

November 20, 2018

BOS BRIEF

MOUNT
VERNON
DISTRICT



The Board of Supervisors (BOS) began yesterday's meeting by recognizing **Dr. Gerry Gordon** for his years of service as **President and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority**. While Dr. Gordon has done much for economic development County wide, I especially appreciate his recent support for the **Richmond Highway Corridor** through his personal engagement with our **Strategic Economic Development Team** helping to realize the **Embark vision**. Dr. Gordon also

developed a series of **historical interviews** chronicling the growth of the County. [Click here](#) to view the videos.

The BOS recognized November as **Adoption Awareness Month**. Adoption for children and families, like mine, means joy, love, caring and new perspectives. It enriches, challenges and improves all the lives touched by it. There is a **great need** in the County for adoptive parents, with **200 children currently in foster care** in the County. To learn more about adoption, foster care, kinship care or to **provide a forever home** for a child, [visit](#).



The Board also recognized November as **Veterans and Military Families Month**. This is an opportunity to honor the **husbands, wives, children, and all family members** of our Military Veterans who **sacrifice so much** in their service to our Country. I have consistently seen that military families are **deeply committed** and **involved in the communities** in which they live, even if for a short time. I was honored to join Chairman Bulova and Supervisor McKay in requesting this Proclamation, as **Fort Belvoir is a significant partner** in the Mount Vernon District. I have had the privilege of working

with the **leaders on Post** to **strengthen ties** between Fort Belvoir and the surrounding communities.

Top 5 Things You Need to Know from the BOS Meeting:

1. Accepted the **Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) [Annual Report](#)**.
2. Appointed **Retired Colonel Gregory Gadson**, former Fort Belvoir garrison commander, to the **Police Civilian Review Panel**.
3. Appointed **Barbara Byron** (a long-time District resident) as the **Director of Planning and Zoning**, effective December 10.
4. Approved the lease of **Workhouse Building W-2** to the Workhouse Arts Foundation.
5. Held a public hearing on **proposed changes** to the County Code regarding the **Employees', Uniformed and Police Officers Retirement Systems**, with respect to employees hired on or after July 1, 2019.

I moved a **Board Matter** important to many District residents. One month ago, I was contacted by **residents** who live along **Little Hunting Creek** very concerned about

hunters who were discharging weapons in the creek and ultimately returned and built a **duck blind** to prepare for the commencement of hunting season beginning November 21. As a result of coordinated efforts of many County and State agencies, the duck blind has been removed. My motion directs the County Executive to petition the State Board of Game and Inland Fisheries to adopt a **regulation forbidding the placement of blinds and continuing to forbid hunting migratory waterfowl** within **Little Hunting Creek** to prevent future situations like this. The full Board Matter is referenced below.

I also joined Supervisor Penny Gross in moving a Board Matter **encouraging more natural landscaping efforts** on County properties. You can read more below.

Please be sure to scroll to the end of this Brief to **see upcoming events and important information** in the District!

The following are **highlights from the Board of Supervisors November 20, 2018 meeting**, including items of particular interest to Mount Vernon residents. For additional information, please go to the [County's Board Agenda and Meeting Schedule](#). You may listen to highlights from the Board meeting on your computer or listen directly on iTunes. Subscribe to the podcast, or choose a program and listen in.

The Board also designated:



December 3 - 7, 2018, as Inclusive Schools Week



December 1, 2018, as HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) Annual Report

EQAC provides a [comprehensive report](#) on the environment to the Board annually. This year's report covered topics from **educating the public about clean recycling to community resiliency planning**. I am **supportive of EQAC's recommendations**, and have been advocating for many of them, including:

- Implementing a bag fee and a bottle bill
- Developing a community-wide climate & energy action plan
- Planning for climate resiliency
- Improving recycling efforts
- Increasing natural landscaping in the County

As I have said, **we cannot move quickly enough** to protect our environment. I appreciate that the EQAC report focused on **local and large** - local issues that will have a large impact. We can and should do more to **protect people, places and property!**

To view the November 20, 2018 Board Package [click here](#).

Administrative Items

Admin 6: Authorized the **Department of Family Services** to apply for **approximately \$3 M in funding** from the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start. If received, this funding will be used to **expand Early Head Start** services to an **additional 32 infants and toddlers**, and their families, at the **South County Government Center**, by providing for approximately **16**

Action Items

Action 2: Approved the Head Start Transportation Waiver Request to **allow Fairfax County Public Schools** to continue to **provide transportation services** for Head Start children for the 2018-2019 school year. *The full item can be read on pages 111 - 114 of the Board Package.*

Action 7: Authorized the **investment of \$1 M** from the Economic Development Support Fund (EDSF) to invest in Refraction, Inc (Refraction). The funds will be donated to support **Refraction's innovation hub** and ensure this facility will remain in the County. Innovation Hubs are important to **spur entrepreneurship**. I am working to bring an agreement like this to the Mount Vernon District as we **revitalize the Richmond Highway Corridor**. *The full item can be read on pages 171 - 175 of the Board Package.*

Information Items

Info 1: Endorsed [Volume I Urban Design Guidelines](#) for County Commercial Revitalization Districts and Areas, including those in the Mount Vernon District. Staff will use these guidelines when **reviewing development applications** and will provide them to interested parties as a resource for addressing the Comprehensive Plan's design guidance and streetscape standards in these areas. The purpose of the guidelines is to **provide site design and streetscape suggestions** using modern techniques, best practices, and sustainable solutions to **produce a high quality urban environment**. *The full item can be read on pages 176 - 177 of the Board Package.*

Info 2: The **Health Department's Community Health Care Network (CHCN)** program was created in 1990 to provide a **safety net of health care providers** to serve low income residents, regardless of their **ability to pay** or their **insurance status**. With the changing health care landscape, the County has identified an opportunity to support today's existing health safety net system by **leveraging available resources** and funding with the goal of **improving overall community health**, while expanding access to whole-person and whole-family care. Through new contracts with two Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) in the County, **Neighborhood Health** and **HealthWorks for Northern Virginia**, the County will shift from contracting for primary care services provided through the CHCN. With these new contracts, **all County residents**, especially those who are low-income or without insurance, will have **access to quality primary care**, including access to specialty care, dental, and behavioral health services, as well as a full spectrum of the County's integrated social services to efficiently address **whole-person and whole-family care**. *The full item can be read on pages 178 - 180 of the Board Package.*

Board Matters

Request for the State Board of Game and Inland Fisheries to Adopt a Regulation Forbidding the Placement of Blinds and Hunting Migratory Waterfowl Within Little Hunting Creek

One month ago, I was contacted by **residents** who live along **Little Hunting Creek** very concerned about **hunters who were discharging weapons** in the creek and ultimately returned and built a **duck blind** to prepare for the commencement of hunting season beginning November 21. Hunting with firearms in such a **heavily populated area** creates a **danger to the residents** and other recreational users of the Creek and is **currently prohibited** in Little Hunting Creek by County and Federal ordinances. This particular situation created **enforcement questions** between County and Federal agencies. As a result, we **assembled a team** who has been working to ensure the blind is removed and firearms are not discharged; this team includes the Office of the County Attorney, the Fairfax County Police, the Mount Vernon Police Station, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF), the National Park Service, the National Park Police, and the impacted neighborhood residents. Thanks to everyone's diligence, the **duck blind was**

removed yesterday. [Continue reading...](#)

Action

Directed the County Executive to petition the State Board of Game and Inland Fisheries to adopt a similar **regulation forbidding the placement of blinds**, whether stationary or floating, **within Little Hunting Creek** and forbidding hunting migratory waterfowl within Little Hunting Creek to prevent future situations like this.

Joint Board Matters

Authorization of a Policy Plan Amendment to Support Natural Landscaping at County Facilities

At the October 2 Environmental Committee meeting, staff provided an overview of **natural landscaping on County property**. One of the **recommended "next steps"** from that presentation was the Board's authorization of an amendment to the Policy Plan volume of the Comprehensive Plan in **support of natural landscaping** at County facilities, and the committee endorsed this action. [Continue reading...](#)

Action

Authorized consideration of a Plan Amendment to incorporate support within the **Policy Plan** for **natural landscaping at County facilities**, with the related handout from November 20 to guide, but not necessarily limit, this consideration. This may include the **incorporation of the natural landscaping concept** within the broader context of environmentally-sensitive public facilities and sites.

Public Hearings

Proposed Legislative Program to be Presented to the 2019 Virginia General Assembly

The Board approved the [Legislative Program](#) to be presented to the 2019 Virginia General Assembly.

Lafayette Building, LLC to Rezone from C-2 to C5 to Permit Commercial Uses, Waiver of Minimum Lot Size, Width, Setback and Increase in Office Percentage

This public hearing has been **deferred indefinitely**, at the request of the applicant.

Lease County-Owned Property at 9528 Workhouse Way to the Workhouse Arts Foundation

The Board approved the six-year lease of **Workhouse Building W-2** to the Workhouse Arts Foundation. This lease enables the Foundation to apply for **historic tax credits** for the re-purposing of building W-2, which recently opened as the **Lucy Burns Museum**, honoring the unsung heroines of the **Women's Suffrage movement**.

Consider Proposed Amendments to the Ordinances for the Fairfax County Employees', Uniformed and Police Officers Retirement Systems

The Board heard from **many constituents** regarding the **proposed retirement plan changes**, effective for **new employees** hired on or after July 1, 2019. The Board **decision was deferred** until December 4, 2018.

Proposed changes under consideration: Employees' Retirement System

- increase the **minimum retirement age** from 55 to 60;
- require age and **years of service** to total 90 to be eligible for normal retirement;
- increase the period used to calculate **average final compensation** from 3 to 5 years;
- eliminate the **pre-social security supplement**; and
- repeal the provision that increases the calculated retirement annuity by 3%.

Uniformed Retirement System

- increase the period used to calculate **average final compensation** from 3 to 5 years;
- eliminate the **pre-social security supplement**; and
- repeal the provision that increases the **calculated retirement annuity** by 3%.

Police Officers Retirement System

- increase the period used to calculate **average final compensation** from 3 to 5 years; and
- repeal the provision that increases the **calculated retirement annuity** by 3%.

Upcoming Events

- Nov 27: [Public Outreach Meeting on Proposed Improvements to Fairfax Connector Service](#) - 6 p.m.
- Nov 28: [Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Meeting](#) – 8 p.m.
- Nov 30: [EXTENDED! Fairfax County Parkway Survey](#)
- Dec 6: [Mount Vernon District Holiday Open House](#) - 5:30 p.m.
- Dec 6: [Written Off Documentary Screening](#) - 6:30 p.m.
- Dec 8: [Urban Design Guidelines Workshop - Richmond Highway Corridor](#) - 10 a.m.
- Dec 10: [Police Civilian Review Panel 2018 Public Forum](#) - 7 p.m.
- Dec 11: [South County Federation Meeting](#) - 7:30 p.m.
- [And more!](#)



HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

WHEN: Thursday, December 6, 2018 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306

[More Details...](#)

As part of the Open House our office is collecting donations for:

Refugee Coat & Blanket Drive for Syrian Refugees 2018

The **Mount Vernon District office** will again be a **drop-off site** for the NOVA Relief Center's **Blanket & Coat Drive**. Over the last several years, NOVA Relief has sent over 100,000 blankets and coats to Turkey and Lebanon. This year, **NOVA Relief Center** is accepting donations to distribute to three camps in Jordan: Mafraq, Jerash and Irbid.

You can help **make this event a success** by making and collecting donations, giving **gently used blankets and/or coats**, and by **volunteering**. Donations will be accepted from **November 9 - December 7, 2018**. [Read more and donate...](#)

Urban Design Guidelines Workshop - Richmond Highway Corridor

The County is creating **Urban Design Guidelines for the Richmond Highway corridor**. The Guidelines provide details on many of the recommendations described in the Embark Comprehensive Plan including the **appearance and function** of streets, parks and plazas, and **other elements of the public realm**. To kick this project off, the County **invites everyone in the community** to participate in an **Urban Design Workshop** to share their design ideas for Richmond Highway.

Event Details:

Saturday, December 8, 2018

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Walt Whitman Middle School Cafeteria, 2500 Parkers Ln, Alexandria, VA 22306

Public Feedback Sought on Proposed Improvements to Fairfax Connector Service

Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) is requesting **public feedback** on proposed Fairfax Connector service changes to **existing routes 161/162 (Hybla Valley Circulator)**, [321/322](#) and [699](#), and on the establishment of **new routes 308 and 467**. The proposed changes aim to increase ridership and to **enhance customer experience** through improved connectivity, on-time performance and service reliability. FCDOT will host outreach events on the proposed changes. Closest to Mount Vernon:

Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018, from 6:00-8:00

[Key Middle School](#), 6402 Franconia Rd, Springfield
Transit Connection: Fairfax Connector [Route 310](#)

The meetings will include a [presentation](#) at 7:00 p.m. on the proposed changes. Fairfax Connector representatives will be on hand to answer questions and take feedback from attendees.

Consolidated Community Funding Pool Survey

The County is seeking public input in an effort to validate **community priorities** for committing County funds to address **human services needs**. The County's Consolidated Community Funding Pool (CCFP) is an allocation of funds earmarked by the BOS to be administered to **local nonprofits and community-based organizations** as an investment in programs and services that fill identified needs within communities across the County. Funding is awarded on a two-year cycle.

In preparation for the next funding cycle of the CCFP (FY 2021 – 2022), the County is conducting a **community feedback survey** to gather community insight and comments regarding the current **CCFP priority areas**:

- Housing
- Literacy/Educational Development/Attainment
- Financial Stability
- Health
- Support/Community/Social Networks
- Positive Behaviors and Healthy Relationships

We encourage residents to participate in this effort. [Click here](#) to take the survey online. **Paper copies are also available** at the County's Community Centers and 8 Regional Libraries. Additional information is also available [here](#).

Short-Term Lodging in Fairfax County

As many of you know, the Board approved **limited short-term lodging (STL) amendments** that took effect **October 1, 2018**. In the month of October, the Office of Planning and Zoning received **21 applications for STL uses** and only a handful of complaints. For the first month of enforcement, the Department of Code Compliance (DCC) utilized an **'outreach and education'** approach, providing information to the potential STL operators and requiring them to obtain a STL permit, if appropriate. Starting in **November**, the DCC has begun **enforcement of standard protocol**. It will continue to provide outreach and education, but will now **investigate complaints** on properties that may or may not have STL permits issued. [Information on STL regulations...](#)

STAY CONNECTED

