



Mount Vernon Advisor BoS BRIEF

July 11, 2018

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The following are **highlights from the Board of Supervisors July 10, 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.

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR STORCK

At yesterday's Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting, the **Board appointed John S. Butler** [new chief of the county's Fire and Rescue Department](#). Butler has been with the **Howard County, Md. Department of Fire and Rescue Services** since 1993 and was **appointed chief in 2014**. During his tenure in Howard County, Chief Butler **expanded services**, hired the most **diverse firefighter/paramedic trainee class** in the department's history, helped establish **the first and only local affiliate of the International Association of Women in Fire and Emergency Services (iWomen)**, established **numerous community outreach programs**, led the construction of several fire stations and **improved service delivery and response times**.



The Board also approved the [County's first Operational Energy Strategy](#), which sets specific goals and targets for reducing energy use in its buildings, vehicles and operations, with the aim of **lowering utility bills** while also **reducing greenhouse gas emissions**. **I did not support the plan as proposed**. I agree that having **an operational energy strategy is important** for the County, both for cost savings and environmental stewardship. However, the plan as presented **does not go far enough to ensure Fairfax County's role as a regional leader and to advance cost savings, real climate change initiatives or resiliency planning**. As a County, we can do much better. We are talking about saving people, places and property. In addition, the goals set for the Strategy need to be SMART (Specific, Measurable, Accountable, Relevant and Timely) goals. As proposed, the **goals need to have accountability in order to ensure achievement**.

Top 3 Things You Need to Know from the BOS Meeting:

1. Board announced the appointment of **John S. Butler as Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Chief**.
2. Board approved its **meeting schedule** for calendar year **2019**.
3. Board approved the **County Operational Energy Strategy**.

The Board also held a public hearing on the **Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment** regarding **short-term lodging uses**. Thank you to the **more than 40 residents and business owners** who spoke at the public hearing to **express their support, opposition, and/or concerns** for changes to short-term lodging uses. The Board **deferred the decision** on this amendment to the **July 31 Board meeting** to allow time to consider comments heard at the public hearing.

The Board also:



Supported the **Healthy Minds Fairfax Give an Hour** initiative to build capacity to offer **mental health services for pro bono therapy** to children.



Proclaimed July 2018 as Parks and Recreation Month

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

To view the **July 10, 2018 Board Package** [click here](#).

Admin 2: The Board authorized a **public hearing on September 25**, at 4:30 p.m. to consider adoption of a Code amendment to **limit the activities** in which **junior firefighters** may engage as members of a volunteer fire company to **non-hazardous activities**.

Admin 5: The Board authorized the **Office of Strategy Management for Health and Human Services** to apply for and accept **grant funding in the amount of \$997,889** for an information-sharing partnership that will support the **County's Opioid Task Force goals**.

Admin 6: The Board authorized the **Department of Family Services** to apply for and accept **grant funding in the amount of \$317,971, including \$63,595 in Local Cash Match**, to support a **cost of living adjustment** of 2.6 percent and to offset **higher operating costs** for the **Head Start, Early Head Start and Early Head Start Child Care Partnership and Expansion grants**.

ACTION ITEMS

Action 1: The Board approved the **Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council Bylaws and Self-Assessment Report**. The Head Start Parent Policy Council provides a formal structure of shared governance through which **parents can participate in policy making and other decisions** about the program. *The full item can be read on pages 29 - 40 of the Board Package.*

Action 2: The Board approved the issuance by the Industrial Development Authority ("IDA") of Fairfax County of its **Health Care Revenue Bonds (Inova Health System Project) Series 2018**. *The full item can be read on pages 41 - 53 of the Board Package.*

Action 4: The Board approved the **Board meeting schedule for calendar year 2019**. *The full item can be read on pages 67 - 68 of the Board Package.*

Action 5: The Board approved an amended agreement and funding for the **expedited review of locally funded transportation projects** with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). Over the last several years, the **County has funded, designed and constructed an increased number of transportation projects**. In Virginia, the **Commonwealth owns the roadways**, but no longer has a budget to maintain and improve secondary roadways, therefore, **Fairfax has stepped up** to make these improvements. As part of this process, **VDOT must review and approve these projects** to ensure they meet VDOT standards. However, **VDOT does not have the staff or resources** to review the increased number of transportation improvements being implemented by the County. As a result, the **County is now paying for VDOT staff and/or consultants** to review construction plans for County implemented projects using a **structured review process** that includes an **expedited timeframe for reviews**. To continue this expedited review process, the **Board approved \$709,000 for FY 2018 and FY 2019 expenses**. *The full item can be read on pages 69 - 82 of the Board Package.*

Action 6: The Board endorsed **11 County transportation projects** for submission to the **FY 2020 - FY 2025 Smart Scale Program and the FY 2018 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Discretionary Grant Program**. Mount Vernon District projects include **#1 Richmond Highway Widening** (Napper Road to Mount Vernon Highway) and **#4 Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)**. *The full item can be read on pages 83 - 93 of the Board Package.*

Action 8: The Board approved the **2018 Zoning Ordinance Amendment Work Program**, which contains **requests for amendments** to the Zoning Ordinance generated from the Board, the Planning

Commission, the Board of Zoning Appeals, staff, citizens and industry representatives. *The full item can be read on pages 102 - 132 of the Board Package.*

Action 9: The Board approved **Fairfax Connector service changes** for July 2018. Due to low ridership and new Metrorail hours of operations, the **Fairfax Connector will stop operating the last northbound** (leaves Lorton VRE Station at 12:35 a.m.) **and southbound** (leaves Huntington Metro at 1:40 a.m.) **Friday trips on Route 171 Richmond Highway** (between Huntington Metro and the Lorton VRE Station). This will improve the overall effectiveness of Route 171, and the **impact to riders will be limited**, based on average ridership on these trips. *The full item can be read on pages 133 - 150 of the Board Package.*

Action 12: The Board adopted the **Fairfax County Operational Energy Strategy**. While I support the need for an operational energy strategy, **I did not support this plan**, as it is **not aggressive enough**. Adopting more aggressive goals would **result in significant cost savings** and a **faster return on our investment** for both our environment and our budget. I did support the follow-on motion to **consider immediate funding for the Strategy** as part of the Budget Carry Over review process. Please see my detailed comments in my message above. *The full item can be read on pages 185 - 216 of the Board Package.*

BOARD MATTERS

Joint Board Matter with Chairman Sharon Bulova for Workhouse Brewfest

Breweries, cideries, wineries and distilleries from throughout the Commonwealth and from the mid-Atlantic region will be pouring at the **Workhouse Brewfest on August 4**, at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton from **1:00-8:00 pm**. The day will be filled with **live music, great food, drinks and workshops** on fun how-to's related to beer.

Brewfest is presented by the Workhouse Arts Center and **supported by Fairfax County, the Fairfax County Park Authority, Celebrate Fairfax, and Visit Fairfax**, as part of the County's plan to boost our local economy. Brewfest also highlights the continued **success of the craft beer industry** as a big business in the state of Virginia. **Craft breweries employ over 10,000 people** and produce more than \$1.4 billion in economic impact in the state, according to the Brewers Association. There are more than 200 licensed craft breweries in the state – including **10 in Fairfax County**. Arts and Cultural organizations in Fairfax County also contribute over 271 million to the economic health and growth of our county and employ over 6,200 people.

The Workhouse is also **soliciting volunteers** to help make this event possible. The Brewfest "**Brew Crew**" will receive **free admission** and reduced-price tasting glasses for their use after their volunteer shifts are complete. [Signup today!](#)

Tickets and more information can be found [online](#), or on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @WACBrewfest.

Action

Directed the Office of Public Affairs to advertise this information during the week's mentions to increase awareness to the Fairfax County community.

PUBLIC HEARINGS THAT IMPACT THE MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT

Amendments to Articles 2 and 3 of Chapter 3 of the Code of the County of Fairfax Re: Employees' and Uniformed Retirement Systems – Elimination of the Social Security Offset to Service-Connected Disability Benefits

The Board approved **elimination of the 5% reduction of Social Security benefits** related to the service-connected disability retirement benefits of the **County Employees' and Uniformed Retirement Systems**. *The full item can be read on pages 225 - 312 of the Board Package.*

Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment Re: Short-Term Lodging Uses (Residential Owner/Renter Operated Dwelling Only) and a Proposed Amendment to Chapter 4 of the Fairfax County Code

The Board held a public hearing on the **proposed zoning ordinance amendment related to Short-Term Lodging Uses**. The Board **deferred a decision** on this amendment to **July 31** to allow for consideration of testimony at the public hearing. *The full item can be read on pages 321 - 378 of the*

