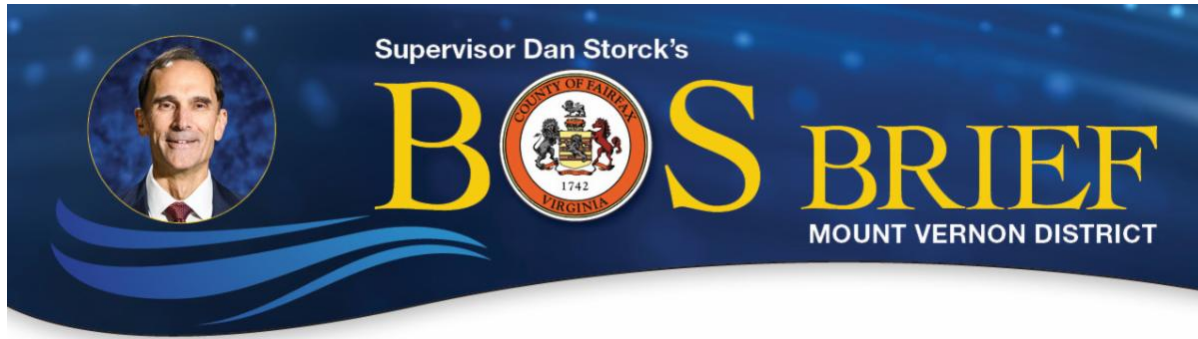


May 10, 2022



Dear Neighbors,

At this week's Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting, we **formally adopted the FY 2023 Budget Plan**. This budget provides a **3-cent real estate tax rate decrease** for homeowners, from \$1.14 to \$1.11 per \$100 of assessed value, a **15% reduction in the assessment of personal property (car tax)** and expanded **tax relief for seniors and residents with disabilities**. The Board also approved a **lower tax rate and depreciation schedule** for the machinery and tools (M&T) tax for our **local businesses**. In total, this budget provides **\$199.4 million in tax relief** to our Fairfax community.

The Board was able to **fully fund Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS)** and add additional funding for **our police officers and fire fighters** who have been particularly impacted by labor shortages. In addition to the **4% pay increase**, all eligible Police, Fire and Rescue, and Sheriff uniformed employees will receive an additional step increase. This, combined with **longevity increases**, amounts to a 14% pay increase for some public safety employees. I was also proud to support our Board's commitment of nearly **\$100 million in funding for the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA)**. Through collaboration with the School Board, the Board was able to add another **\$10 million for affordable housing**, exceeding the Board's long-standing commitment to reserve a full penny for housing in the budget. You can read my previous budget comments in my [Budget Markup BOS Brief](#).

During the meeting, we endorsed a **Safe Streets for All Program**, an important new County program in light of the recent **increase in bicycle and pedestrian deaths** in the region. The program aims to create a **safe transportation network** for people walking, biking and using other forms of active transportation throughout the County. The **adopted recommendations** provide a framework of education, policy, planning, and programmatic and design strategies. **I am highly supportive** of this new program and see it as an opportunity to **really make a difference** for the safety of all who use our roadways and trails.

The Board also designated May as **Teacher Appreciation Month**. As the son of a teacher and the spouse of one, I am **deeply appreciative** of all that our school teachers and administrators do to **support, engage and challenge** our youngest residents and their families.

Other meeting highlights:

- Approved a proffer amendment to **build a second package distribution center** at a site near Telegraph Road and the Fairfax County Parkway.
- Deferred a decision to permit an **additional retail use, likely a restaurant**, to **Huntwood Plaza** at 5845 and 5863 Richmond Hwy., to gather additional information and identify traffic improvements. The decision was deferred to June 7, 2022.
- Approved removal of **several Waynewood area streets** from the **leaf vacuuming collection services** program, at the overwhelming request of residents.
- Directed staff to **analyze the issue of panhandling** in our County and develop a set of **data-informed recommendations** for addressing panhandling.

I introduced two Board Matters, one recognizing **Military Spouse Appreciation Week** and another introducing the **Potomac Banks brand launch** to enhance marketing efforts for our local tourism venues. You can read more about these initiatives below. I also shared with the Board that May 10, 2022, marked the first ever **National Fentanyl Awareness Day**, designed to raise awareness about illicit fentanyl in counterfeit pills and street

drugs. **Illegally made fentanyl** is the primary driver of the recent increase in overdose deaths, and fentanyl involved deaths are the fastest growing among 14- to 23-year-olds. [Learn more...](#)

Sadly, at our last meeting I recognized the loss of a **stalwart in our Mount Vernon community**. **Joe Tompkins** was an avid sports fan, global traveler and faithful Methodist, who quietly and selflessly cared for those in need. He always found ways to **bring loved ones together** and derived tremendous joy from being with his family. Perhaps he was best known for hosting the Mount Vernon Democrats Annual Ice Cream Social on his beautiful Fort Hunt lawn. Joe will be missed by many and **our thoughts are with his family**.

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 May 10, 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 español**, 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 May 10, 2022 Board Package [click here](#).

Proclamations and Recognitions



May as Teacher Appreciation Month



May 9 - 15 as National Salvation Army Week



May as Fight the Bite Awareness Month



May as Lyme Disease Awareness Month

Administrative Items

Item 3: Approved the addition of a portion of **Richmond Highway to the Primary System of State Highways** as part of the completion of the realigned Richmond Highway and a portion of Woodlawn Road. *The full item can be read on pages 13 - 18 of the Board Package.*

Item 5: Authorized the **Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT)** to apply for grant funding from the United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program opportunity. The requested **grant funding** amount of **up to \$150 million** would be used for the implementation of the **Richmond Highway Widening project (Sherwood Hall Lane to Jeff Todd Way, up to \$100 million)**, and the Fairfax County Parkway at Popes Head Road Interchange project (up to \$50 million). *The full item can be read on pages 23 - 29 of the Board Package.*

Action Items

Item 4: Endorsed the **Safe Streets for All Program** and the **initial tasks recommended for implementation** developed by staff in response to a previous Board Matter requesting staff evaluate "the ability of the County to establish and achieve **measurable safety goals such as Vision Zero.**" The purpose of the Safe Streets for All Program is to **improve transportation safety** in the County, particularly for active transportation users. The **adopted recommendations** provide a framework of **education, policy, planning, and programmatic and design strategies**. Some of the strategies could be implemented as pilots; others require close coordination and support from stakeholder agencies. Implementation will occur in a phased approach as staff capacity and resources allow. *The full item can be read on pages 62 - 83 of the Board Package.*

Board Matters

Military Spouse Appreciation Week - Joint with Chairman Jeff McKay and Supervisors Penny Gross, Pat Herryty and Supervisor Rodney Lusk

The freedoms that we as Americans enjoy can only be made possible by the efforts of the more than **2 million men and women who serve** our nation as active duty service members of the Armed Forces. Right here on **Fort Belvoir, there are approximately 4,420 active duty service members and 2,246 military spouses**. Proudly, Fairfax County is home to approximately **80,000 military veterans and their spouses**.

Military Spouse Appreciation Day is a day set aside for us to pause and **recognize military spouses** who have the greatest impact on service members lives through their support and commitment to service. The average military spouse moves **8-12 times in a span of a 20-year military career**, which often results in starting over in each new location and dealing with the struggles of meeting new people and feeling a sense of community where they live. Military Spouse Appreciation Day was recognized nationally on May 6. However, tomorrow, on May 11, we are **co-hosting our second Veteran and Military Spouse Career Fair** with the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority at the National Army Museum and virtually.

Action

- *Recognized May 6 – 13, 2022 as Military Spouse Appreciation Week.*
- *Directed a proclamation be signed by the sponsors of this board matter to be presented to Army Community Services at the Veteran and Military Spouse Career Fair.*

Brand Launch for Potomac Banks – Explore Fairfax South - Joint with Chairman Jeff McKay

In February 2019, I launched the **Mount Vernon Tourism Task Force** with the purpose to

bring together key tourism stakeholders to **connect and increase awareness** of the vibrant cultural, natural, and heritage resources of the southern portion of Fairfax County. **Visit Fairfax has collaborated with us and our many partners**, including: Mount Vernon Estate, National Museum of the United States Army, Woodlawn Pope-Leighey House, Workhouse Arts Center, Gunston Hall, Gum Springs Museum, Fairfax County Park Authority, Arcadia Farms, National Park Service, Fort Belvoir, NOVA Parks, Mason Neck State Park, River Farm, South Fairfax and Mount Vernon Lee Chambers of Commerce, South Fairfax Development Corporation and local residents.

The Board has supported several initiatives as a result of the Mount Vernon Tourism Task Force work. This includes carryover **funding to support** the Semiquincentennial Workgroup and for Visit Fairfax to study, develop, and procure a consultant for a **tourism placemaking and marketing strategy**. As a result of this work, the Potomac Banks Brand Launch will be on **Wednesday, May 18, 2022, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate.

The launch will highlight the brand which ties together the **10+ area sites with tourism packaging** which will enable greater regional visibility and impact, with a **new visitor savings pass**. This new branding effort will create synergy between the **historical, recreational, cultural, and ecological venues** in the region, help grow opportunities for new tourism infrastructure, and **enhance the visitor experience** to the area.

Action

Directed the Office of Public Affairs to share the media alert and invited all my Board colleagues to attend this special event at the home of America's First President.

Naming FCPD Helicopter Hangar After Former Chief and Deputy County Executive David Rohrer - Joint with Chairman Jeff McKay and Supervisors Pat Herrity, James Walkinshaw, Kathy Smith, Walter Alcorn, Dalia Palchik and John Foust

On March 8 this Board unanimously approved a motion to have the History Commission begin the process of evaluating the **naming of the FCPD Helicopter Hangar after former Chief and Deputy County Executive David Rohrer**. Since then, the History Commission has determined that based on Board policy for renaming facilities established January 26, 2021, it is not the appropriate agency to evaluate the naming of the facility given that the Board is seeking to name the facility after a living person. They further determined that the Fairfax County Police Department is the appropriate agency to evaluate the naming of this facility.

The Fairfax County Police Department has since reviewed the naming of the FCPD Helicopter Hangar and **approved naming it after David Rohrer**.

Action

Directed the naming of the FCPD Helicopter Hangar after David Rohrer.

Public Hearings

Scannell Properties

Amended the proffers for RZ 2009-MV-018 previously approved for office and industrial uses to **permit a second package distribution center** in a second location and associated modifications to proffers located on approximately 117.75 acres of land located north of **Telegraph Road**, west of **Fairfax County Parkway** and south of **Cinder Bed Road**.

Huntwood Plaza

Held a public hearing to amend SE 84-V-035, site modifications to **permit a new retail use on an existing pad site** adjacent to office buildings at **5845 and 5863 Richmond Hwy**. The decision was **deferred to June 7, 2022**, to provide additional time to **gather additional information and identify traffic improvements**.

Large Area Community Parking Districts

Amended and readopted the **large area community parking districts** to reflect the 2021 redistricting of election/magisterial district. This **does not change anything in the Mount Vernon District**, which is entirely zoned as a Commercial Parking District

De-creation of a Small and Local Sanitary District in Waynewood

Approved the de-creation of a small and local sanitary district for the **removal of vacuum leaf collection services on several Waynewood area streets**. This action is being taken **at the request**, and with the **overwhelming support**, of neighborhood residents.

District Information & Upcoming Events

COVID-19 Cases and Outbreaks Continue to Trend Upward in Fairfax Health District

For several weeks, **cases and outbreaks of COVID-19 have increased** in Fairfax County and across Northern Virginia. Several jurisdictions in the region have **transitioned from low to medium COVID-19 Community Level**, as defined by CDC, including Fairfax County and Falls Church City. Fairfax City remains at a low level. [Learn more...](#)

Treatment for COVID-19 Prevents Hospitalization in High-Risk Individuals

Staying **up to date** with vaccination, and continuing to practice **layered prevention strategies** remain **critical to stem the spread of COVID-19 illness in our communities**. Vaccination not only prevents COVID-19 but also makes illness less severe if you do become infected. But what if you have chosen not to get vaccinated or still get sick even after receiving vaccine, and are at increased risk because you are older or have a chronic medical condition? **This is where treatment can be important**. [Learn more...](#)

Opioids and Illegal Drugs

With **fentanyl becoming more prevalent** in drugs being purchased illegally - including **pills like oxycodone and valium** - the County is sharing information and resources to prevent opioid abuse. [Study released by the NIH...](#)
[County resources and information you can use...](#)

Mental Health Matters — Resources, Trainings and Videos

During May, Fairfax County joins the national movement to **raise awareness about mental health, fight stigma, educate the public and provide support** for individuals and families struggling with mental health issues. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), **nearly one in five people** experience a mental health concern each year. If you or someone you know is struggling with a mental health issue, **you are not alone**.

Recently, the [Virginia Department of Health](#) launched a new [epidemiology report](#) on **self-harm and suicide among Virginia youth aged 9-18 years**, from 2015-2021. Key findings from this report include:

- Self-harm emergency department (ED) visits and nonfatal self-harm hospitalizations are **increasing**, however there was **no comparable increase in suicides** among youth 9-18 years in Virginia noted.
- Most persons with self-harm ED visits (68%) and nonfatal self-harm hospitalizations (74%) among Virginia youth were female. However, most deaths (71%) by suicide were among males.
- More than nine out of 10 nonfatal self-harm hospitalizations among youth were due to drug poisonings, compared to 7% of all youth suicides. Guns were the most common cause of youth suicide (51%).

Knowing signs and symptoms of mental or emotional crisis, and accessing quality treatment and care, are critical to preventing suicide in Fairfax County. The **tips and resources** provided on the County website can help. [Learn more...](#)

PLUS Spring Webinars

Join Fairfax County staff for **Webinar Wednesdays** on **May 18 and/or June 1** for a 30-minute lesson on how the **new Planning and Land Use System** works! The **one stop shop online portal** unites multiple agency online applications into one customer service platform. Using PLUS, residents and businesses can conduct online transactions under the Health Department, Land Development Services, Fire and Rescue, Code Compliance and

Planning and Development. **Bring your questions and learn** how this centralized platform helps streamline the customer experience. [Learn more...](#)

Richmond Highway BRT and Turn Lane Community Input

Recently, Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) held two in-person meetings to **provide updates on the progress of the Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system**.

- The first meeting, on April 28 at Bryant High School, focused on **design updates and North Kings Highway improvements**.
- The second meeting, on May 3 at the Lee District Community Center, focused on **turn lanes along the corridor**. 13 intersections were reviewed.

You can view all **meeting materials** on the [website](#).

In addition, **FCDOT invites the public to take a survey on turn lanes**, to share your opinion about the staff recommendations related to potential changes. The survey will be **available through May 27**.

[Visit our Website](#)

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