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*Working for Clean Streams and Protected Natural Resources in Fairfax County*

January 26, 2022

Delegate Karrie Delaney  
Pocahontas Building, Room E407  
900 E. Main Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Delegate Delaney,

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD) learned of your budget amendment (HB30) requesting a specific amount of funding dedicated to Fairfax County over the next two years. We are happy to share that \$4 million for the VCAP program is proposed in the Governor's budget, which is the highest it has ever been. We would appreciate your support of this budget item, which directly assists the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District's work with Fairfax County residents. NVSWCD is an active participant in the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP), which is administered statewide by the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Fairfax County government, through its Stormwater programs, also supports the local voluntary implementation of stormwater best management practices on residential and common lands through the local stormwater assistance grant program. The implementation of this technical and financial assistance is also administered by NVSWCD. The General Assembly authorized local governments to be able to establish local grant programs for voluntary projects on private property in 2019 and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors activated the program in partnership with NVSWCD, in September 2021.

As such, we are grateful for the commitments at both the state and local levels to support voluntary efforts by Fairfax County, by solving local drainage and erosion concerns and assisting with regional water quality goals. With these commitments, there is well over \$100,000 dedicated to support residents in Fairfax County, annually and into the foreseeable future. While your budget amendment is very much appreciated, it is unnecessary. Again, we ask that you support the Governor's proposal of \$4 million for VCAP, as it will have a direct benefit to the constituents of the 67<sup>th</sup> District, the residents of Fairfax County, and our neighbors throughout the Commonwealth.

Please feel free to contact us at [conservationdistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:conservationdistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov) with any questions you may have about the program. And encourage your constituents to do the same, should they have interests in the program and or would like to participate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John W. Peterson". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

John Peterson

Chairman, Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District

CC: Grape, Woode, Cameron, VASWCD; Graves, Tyree, Rash, Wells, VASWCD