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[00:00:10] Good morning, everyone, and welcome to our board meeting of March 5th, 2024, and we are going to begin our meeting in a moment with a moment of silence to be followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, but as we always do, before we rise for a moment of silence, I'm going to ask my colleagues if they have anyone that they would like to keep in their thoughts and prayers, and I will just start by acknowledging two things.

[00:00:35] Yesterday, of course, was the funeral for the firefighter in neighboring Loudoun County, who unfortunately passed away in the house explosion that we all are familiar with and talked about at our last meeting. But just want to, again, recognize him, his family, the fire and rescue department in Loudoun and our own fire and rescue department who were heavily present at yesterday's funeral and our one public safety family.

[00:01:01] And so I know they're continuing to grieve that loss if we could keep them in our thoughts and prayers. And then secondly, I had an opportunity with Supervisor Walkinshaw and former Chairman Boulava and Supervisor Penny Gross to attend John Mason's memorial service on Saturday in Fairfax City.

[00:01:20] And of course, John Mason was a former mayor of Fairfax City, but somebody who was heavily involved in regional affairs throughout northern Virginia. And it was a great service, a lot of great speakers talking about the legacy that John Mason has left, both in Fairfax City and in Fairfax County, and the great

relationship that we have with the city of Fairfax, largely due to John Mason's work and cooperation over many years of regional partnership.

[00:01:50] And so if we could continue to keep John Mason, his family, our friends in the city of Fairfax, and our thoughts and prayers, that would be appreciated. And with that, I'm happy to recognize any other board members. Supervisor Herdy. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

[00:02:07] Sad to announce the passing of Reverend Alan Farley on February 8th. He was a West Springfield High School graduate. Alan loved Civil War reenactment, something he did proudly since 1979. His love of history was only outmatched by his love for family and for his faith.

[00:02:25] Reverend Farley spent the last 40 years doing missionary work and preaching to those at the reenactments and in the community. He served as camp commander and as Virginia Division Chaplain for the Appomattox Rangers. He was known to be kind, dedicated, good at carpentry, and passionate in all walks of life.

[00:02:43] He's going to be missed, I ask, so we keep Reverend Farley's family and friends in our thoughts and prayers. Thank you, Supervisor Herity. Supervisor Walkinshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sad to share the passing of Ken Hartman, and Ken was an original resident of Ravensworth Farm, one of the handful of original residents left there.

[00:03:07] He unfortunately passed away on February 7th of this year at the age of 96. Ken was a Navy veteran, an engineer, a longtime active member of the First Presbyterian Church of Annandale. I knew him through his his work for many, many years on the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association, where he was one of the few folks willing to serve as treasurer, which is the most difficult job on a civic association.

[00:03:36] The one job you can't mess up. But but he was an incredible asset to our community in Ravensworth Farm and broader in Fairfax County. He's survived by his wife, Ruth, who's also a close friend of mine. And you all probably remember a few years ago reading newspaper articles about Ruth because she was the longest serving election official in Fairfax County.

[00:04:01] One of the longest serving in the country. Decades and decades of service as an election official at the Ravensworth precinct. So I hope my colleagues' community can join me in sending our thoughts and prayers to Ruth and the entire Hartman family in light of their loss.

[00:04:19] Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much. Anyone else who would like to be recognized? Seeing and hearing no one, if all who were able could rise for a moment of silence to be followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Please face the flag.

[00:04:49] I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. So this morning we have five presentations, and for each presentation I will announce the proclamation or resolution and invite our speaker down to the podium.

[00:05:23] We will then read that proclamation or resolution, and after our speaker's remarks, we will pose for a picture from the dais. And our first one this morning is a resolution to recognize Haman Bukala for winning the 2023 3M Young Scientist Challenge and being named America's Top Young Scientist.

[00:05:48] And this was requested by myself and by Supervisor Walkinshaw. And I know we have Haman here with us, if you could come on down. And Haman is a freshman at W.T. Woodson High School. And if

you could come on down to the podium right here where the microphone is.

[00:06:06] And I am going to hand the gavel to Supervisor Kathy Smith for a moment so that I can read the resolution. Whereas Haman Bekela, a freshman at W.T. Woodson High School, was inspired by the memory of people working long hours under the glaring sun in his native Ethiopia to develop melanoma treatment soap, MTS, as an affordable treatment option for skin cancer.

[00:06:34] And whereas through his enthusiasm and dedication, including long hours of researching and testing in his family's kitchen and basement, Haman advanced to the finals of the 3M Young Scientist Challenge, the nation's premier. And whereas the final 10 contestants were evaluated on their ingenuity and innovative thinking, Application of STEM principles, demonstration of passion and research, presentation skills, and ability to inspire others.

[00:07:04] And whereas Heyman secured his win during the final challenge events at the 3M headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was crowned America's top young scientist, taking home the grand prize for his efforts. And whereas Heyman is proof that the belief that young minds can make a positive impact in the world is true.

[00:07:26] Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of all Fairfax County residents, does hereby congratulate Hamon, America's top young scientist, for his hard work, dedication, and outstanding accomplishments.

[00:07:45] I've been moved to seconded by Supervisor Walkinshaw. Any discussion? Discussion?

[00:08:01] Any discussion? Supervisor Walkinshaw, I'm sorry. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I think the resolution described it well. This is really incredible. Um, this is not a science experiment. Uh, this, this is a legitimate breakthrough, uh, that Haman discovered, um, and, and produced. Uh, it, it is really amazing. And especially, you know, for those of us whose science experiments ended with our ability to glue a picture of a tree on a board, um, to see and read about what you have done here is really amazing.

[00:08:39] I also want to recognize and thank Haymon's mother, who's here, I think, who's a teacher at FCPS at Lindbergh. So, Haymon, congratulations.

[00:08:54] We are so proud of you. This is really amazing, and we know it's just the start of the many, many accomplishments and contributions you're going to make. So, congratulations. Chairman McKay. Yeah, thank you. I just want to add something.

[00:09:10] And I think a lot of people probably don't know details about this, and maybe we'll hear some from you. But this soap that was developed is basically made for 50 cents a bar, is my understanding. And of course, a surgery to treat skin cancer is an over $40,000 operation.

[00:09:30] And so I know part of the inspiration for this is that there's a lot of people living in poverty, particularly experiences you remember in Ethiopia that have no protection from the sun. And that was the inspiration behind this. It wasn't, I know, to be crowned the top scientist in the nation, young scientist in the nation, but it was a personal passion of yours, and I think that speaks volumes to your mindset and your ability and desire to give back.

[00:10:00] And, you know, just as Supervisor Walkinshaw said, you know, when I was a kid doing science projects, I wasn't even allowed to do those in our kitchen at our house. The fact that your mom let you do

that in the house in the kitchen, I think, is brave. Never something that I was allowed to do, but I think speaks to how far ahead you are of your peers.

[00:10:18] And I'm sure everyone in your school knows about this and is proud of you and everyone in Fairfax County. This is a remarkable, remarkable achievement. So congratulations to you and to your mom and to your school community. Thank you so much. Is there any further discussion?

[00:10:33] Seeing none. all those in favor of the motion say aye aye anyone opposed any abstention abstentions that motion passes unanimously thank you very much uh vice chairman gross and heyman welcome the the floor is yours we'd love to hear a few comments from you vice chairman what did i say gross oh my gosh long time of doing that vice chairman smith sitting in proudly for vice Vice Chairman Gross.

[00:11:00] Hey, everyone, welcome in. Thank you. Thank you so much for the recognition. Well, hello, good morning. You guys gave an incredible introduction for me already, but my name is Heyman Beck-Ella. I'm 14 years old, and I recently won the 3M Young Scientist Challenge for creating a bar of soap that can potentially help treat different forms of skin cancer.

[00:11:19] I just wanted to start off by thanking all of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for inviting me here today. It truly is an honor to be here. An additional thank you to the Fairfax County Public Schools. I've been a part of them since I immigrated here from Ethiopia when I was four years old.

[00:11:38] And just more than anything, my teachers, the support staff that I was given, just a big thank you to you all. From, again, I touched on this earlier, but from my kindergarten teachers who taught me English and instilled my initial curiosity to my teachers today who have never stopped believing in me, just a big, big thank you.

[00:11:58] An additional thank you to my parents, who really helped me along every single step of the way. None of this would have been possible without you. Regarding the future of the project itself, really for SCTS or the bar of soap, what I'm really hoping to do is turn this passion project into more than that.

[00:12:17] I'm hoping to turn it into more of a non-profit organization where I can provide equitable and accessible skin cancer treatment to as many people as possible. So that's hopefully the end goal, you know, just to help people see a real change and a positive impact on the world. And, you know, a final thank you to you all for really listening and inviting me here today.

[00:12:37] Thank you very much. What a great way to start our day. And our future is so bright thanks to young folks like you and to the FCPS system that helped you along the way.

[00:12:57] But your drive is inspiring to all of us. And we really appreciate what you've accomplished here on behalf of Fairfax County. And with that, I think we're ready for a photo. If you could come on forward, Supervisor Walkinshaw would join me. And if there's anyone else here with you, I know your mom is.

[00:13:13] She's welcome to come down as well.

[00:13:50] Okay, our next resolution is to recognize Karen Cleveland for her tenure as Chief Executive Officer of Leadership Fairfax.

[00:14:49] And this was presented by myself and as well as Supervisor Alcorn in Lusk. And we have, of course, Karen Cleveland with us this morning. And I am going to hand the gavel to Vice Chairman Smith so that I can read the following resolution.

[00:15:06] Whereas Leadership Fairfax is the county's foremost leadership organization, collaborating across sectors to inspire, develop, and engage leaders to impact issues facing our community and region. And whereas founded in 1987, Leadership Fairfax trains individuals to become more effective community and all-around leaders through an experiential, continuous improvement model that delivers high-quality training using the latest and most effective techniques.

[00:15:36] And whereas Karen Cleveland, a 2005 graduate of the Leadership Fairfax Institute, was serving on the board of Leadership Fairfax in 2015 when she stepped down to accept the role as Chief Executive Officer. And whereas under Karen Cleveland's direction, Leadership Fairfax has played an integral role in developing the next generation of county leaders, which will positively impact Fairfax County for many years to come.

[00:16:02] And whereas thanks to Karen Cleveland's guidance, Leadership Fairfax is even better positioned to contribute to an even more inclusive, connected, and equitable community. now therefore be it resolved that the fairfax county board of supervisors on behalf of all fairfax county residents does hereby congratulate karen cleveland for her outstanding contributions to leadership fairfax and our community and wishes her success in her future endeavors seconded by supervisor palchek bierman and um alcorn any discussion yes um i think there'd

[00:16:39] probably be a lot of discussion um i'm just going to start and say karen thank you for everything literally i mean those of us who have known karen for a lot of years know that you can find karen involved in everything that matters in our community in our non-profit world in our leadership world in our even helping the board by moderating our our board retreat karen steps up every time she is called upon for this community and i know you've spent a lifetime dedicated to improving

[00:17:13] fairfax county and as someone who co-authored our one fairfax resolution i can tell you karen you were one of the first people in the community that not only grasped it but took it and and led with it in your community and made sure that people in this county understood the importance of equity and the importance of of reaching sustaining and improving all corners of fairfax county and so i i want to personally thank you obviously for your role as chief executive officer of Leadership Fairfax, but just really for all the things that you've done.

[00:17:47] And the good news for all of us today is that we know we will continue to see Karen everywhere in our community. And while this may be winding down, Karen's just winding up for the next thing, and that should make us all happy. And so I did want to take a moment to recognize you.

[00:18:05] You spent so much time recognizing others that it was important for us to take a moment to recognize you, Karen. So congratulations. Supervisor Alcone. Thank you very much. Mr. Chairman, thank you so much for talking about her and her background, because I was going to say some of the same things.

[00:18:23] You know, you're here because of your support and work for Leadership Fairfax, but you've done so much more for the community beyond that. But I do want to take the opportunity just to flag the impact of Leadership Fairfax and what you've built over the last few years.

[00:18:41] Last Thursday, I was at the Leadership Fairfax Leadership Awards event, and there were several folks in the community that were honored, and each made remarks, and frankly, I found it moving.

[00:18:59] You know, the contributions identified, highlighted in that ceremony, encouraged by Leadership Fairfax really brought a lot of things home to me in terms of what leadership Fairfax means for so many in this community, means for our future. And frankly, it is really critical to building the community of Fairfax County. And thank you for your service in that. I know you leave the organization in good hands and it's very strong, but you will be missed in that role. And I too

[00:19:36] look forward to your next act as well. Thank you, Karen. Supervisor Stork. I'm going to continue the accolades because they're well-deserved and well-earned, and we've worked together on a number of things, but I want to especially kind of channel my staff. I have two leadership Fairfax members of my staff who wanted to absolutely make sure 2020 and 2023, they want to make sure that they had me share with you their own personal experiences.

[00:20:09] One of them in particular talked about how eternally grateful they are for how you help them kind of pull out of their shell a little bit more, be a little bit stronger in terms of how they present themselves and be more confident and assured, and your kindness and support were crucial parts of that development.

[00:20:26] So I wanted to try to personalize that and also share the difference that it's made and really the leadership that they have on my staff, but most importantly in the community, because they've now in turn led important, one of them was our infill development task force, which was a very, very difficult community task force that they led to really to help us reach more consensus among state and local, as well as community builders and neighbors who are frustrated about that particular issue, but they did a great job of leading that. And a key part of that was your tutelage and your support and your encouragement.

[00:21:00] So thank you very much. Supervisor Lusk. Thank you, Madam Vice Chairman. I'll start by saying I am a proud Leadership Fairfax graduate from the class of 1998. I'm one of the older graduates now, apparently, from the years that I keep hearing, the 2000s.

[00:21:18] I'll say, Karen, I just really admire your leadership style and just you're a true servant leader. You lead with compassion and empathy. It is who you are. It resonates from you.

[00:21:35] And I just appreciate having had the opportunity to work with you over the last number of years. And I just want to acknowledge the work that you have embarked on has really helped make this county better. And when I think about the relationship between the members of Leadership Fairfax, thinking about the nonprofits, the public sector, and the private sector, and bringing all those groups together to really engage in some difficult conversations and to look for ways to find

[00:22:09] answers to some of the difficult questions. And just appreciate the value that that has had on me personally. I have been fortunate to call amongst all the graduates, individuals who, if I were to pick up the phone and call them, they will take my phone call. And that is truly because of what has been built. And I think ultimately, it's going to lead to outstanding contributions to Fairfax

[00:22:44] County. So with that, I'll say thank you for everything you've done. I'm delighted to call your friend. And I look forward to seeing you in the future. Thank you. Thank you. So I had a land use case meeting in my district and i knew i needed a independent voice to moderate that meeting and the first person that came to mind was you karen i figured that you could get us through that meeting that i knew

was going to be a little exciting so that's a good word i thank you for your leadership and your help and really you've done a great job for this county so thank

[00:23:24] you very much thank you okay seeing no other discussion all those in favor of the motion say anyone opposed any abstentions that motion passes unanimously thank you thank you vice chairman smith and with that karen welcome the floor is yours great thank you so much uh really humbling and difficult to be here after the last presentation so you've got the different ends of the spectrum of 14 year old who is changing the world and you know so there's big things and small things that can make a big difference. But as I was thinking about today, I was reflecting back to spring of

[00:24:02] 2001 in a Chicago hotel room where I turned on the television and for the first time saw Oprah Winfrey. And she was encouraging people to start journaling, starting a gratitude journal. And at first it hit me like, why would you need to journal? I mean, every day, notwithstanding challenges. Every day I woke up and counted my blessings. And then I thought about it a little more and thought, you know, I do carry a lot of worry as a single parent. I worried if I was doing the right things by my children, worried about the community. And then the fall hit with, you know,

[00:24:39] September 11th, and I worried about the world. So I started journaling. And, you know, I've been so incredibly fortunate to have grown up understanding the community leadership engaging in your community will make you a better person and it'll make everybody around you better so my work in Reston through the Reston Chamber of Commerce back when we were all so young really started me on my adult path being able to work with a visionary founder who often was a curmudgeon, but really taught us, you know, what it was like to welcome people of everyone to a

[00:25:18] community to help make it better. And then my work with Habitat for Humanity changed my life every day. You know, just met people. And then my work with Leadership Fairfax, you all captured it so beautifully. And I will never, ever take for granted working with people who really care, who have a North Star and really care about the people and the work that they're doing so much more than they care about themselves. And through all of my work in the community, I've been in awe of the people, whoops, the people in this room, all of you who are selfless

[00:25:53] leaders who give so much of yourself. So you that are elected and then my friends around the dais and behind me who I get to work with every day, you inspire me and I'm so grateful that I get to work with you and that I'll continue to work with you. So another reason you've got a 14-year-old who has a whole life ahead of him and those of us that have reached a different age are grateful that we are no longer sent out to pasture. We are able to continue to contribute to our community and I'm so grateful. So thank you for this honor today and thank you to all of you back here who

[00:26:31] have supported me throughout the years. Appreciate it. Well, thank you very much, Karen, and definitely not out to pasture. We still expect great things from you, and that's a reputation that you have developed and cemented in this community. So again, congratulations, and we thank you.

[00:26:49] With that, I think we're ready for a photo, and if Supervisor Lusk and Supervisor Alcorn want to join me for a photo, and anyone who's here with Karen's welcome to come down as well.

[00:27:00] Okay. And next up, we have a resolution to recognize Lula Bauer, the executive director

[00:28:31] of the Lee Mount Vernon Sports Club for her induction into the Virginia DC soccer hall of fame. And this was requested by myself and Lula, if you could come on down to the podium, I am going to

hand the gavel to vice chair Smith, and I'm going to read the following resolution. Whereas Lula Bauer, executive director of the Lee Mount Vernon Sports Club, began her tenure with the club more than three decades ago as a recreational soccer coach and equipment manager. And whereas during the past 30 years, Lula Bauer's contributions to soccer in Northern Virginia,

[00:29:09] in addition to coaching countless players and championship teams, included helping to introduce the small-sided format to league play and paving the way for championing female athletes, coaches, and referees, and whereas Lula Bauer played an instrumental role in establishing Fairfax County's Volunteer Field Monitor Program and was the first woman ever to chair the Fairfax County Athletic Council, and whereas Lula Bauer is chairwoman of Women and Girls in Soccer and has served on the Virginia Area Girls Soccer League Board of Directors, is

[00:29:46] a member of the inaugural 2021 class presented by the Washington Spirit, was named the Virginia Youth Soccer Association and Region 1 Girls Competitive Coach of the Year and is a winner of the prestigious D.C. Iconic Women's Award. And whereas in recognition of her passion, knowledge, and tireless dedication, Lula Bauer is a 2024 inductee into the Virginia D.C. Soccer Hall of Fame. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of all Fairfax County residents does hereby congratulate and thank Lula Bauer for her outstanding contributions

[00:30:26] to athletics in our community. Thank you. Seconded by Supervisor Lusk, any discussion? Yes, this is in some ways personal for me because Lula and I go a long, long way back. But when I learned about this latest recognition of you, Lula, I said, geez, it is time to make sure the entire Fairfax County community understands how special you are. And a moment ago, I confused Supervisor Smith with Supervisor Gross. And I think it was because if Supervisor Gross was sitting here

[00:31:01] right now, we would all be reminded in a good five-minute speech about the value of Title IX. And her spirit is here because she would be preaching what Lula's life has done for making sure that girls and women in particular have athletic opportunities in our community.

[00:31:23] And so as I read the resolution, you know, there's some things I don't normally read word for word, but there's some things that need to be read into the record, I think, and sink in for people. Lula was the first woman chair of the Athletic Council in the history of Fairfax County and has served on the Athletic Council for 31 years, for 31 years.

[00:31:45] She has worked at Lee Mount Vernon Soccer for over 30 years, where she, as this said, initially started as a recreational coach and equipment manager, and now is the executive director and has been for a long time of this organization.

[00:32:03] She has been the high school girls coach of the year, Virginia State girls coach of the year, regional girls coach of the year. In 2018, she paved the way for all-female coaching education and referee certification courses.

[00:32:19] In 2019, she orchestrated an all-female international coaching education trip with female coaching education instructors. And I think for all of us in the community, aside from those personal things that she has done under her visionary leadership, the Lee Mount Vernon Sports Club has expanded to include, of course, travel soccer, but also travel basketball.

[00:32:42] recreational basketball flag football and lacrosse all under Lula's leadership and to run an organization that is so dedicated to building up our young people for as long as Lula has is rare it is

something that is special to the people particularly in South County and Lee and Mount Vernon District but your footprint is everywhere all over this county and with girls and women in particular and I know my staff behind me just to embarrass her for a moment Franny is here who is was one of the all-time great female soccer players at Lee Mount Vernon Sports Club

[00:33:21] and as a child I played soccer at Lee Mount Vernon Sports Club and can personally attest to how far it's come and how much better the players are today than we were when we were kids But but but in all seriousness, Lula, you have just done so much that this latest recognition is just so appropriate.

[00:33:42] And when I read about it, I thought I knew all the things you did, but I didn't even know half of the things that are in this list. And so on behalf of young people throughout Fairfax County, I want to congratulate you and thank you for your lifetime of service and for all of your staff, supporting coaches.

[00:34:02] volunteers, community members who are so proud of the work of Lee Mount Vernon. We know that you're the inspiration behind that and have literally changed the lives of so many kids. And for that, we can't say thank you enough, Lula. So congratulations.

[00:34:20] Supervisor Lesk. Thank you very much, Madam Vice Chairman. I'll start by saying thank you to the chairman for bringing forward this recognition and just want to say how delighted I am to learn so many more things about you here today Lula and I'll say as a father of two daughters who went through both the soccer program at Lee Malvernon and the basketball program it's made a tremendous impact on them to see them going through and playing high school varsity field hockey and even my oldest played

[00:34:56] in college. So just acknowledging how you have helped develop and foster so many young people in this community has been phenomenal. So again, just want to say I appreciate all the contributions you've made and appreciate the work on behalf of our community. Seeing no further discussion, all those in favor of the motion say aye. Aye. Anyone opposed? Any abstentions? That motion passes unanimously. Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Vice Chairman. Alula, welcome. The floor is yours.

[00:35:34] Wow. Thank you. Thank you so much. What an honor. I am so humbled and incredibly honored by your words. Sort of thinking back, it's been over three decades that I've been serving Fairfax County, and I'd like to thank the Board of Supervisors absolutely for this honor. There's two people I'd like to thank especially. 30 years ago, 30 some years ago, I was a young female coach wanting to

[00:36:06] provide opportunities. And at the time, our lead district, now Franconia district supervisor was Dana Kaufman. And I want to thank him personally for where I am today, because it was because of him. At the time, 30 some years ago, it was about transportation, transportation, transportation, the mixing bowl, the mixing bowl. And I wanted to know why we had overlaid fields for baseball and soccer and why we could only play one season. I wanted to know why we didn't have fields here,

[00:36:43] better fields here in Fairfax County. So I'd go to Supervisor Kaufman. And if those of you that know him, he's very soft-spoken. He would listen to me and he would meet with me anytime. Matter of fact, he would go walk fields with me. He was amazing. Even though the mixing bowl and transportation where his top priority at the time, he made sports here in Fairfax County in the Franconia District, the Mount Vernon District, a priority. And because of him, we have amazing

[00:37:14] fields. And he also empowered me, made me feel valued, wanted to hear my voice. And I can't thank him enough for that. So I stayed and I stayed. The second person I'd like to thank is Karen Avicato.

She joined our forces 31 years ago. When I was in this initiative, I was met with a lot of my male counterparts. To see a female come aboard in the athletic community was amazing

[00:37:49] to me. She let me have a voice. As a matter of fact, she finally was the first person that appointed me to a committee, the field allocation committee. I thought, oh my gosh, oh my gosh, Somebody feels my importance.

[00:38:06] Somebody wants to hear my voice. So I can't thank former Supervisor Dana Kaufman enough and Karen Avasato. I also want to thank the Board of Supervisors for understanding the importance of athletics in Fairfax County. And I'm so proud that we are the top jurisdiction of youth and adult sports in the nation, and it's because of you.

[00:38:26] So thank you so much for this honor. Thank you very much, Lula. It's our honor to have you here today and to honor all the work that you've done that have made a difference, as many have said, in so many people's lives. So congratulations. I think we're ready for a photo.

[00:38:43] And if folks who are here with you would like to join you for the photo, we would welcome that. And how about Supervisor Lusk and Supervisor Stork join me for the photo.

[00:39:49] And our next proclamation is to designate March 10th through the 16th, 2024 as Flood Awareness Week in Fairfax County.

[00:40:21] And this was requested by myself and Supervisor Walkinshaw, Beerman, Jimenez, and Stork. And our speaker is here, Ellie Cotting, Deputy Director of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, Stormwater and Wastewater Divisions.

[00:40:38] And at this time, I would recognize Supervisor Walkinshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Whereas March 10th through 16th is recognized as Flood Awareness Week throughout Virginia, as weather-related flooding is the most common, frequent, and costly natural disaster in the United States.

[00:40:55] And whereas due to climate change, flooding is becoming more severe, exacerbating risks to human life, property, infrastructure, public services, and natural resources, and resulting in the potential for hundreds of millions of dollars in damages. And whereas the county's resilient Fairfax plan focuses on creating a stronger and more adaptable county in the face of climate change, and educating residents about flood insurance, floodplains, and flooding-related risks and services and solutions, and whereas the county's Department of Public Works and Environmental Services responds to flood emergencies and service

[00:41:30] requests and implements projects to mitigate structural flooding, and the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District provides on-site technical assistance to property owners to minimize drainage impacts, and whereas a multi-departmental emergency response is launched during extreme flooding, including DPWES, the Department of Emergency Management and Security, the Department of Public Safety Communications, the Fairfax County Police and Fire Departments, and the Office of Public Affairs.

[00:42:02] Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of all residents of Fairfax County, does hereby proclaim March 10th through 16th, 2024, as Flood Awareness Week in Fairfax County and urges all residents to take action to learn about flood risk, the availability of flood insurance, flood protection methods, and how to prepare for flood emergencies. So moved. I'm

happy to second that along with, I think I heard, Supervisor Beerman, Supervisor Lusk. Discussion on the motion, Supervisor Walkinshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[00:42:35] I want to thank all of the county employees and agencies that are involved, most of whom were mentioned in the resolution, DPWS, Emergency Management, our public safety agencies, the Soil and Water Conservation District, Office of Public Affairs, for the knowledge and skills that they bring to the job of ensuring the safety of our citizens before and during flood events.

[00:43:00] I have a memory many, many years ago, and Supervisor Stork and Chairman McKay will probably remember this, of being with then-Chairman Connolly at one of the floods at Huntington before the levee. And I think once you've seen the look on somebody's face when their home has been flooded and they've had to flee, that's something you don't forget.

[00:43:27] And the work that our staff did then many, many years ago and the work that they do now to keep our community safe is really amazing. We have great resources, the Community Emergency Response Guide, flood safety awareness videos on YouTube, the self-paced online emergency preparedness training programs. A reminder, I probably should log on and take that myself. Unfortunately, as we know, though, as climate change continues, flooding has become one of the most common threats to residents of our county, whether you live near the Potomac River in the Mount Vernon District or the Drainsville District

[00:44:01] or in any low-lying neighborhood or area in any one of our districts. We all have to be prepared for flooding. I want to also use this opportunity to thank and congratulate our staff in stormwater planning, who in 2022 applied for and received $15.4 million in grant funding from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Fund, or RGGI. That was a huge win for our flood preparedness initiatives and helped us pay for stormwater improvements, real-time flood risk data, and to conduct

[00:44:36] hydrological studies in flood prone areas and my colleagues know we've been working hard at the legislative committee to convince the governor and the general assembly to keep virginia in reggie it has been enormous of enormous benefit to fairfax county and in our residents so as we transition into the spring and we know that that will bring more rainfall likely it's a good time to raise awareness of flooding threats and i want to thank all of the staff our first responders scientists our public information officials who help to keep our residents informed and prepared and as safe as possible thank you mr chairman thank you supervisor walkenshaw further discussion

[00:45:15] supervisor stork and i want to share the the thanks that supervisor walkenshaw really referenced as well as to maybe uh personalize a little bit the difference that's made by our staff is huge and the community we have major challenges along the potomac river and and great hunting creek and really the whole area, we never know exactly what's going to happen because it's now not a function necessarily of hurricane. It's a function of a super storm. And we had one just really a

[00:45:51] month or two ago. And I was down there, I think it was 11 o'clock at night. And of course, the DBW staff was down there and they're hooking up the pumping and they're making sure that the floodgates set and really doing all the steps that are necessary to prevent a significant flood event in Bellevue, New Alexandria. And that's really where our challenges are now. It's not per se a hurricane, although a hurricane could make a huge difference and a negative impact, but it's really the day in and day out. Even over the next couple days, we have super rainstorms that are approaching and the monitoring that takes place at midnight and 6 a.m. and really all throughout the 24-7

[00:46:31] focus that they have on protecting our community and protecting our residents is huge and and the core of that is how do we prevent some of that there's a lot of discussions disagreement within the community about how best to do that we have the huntington levee but in the new alexandria bellevue side there's i would say a lot of friction about whether or not there should be a flood wall that goes you know essentially on the west side of the parkway and whether or not That should exist or not and at this point in time the community is not satisfied that we have a real answer but we also know that a no answer means there's potential risk for us. So

[00:47:10] Again, the the folks have been there to try to make a difference And I thank you all for for doing that and and hopefully we will figure out only a solution on the kind of Potomac side of that minimize what i know and i think we all deeply believe are increasing chances of flooding from the potomac river not only on the parkway but also into the community but we have resilient fairfax we've got our sea cap proposal we have things that we've taken to make sure that we minimize those impacts but we have staff in turn to if you will put their fingers in the dike and make sure that the water doesn't leak and and or continue to make a really dramatic and negative

[00:47:49] difference in our community so again my deepest thanks our community's deepest thanks for your work thank you supervisor stork and let me just add that you know these flooding incidents and obviously huntington is a well-documented well-known one and i i can remember being down there but flooding incidents to a smaller scale happen everywhere in the county um and you know i i'll never forget the day that i was standing in the basement of a house in huntington and hayfield farm when the homeowner had showed me how the force of the water coming into her basement was

[00:48:25] so great that it took the door of her basement slung it all the way across her basement like a tomahawk into wedged into the drywall on the opposite side of her basement since that time thanks to our staff we have purchased her home she now lives in safety and have put a massive stormwater improvement in that community due to decades of work of our staff to fix upstream problems that you know were not pinpointed necessarily because of one thing's fault but the bottom line is it was a public safety issue and so I also want to join the chorus of people

[00:49:05] thanking our staff because the folks and I appreciate Ellie coming vest on today because it's the people in those vests that are out there. They don't get to decide when a storm is coming. They don't get to decide when a flood occurs, but they are there responding because they're public servants. And I want to thank the men and women of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, obviously your leadership, Ellie, Director Harrington, who's here, your leadership. And then finally, I think it's important for all of us during Flood Awareness week to think about what we can do personally. And while not every flood is preventable,

[00:49:44] Supervisor Walkinshaw and Stork were drawing parallels to what's happening with our planet and the environment. And there is hope. Supervisor Stork outlined some of the plans that we have in place, major investments the county has made in helping to stem the tide of climate change. And I think one of the things that gives me most hope is something that was shared with all of us in committee last week, which is the thing we can't stop telling our community that despite the county growing by 12 percent since 2005, we have reduced community carbon emissions

[00:50:18] by 30 percent in this county. And all of this stuff is interlinked in terms of the violence and severity of weather events that occur on this planet that we are doing our part to try to save for future

generations. And so during Flood Awareness Week, I think we can all think about what we can do. Finally, as we are grappling with Lake Acatink, there's another example of where all of us play a role in helping to protect our community assets. And the silt that is collecting in Lake Acatink comes from everybody who lives upstream from that. Everyone who has a patio,

[00:50:55] a driveway, a rooftop, a walkway, to be thinking about what we can do on our own properties to help mitigate flood and to mitigate downstream effects from the work that we do and I think that's all of our collective responsibility and something to remind ourselves especially during flood awareness week and so Ellie I want to thank you and the entire DPWS team who serves this county day in and day out especially as we recognize flood awareness week so thank you with that I think we're ready for a vote all those in favor of the motion please say aye Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That motion carries. Ms. Cotting, welcome. The floor is yours.

[00:51:35] Well, thank you so much, Chairman McKay, Supervisor Walkinshaw, and each and every member of the board for your support to come here today and talk about flood awareness. I'm Ellie Cotting, the Deputy Director for the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, and I am honored to speak on behalf of my many colleagues who stand behind me or sit behind me, including county agencies and outside the county who support flood safety. They are the real superheroes. Some of this will repeat what you've already said, but it's worth mentioning from the fire department and police department for their swift water rescue and emergency evacuations, Department of Public Safety Communications for their 24-hour call answering

[00:52:11] on 911, Office of Public Affairs, Department of Emergency Management and Security, Office of Environment and Energy Coordination, Land Development Services, and the Department of Planning and Development for helping incoming development be flood safe. Our partners with the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, and our partners at the Virginia Department of Transportation, who takes care of the roads.

[00:52:33] And for my own Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, from the modelers who crunched the numbers figuring out the floodplains to the staff who put the projects in the ground to our first preventers wearing the vests who literally pumped the floodwaters away. We all want to emphasize three things for this Flood Awareness Week.

[00:52:51] The first one is go to FairfaxCounty.gov and search flood. That's fairfaxcounty.gov, search the term flood, and you'll find all kinds of resources, including information on an upcoming webinar from our Department of Emergency Management and Security. And number two, same place, fairfaxcounty.gov, search flood, and you can find information about your own property.

[00:53:12] You talked about personal responsibility. That's important. Please go and learn about your property, learn how to protect it, and that includes buying flood insurance. In Virginia, less than 3% of people hold separate flood insurance policies. Most insurance policies do not cover for flood damage.

[00:53:29] And number three, please sign up for Fairfax Alerts. Our public affairs staff push communications out using Fairfax Alerts, and it's tailored to your community so you can understand your risks. It can go directly to your phone and other contacts. And our work continues beyond this Flood Awareness Week.

[00:53:46] We have everyday efforts of staff keeping the pipes flowing, helping residents with service requests, and implementing the board's vision as set forth in the resilient Fairfax plan, including launching a flood mitigation assistance program grant program this July 1st.

[00:54:02] And in closing, thank you again for your support and your work with the community and the residents towards flood awareness. And remember, when you're driving, if you see flooded roads, turn around, don't drown. Thank you. Thank you very much, Ellie. Appreciate that.

[00:54:19] And I think we're ready for a photo. I have a suspicion there's a lot of people here with you, which is great. If you all could come on down for the photo and Supervisor Walkinshaw, if you would

[00:54:34] join me. And our last proclamation this morning is to designate March 3rd through 9th, 2024 as

[00:57:15] Consumer Protection Week in Fairfax County. And I see Susan Jones is here, who is the manager of the Department of Cable and Consumer Services, Consumer Affairs Division in Fairfax County. And I am going to hand the gavel to Vice Chair Smith so that I may read the following proclamation.

[00:57:33] Whereas 25 years ago, National Consumer Protection Week was created to help people understand their consumer rights and make well-informed decisions about their money. And whereas we live in an age of rapidly evolving technology in which more people conduct their personal and professional business on the Internet and other mobile platforms.

[00:57:53] And while these tools provide conveniences to consumers, they also create opportunities for scammers, hackers, and identity thieves to commit cyber crimes. And whereas each year, fraudulent and deceptive practices cost billions of dollars and generate hours of stress and hardship from identity theft, imposter scams, and attempted theft.

[00:58:15] And whereas Fairfax County is dedicated to protecting consumers in our county and to providing information and tips to residents to understand their rights and to make well-informed decisions about their money. And whereas our first defense against fraudulent transactions and the misuse of personal information will always be a well-informed consumer.

[00:58:37] Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on behalf of all residents of Fairfax County does hereby proclaim March 3rd through March 9th, 2024, as Consumer Protection Week in Fairfax County and urges all residents to understand their consumer rights, capably identify and report fraudulent scams, monitor their online privacy and security, and make well-informed decisions and participate in consumer education activities.

[00:59:07] Second by Supervisor Palachuk and Lusk. Any discussion? Yes, very briefly. I think this is a really important time to recognize Consumer Protection Week, but also I know all of us have had experiences where fraudulent activity has occurred and particularly vulnerable among our seniors.

[00:59:31] And I know this and caring for my own folks how many times attempts have been made to take advantage of them and, frankly, to take advantage of their age and their, in a lot of ways, lack of competency when it comes to technology, mobile devices, electronic banking, some of the things that are common, commonly used for all of us, but can be easily manipulated by scammers.

[00:59:58] And so this is an opportunity to remind the community about this, take the necessary precautions. I do want to share that Thursday, March 7, 2024, is Fairfax County Consumer Affairs Day from

9 to 12 here in this building.

[01:00:15] But equally important that Scam Jam 2024 is Friday, April 19th. And I don't think a lot of, not everyone knows what Scam Jam is, but it is a program the county puts on co-hosted by AARP, Virginia, and Fairfax County Silver Shield Task Force.

[01:00:35] It is from 9 to 12 here at the Government Center, and it is specifically designed to particularly help seniors identify scandal activity, but also, more importantly, to help them protect their own personal information, their identity, and to give them valuable resources to help protect their financial stability.

[01:00:56] And so that event will also include document shredding on site from 12 to 3. Registration is required, so encouraging people who are interested in learning more about this to register for Scam Jam 2024 on Friday, April 19th.

[01:01:14] And then lastly, you know, when we talk about One Fairfax and vulnerable populations, while we talk about seniors being targeted by many of the scam artists that are out there, any one person can fall victim to this. It does not really mean that you weren't paying attention or you weren't cyber aware.

[01:01:35] Even the most cyber aware people can fall for these kind of scams. And the sophistication level of them today is unprecedented. The way in which people can use artificial intelligence, can record voices, can manipulate photos, can misrepresent themselves on apps and on phones is chilling to all of us.

[01:01:57] And I think as a reminder for all of us to make sure that we're protecting our information, but then also protecting the information of our loved ones, because this can be anyone could be victimized by this. And I think is an important focus of Consumer Protection Week. And then lastly, I want to thank the staff, our Fairfax County Department of Cable and Consumer Services, Consumer Affairs Division does excellent work.

[01:02:21] And for our viewers out there, if anyone feels like they've been a victim of any of the things that have been mentioned here or have a consumer complaint, that they should reach out to the county to file that and get assistance so that we can help them just as a public service announcement.

[01:02:37] But our staff does amazing work. I want to thank them for what they do every day for the residents of Fairfax County. Thank you. Supervisor Palchuk. Thank you, Madam Vice Chair. And I just want to second my thank you, especially to the team. I think this is one of the areas our consumer affairs branch here in Fairfax County that is lesser known Not funded and fully staffed the way we have here in Fairfax County to really be there to support tenants I know they've come out when we've dealt with tenant landlord issues They really are available and a great resource and have a wonderful social media presence as well

[01:03:13] But I just want to thank you and your team and anything we can do from the scam jam to help Share the information that you are here to support our county consumers, whether it's related to tenant landlords, other issues as consumers, including with the scams, as they do, absolutely have become much, much more prominent and, as the chairman said, I think targeted in a way that any one of us could fall to.

[01:03:38] So I want to thank you and your team and anything we can do to help share the excellent work and that you're here as a resource for all of our residents. Thank you. Supervisor Lusk. Thank you, Madam Vice Chairman. I'll say also really appreciate the work that you're doing and particularly this scam jam program and thinking about what we've heard about some of the efforts and the ways that grandparents

are being targeted using their grandkids, saying that there have been a terrible accident, saying that they're in jail.

[01:04:12] We need you to send money to get them out and to acknowledge that many grandparents, just when they hear that, they just automatically send the money or, in some cases, put it in an envelope and have someone come pick it up in an Uber.

[01:04:28] I mean, there's just such sophistication with these efforts, and it's important that we disseminate as much information as we can so that people know about them and don't fall prey to them. I think the chairman's exactly right, many of us, because it's an emotional thing when you hear, you know, your grandchild and then also thinking about some of these romance scams where people get caught up and unfortunately end up giving money to someone who has no intention of being their intended.

[01:05:00] So just appreciate what you're doing, and I, like Supervisor Powtech, will want to support disseminating this information and getting as many people to the Scam Jam event as possible. So thank you. Thank you. Seeing no further discussion, all those in favor of the motion say aye.

[01:05:18] Aye. Anyone opposed? Any abstentions? That motion passes. Thank you. Thank you very much. And with that, Ms. Jones, welcome. The floor is yours. Thank you. Thank you, Chairman McKay and the Board of Supervisors. I'm Susan Jones, Branch Manager of Consumer Affairs, and on behalf of Rebecca Makeley, our Director of Cable and Consumer Services, and Amanda Castle, Director of Consumer Services Division, we thank you for recognizing Consumer Affairs Day in Fairfax County in honor of National Consumer Protection Week.

[01:05:49] Throughout the year, Consumer Affairs staff in the Department of Cable and Consumer Services works diligently to mediate a variety of consumer complaints and proactively provide information and resources to Fairfax County consumers, especially seniors, to help them understand the rights and responsibilities and to help them understand and make informed decisions.

[01:06:13] This small but mighty group of consumer specialists with me today handled over 7,700 consumer complaints and advice, 149 educational outreach events to over 75 attendees, and recovered over $460,000 for consumers through voluntary mediation during FY 2023.

[01:06:33] We will be back in the board auditorium and live on Channel 16 on Thursday, March 7th from 9 to 12 p.m., and yet another educational outreach event called Consumer Affairs Day. It's to provide a variety of consumer presentations like Consumer 101, Tenant Landlord Matters, Medical Billing, and Scam Fraud Awareness and Protection.

[01:06:57] Several of our county and industry partners will also be in attendance to provide additional educational information and resources. We hope to see everyone there. Once again, thank you, Chairman McKay and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for your support of Consumer Affairs Day in Fairfax County.

[01:07:17] Thank you very much, Susan. I appreciate all the work you do, and thank you also for mentioning Director Rebecca Makeley, who is here. For those of you watching at home, you're able to see this video largely because of Rebecca Makeley and her team at Channel 16, which is also a part of the department here that we're talking about.

[01:07:38] And so appreciate all the staff and the work that you do very, very much. With that, I think we're ready for a photo. If you could come forward, face the audience, and the folks who are here with you are welcome to come down as well.

[01:07:49] And next, we have the presentation of the Transportation Advisory Commission, the TAC, 2022 and 2023 Transportation Achievement Awards.

[01:09:20] And at this time, I see with us is Michael Champness, who is chairman of the Transportation Advisory Commission. And at this time, I will turn the microphone over to you for our awards. Welcome. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Board of Supervisors.

[01:09:35] Appreciate the opportunity to bestow these awards this morning. your participation we've fallen behind a little bit with the pandemic working our way out so we've got two awards uh this morning and we'll be caught up and then we'll be back again next year with with next year's winner um i do want to acknowledge that we have a couple of commissioners here with us vice chair christy garden fairfax disability services board and kevin morse from the braddock district as well and longtime staff member calvin lamb who keeps us all together and keeps the the product moving you know how that works calvin thank you very much for for your contributions

[01:10:09] and your help there um what i like to do is uh you know we have a large group we have a couple large groups and in fact uh a reward that had often been in years past many years past for individuals we've recognized and recognized that it takes a team to do a lot of these things and that's no exception here both both groups today but in particular the the first group and i will ask the folks, please, from the Burke Center VRE Connector Phase 4 team to stand up. And I will attempt to go through some names, and we'll have them down here for some pictures, but I did just want to acknowledge up front all of the areas in which they're from. Mr.

[01:10:48] Walkinshaw is your nomination. Your staff members there, Sally and Frank were involved in that. And then, of course, from Fairfax County itself, Department of Transportation, Department of Public Works, Environmental Services, VDOT, working with VDOT, that's always a good thing, Rinker Design Associates, Sagaris Construction Corporation, Geo Concepts, Terracon, a wide group, more than just government, and that's important.

[01:11:14] It shows collaboration, shows working together, and this was a very large project. Now, I will mention the names of the folks who are here today, and I apologize if I've gotten the names wrong, and some folks might not have been able to make it here. Deepak Binge, Frank Anderson, Max Hadjizanadeh, I apologize, Richard Pugh, Cody Allen Harp-Taylor, Benjamin Neal, John Cummings, Helio Almedia, William Richards, Robert Burton, Arash Pashtunath, Sharon North, Watanis Savannah, and Jamie Martins.

[01:11:48] And so very glad for their participation, their ability to be here. Did just want to mention the work that they did for which they received the award. The Phase 4 team received the Transportation Advisor Commission 2022 Transportation Achievement Award for a significant contribution towards meeting the objectives of County Transportation Plan, providing a safe and accessible transportation alternative, connecting high-density residential communities to mass transportation, while minimizing environmental impacts and community disruption.

[01:12:18] The Burke-Veary Connector Trail is a 900-foot-long, 8-foot-wide asphalt trail, followed by a 715-foot-long, 5-foot-wide concrete sidewalk along Premier Court that connects Oak Bluff Court to the Burke

VRE station. The project was complicated and required significant engineering and coordination with various public and private stakeholders.

[01:12:37] Trail eliminates many vehicular trips to the Burke VRE station and the businesses along Premier Court, reducing traffic congestion, thereby improving air quality in the area. Trail is an excellent location for biking, walking, jogging, and fitness, activities inside the developing Burke urban setting, and has seen extensive use since its opening on March 7, 2022.

[01:12:55] So we felt a project well-deserving of the award. I would like to invite Deepak down to join us here. The way I put the agenda together is he would make some remarks, but I've noticed that the supervisors usually make their remarks first.

[01:13:11] So, Mr. Chairman, if you'd like to have the supervisor's remark first, and then Deepak. We are going to restrain ourselves. You're welcome to. And allow you to do that this time. My turn. Okay. Deepak? Ah, there you are, sir. All right. Congratulations.

[01:13:27] Yes, you have the floor. Can I get our team out here, please? Yes, please do. I just want to thank the board first for recognizing us, and to the TAC, Michael Champness, Calvin, Kevin, they were very helpful in this.

[01:13:48] And, of course, thank you to Supervisor Walkinshaw for nominating the project. And this was truly a very collaborative effort within the county agencies, various agencies, as well as the private sector. We have the consultants.

[01:14:05] We have the contractors. So it was truly a very collaborative effort. It was a fun project, and it's a great project. The community really loves it. Thank you. All right. Do you want to do a photo? We do.

[01:14:20] We have two awards to hand out, sir, when you come forward. You want to do each photo separately? I think we can do it all together. is that okay you and your and your colleague there so i want to just do okay well uh is max available here yeah there you go um i think we can have a picture with everybody in the okay in the awards okay that works so uh with that we'll also invite the attack commissioners who are here to come down and join us join us please um and here are all right i will come down for a photo if the board could rise and if everyone can come forward

[01:14:59] and face the audience.

[01:17:14] Yes. Tack Award. This is to the Active Transportation Project Prioritization Team and would ask those members to please stand as I read your names.

[01:17:32] Lauren Del Mar, Nicole Winans, Michael Guarino, Robin Geyer, Nathan Wilkinson, and Negan Askarazat. I apologize. I know I made the big mistake of that. But thank you for your participation. The Active Transportation Project team received the TAC award for its significant contribution to meeting the objectives of the county transportation plan and for enhancing the quality of transportation in Fairfax County. The Active Transportation Network in Fairfax County has a significant number of gaps, including sidewalks and trails that suddenly end, unsafe

[01:18:08] street crossings, and roads without any active transportation facilities. Since it will take substantial funding to build out the entire active transportation system, the county needs to prioritize active transportation projects for implementation. The board, as you well know, has allocated $100 million over a six-year period to make one-time investments in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and directed

the Department of Transportation to compile a list of potential active transportation access and safety improvements and to develop a prioritization process for implementation. They presented that process to the Transportation Advisory Commission and we are, of course, very impressed and thought they did a very good job. We're giving them the award.

[01:18:45] To help facilitate the selection of larger active transportation projects such as sidewalks, trails, bikeways, and signals, the team developed a four-step process. The result was a prioritized list of active transportation projects, which this board approved in its December 5, 2023 meeting.

[01:19:01] So thank you very much for your support of active transportation, and certainly would like to welcome the members of the active transportation group to come on down. Lauren, I know, is going to make some remarks here, and then we'll have the pictures as we did before. Thank you.

[01:19:18] Good morning. I'm Lauren Delmar, Active Transportation Section Chief with the Department of Transportation. The Active Transportation Section is a new section within the department, supporting the increased focus on active transportation needs. Some watching may be asking, what is active transportation?

[01:19:34] It describes self-propelled, mostly human-powered travel, including walking, bicycling, hiking, and riding a scooter, wheelchair, or horse for transportation or recreation. On behalf of the team, I would like to thank the Transportation Advisory Commission for this award.

[01:19:50] We would especially like to thank the Board of Supervisors for recognizing and addressing the need for this initiative. The Board set a goal for funding $100 million of additional active transportation, safety, and access improvements over a six-year period and ask that staff recommend criteria for evaluation and selection of projects.

[01:20:07] This set us forth on our mission to prioritize potential projects based on their location in areas with high need to walk and bike, high density of destinations, and high pedestrian and bicycle safety risk. In doing this, we are more prepared to prioritize projects in the future as new needs continue to be identified through public feedback, transportation audits, and studies.

[01:20:28] So thank you again to the Transportation Advisory Commission and to the Board of Supervisors for your support. We look forward to continuing to make Fairfax County safer and better for rolling, walking, and bicycling. Thank you. Thank you very much.

[01:20:46] Only one block this time. I think we're ready for a photo. And I think what you just heard, code for what you just heard, is the board is keeping you all very busy, but all for really important stuff. So we really appreciate your work on these important projects.

[01:21:02] And if the board could rise for a photo.

[01:21:04] And before we move on to our next item, I want to thank Michael and the Transportation Advisory Commission.

[01:22:23] For those watching, the Transportation Advisory Commission is dedicated volunteers across Fairfax County that help provide guidance to the Board of Supervisors on transportation initiatives. And Michael, we appreciate you and the time and dedication that all the members of the TAC put into improving Fairfax County.

[01:22:42] So thank you. And with that, we are going to move on to our next agenda item, which is a report on general assembly activities. And I will turn to Supervisor Walkinshaw, the chair of our legislative committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since our last board meeting, the legislative committee has met twice on Friday, February 23rd and on March 1st.

[01:23:03] The 2024 session is rapidly heading towards its scheduled adjournment on Saturday, March 9th. Our county initiatives continue to move through the legislative process successfully. I'm very pleased to report that both initiatives have passed both the House and the Senate and are headed to Governor Youngkin for his consideration.

[01:23:23] The first initiative, and the TAC members might be interested in this, addresses local speed limits and gives local governments the authority to reduce speed limits in business and residential districts from 25 to 15 miles per hour. The second initiative addresses deadlines for certifying election results.

[01:23:41] And I'll just say on the speed limit bill, I want to be cautious not to celebrate too early. But I think we have a good chance, very good chance of the governor signing this. And this is a big win for us as a county. We have been this has been a long and winding road.

[01:24:00] As some board members will remember, we thought we had this authority in 2020. We did. VDOT interpreted the statute differently. We've gone back over the course of several years to try to get this legislation passed. This year, I told the legislative staff, we're going to give it one more try. And this time, we're going to start by sitting down with VDOT and seeing whether we can address the specific concerns and objections that they've raised. Our staff did that, did a great job doing that. VDOT has to date not opposed the bill. And that, I think, helped speed the path

[01:24:39] through the General Assembly and hopefully will ensure the governor's support and signature. A key area of focus for the rest of the session will be the 2024 to 2026 biennium budget. During both of our last two legislative committee meetings, staff provided an analysis of how the budgets adopted by the House and the Senate affect our key county priorities. That budget is now in The conference and staff are closely monitoring the negotiations and we'll provide updates as it unfolds.

[01:25:07] As we discussed last Friday of particular concern for Fairfax County, the House and Senate budgets approach K-12 funding in very different ways. The Senate budget provides $198.6 million statewide to fully eliminate the cap on support positions that was implemented in FY 2010 as a budget-cutting measure during the Great Recession.

[01:25:32] and eliminating that cap has been a longtime priority of Fairfax County and other localities. That Senate budget also includes $121.3 million in FY25 to restore funding for K-12 education that is required to compensate for the elimination of the state portion of the sales tax on food.

[01:25:54] Governor Youngkin did not include that funding in his introduced budget, Despite the fact that it was a critical component of the agreement, agreement that he agreed to, to eliminate the grocery tax. When compared to the FCPS advertised budget that we've been discussing with the school board, the Senate budget would provide an additional $43.1 million more than FCPS anticipated when they built their budget.

[01:26:25] The House budget takes a different approach to K-12 funding and does not fund the two key items that I just mentioned. It directs most of its increased funding into the at-risk add-on formula, which

unfortunately measures poverty across entire school divisions and as a result doesn't appropriately reflect the high concentrations of poverty that exist in some schools within FCPS and in some areas of the county.

[01:26:54] The House budget also contains a dramatically higher staffing standard for English language learners, which would require a substantial local cost. It's an unfunded new mandate on local school systems.

[01:27:10] When compared to that FCPS advertised budget, the House budget results in a net negative impact to FCPS of $58.3 million. So we have have been communicating with our delegation and budget conferees to make sure they understand the very real impacts that these two respective budgets would have on FCPS and obviously are going to be advocating for something that's closer to the Senate, the Senate budget.

[01:27:40] Another essential priority for Northern Virginia in this session is funding for Wilmada or Metro. As the board is aware, in Virginia, unlike Maryland, local jurisdictions have historically provided substantial funding for Wilmada. Though the benefits of Metro, the very real financial benefits especially, are shared by the entire Commonwealth, it's vital that the Commonwealth provide funding for Wilmada to address the looming budget shortfall to put the agency on sound financial footing without diverting resources from other transportation needs in Northern Virginia and the Commonwealth. While the House budget includes additional funding

[01:28:18] to help mitigate WMATA's shortfall, the Senate past budget does not include such assistance. Although this past weekend, the chair of the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee did announce that the Senate would be supportive of including that WMATA funding in the final budget conference report, and we're grateful for that. It's good news, but we're going to continue to watch that issue closely as the budget is negotiated. Finally, both budgets include funding to eliminate the priority one wait list for developmental disability slots over the biennium, as well as to increase reimbursement rates. Those Medicaid waivers, as my colleagues

[01:28:55] know, are a lifeline for people with developmental disabilities, providing them with access to essential services and care. Despite almost yearly investments from the Commonwealth to increase the number of waiver slots. The Fairfax Falls Church Priority One wait list has doubled since FY 2018 and includes more than 1,200 individuals, which is more than a third of the approximately 3,400 individuals on the entire statewide waiting list. So they've increased the waivers, but the wait list is growing faster than the increases. The Legislative Committee also receives updates on

[01:29:34] a number of bills related to public safety land use human services and transportation among other topics uh well just over 1400 bills have already passed both chambers and await gubernatorial action nearly 700 bills are still awaiting final disposition there's a lot of items to work through in a short period of time sometimes these things get resolved very quickly in the final days or hours of the session and sometimes extra time is needed so stay tuned and i'll just end by

[01:30:03] As always, thanking our incredible staff that's down in Richmond advocating on our behalf and all of the county staff and agencies that are involved in reviewing legislation so that we can make informed decisions as a board. With that, Mr. Chairman, I move that the board adopt legislative committee report number three.

[01:30:23] I'm happy to second that motion. Discussion, further discussion on the motion. Let me just reiterate a couple points that I think are important. One, on education funding. This is singularly the most important issue for us in Fairfax County, and it's largely driven by the landmark J. Lark study that showed how far Virginia was behind in public education funding.

[01:30:46] And to put that in county terms, every dollar that we have to make up of the state's underfunding of public education is a dollar we don't have available for all of our other county priorities. And so this literally affects everything we do in Fairfax County.

[01:31:01] And unfortunately, just being even a little more blunt than the legislative chairman was, the House budget and the governor's budget cut Fairfax County public schools, cut. We are already $1,900 behind on average for funding a public education.

[01:31:21] We are behind West Virginia and Kentucky as a state. And yet two out of the three budgets are cuts to Fairfax County public schools. When you look at all the requirements and the unfunded mandates that are a part of them, they would literally cut the FCPS budget.

[01:31:36] And I think we need to be that clear with people, which is one of the reasons why gravitating towards the Senate version is certainly more helpful. And then on the Medicaid waiver issue, I think Supervisor Walkinshaw outlined very well where we are. I would just add that some of the people with severe developmental disabilities have been on the Medicaid waiver wait list for over five years.

[01:32:02] These are people who are desperate for need for services and support, their families are, and we literally have people, and I shared this with our General Assembly, these are all of our constituents that have been waiting for vital services in some cases for over five years, which is an unacceptable prospect. And so we're looking forward to some improvements in Medicaid waivers. We're looking forward to gravitation towards the Senate budget and support for so many of the services that all of our constituents rely on. These are our

[01:32:39] constituents, but they're also our delegation as constituents as well. And so we are in a race to the finish now, and I want to thank my colleagues who have given up their Friday afternoons to meet as a legislative committee and take position on all of these bills, and particularly want to thank Supervisor Walkinshaw for his great work. We're not finished yet with this session, so his final report card hasn't come in yet but to this point all the great work that you've done supervisor walkinshaw on behalf of the county board and and our residents here in fairfax county and with that

[01:33:15] all those in favor of the motion please say aye aye any opposed parity nay any abstentions and that is approved nine to one uh and next up we have uh board matters and just as a reminder these have been compiled and distributed digitally by the clerk although i know we have a couple that have been modified we will go alphabetically by district following myself and vice chairman gross and i i'm sorry vice chairman smith seeing if people are paying attention this morning and to that end i only have two board matters first is to approve without objection the

[01:33:54] proclamations listed in this document and that is a joint proclamation with supervisor Jimenez and Palchek, to recognize Jewish American Heritage Month in May, to recognize National Foster Care Month in May, to recognize March 21st as Save Soil Day in Fairfax County, a resolution to recognize the Northern Virginia Family Service on their 100th anniversary on May 3rd, and a resolution to recognize Volunteer Fairfax 50th anniversary, which coincides with their annual Volunteer Appreciation Day on May

9th. And I should add that these are being requested to be presented in or outside of the boardroom as appropriate without objection so approved

[01:34:33] thank you vice chairman smith my next board matter is a notice of land use public hearings to renters and apartment buildings and to owners and renters within manufactured housing communities and i am offering this jointly with supervisors smith lusk stork and walkinshaw as the board will recall as a result of my board matter with supervisor smith on december 6 2022 the board directed staff to explore whether Fairfax County's written notice procedures for land use applications meet the board's goals to encourage robust public participation in the land use process. Specifically, the board identified two areas of concern. The first

[01:35:12] relates as to whether renters of apartments and renters and owners of manufactured homes are receiving adequate notice of land use applications, particularly applications that apply to the property in which they live. The second relates to the requirement that written notification be provided by certified mail, which can impact accessibility if residents are not home to receive the certified mail. While individualized written notice is only one way in which the community is engaged, it is the most direct way to inform and encourage public participation and development proposals in our neighborhoods. On January 18th of 2024,

[01:35:49] staff delivered a memo to the board reviewing these issues and recommending a pair of pilot projects related to written notice. First, staff recommended a pilot project for the county to provide written notice to one, all residents of manufactured housing community of any public hearing for a land use application on or adjacent to that community and two, to all residents of an apartment complex that is the subject of a land use application. As discussed in the memo, such notice would be provided in the same manner and on the same schedule as other written notice of

[01:36:25] public hearings. The additional notice would be in addition to any outreach efforts undertaken by the applicant and or the supervisor's office during the land use process. Second, staff recommended a pilot project to use first class mail rather than certified mail to deliver written notice of public hearings on zoning applications. As expressed in the memo, applicants would prepare notice packets using first-class mail stamps and deliver those packets to county staff with appropriate documentation for review and mailing. This will require some modifications to the current

[01:37:02] affidavits and documentation used, as well as coordination on appropriate timing to meet the requirements of Virginia Code and of our zoning ordinance. Therefore, in an effort to effectuate the board's goal of increasing public engagement in the land use process, I move that the board direct the Department of Planning and Development and the Department of Clerk Services to initiate the two pilot projects proposed in DPD's January 18, 2024 memo. The pilot project to provide written notice to residents and owners in manufactured housing communities and renters in apartment

[01:37:39] buildings should begin immediately. The pilot project to utilize first-class mail should begin as soon as possible after appropriate outreach to and coordination with the development community. I would further move that the staff report back to the board in a year with recommendations as to the effectiveness of the initiatives and whether they should be continued on a permanent basis.

[01:38:00] It's been moved. I'll second that along with Supervisor Lusk. Any discussion? I just want to thank the staff for the work that they put into this. is a difficult subject. It does rely on people paying attention to a certain level, but it also relies upon making sure that we're doing everything we can to get

their attention. And in so many cases, people have been unaware, because they're not property owners, have been unaware of what's happening in their community. And this is an effort to try to bridge that divide and make sure we can continue to get robust participation in these matters and increase participation in these

[01:38:40] matters when they come forward to the board but the work that staff put into this was clear in the memo and I appreciate it thank you a supervisor less yeah thank you madam vice chairman I'll just concur with the remarks of the chairman and just say I appreciate the work the staff has done specifically on this item and I'll acknowledge that in my district we've had concerns particularly with the manufactured housing units being able to get this notification so i think in an effort to create additional transparency we're going to be

[01:39:14] able to do that with this process so i'm looking forward to seeing how the pilot goes and again appreciate the staff for the work on this thank you madam vice chairman thank you it's been moved and seconded all those in favor of the motion please say aye aye anyone opposed any abstentions That passes unanimously. Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much. And next up is you, Vice Chairman Smith. Thank you. This is a joint board matter with Supervisors Behrman and Herity.

[01:39:43] The Journalism Education Association, with representatives from the National Scholastic Press Association and the Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society, recently named Chantilly High School, McLean High School, and West Springfield High School, recipients of the 2024 First Amendment Press Freedom Award.

[01:40:01] The three schools are among 28 schools from across the United States to receive this award, and this is the 10th consecutive year that Chantilly received this recognition. The seventh recognition award for McLean and the second for West Springfield.

[01:40:17] The award recognizes public high schools that actively support, teach, and protect First Amendment rights and responsibilities of students and teachers with an emphasis on student-run media where students make all final decisions of the content. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I ask without objection that the board direct staff to invite representatives from Chantilly High School, McLean High School, and West Springfield High School and the journalism students from the respective schools to come before the board to be acknowledged for their superior achievement.

[01:40:45] And without objection, that is so ordered. Supervisor Smith. I'm good. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Excellent. Thank you, Supervisor Smith. Supervisor Walkinshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have just one board matter, which is a joint board matter with you, Supervisor Jimenez, Supervisor Herity and Supervisor Palchuk to recognize one, two, three, four, five, six state championships, one from Woodson and five from Lake Braddock. Mr. Chairman, without objection, I ask that the Office of Public Affairs prepare proclamations to be presented inside or outside the boardroom at a later date to recognize our athletes along with their coaches and families

[01:41:24] for their special achievements. And without objection, that is so ordered. Supervisor Walk-In Show. That's it. Thank you very much. Supervisor Beerman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have just one board matter, which is to proclaim March 31st, 2024 as Transgender Day of Visibility in Fairfax County. This is a joint board matter. It started with Supervisor Palchik and me, and quickly, lots of others signed on. Supervisor Stork, Supervisor Alcorn,

[01:41:56] Chairman McKay, Vice Chairwoman Smith, Supervisor Walkinshaw, Supervisor Lusk, and Supervisor Jimenez. So I'm going to read the board matter. Mr. Chairman, March 31st is International Transgender Day of Visibility.

[01:42:12] It was created in 2009 as a day dedicated to celebrating the lives and accomplishments of transgender people and to raising awareness of the continuing challenges faced by transgender people. Fairfax County is home to the Transgender Education Association, whose mission is to support transgender and gender non-conforming people and their friends, family, and partners, and to provide educational resources and information to all interested parties.

[01:42:38] In celebration of the county's richly diverse population and our One Fairfax policy, we affirm and restate our commitment to build a culture of inclusion and acceptance of transgender individuals and appreciate that we grow stronger as a county when we recognize and celebrate all persons in Fairfax County.

[01:42:56] Therefore, we move that the Board of Supervisors proclaim Sunday, March 31st, 2024 as Transgender Visibility Day in Fairfax County and direct county staff to prepare a proclamation recognizing March 31st, 2024 as Transgender Day of Visibility to be presented to the Transgender Education Association at the March 19th, 2024 board meeting.

[01:43:19] We further direct county staff to invite representatives of the transgender community and their allies to the March 19, 2024 presentation. Thank you. I'm happy to second that motion along with Supervisor Smith and Palchuk. Discussion on the motion? Any discussion on the motion?

[01:43:36] I think the most important sentence in here is that we appreciate that we grow stronger as a county when we recognize and celebrate all persons in Fairfax County without condition. And so I thank you, Supervisor Behrman, for bringing this forward and coordinating it with all of our offices.

[01:43:52] With that, all those in favor of the motion, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? And that motion carries 9-0, Supervisor Herity being absent. Supervisor Behrman. That's all I have today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[01:44:07] Thank you, Supervisor Behrman. Supervisor Lusk. No board items, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Supervisor Lusk. Supervisor Alcorn. No board matters today. Thank you, Supervisor Alcorn. It must have been that Friday night basketball game you guys were at, took up all of your time, so it was a good game. It was a good high school basketball game. Supervisor Jimenez.

[01:44:30] Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no board matters, but a very timely announcement. Mr. Chairman, I'd like to congratulate Principal Sean DeRose from Annandale High School, who was presented with the Educational Leadership Award from Leadership Fairfax last week.

[01:44:47] The award recognizes an individual teacher or administrator who has demonstrated a long-term and consistent pattern of excellent leadership in the educational field. This person exemplifies a passion for educating and embodies innovation in his or her approach and provides inspirational leadership to students, parents, and the community as a whole.

[01:45:08] In presenting Principal DeRose with this award, it was shared that he has collaborated with students, staff, family, and community members to foster a diverse and inclusive community at Annandale

High School. This type of leadership is of the utmost importance in all communities, but especially here in Fairfax County.

[01:45:30] I'd again like to congratulate Principal DeRose, and I look forward to joining him at the Annandale High School community this Friday at their Just World Festival Day. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much, Supervisor Jimenez, for highlighting that great accomplishment.

[01:45:47] Next up is Supervisor Stork. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have any written board matters, but I just wanted to really identify or mention what I think we all now know, which is March is Women's History Month, and it is a big deal, particularly in Fairbanks County, but especially in the Mount Vernon District.

[01:46:05] There's just a couple women I in particular wanted to highlight and honor, and I know all of me, as you will celebrate. The 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote in the United States, particularly is key to Fairfax County. And this board supported on multiple occasions one of our, I think, our key representations, which is the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial at the Occoquan Regional Park.

[01:46:30] And if you've not been there, it's really an amazing place to go. There's, again, it's just a beautiful location. Occoquan along the river is gorgeous regardless, but it's a beautiful place. And you can see some of the, literally the White House fence that went around the White House during the time of the protest, which is 1917 and what really was the core of the turning point, which is when women, those women, they were protesting quietly in front of the White House and they were arrested.

[01:47:01] Darn them. And as a result of that, they were imprisoned in Occoquan in the workhouse. And as a result of the outcry, the national outcry that came from them being force fed. and otherwise frankly abused, the campaign started to make sure that women got the right to vote.

[01:47:19] But in addition to that, we have an amazing information on her story as well at the Lucy Burns Museum at the Workhouse Arts Center, where it shows really the kind of prison conditions that women were in during the time of the turning point. And we have really two other women I particularly wanted to highlight.

[01:47:37] One is Elizabeth Hartwell, and I think many people on this board know who she is. some don't. She is a woman that took on, I would say took on the world in many ways, but definitely took on Fairfax County and took on developers and essentially preserved Mason Neck really as it is today. And the key for her was, and ultimately resulted in the creation of the Elizabeth Hartwell Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge, which protects, it was the first refuge in America that protects specifically the Bald Eagle.

[01:48:09] And anybody who's not been out to Mates and Neck State Park, you go out there, you almost cannot not see Bald Eagles. It's a beautiful place to visit. And then finally, maybe the forerunner, especially of women leading a charge, particularly a national issue, was the South Carolinian Ann Pamela Cunningham, who was an amazing philanthropist founder of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, And they were the keys to really preserving Mount Vernon as we know it today.

[01:48:39] And it's still operated as the ladies still operate this. And if you've not been to Mount Vernon, it's just an amazing library and public place for George Washington. And regardless, it's beautiful grounds. But just wanted to highlight a few of the things that we should be celebrating in Women's History Month.

[01:48:58] Thank you. Thank you very much, Supervisor Stork. Supervisor Pouchek. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have one written board matter and then one about Women's History Month, so happy to follow Supervisor Stork on more information there. The written board matter is celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in the Falls Church area.

[01:49:21] In Providence District and across Fairfax County, we are so fortunate to have a multitude of faith communities that feel called to provide community outreach and support to improve the lives of congregants and larger community and its members. One such congregation, the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, HTLC, has been an incredible community resource for Falls Church and surrounding areas for the past 75 years. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church was formally established on January 24, 1949, and it soon embarked on what is now a long tradition of service and support to those in need.

[01:50:00] Within a few years, the church began sponsoring a German refugee family and a Boy Scout troop and began offering kindergarten in response to community interest. During the 1960s, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church's community outreach and service expanded to include regular blood drives, sewing projects to assist the needy, a nursing home visitation program, and frequent youth and music events open to the community.

[01:50:24] HCLC provided key leadership for forming the False Church Community Services Council in 1969 and has supported the council ever since. In subsequent decades, the church's community outreach and services to the community grew to include over 40 years of Meals on Wheels delivery, 15 years of regular volunteering at Miriam's Kitchen, and it was one of the first churches in the county to participate in the FACETS hypothermia prevention program.

[01:50:54] Since 2007, it has hosted an overnight hypothermia shelter for a week each year, and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church has also established a special endowment fund that distributes thousands of dollars to local service organizations annually. In recent years, they've added community outreach and support activities focused on education and the arts, and now for nearly a decade, they've provided tutoring, books, and other needed items to Grand Road Elementary School.

[01:51:20] In 2017, they met a community need for more infant child care by making part of its facility available. And the church also presents a free annual concert series, as well as visual art, display space, and receptions for the Vienna Art Society.

[01:51:41] The church has been a bedrock, not only for its own faith community, but for other communities in the Falls Church area. Holy Trinity's growth has mirrored that of Fairfax County at large by serving the changing community and the array of new challenges that have arisen. I'm incredibly grateful of the dedicated commitment to community that the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church has displayed for 75 years and look forward to their continued leadership in the years ahead.

[01:52:05] Therefore, move without objection that a proclamation be prepared in acknowledgement of the 75th anniversary of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and its history of service to the Fairfax County community to be presented outside of the boardroom at an anniversary celebration event later this year.

[01:52:22] And without objection, that is so ordered. Supervisor Palczyk. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman. So many wonderful community groups. And as Supervisor Stork has mentioned, we are celebrating Women's History Month this month in March.

[01:52:38] This year, in lieu of having the presentation at the board, as many of you know, on March 22nd, we are preparing for the report on the status of women and girls, officially called the Gains, Gaps, and Goals, the Status of Women and Girls in Fairfax County.

[01:52:57] This is a save the day. I know the formal formal finalized invitation is yet to come, but there will be a presentation from the University of Virginia on the status of women and girls in Fairfax County, followed by a panel discussion, audience Q&A, and networking with light refreshments right here at the Board Auditorium on Friday, March 22nd from 2 to 5 p.m., and it will also be live stream with our friends at Channel 16.

[01:53:25] So I know we are all very much looking forward to it. The name of the panelists, and they are an incredible team, is already listed, posted on the site if you just Google Gains, Gaps, and Goals on Family Services. And I also want to mention that many women are listed in the Women's History Month website that has been posted by the Commission for Women.

[01:53:48] And we know that every year they are the ones who really lead in this work and will be receiving the proclamation. I just want to read one short line from the proclamation that is ready to be presented. And it says, whereas in alignment with the One Fairfax policy, we acknowledge that a just and inclusive society requires a collective effort of women as integral members of families, civic and community groups, businesses, and legislative bodies challenging the status quo and reevaluating harmful social policies that subtly shape our future.

[01:54:22] Um, it's a very important year for this as, uh, the 2024 theme is women who advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion. Um, so, uh, very excited and I want to thank all of the women and the staff who have been working and continue to work on this presentation and I'm recognizing the women, um, in the county and, uh, and beyond, um, that do this work every single day.

[01:54:50] Thank you, Supervisor Palczyk, and looking forward to that event. Absolutely. Absolutely. Thank you so much. That is all. All right. Next up is Supervisor Herity. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I've got three written board matters and one quick unwritten announcement. The first one is Lyme disease and Fight the Bite Awareness Month.

[01:55:08] Mr. Chairman, tick and mosquito season will be here before we know it. Actually, it's already here. Typically, it's not here in April, but they're out there already. Since the pandemic, residents have spent more time outside, contributing to higher numbers of confirmed and likely cases of Lyme disease. Lyme disease is the fastest spreading vector-borne disease in the United States. Several hundred cases of Lyme disease have been reported in Virginia in the last few years, and many cases go unreported, as symptoms like bullseye rash go undetected or often misdiagnosed. The Virginia Department

[01:55:43] of Health shared with my office that since 2020, many efforts to track Lyme disease were diverted to pandemic efforts, so more cases than normal are likely not reported. Lyme disease, Zika virus, West Nile virus, and other vector-borne diseases can have significant health impacts on our constituents. Chronic forms of these diseases can be particularly debilitating, and research funding is unfortunately limited. Consequently, Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases can be difficult to diagnose as most residents and many medical professionals are unfamiliar with its

[01:56:19] symptoms. In the last two years, NACAP, Lyme, and Tick-Borne Disease Association have spearheaded efforts through legislation in the General Assembly to promote education on tick-borne

illnesses, including House Bill 850 in 2022 and House Bill 2008 in 2023. As a result of those efforts. Last summer, a working group of state agencies and partners were tasked with making recommendations to address, number one, increasing public awareness of tick-borne diseases and strategies to prevent the transmission of tick-borne diseases. Two, educating health care

[01:56:57] providers and the public about the importance of and the need for early diagnosis and treatment of tick-borne diseases. Three, improving public health surveillance and data collection related to tick-borne diseases for developing and implementing strategies to reduce the tick population to, in turn, reduce the exposure to and transmission of tick-borne diseases in the Commonwealth.

[01:57:20] The working group submitted its findings to Governor Youngkin and the Virginia Department of Health with recommendations including creating lesson plans for K-12 education on tick-borne diseases, continuing education for medical providers, and modernization of visuals for public health data on tick-borne diseases. Lyme is a terrible disease. It can take many forms.

[01:57:46] Lyme Disease Awareness Month is officially recognized in May and offers us an opportunity to bring this issue to the public's attention. County residents can protect themselves by performing tick checks after outdoor activities and promptly removing attached ticks. This education is especially important for our children as 30% of the 476,000 cases reported the CDC annually are children. Mosquito bites can also transmit various disease, such as Zika and West Nile virus. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, without objection, I ask that we prepare a proclamation

[01:58:21] declaring May 2024 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month to be presented to Monty Skall, Director of National Capital Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Association, at our May 7th meeting, and ask the Office of Public Affairs to share information on preventing and recognizing the symptoms of Lyme disease. I also ask that OPA share this information with our partners at FCPS for students and parents to educate themselves as well. Mr. Chairman, I also ask without objection that we prepare a separate proclamation declaring May 2024 is Fight the Bite Awareness Month to be presented to the Fairfax County

[01:58:57] Health Department at our May 7th meeting. Without objection, it is so ordered. Supervisor Herity. This was, next one is done jointly with Supervisor Smith to recognized Chantilly Wrestling State Champions and a Coach of the Year.

[01:59:14] The Chantilly High School wrestling team participated in the Virginia Class 6 tournament over the weekend of February 16th at a sports tourism facility in Virginia Beach. Eleven athletes qualified for the tournament with the Chantilly Chargers taking second place overall.

[01:59:30] This successful run was led by Carter Shin and Ezekiel Keel, who each won first place in the state championship for the 106 and 120 weight categories, respectively. In addition, the Chantilly wrestling head coach, Mark Weider, was recognized as Concord District Coach of the Year for his efforts to develop a championship contending wrestling program.

[01:59:54] His tenure in Northern Virginia extends to George Mason University as well. Prior to taking over Chantilly Wrestling, he was a student-athlete turned coach for Mason's wrestling team until he retired in 2011 after 16 years with the department.

[02:00:10] Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I ask without objection, we prepare a resolution recognizing head coach Mark Weider, Carter Shin, and Ezekiel Kiel for their performance at the Virginia Class 6 state

wrestling tournament to be presented before the board at the appropriate date along with the other high school athletic presentations.

[02:00:30] And without objection, that is so ordered. So there was also some good hockey Friday night. It's not good basketball. So this next one is being done jointly with Supervisor Bierman to recognize Langley Ice Hockey as champions in their historic run.

[02:00:46] This past weekend, the Langley High School team won the Northern Virginia Scholastic Hockey League Championship, dominating Stonebridge Bulldogs 4-1. This performance adds to an incredible 34-straight win run and their fourth title in six years, winning the last three consecutively.

[02:01:06] They are only the second team in league history to three-peat and will be going to Nationals on March 21st. They're led by Coach Patrick Keough, their all-league senior forward Noah Schneiderman, and their goalie Harrison Smith, who made 27 stays and was recognized as the NVHSL Player of the Year.

[02:01:27] Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I ask without objection, we prepare a resolution recognizing the Langley-Saxons ice hockey team for winning their third straight NVSHL title and their historic win streak to presented before the board at the appropriate date along with the other high school athletic presentations for spring.

[02:01:48] And we'll make that a motion. I'll second it. Discussion on the motion. Supervisor Walkinshaw. Yeah, I obviously have no objection. I do think, and I recognize we're doing the athletics presentations different, which I think is a good improvement.

[02:02:04] I think as a practice for us as a board, if there's a championship for a school that's in a board member's district, that board member should have the opportunity to lead the board matter. Appreciate your passion for hockey and the personal relationships you have.

[02:02:22] I think all of us have those in different areas. This one just sounds like this past weekend they dominated the Stonebridge Bulldogs. I think Supervisor Behrman probably would have been on top of it in time for our next board meeting. So, you know, I don't want to focus on it too much, but I think that's a good practice for us as a board to try to follow.

[02:02:42] I try to follow that. If I've failed in that, that's on me, but I think it's a good thing for us to do. Yeah, I did reach out to Supervisor Behrman's office, and next time I'll do that and let him lead it if he'd like to lead it. Yeah, I think it's a matter of practice just to respect each other.

[02:02:58] We each represent a geographic magisterial district and those boundaries matter in terms of the people we represent and I think the starting point should be, these should be offered by the district supervisor who the school falls in and Langley is a long way from Springfield and so I think we just, we can improve upon that.

[02:03:17] Well, while we're on the topic, if we can, it's interesting when you talk about that, and Supervisor Smith knows exactly where I'm going because I see you're smiling. You know, I have Chantilly High School and Centerville High School in my districts, but only a small percentage of those students are from my district.

[02:03:39] So when we look at schools, it's not even, just to go to your point, it's not even clear because West Springfield is obviously in my district. You've got Lake Braddock. Every district has that. And I think the starting point is Springfield and Langley aren't close to each other.

[02:03:56] So I think in those instances, the coordination with the supervisors who represent the people that we're recognizing is just a respectful thing. All those in favor of the motion, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions?

[02:04:12] That motion carries. Supervisor Herity. Well, speaking of Chantilly, we were out at Chantilly on Saturday. Had our first teen job fair, had over 500 kids, over 50 folks offering jobs. It was great. Superintendent Reed came out and talked to the students and talked to many of the businesses.

[02:04:31] Had some good ideas, actually, for where to take the teen job fairs. School board member Sandy Anderson was there. Just want to let everybody know, again, this Saturday, March 9th, from 11 to 1, we're going to be wrapping up this year's teen job fair series at West Springfield High School.

[02:04:49] We'll also be hosting, interviewing, and resume-building workshops. Businesses and students can sign up at fairfaxcounty.gov backslash Springfield backslash teenjobfares and invite any of my colleagues who want to come out and check it out, please do so.

[02:05:06] Thank you very much. With that, we are ready to move to admin items, and let me ask Supervisor Smith, do you have a motion for admin items 1 through 12? I move approval of administrative items 1 through 12.

[02:05:22] You've heard the motion. Is there a discussion, or would we like any to be pulled for a separate vote? I'm going to ask that we vote on admin 12 separately, which is the authorization advertised publication of the FY 2025 budget and required tax rates.

[02:05:41] FY 2025 effective tax rate increase, the advertised capital improvement program for fiscal years 25 to 29, With future fiscal years to 2034 and notice of associated public hearings, is there any discussion or any items that board members besides Admin 12 would like to discuss or pull for a separate vote?

[02:06:02] Supervisor Walkinshaw. Just a quick point on Admin 6. I want to thank you and the county executive and staff who have worked on this, the increase in the cigarette tax rate. This was a key piece of our legislative agenda in 2020.

[02:06:19] We were successful in getting the authority to increase the cigarette tax rate, although not quite to the extent that cities in Virginia can. But this is one of those things that has been proven time and time again across the country to reduce cigarette use.

[02:06:37] It doesn't generate a huge amount of revenue, and hopefully it will generate zero dollars in revenue over time, but it will save lives. So I appreciate you, Mr. Chairman, acting on this this year. Thank you. Thank you, Supervisor Walkinshaw.

[02:06:53] And I would add to that, if folks are looking at this item, that the rate that we're adding here is the maximum counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia can charge. But yet cities, including some right around us, like the city of Alexandria, have a much, much larger levy on cigarettes than we're able to impose.

[02:07:13] And so this becomes important because lately we've been having conversations with members of our General Assembly about revenue generation, and this will cap, this will be at the maximum allowed by state code should this item be approved as a part of our review process.

[02:07:31] Other admin items, Supervisor Herdy. Yeah, I'm going to comment generally. We had a lot of discussion already on 8 through 10, but if I have, I've got a quick question on 11. Question on Admin 11.

Admin 11 is authorization to advertise a public hearing on recovering costs from sign violations.

[02:07:53] Supervisor Herdy. Yeah, we're taking it pretty steeply from $10 a sign violation to $50 a sign violation. The question is, are we going to continue the initial notification of violation before we start issuing the fine?

[02:08:11] I assume we are, but I just wanted to make sure that that was going to continue. And we have staff on their way down. If they could introduce themselves. Chairman, Board of Supervisors, Gabe Zakak, Director of Department Code Compliance.

[02:08:32] I missed the end part of your question, if you could repeat it, please. So, as I understand, we give an initial warning. Are we going to continue with the initial warnings? For the time being yet, we're in conversations with staff and the county attorney's office to try to figure out a way where we can maybe pull back the warning letters and go straight to invoice to deter those folks.

[02:08:53] But we're exploring options because we don't want to negatively impact small businesses and mom-and-pop shops. Yeah, and that's who I'm kind of concerned about, the ones that, you know, somebody comes here from another jurisdiction, puts them out if we let them know, and they don't put them out anymore.

[02:09:09] You know, ignorance of the law is no excuse. I know that whole thing, and that's the legal thing. But there is the practicality of when you go from $10 a sign to $50 a sign, it can be a pretty significant hit to a small business that doesn't know it's violating the law.

[02:09:30] I agree, because I know a lot of the board offices will get feedback from business owners, and then also we get appeals as well, so it's something to consider for sure. Okay. And just a reminder from staff, we've had these signed prohibitions in place for how long?

[02:09:47] Since 2016, I believe, when it was a pilot program. many, many years, and we've seen massive improvements in terms of people complying with this, and as you go around the county now, in most places, you'll find compliance, which is the strongest message to people putting out the signs that if it was legal, everyone would be doing it, and so I appreciate that this costs the county money to administer, and in terms of us being, you know, financially prudent with taxpayer dollars, it is really important to make sure that the fines are getting closer to capturing the cost of this because it is you know any business owner

[02:10:24] resident any individual it is their responsibility to understand what the law is and and you know this this program costs us taxpayer money to administer so i appreciate it coming forward with these changes any other questions on the admin items so we now um supervisor smith we're going to pull admin 12 for a separate vote all those in favor of admin items 1 through 11 please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That motion carries. Admin 12 is authorization to advertise publication of the FY 2025 budget and required tax rates, the FY 2025 effective

[02:11:03] tax rate increase, the advertised capital improvement program for fiscal years 2025 to 2029 with future fiscal years to 2034 and notice of associated public hearings. And I am going to hand the gavel to Vice Chair Smith so that I can put a motion on the table. Madam Chairman, I move the authorization to advertise publication of the FY 2025 advertised budget, the effective tax rate increase, the advertised capital improvement program, required tax rates as outlined in administrative item 12, and give notice of associated public hearings. This includes the

[02:11:40] advertisement only of a real estate tax rate of $1.13.5 per $100 of assessed value, which could reflect a four cent increase over the current real estate tax rate of $1.095 per $100 of assessed value. I've seconded that along with Supervisor Palachuk. Any discussion? Yes, just very briefly, for veterans of this process, you know that what we are doing here today is advertising only the maximum tax rate that could be considered by this board of supervisors. So when we go to enact our

[02:12:15] budget, we can enact a budget that's lower. We cannot enact a budget that is higher than what we are proposing to advertise here. A one penny on the real estate tax rate equates to $32.32 million in general fund revenue. We know from the county executive's budget that his budget was based on a 4 cent increase, but that he had made a recommendation to the board to advertise a much higher rate than this to give the board flexibility. It is my belief that within the parameters of the budget that was reported to us, presented to us, that there is flexibility

[02:12:55] within that to manage issues that could come forward. One of the challenges that our board always faces is we are advertising a proposed high end on the tax rate, in this case, two months before we enact a budget.

[02:13:10] And so I think we're all cognizant of the fact that over those next two months, a lot of things can happen, including we got some recent good news on Metro funding, among the many things that we're waiting to get more information on. My rationale for this advertisement and not moving forward with the higher rate that the county executive had recommended is, as I said earlier, I think this proposed budget can accommodate the needs that we have in our community while at the same time being cognizant of the fact that the proposed rate increase associated with the county executive's budget

[02:13:46] is a large tax increase and the first rate increase in several years in Fairfax County. And so I know a lot of us are already hearing from our constituents, which is a good thing. I will speak for myself and say it is my hope that two months from now when we are adopting a budget that we're able to adopt a budget with a lower rate than that which is being advertised.

[02:14:08] But I think for the sanctity of our process, the protection of our fiscal responsibility in Fairfax County, and to enable full and robust conversation from the community, advertising it at the high end of four cent rate increases the prudent thing to do but I want the public to recognize that is not by any means the same thing as adoption of a budget and so we have a lot of work to do in the next two months as a board a lot of input from the community to here and we look forward to that robust conversation and so that is the rationale for the motion that I make and I appreciate my colleagues support thank you mr. chairman

[02:14:48] And Supervisor Herity? Yeah, I know we've already moved on from 8, 9, and 10, which are the fee increases. And I think the fee increases, to lay on top of what the chairman said, the fee increases are going to hit our folks pretty hard as well.

[02:15:04] There's almost a doubling of the use for senior center fees. There are significant increases in our athletic fees. You know, I'm happy to see that we're not going with the county's executive's recommendation to take it up six to eight cents much less five cents uh i wasn't planning to support the the motion that came but i think i will actually support not i'm going to go the same place the chairman it's not that i support a tax rate of four cent increase but i think it's a good place to start as a cap um but we got to work pretty hard to get below it and i'm i'm hoping we start

[02:15:44] focusing on the taxpayer more than this board has been i'll do excuse the new members but i hope we we can start looking at a deep dive on the budget and really get in and take a look at what we can what we can do for our taxpayers uh with that i'll go ahead and support this one uh supervisor walkenshaw uh thank you mr chairman for one board member who's not a new board member i i do always think about the taxpayers uh and i also think about the needs we have in the community including

[02:16:16] compensation, which all of us have talked about a lot. Some of us have acted on, and we have a responsibility to fund those commitments that we've made that all of us have said are important. I agree with the motion to advertise the 4 cent increase, and one thing I'll just share, I hope not to speak this into existence, but we might be in a situation once again where we have a protracted budget negotiation in Richmond that could bump up against, you know, our statutory

[02:16:52] deadline to adopt the budget or, God forbid, even beyond it. And so we have to retain some flexibility because we do not know what will happen in that negotiation. We spent a lot of time talking about the differences between the House budget and the Senate budget. What we haven't talked about a lot is the governor has expressed a very different perspective. He's been pretty clear he doesn't think there should be more funding for schools in Virginia in this in this budget so that's going to be a challenge to for them to them to work through that will unfortunately likely impact our decision-making process so I think it's prudent to keep that in mind I too would like us to be

[02:17:31] able to to be below the four cent increase and work toward that but we just don't know what's going to happen in Richmond so I think it's prudent to advertised four cents. Thank you Mr. Chairman. Supervisor Pelichuk. Thank you Madam Vice Chair and I'm happy to follow my colleague Supervisor Walkinshaw because as he stated I think we're coming to an agreement here and what is probably the most difficult budget we've had since we've been on this board and in many years and I know that we always look at and consider the

[02:18:06] equalization rates which we know have been increasingly impacting impacted in our residential areas we are looking at this one-time budget trying to figure out how we can continue to fully fund our school system knowing that even this will not reach the superintendent's current request that we again may be waiting on the state that as they advertise increases for teachers we know for every percent increase, we are paying 80% of that locally, and that the vast majority

[02:18:42] of that, because of our limited authority, comes out of our real estate, comes out of our homeowners, and we know that there's been a change in the office market, and in our attempts and previous boards to diversify our economy here in Fairfax County, the past three years have seen a change to that, so I know every single one of us, and hopefully looks like we're looking at approval unanimous approval of this because we know it's a difficult conversation I do think number one ensuring that we are able to fund our employee pay our county services especially our most needed

[02:19:18] services and that we're going to have to make some very difficult decisions I also know that we are looking not just that this year but ahead supervisor Walkinshaw and I have put in a question similar to one I put in last year in the budget to understand what is our local authority what do we currently have the authority because in the DMV it's very different we talk about the Doolin rule but the understanding of what we at the local level have the authority to do and where we are maximizing that authority here in Fairfax County versus surrounding jurisdictions and surrounding jurisdictions in the DMV is

[02:19:54] quite different and until you see the numbers doesn't really hit home as to everything we want to invest in here from our parks to our schools to our active transportation and metro very much has an impact locally in a way that is a little bit different in other parts even of Northern Virginia so I know that all of us are invested in trying to figure out how to do the best of a difficult budget and I think the four cents give us gives us a little bit of the ability to have that conversation but again I know every one of us here is

[02:20:29] going to be telling our partners down in the House and the Senate and the governor we need that support otherwise all these great things you are saying that you're doing and that we want to do are on the backs of our homeowners in an increasingly tight market with increasingly more expensive housing market and so all of us here I'm excited about the conversations because I know we're all invested in trying to balance those needs and continuing to to invest in the future so I want to thank the chairman for his leadership on this and

[02:21:05] I know that we have a ways ahead of us but I am supportive of this this advertisement as we call it the first step in the first the first vote we take in this process so I will support the dollar 13 and a half I've already had my budget town hall first time in person for why we had about 25 people and as I reiterated this is the beginning of the process and we all have to weigh different priorities and you know I'm going to put out here that really supporting our

[02:21:41] employees especially our general County employees will be something that I will be focused on as we go through this budget process so seeing no other discussion i'll call for the vote all those in favor of the motion please say aye aye anyone opposed nay any abstentions the motion passes unanimously thank you mr chairman thank you very much uh vice chair smith and with that we are going to move on to our action items we have four action items uh this morning yes this morning. Action item number one is approval of calendar year 2024 pest management program,

[02:22:19] forest pest management program. Supervisor Walkinshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Move approval of the county executive's recommendation on action item number one. You've heard the motion. I'm happy to second that. Is there any discussion on the motion? Action item one. Any discussion? Seeing and hearing none. All those in favor of the motion, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions?

[02:22:40] That motion carries. Action item number two is approval of the disease-carrying insects program. Supervisor Walkinshaw. Move approval of the county executive's recommendation on action item number two. The chair will second that motion. Discussion on the motion? Any discussion on the motion?

[02:22:56] Seeing and hearing none. All those in favor of action two, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That motion carries. Action item number three is approval of comments on Washington metropolitan area transit authorities, WMATA proposed FY2025 operating budget and FY2025-2030 capital improvement program.

[02:23:20] Supervisor Bierman, do you have a motion? I move approval of the county executive's recommendation on action item number three. You've heard the motion. Second. It's been seconded by Supervisor Alcorn. Discussion on the motion? Supervisor Alcorn. Thank you. With input from staff, the letter needs to be updated a little bit.

[02:23:39] The references to the proposed budget need to be identified as the initial proposed budget because WMATA board did come out with a subsequent proposed budget. And then the other change is putting in a sentence that says the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is hopeful that the WMATA compact jurisdictions are able to secure the additional funding necessary to prevent the most severe service cuts contained in the initial budget proposals.

[02:24:06] But basically, these are just updates given when this letter was drafted and then what's happened in the last couple weeks. So, thank you. Thank you, Supervisor Alcorn. And I accept those modifications. Let me ask the maker of the motion. He accepts those modifications.

[02:24:22] I accept them. And this is difficult because this is a moving target in so many different ways, including some of the conversations that are happening in Richmond. and we know that we've gotten some good news at least in terms of some of the most draconian things in here but the board is still very concerned about a lot of things here i am particularly very concerned about the parking issue that's been something i've been talking about every year and when i was on the metro board i mean that's a part of the fair for so many of our riders and so there's some things in here that obviously we still have significant concerns on want to make sure we take this opportunity to weigh in and I want

[02:25:01] to thank staff and Brent Riddle for his work on this I know he's been real time keeping keeping this letter is up to date as we can we'll make a couple of those edits that were suggested here before it gets sent any further conversation on action item number three seeing and hearing none all those in favor of the motion please say aye aye any opposed any abstentions and that motion carries. Thank you. Action item number four is approval for the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services to submit a Head Start, Early Start, Early Head Start formal under

[02:25:37] enrollment plan to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start, Supervisor Palchuk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move approval of the county executive's recommendation. And the chair will second that along with Supervisor Lusk.

[02:25:52] Discussion on the motion, Supervisor Palchuk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I want to thank the staff Jan Stewart the director of Head Start and floor Phillips are here from NCS I know that there have been challenges especially since the pandemic with the enrollment I believe in read through the the plan is a very robust plan for outreach and engagement both building partnerships and really targeting and understanding what some of the challenges may be whether they be with the partners or with the facilities the one thing I want to ask and I know everyone on this board And especially some of my colleagues are always happy to help.

[02:26:28] And so I recommend that each of you, especially if you have families and programs in your districts, that you participate and support the outreach and engagement and making sure that we are able to fill those slots and to partner on ensuring that we can reach more families through this program.

[02:26:47] And that is all. Excellent. Thank you, Supervisor Pouchek. Any further discussion? Seeing and hearing none. All those in favor of Action 4, please say aye. Aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That motion carries. Thank you. And that is the end of our action items. Before we break for closed session, let me ask the county attorney how long we need.

[02:27:10] Mr. Chairman, I estimate that we'll need approximately 45 minutes. 45 minutes. And our first public hearing this afternoon is at 3.30. So we're going to have, should this motion approve, ask board members to report back in closed session at 2.45 p.m.

[02:27:29] And let me turn to Supervisor Smith, see if she has a motion. I do. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board of Supervisors recess and go into closed session for discussion and consideration of matters enumerated in Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 and listed in the attached agenda item for this meeting.

[02:27:50] And in addition, one is permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711A7N8, Anthony Lamont Gardner, Jr. v. Fairfax County Police Department et al. Case No. 1, 23-CV-610, Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division.

[02:28:10] 2, as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711A3, potential acquisition of real property for a public purpose in the Sully District. And 3, as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711A1, appointment of the police civilian review panel liaison. You've heard the motion. The chair is happy to second that motion. Any discussion on the motion? A reminder should this be approved the board will report to closed session at 2:45 p.m. All those in favor of the motion please say aye. Aye. Any opposed?

[02:28:45] Any abstentions? The board is in recess until 2:45. All right the board just

[02:35:55] completed closed session. I am going to turn to Vice Chair Kathy Smith to make a motion to bring us out of closed session. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that the Board of Supervisors certify that to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements by virtue of Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which closed session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board of Supervisors during the closed session. Second. You've heard the motion. It's been seconded by Supervisor palchek any discussion on the motion any discussion on the motion seeing and hearing none all those in

[02:36:32] favor please say aye aye any opposed any abstentions that motion carries we have two motions uh coming out of closed session i'm going to start by recognizing supervisor Jimenez well thank you mr chairman mr chairman i move that the board of supervisors appoint craig a miles as the police Civilian Review Panel Liaison, effective March 11th, 2024, at the starting salary of $172,000 annually. Second. And the Chair is happy to second that motion along with Supervisor Palczyk and Supervisor Lusk. Any discussion on the motion? Seeing and hearing none, all those in favor of

[02:37:12] the motion, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That motion carries. Mr. Miles, welcome. Congratulations. At this time, let me recognize Supervisor Lusk for a motion.

[02:37:30] Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move the Board of Supervisors deny the settlement demand of Anthony Gardner according to the terms and conditions outlined by the county attorney in closed session. Second. I've heard the motion. It's been seconded by Supervisor Herity and the chairman. Any discussion on the motion?

[02:37:47] Seeing and hearing none. All those in favor, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That motion carries, and there were no other motions to come out of closed session. takes us to our public hearings this afternoon. And a few reminders before we begin public hearings is that individuals wishing to provide testimony had a number of options to do so.

[02:38:07] They can testify here in person or they can provide testimony by phone or YouTube video. At the designated point in the public hearing, I will call for any speakers from the speakers list and they will either come forward or their video will be shown or they will be connected by telephone. There will then be an opportunity for anyone else who would like to speak to the application to come down to the podium or to call in to 703-324-1020. Speakers testifying via video must have signed up and submitted their video no later than 9 a.m. on the day prior to the hearing.

[02:38:43] For all testimony, you are given three minutes to speak as an individual. If you're a spokesperson for a group, you are given five minutes. With that, I am going to call our first public hearing, which is a public hearing on SC2023-MV-00021, Margaret Wakali, Wangella, and the Montessori School of Lorton, LLC, in the Mount Vernon District.

[02:39:11] And who do we have here who can please reaffirm the affidavit and the date? Yes, I reaffirm. I'm Margaret Wakali-Wangella. And you reaffirm the affidavit dated? September 13th.

[02:39:27] September 13th, 2023. Yes. Excellent. Thank you very much. Are there any disclosures from board members? Any disclosures from board members? Seeing and hearing none, I will now recognize county staff for a staff presentation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[02:39:43] My name is Kathy Lewis. I'm standing in for my staff coordinator, Andrew Stone. The subject site is a single-family detached dwelling located in the Lorton Station South subdivision in the Mount Vernon District. The property is zoned PDH-8.

[02:39:59] The applicant requests a special exception to permit a home daycare facility for 12 children. The applicant has operated a home daycare facility for seven children at the subject site since August 2018. The applicant is seeking to increase the home daycare enrollment from 7 to 12 children and to have two non-resident assistants.

[02:40:21] No change is proposed to the existing hours of operation, which are 7.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pick-up and drop-off is staggered with morning drop-off occurring between 7.30 and 9.30. Most children are picked up between 3.30 and 6.00 p.m.

[02:40:38] The driveway will be left clear for parents picking up and dropping off their children during the operating hours of the home daycare. This concludes my presentation. Thank you very much. The applicant doesn't have to give a presentation, but you're welcome to share anything with us, or if you don't want to, that's okay, too.

[02:40:57] Are you good? Okay. At this time, let me ask if there are any questions of staff. Any questions of staff? Seeing and hearing none, this is a public hearing. I have no speakers who have signed up in advance to testify in this matter.

[02:41:12] Is there anyone here present in the auditorium that would like to testify on this subject? This is a public hearing. Is there anyone present who would like to testify? Seeing and hearing no one, let me ask the clerk if anyone has called in. There are no callers. No one has called in. The applicant waives rebuttal, closing comments, and a recommendation from county staff.

[02:41:31] Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On December 6, 2023, the Planning Commission recommended approval of SE 2023 MV00021, subject to the development conditions dated November 22, 2023. Staff concurs with this recommendation.

[02:41:49] Thank you very much. Last check. Questions from board members? Seeing and hearing none, I will now close the public hearing and recognize Supervisor Stork for a motion. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I'm pleased to ask the applicant to come up to the stand here, please. Thank you very much.

[02:42:10] I request that the applicant please confirm their agreement to the development conditions dated November 22nd, 2023, for the record. I confirm. Thank you. I move the Board of Supervisors approve SE 2023 MV-00021, subject to the development conditions dated November 22nd, 2023.

[02:42:32] I'm happy to second that motion along with Supervisor Palchuk. Any discussion on the motion? Supervisor Stork. Just very briefly in that we absolutely need more child care providers. She's in a community that has really benefits greatly when we have child care nearby, so parents can provide that care, get on a bus, or otherwise get to their job.

[02:42:56] And I really appreciate you providing that, Ms. Mongolia. I didn't pronounce it right, but I'll talk with you later. I'm going to get it right. But thank you very much for being part of our community and offering to support our children as well. Thank you. Well said.

[02:43:13] Thank you. Any further discussion? Seeing and hearing none. All those in favor of the motion, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? And that motion carries. Congratulations. And our next public hearing is a public hearing on SE 2023-FR-00008.

[02:43:37] Irit, Safay, and Yaya, Family Child Care, LLC in the Franconia District. And could the applicant please reaffirm the affidavit and the date? June 23rd, 2023.

[02:44:04] And you're reaffirming the affidavit dated? Yes. June 3rd, 2023. Yes. Okay, excellent. Thank you very much. Any disclosures from board members?

[02:44:19] Any disclosures from board members? Okay, seeing and hearing none, I will now recognize county staff for a staff presentation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Kathy Lewis again in for Andrew Stone. The subject site is a single-family attached dwelling located in the Manchester Lake subdivision in the Franconia District.

[02:44:39] The property is zoned PDH 8. The applicant requests a special exception to permit a home daycare facility for 10 children. The applicant has operated a home daycare facility for five children at the subject site since March 2019.

[02:44:55] The applicant seeks to increase the enrollment to 10 children and to have two non-resident assistants. No change is proposed to the existing hours of operation, which are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pickup and drop-off is staggered, with morning drop-off occurring between 6 and 9 a.m.

[02:45:14] Most children are picked up between 3 and 6 p.m. The dwelling's two reserved parking spaces will be left open for parents during the operating hours for the home daycare. This concludes my presentation. Thank you very much, and if the applicant wants to share anything they're welcome to, you don't have to.

[02:45:34] Are you okay? Are you okay? Okay. No problem. Any questions of staff? Seeing and hearing none. This is a public hearing. Let me see if anyone here is present who would like to testify. This is a public hearing.

[02:45:50] Anyone present who would like to speak on this matter? Anyone who would like to testify? Seeing and hearing no one. Let me ask the clerk if anyone is called in. There are no callers. No one is called in. The applicant waives rebuttal. Closing comments and a recommendation from county staff. Thank you. On December 14, 2023, the Planning Commission recommended approval of SE-2023-FR-00008, subject to the development conditions dated November 29, 2023.

[02:46:18] Staff concurs with this recommendation. Thank you. Thank you. Last check. Any questions from board members? Seeing and hearing none, I will now close the public hearing and recognize Supervisor Lusk for a motion. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I request that the applicant please confirm their agreement to the development conditions dated November 29, 2023, for the record.

[02:46:42] We confirm. Thank you. Okay, Mr. Sherman, if I might, I'll just go ahead and move into the motion. This is a very straightforward application that requests an increase in the existing in-home child care facility with five children to one that will make up up to 10 children, recognizing that there's a growing need for child care services in our community and having an application that meets all the standards of this requested special exception, I am very grateful to Ms. Tesfaye for coming forward with this request.

[02:47:20] I'll say the one issue that was raised in the community was around the parking, so I think that this is important that we're able to address that with development condition number nine. So thank you for ensuring that those two spaces will be reserved for those who are parents coming to your child care facility.

[02:47:39] And then second, I do appreciate that your staff and yourself will be parking off-site of the property as well. So with that, there are no outstanding issues with this special exception request.

[02:47:56] This application has the support of the staff, has the support of the Planning Commission, and the Franconia District Land Use Committee. So with that background, Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board of Supervisors approve SC2023-FR-00008, subject to the development conditions that are now dated November 29, 2023.

[02:48:20] Second. For the motion, it's been seconded by Supervisor Palchik. Any discussion on the motion? Supervisor Palchik. Can I just add, I appreciate the applicant and both of the supervisors, both on this and the last application. It's clear that not only do we have these needs in community settings, but also that they are able to fulfill hours.

[02:48:40] This, I believe, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., which helps many of our workforce and caretakers who are not able to use some of the more traditional daycare settings. So I just want to thank everyone who's worked on this and allowing this to occur in the community. Thank you very much.

[02:48:57] All those in favor of the motion, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That motion carries. Congratulations. Thank you. Our next public hearing is a public hearing on SCA 94-D-002-03, Neighborhood and Community Services in the Drainesville District.

[02:49:20] And if the applicant could please reaffirm the affidavit for us, including the date. Good afternoon, board and members of the board. My name is Karen DeMijango on behalf of Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services. And I reaffirmed the affidavit dated December 18th, 2023.

[02:49:38] Thank you very much. Are there any disclosures from board members? Any disclosures? Seeing and hearing none, I would now recognize county staff for a staff presentation. Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of the board. I'm Zach Fountain with the Department of Planning and Development. Neighborhood and Community Services seeks to amend the special exception application for the Lewinsville Senior Center to permit a service organization.

[02:50:03] The site is located along Great Fall Street in the Drainsville District. The property consists of a one-story building housing a senior center, adult daycare center, and child care center, and an athletic field maintained by the Fairfax County Park Authority. The surrounding uses features residential development and an independent living facility known as the Falstead at Lewinsville Center.

[02:50:24] In 2015, the Board approved a special exception amendment to redevelop the site. The site was developed in conformance with this approval. In 2021, the Board suspended certain development conditions that would preclude temporary uses needed to respond to the COVID-19 emergency.

[02:50:44] In response, Fairfax County contracted with SevaTruck Foundation, a nonprofit organization, to prepare and distribute meals to communities across Fairfax County who were impacted by the pandemic. This agreement allows SevaTruck Foundation to prepare meals at the Lewinsville Senior Center.

[02:51:03] In response to the local emergency ending, the applicant has filed this application to allow this service organization to continue to operate at the site. SevaTruck Foundation operates Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 30 p.m. Each day two employees along with up to two volunteers prepare meals at the kitchen. Meals distribution occurs between 11 30 a.m. and 2 p.m. by volunteers who deliver the meals in their personal vehicles and by one employee in the food truck. The food truck is parked behind the senior center

[02:51:38] in a designated parking space. SevaTruck Foundation also serves meals on site to the senior center, and local community. Overall, staff finds that the application is in conformance to the comprehensive plan and the applicable zoning ordinance provisions. That concludes my presentation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much. At this time, I'd recognize the applicant. If they have a presentation, we welcome it. Not necessary, but if you have one, we would welcome it. Thank you. Thank you again for the opportunity to present this application. I'm Karen Demihango on behalf of Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services. As you have heard from Mr. Fountain many of the important details of the application so I have a few things

[02:52:16] that I just would like to highlight for you this afternoon. So Seva Trek Foundation has been a long-standing non-profit partner in Fairfax County for many years since their operations opening in the DMV area in 2017, serving many Fairfax County residents including Title I schools and low-income communities. In 2023 alone they served over 85,000 meals and since their inception in 2017, they have served over 380,000 healthy meals here in Fairfax County.

[02:52:49] During the 2019 pandemic, food insecurity became a challenge and an increase for many residents, especially many vulnerable, low-income residents and in-homebound residents in Fairfax County that had very little access to food resources within walking distance in their community.

[02:53:10] So together here in Fairfax County, with many other county agencies and partners in the community, the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services were faced to quickly establish

strategies to assist Fairfax County residents and fill the gap to bring the most important necessities in the residents here in Fairfax County, such as food being a basic necessity.

[02:53:30] So this pilot was formed, Sevac Track Foundation, together with NCS at the Lewinsville Senior Center, where SevaTrack Foundation was provided access to the kitchen, to the commercial-sized kitchen, to cook meals on site, which allowed SevaTrack to increase their capacity and deliver the healthy free meals that they provide to the communities here in Fairfax County.

[02:53:50] At that time, mostly those who were being impacted by the 2019 pandemic. Next slide, please. So to this date, 95% of the meals prepared on site at the Lewinsville Senior Center benefit Fairfax County residents, And they have served and delivered food to many communities in many of the districts here in the entire Fairfax County.

[02:54:14] Next slide, please. Together with SEVA Truck, NCS staff at the Lewinsville Senior Center have formed a cohesive partnership where there's no disruptions to the program at the center and other campus partners. SEVA Truck operations, just like Mr. Fountain stated, they are aligned, the hours align with the senior center hours.

[02:54:35] They use the back door at the site to load and unload any materials and any meals using a cart roller. So stated there's no disruptions to the center programs and other partners on the campus. And after SevaTruck delivers their meals, they come back on site.

[02:54:51] They park their one truck that they have at a designated parking spot overnight. And there's no disruptions as well to other programs that occurred on campus after 4 o'clock. So this partnership, in conclusion, continues to benefit the Fairfax County residents, especially Title I schools and low-income neighborhoods, paying a crucial role in addressing hunger and food insecurity and enhancing healthy eating habits for our communities.

[02:55:21] And for this reason, I am here before you to request for the full approval of this application. We are only asking to make the current operations permanent and not expanding in any way. I think the way that we have formed a partnership for the last few years has worked well for both NCS and also for the community and SEVA track.

[02:55:42] Lastly, I just would like to highlight that throughout this application that we have completed targeted community outreach efforts by offering four information sessions, both in person and virtual. We mailed thousands of postcards letting the community know about this application and our intent to file the application to make this partnership permanent.

[02:56:04] We met with individualized citizens groups such as the Citizens McLean Association and other community members that came to our information sessions so we can address any concerns or questions that they may have. And so we believe that we have very well communicated with the community on the benefits that this partnership brings to Fairfax County residents.

[02:56:23] So I'll turn it over to you, Mr. Chairman, and the members of the board, if you have any questions, and we hope that we have your approval this afternoon. Thank you very much. Are there any questions of staff or the applicant in this case? Seeing and hearing none, this is a public hearing. Is there anyone present who would like to testify on this matter?

[02:56:41] Anyone who would like to speak? If you could come on down, state your name and address, give us your testimony, and then if you wouldn't mind signing in with the clerk when you're completed, we'd appreciate that. Welcome. Welcome. Thank you. My name is Joyce Matthews, and I am a Fairfax County public school educator at Braddock Elementary School.

[02:57:04] This is my 40th year with the county and eight years at Braddock Elementary. And we are asking for your unanimous support, unanimous support for this amendment. We could not do the things that we do without SelvaTruck.

[02:57:20] Since 2016, as the STEM coordinator at Braddock, the truck has supported our after-school program by providing a free meal for our students who participate in all sorts of after-school programs STEM-related. Also, they not only feed the children, they feed their families, and they feed the teachers all free.

[02:57:40] And this has been happening since 2016 to the present. Also, as you've heard, the one thing that we want to point out to you is that without SevaTruck, it would have been very difficult during the COVID times. They called us the day that they found out schools were going to be closed and said, what can we do to help?

[02:58:01] And from that time, they provided meals every single Saturday and also one day during the week. And they were making those meals from their home. So we want to let you know how much of a difference they've made. And definitely with the kitchen, it has been much easier.

[02:58:18] But they have become a part of our Braddock community and our partnership. Thank you very much. And I have you signed in already, Ms. Matthews. Thank you very much for your testimony. Thank you. Sure. Anyone else present who would like to speak? This is a public hearing. Seeing and hearing no one, let me ask the clerk if anyone has called in.

[02:58:37] There are no callers. No one has called in. I assume the applicant waives rebuttal. Okay. closing comments and a recommendation from staff on january 24 2024 the planning commission recommended approval of the requested special exception amendment application subject to the development conditions dated january 10 2024 and the requested waivers and modifications referenced in the staff report staff concurs with these recommendations thank you thank you very much last call questions for board members seeing and hearing none i will now close the public hearing and recognize Supervisor Beerman for a motion.

[02:59:16] Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a good one. Mr. Chairman, I request that the applicants state on the record their acceptance of the development conditions dated January 10th, 2024. Yes, I accept. I move that the Board of Supervisors approve SEA 94-D-002-03 subject to the development conditions dated January 10th, 2024.

[02:59:44] I further move that the Board of Supervisors reaffirm the modifications contained in the handout dated January 24th, 2024. Heard the motion. It's been multiply seconded. Any discussion on the motion? Supervisor Beerman.

[03:00:00] I'll just comment that this has been a great partnership, a great thing for the community, and this is a very easy one. This is really good stuff, so thank you. Thank you, Supervisor Beerman. Supervisor Walkinshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to thank everyone who's been involved in this, Supervisor Beerman, NCS, the SEVA truck team especially.

[03:00:21] Thank you to my Braddock Elementary crew for coming down and wearing your shirts. Thank you. It really is an incredible thing to see, the SEVA truck outside of Braddock Elementary and other places around the county and the work that they have done.

[03:00:37] They do an amazing job. I've been out there in the back of the truck helping to distribute. That was the only day where things really slowed down and kids were getting angry. But to see, and I honestly did not know all the details of the partnership with NCS and the work that's been done for them to be able to use the kitchen.

[03:00:56] So thank you to everyone who's been a part of this, especially SevaTruck for everything you do for kids and families in the Braddock District. Thank you, Supervisor Walkinshaw. And I learned about SevaTruck because they were awarded one of the Best of Braddock awards.

[03:01:12] I remember that night well. And they're doing amazing work that's really benefiting the entire county, especially our Title I schools. So thank you. Supervisor Pouchik. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you, Jimmy and Mr. Walkenshaw. Thank you, SevaTruck.

[03:01:28] I know Carol's here and the founder, Sunny, who have been instrumental. But also a big, big thank you to NCS for creating this partnership with them. I know that many of us have had the opportunity to bring Seva Truck to community meetings, to help support the community, to be in attendance, and to be able to bring them to our communities with their truck and their delicious homemade food throughout the pandemic and now beyond that.

[03:01:56] And I think this is an incredible partnership and creative use, co-location of spaces to be able to better meet the needs of the community, seniors and our kids and everyone across the board. So thank you. Thank you, Seva. I know you're just across the street from Providence District over in the Tysons area, in addition to your other locations in Tysons and in Fairfax.

[03:02:21] So I really hope that this is the beginning of a flourishing partnership across the county. Thank you. Thank you, Supervisor Poutchek. With that being said, all those in favor of the motion, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? And that motion carries.

[03:02:38] And Jimmy, that was a good one. Thank you all. That brings us to our next public hearing, which is a public hearing on RZ2018-LE-009. and PCA-C-448-34 EYA Development LLC in the Franconia District.

[03:03:01] And if we could, please have the applicant reaffirm the affidavit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mark Looney with Cooley. On behalf of the applicant, we reaffirm the affidavit dated February 21st, 2024. Thank you very much. Are there disclosures? Supervisor Behrman.

[03:03:17] I disclose that Evan A. Goldman of EYA Development, LLC donated in excess of $100 to the Jimmy Beerman for Supervisor campaign. Thank you. Thank you, Supervisor Beerman. Are there any other disclosures?

[03:03:33] Seeing and hearing none, I will now recognize staff for a staff presentation. Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of the board. I'm Zach Fountain with the Department of Planning and Development. EYA Development seeks approval of a proper condition amendment and rezoning applications.

[03:03:50] The requested PCA application will remove 6.2 acres from the larger Kingstown Development, and the proposed rezoning application would rezone the 17.2-acre site to the PDH-12 district to redevelop the site with single-family attached dwelling units.

[03:04:07] The site consists of two parcels located east of South Van Dorn Street. Parcel 35A is approximately 17 acres and zoned to the PDH-4 district and R1 districts. And parcel 35B is a 0.28-acre parcel zoned to the PDH-4 district.

[03:04:24] The site is developed with a golf driving range, miniature golf course, and a restaurant. The applicant seeks to develop 174 single-family attached dwelling units, inclusive of 18 affordable dwelling units, at a density of 10 dwelling units per acre.

[03:04:41] The site is designed with a network of private streets, sidewalks, and alleys to provide access to the proposed units. In addition, the applicant proposes to provide 50% open space on site. The open space areas include a landscape buffer around the periphery of the site and a series of four park spaces, including a community park, one at the end of the property, two neighborhood parks, and a linear park and trail along South Van Doren Street.

[03:05:13] The park spaces will include programming appropriate for their size and use, including active recreation, seating, and open lawns and trails. A mixture of front load and rear loaded units are proposed.

[03:05:29] These units will be three stories with the option to add a fourth for a loft and deck. Overall, staff finds the proposal is in harmony with the comprehensive plan and in conformance with the applicable zoning orders provisions. That concludes my presentation. Thank you. Thank you very much. At this time, we'd recognize the applicant for an applicant's presentation.

[03:05:51] Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, Mark Looney with Cooley. I won't repeat what the staff gave to you. What I'm instead going to do is give you a little bit of the story behind this story. This property was the subject of a comprehensive plan amendment proposal way back in 2015.

[03:06:13] And over the past almost nine years, there have been a series of fits and starts, starts and stops with respect to what to do with this property. And there was a lot of acrimony and a lot of concern expressed by the nearby residents and by the Kingstown Residential Owners Corporation, or CROC, as the representative of the larger Kingstown community, as to what should happen and what could happen with the Topgolf property.

[03:06:44] I think there was an understanding that this was one of the first, if not the first, top golf sites in the entire country, and it ended up being a little smaller than what it should have been. And so consequently, it was really a matter of time as to what would happen with the property.

[03:07:03] And there was a lot of concern and disagreement over what that should look like, so much so that after six years in 2021, Supervisor Lusk and his planning commissioner, Dan Lagana, called timeout and said, this isn't getting us anywhere. We need to start over.

[03:07:19] And that's where this particular applicant, EYA, stepped in. And what's really remarkable about this is that this shows that the process works. Over a two-year period, EYA held over 30 community meetings to get feedback from those who are immediately adjacent to the project, those from outside the immediate environs, and really went on a listening tour to understand what people were concerned about.

[03:07:47] And then when it came time to put pen to paper, they actually did something that I'll throw it up on the screen here if we could go to it. We started on the outside and worked our way in, and that is we looked at the existing tree cover, we looked at the perimeter buffers, we looked at the birming that was on the site, and tried to figure out how we could incorporate or how EYA could incorporate that into the design of the project, and then moved internal to figure out how the internal grid streets would work, how the open spaces would work, and other sorts of things.

[03:08:20] And by concentrating on the outside and moving in, we were able to reach consensus with the community about where the development should be located on the site, how it should be arranged, and how that buffer should be provided to maintain appropriate distances and screening from the nearby residents.

[03:08:38] Also included into the design a fairly significant public park space that is going to be open to the entire public. Even though it will be maintained by the HOA, it will have a public access easement over top of it, allowing all of the residents of kingstown and the greater kingstown area to utilize the facility and in a nod to the current use of the property it'll have a putting green associated with the open space and so this application now having the staff support you only have two listed speakers today both of whom i anticipate will speak in support of the application it's a far cry from

[03:09:17] where this property was and where this proposal was two and a half years ago and so i'm happy to answer any questions about the particulars of the application but that's the story behind the story thanks thank you very much are there any questions of staff or the applicant questions of staff or the applicant supervisor lusk thank you very much mr chairman and i'll thank mr looney for his presentation and i'll start with just a basic question it might be helpful to talk a little bit about the traffic analysis and really to explain how it was commissioned

[03:09:53] and give some kind of information about how comprehensive a study it was and what the findings were, please. Sure. So let me move to a slide real quick. So right now, there's a special exception approved for what is now Rudy's, what used to be Topgolf.

[03:10:14] There's also an approval for what used to be a Ruby Tuesday's restaurant space. The Ruby Tuesdays restaurant space could be developed as a single or multiple tenant restaurant use.

[03:10:29] So even though it was a single tenant before, it could be released for multiple tenants, a Starbucks, a Dunkin' Donuts, Potbelly, whatever the case may be, that necessarily, because of the nature of the retail, could be operating from 5 in the morning till midnight and have high-volume traffic associated with people coming in and out of those restaurants.

[03:10:53] When you collapsed your restaurant definition and got rid of the distinction between restaurants and fast food, and they're all classified as one, you can populate it with any of those types of restaurants. And so from a traffic standpoint, it's important to understand that the comparison is not between how Rudy's may be operating today, which is at less than what Topgolf had been operating, or what a vacant Ruby Tuesdays currently operates.

[03:11:20] You have to anticipate what could go there and evaluate your traffic considerations against that. The traffic study that the applicant did in this case in consultation with your Department of Transportation and VDOT was to assess what could be versus what EYA is proposing.

[03:11:36] In that connection, what we found was, or in that analysis, what we found was that even if Ruby Tuesdays stayed vacant, the conversion of Rudy's into 174 townhouse units would generate only slightly more traffic over what is operating on the site today.

[03:11:55] And when you consider how that restaurant space could operate if it were re-tenanted with one or multiple tenants, it's a fairly dramatic difference in terms of the number of trips that would be generated. About 800 trips a day difference between what could go there and what has been proposed with this.

[03:12:16] And I've got another slide that shows the data here. So this is the data that goes with the traffic study. So it's a very significant reduction in the traffic that could go there by approving the townhouses and only slightly different from the way it works and the way it operates today with that restaurant space being vacant.

[03:12:38] And if I can acknowledge something that you did, which was to include some of the pre-approved developments in the area in your analysis, which you were not required to do, but which you did to make sure that the residents understood the total impacts of all the developments in addition to this one.

[03:12:57] Correct. One of the concerns that was expressed by the Franconia Land Use Committee was the volume of projects that have come forward in the last, call it, decade, and how does this fit into that.

[03:13:12] And so the analysis that was done assumed that all of those approved but unbuilt projects would, in fact, be constructed, and then we layered in on top this additional traffic. So it's a cumulative assessment of the entire area as opposed to, you know, just this one particular site.

[03:13:31] I appreciate that. And then if I could ask if you could pull up the graphic that actually shows the ADUs. Sure. Let's see if we have. I don't know.

[03:13:46] You got it? So there are 18 ADUs, Supervisor Lusk, that would be generated as a result of this. They are interspersed within the community, so they're not isolated. If you think back two decades ago when you were planning residential communities, you'd have your single family detached on one side and your townhouse on the other side, and the townhouses were typically where the ADUs were located.

[03:14:10] These are all interspersed. They are smaller units than the regular market rate units, but they are all dispersed throughout the community. And this depiction actually shows that, which I thought was very important. So thank you for that, and that concludes my questions, Mr. Chairman.

[03:14:27] Okay. Are there any other questions of staff or the applicant? Seeing and hearing none. This is a public hearing, and I do have two speakers who have signed up in advance to testify. The first is Sonia Brihi, who has submitted video testimony.

[03:14:43] Good evening, Chairman McKay and Board of Supervisors. My name is Sonia Brehe. I'm the Northern Virginia Advocacy Manager for the Coalition for Smarter Growth and a resident of Fairfax County. My comments today reflect joint comments CSG submitted with our partners, the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance, South County Task Force, YIMBYs of Northern Virginia, Nature Forward, Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling, and the Washington Area Bicyclists Association in support of this redevelopment. Our organizations are part of the Fairfax Healthy Communities Network, and together we assess proposed development projects with the principles

[03:15:22] that they provide more homes for a mix of incomes, be accessible to transit with good walking and biking options, and provide good environmental sustainability and design. We believe these are the building blocks for creating healthy, sustainable, and inclusive communities. The developer of this proposal, EYA, has sought input from neighboring communities and environmental groups throughout this process, resulting in a well-designed plan that deserves support.

[03:15:49] More housing in the county is desperately needed as the shortage of housing is causing significant affordability issues and forcing people to find homes farther away and into longer commutes. The proposal will deliver 174 single-family townhomes, including committed affordable units, in a walkable community and served by major bus routes with direct routes to the Van Dorn Metro Station.

[03:16:13] Redevelopment also offers significant improvements to stormwater management that serves to reduce the impacts to the stream and watershed. Plans also include tree preservation and improvements, open space throughout the development, and a new one acre publicly accessible community park.

[03:16:32] This is a well-designed proposal that will create a sustainable walkable community with access Transit, and I ask that you support the rezoning and final development plan. Thank you. Thank you very much. Speaker number two is Michael LaMarche. Michael, can you hear me okay?

[03:16:51] Good afternoon, and forgive me for any background noise. I am testifying outside the Pentagon during my break. I just want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Supervisor Lesk, for all your hard work in the community going back to 2015. I believe both of you, we are very fortunate to have you as our supervisors on this site. I also want to thank you, the entire Board of Supervisors, for your patience in working with our community. And I think we got to the end,

[03:17:24] what I would call a major victory for everyone on inclusion, on equity. This is a victory. You know, this is going to help the base, you know, help keep a good economy in the base of Kingstown. This site is going to help all the homeowners at Kingstown with the property values in an enormous portfolio. Just to provide some background, I am the president serving my board of trustees, and we provide a service to 18,000 residents and 5,300 households.

[03:17:59] Our board unanimously supports this proposal. We're asking you to please approve it. You've heard all of my details. I'm just going to keep my remarks very brief that, you know, this is just amazing. It's, you know, there's, for the environment, the lake across the street, for the homeowners, for a portfolio, we're looking to hopefully annex this community and work with a membership to get a vote to make this part, you know, of Kingstown. And then just, you know,

[03:18:34] housing available to all. And we're really looking forward as a community to working with the Board of Supervisors, especially Supervisor Lusk on aspects like this going forward. We're extremely grateful for your service and dedication to the community. And then in closing, I just would also like to thank Mr. Evan Goldman, Mr. Mark Looney. I've just been amazing to work with. They're two amazing individuals for putting the community first. And I also just, you know, want to put

[03:19:09] stomp that I think just last month when you saw the Land Use Committee actually approve the rezoning package, they went from, you know, a majority in opposition to many abstained and put their greater concerns of infrastructure aside to approve the site, I thought, spoke volumes.

[03:19:33] And we're also asking you as Kingstown, and I'd like to give the message from my land use committee, to please, you know, as we further develop along the Frantonia and Van Doren corridors, we're

asking the county to please, you know, do a comprehensive infrastructure analysis and challenge assumptions.

[03:19:49] I think, you know, we're going to find that COVID realities are going to be a past in the not-too-distant future. You're going to see more and more people on the road. I can tell you as a resident, just, you know, from 2008 on forward, you know, in 2008, I was stuck on Van Dorn Street for 45 minutes to an hour.

[03:20:10] So it's going to happen again. But please, please approve this proposal and thank you for all the outstanding work that you do for our community. Thank you, Michael. Thank you for your service on KROQ as well. Let me ask if there's anyone else.

[03:20:26] That's the end of my listed speakers who signed up in advance. is there anyone else in the auditorium that would like to testify on this matter anyone else present who would like to testify this is a public hearing seeing and hearing no one let me ask the clerk if anyone has called in assume the staff waves rebuttal let me turn to county staff for closing comments and a recommendation on february 14th 2024 the planning commission recommended approval of the pca application the rezoning application and associated cdp application subject to the

[03:21:04] executed proffers and the waivers and modifications contained in the staff report. Staff concurs with these recommendations. Thank you. Thank you very much. Final ask, are there any questions from board members? Seeing and hearing none, I will close the public hearing and recognize Supervisor Lusk. Thank you again, Mr. Chairman and members of the board. As you have heard, this rezoning application has come a very long way. In the first iteration, under David Gregory, It included 275 housing units and up to 70,000 square feet of retail.

[03:21:39] In 2021, that number was reduced to 208 dwelling units with no retail. And while this development was moving in the right direction, the Kingstown Owners Corporation, as we heard, were pretty opposed to the proposal.

[03:21:54] And to understand their concerns, we held two large town hall meetings, and the community identified a number of specific issues. And they were very clear in saying they wanted to see increased setbacks and buffers as it related to the adjacent communities.

[03:22:13] They also identified the need to preserve tree-save areas, and they talked about this provision of a public park and having at least one acre in size, and that was just to name a few. So following these meetings, we went back to the owner and we kind of charged them with kind of, what will you do in response?

[03:22:32] And the answer we got was not much. We would not do anything. And based on that, we determined that we needed to engage with a different partner and reached out to EYA, who had previously looked at this site and had done some analysis and work on it.

[03:22:53] And we asked if they would be willing to re-look at it and determine a path forward. So I want to commend EYA, and I also want to commend Evan Goldman specifically because of their work and the meetings that they did. And as we heard from the applicant's representative, Mr. Looney, they met with individuals in the community.

[03:23:13] They met with KROQ. They met with others in over 30-plus meetings. And they did that so they could understand the objections and the concerns. And as a result, they submitted this plan that we see

before us today, which has 174 units.

[03:23:30] It reflects a 100-unit reduction from the original development plan. So with that background, Mr. Chairman, I feel very strongly in support of this rezoning for really a number of reasons.

[03:23:45] But the first I'll say is this project contains extensive public and community park spaces. So we've got the 10-foot-wide trail along South Van Dorn Drive. We have two neighborhood parks, and we have one large community park with open space and recreational amenities.

[03:24:07] These facilities will serve not only the residents who live in this new development, but those who are outside of it in addition. Second, we talked a little about the affordable housing units. And I want to just say how proud I am that we have 18 units that will be for sale in this project.

[03:24:28] These 18 units will be priced between $250,000 and $300,000 approximately. And they will be spread, as we saw in the image that was provided by Mr. Looney, throughout the development. They're not concentrating them in one part of the development, which is something that we've seen in other types of projects like this.

[03:24:48] And I also just appreciate that this is going to give 18 families the opportunity to live in a first rate development and they're going to have the opportunity to build generational wealth for their families. And then third, the stormwater improvements are very significant, both on the water quality and on the quantity side.

[03:25:10] So the applicant is proffered to the extent practicable to reduce, and this is important, reduce the rates for the 100-year storm events. And I think this is significant as a proffer. They've also talked about providing enhanced erosion and sediment controls beyond the PFM standard as it relates to downstream protection.

[03:25:35] And this is specifically for a very sensitive area, which we all appreciate, Huntley Meadows. So for this and a number of other reasons, this resilient application has the support of the staff, the Planning Commission, and now the Franconia Land Use Committee.

[03:25:55] So I appreciate you making that point earlier, Mr. Looney. And that is a reversal from where they were before. So with that, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make three motions. The first is I move that the Board of Supervisors approve PCA C-448-34.

[03:26:12] I further move that the Board of Supervisors approve RZ 2018-LE-009 and the Associated Conceptual Development Plan subject to the executed proffers dated February 20th, 2024.

[03:26:28] And then finally, Mr. Chairman, I move the Board of Supervisors approve the waivers contained in the handout dated February 14th, 2024. So moved. And the Chair will second that motion. Further discussion on the motion. Let me just add that I guess a real sign of old age is when you have a redevelopment application come forward that's redeveloping an application you worked on.

[03:26:54] And so my history on this site goes back to the 1990s. I remember very well this application coming through. It was characterized in the local press as a cradle-to-grave application because it contained a funeral chapel, a daycare center.

[03:27:13] and in between a golf driving range and so a clever uh clever newspaper local newspaper reporter i think described a full gamut of services on this site but i will also say that this site has been a challenge for a long time because as mr looney acknowledged when this was originally approved it was

not a top golf it was a really conventional driving range and top golf concept came along came on to this site and was the first certainly the first in the east coast to open and if you look at this site today it resembles nothing like a top golf built

[03:27:52] in in the last 10 15 20 years in the area i will acknowledge and i remember extensive testimony at the planning stage of this and i know that there's still some angst in the community about losing the recreational component, the golf driving range here.

[03:28:12] And I would like to remind those folks that I think all of us are upset about that, but the challenge here was not that that would remain in perpetuity. The challenge here was that we had a property owner who made it very clear that this site was to be sold and redeveloped.

[03:28:30] And that has been clear in the community for a number of years. There were a lot of starts and stops along the way. I can remember EYA being engaged the first time on this application, and I remember very clearly the members of the Crock Board of Trustees at the time and the unofficial mayor of Kingstown, Kathleen Snyder, being very clear to me and to others that EYA was an acceptable developer on this site because of their reputation.

[03:28:59] But make no mistake about it, none other was acceptable at that time. And so when that conversation broke up, I think there was great concern in the community about what would happen here. And so Mr. LaMarche mentioned to thank us for our patience in working through with the community.

[03:29:18] And I, for one, am glad to say that we resisted a lot of plans that would have been insufficient, certainly inferior to the plan that we see here today, as many people have acknowledged. So patience is a virtue, as many say, and in this particular case, it is very clear that both the patience of the community, the patience of us, Supervisor Lusk and I, and the district planning commissioners, Franconia district planning commissioners over the years, to take the time to make sure that we got this right, knowing that we were dealing with an uncomfortable situation to begin with.

[03:29:56] And I think the final plan and as was acknowledged earlier, the fact that we have two speakers here, I think all of us remember just a couple of weeks ago when we did the planning exercise and we had a lot more speakers here. And so I appreciate that even more work has continued to be done on this.

[03:30:12] And frankly, with the Kingstown Residential Owners Corporation's support and a much, much better plan, I think everyone's excited about the prospects of this site and know that it will be a very, very successful EYA community. And so I want to thank the applicant for working through this and the community for the tremendous amount of time and energy that they have put into this site and making sure that we get it right.

[03:30:39] This is a core part of Kingstown. It is right at a major intersection that is a landmark and very visible property for the community. And so it's important, it was important to get it right. And so I am happy to not only second the motion, but to support the application.

[03:30:59] With that being said, all those in favor of the motion, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed, any abstentions? And that motion carries. Thank you all very much. And Mr. Chairman, if I could just take one quick minute, I want to really commend the staff for the work that they did on this application.

[03:31:20] So we have a cast of characters here, including Mr. Fountain, including Kathy Lewis and Suzanne Wright. And I don't see Tom Burke here, but okay, yes, sorry. So I appreciate the work that was

done by all of the folks who were engaged on this.

[03:31:38] But I also want to acknowledge a couple of staff members that aren't here, Aaron Clybanner, who was very instrumental in helping us get through the planning stage. Megan Van Dam, who's no longer even with planning development, but still her work was very pivotal and helpful. And then Graham Owen, I do not see him here as well, but want to commend him for his service and efforts.

[03:31:59] And then I want to just take a minute and say a big thank you to Evan Goldman. So I see you back in the back of the auditorium here. I just can't express as a person who is committed to their word.

[03:32:15] So I've worked with a lot of folks in development. I've got over 30 years, you know, in working with these types of projects, you know, working for Jerry Conley, working for others, and then working even at the Economic Development Authority and now here on the Board of Supervisors. And having you come into the project and what you did was critical and central to helping us get to the place that we are right now.

[03:32:41] So your engagement with the community, your follow-up with the community, and really, it's a basic tenet and premise. But to hear people and then to respond to them is affirming. And that doesn't always happen.

[03:32:58] So I just want you to know how much I appreciate what you've done here. And Mr. Looney, as well, your representation here was very, very helpful as well. So with that, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Supervisor Lusk, and that standard that Evan has set exists all over the county where he's involved, and so we appreciate that.

[03:33:21] And Ms. Lewis, before you leave, I will just say that I think Peter Bram would be really surprised listening to this case. He still lives a few blocks from me, so I'm going to knock on his door. Yeah, please do that. Tell him I mentioned him today. He is the godfather of Kingstown, so thank you all very much, staff. Excellent job.

[03:33:42] And that brings us to our next public hearing, which is a public hearing to lease county-owned property at 3601 Firehouse Lane to Dish Wireless LLC in the Mason District. And there is no affidavit for this type of application, so as soon as staff is ready, let they look ready, I will now recognize staff for a staff presentation.

[03:34:07] Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Mike Lambert. I am the property manager of real estate services for the facilities management department. The Board of Supervisors is the owner of the Bailey's Fire Station, that's 3601 Firehouse Lane, located on a one-acre parcel of land, identified as tax map number 61-4, subdivision 1, parcel 20B.

[03:34:27] The Board leases a portion of the rear of the property to AT&T for use as a 128-foot telecommunications monopole and associated 300-square-foot equipment building. For an agreement between the board and the volunteer firefighters, any new telecom agreements that generate revenue would be negotiated by the board, but any rental payments would be collected by the volunteers.

[03:34:47] After securing the right from AT&T to add its antennas to the monopole, Dish Wireless LLC has approached the county about leasing 36 square feet of space outside AT&T's existing equipment building for its own telecommunication cabinets.

[03:35:03] The proposed term of the agreement is five years with four or five-year options to extend the lease for a total possible term of 25 years. The volunteers will earn $12,000 a year in revenue during the first year of the lease with 2% annual increases thereafter. Dish Wireless will work with the county and volunteer firefighters to ensure that their service visits do not impact the station's readiness to respond to public safety emergencies.

[03:35:26] This concludes the staff report. Thank you very much. Are there any questions of staff? Any questions of staff? Seeing and hearing none, this is a public hearing. I have no speakers who have signed up in advance to testify. Is there anyone here in the auditorium who would like to speak on this matter?

[03:35:45] This is a public hearing. Anyone who would like to testify? Seeing and hearing no one, let me ask the clerk if anyone has called in. There are no callers. There are no callers. Any closing comments or recommendation from county staff? Staff recommends that the board authorize staff to finalize documentation.

[03:36:03] To lease county home property located at 3601 Firehouse Lane to Dish Wireless LLC. Thank you very much. Last check. Questions from board members? Seeing and hearing none. I will now close the public hearing and recognize Supervisor Jimenez for a motion.

[03:36:18] Mr. Chairman, I move that the board authorize county staff to prepare and execute all documentation necessary to lease approximately 36 square feet of ground space located at Bailey's Fire Station. With an address of 3601 Firehouse Lane and identified by tax map number 0614-01-0020B to Dish Wireless, LLC.

[03:36:47] I heard the motion. It's been seconded by Supervisor, was that Supervisor Lusk? Any discussion on the motion? Any discussion? Seeing and hearing none. All those in favor of the motion, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That motion carries.

[03:37:03] Thank you very much. Next, we have a public hearing on an approval of the proposed sale of sewer revenue bonds 2024A and sewer revenue refunding bonds series 2024B. And at this time, we would recognize county staff for a staff presentation.

[03:37:21] Hi, Chairman, members of the board, Joe Lahate, Department of Management and Budget. We're here before you today to ask approval to proceed with a bond sale for the sewer system on a maximum amount of $175 million. We do this every so often. Last time was about three years ago for capital contributions, primarily the county's Noman Coal System, as well as our capital contributions, which we've got percent capacity and some of the regional wastewater plants as well.

[03:37:44] We have moved very fastly and very quickly with this deal. At the same time, adhering to some really high principles, the revenues within the sewer system, the net revenues generated are the source of the debt service repayment. There is no debt fund or impact on the county's general fund side. And we're also proud to say, as far as our conversations with the rating agencies, they've AAA status from all three bond rating agencies, which is a commitment and firm testament to the fact that we brought forward to you financial policies that have been reviewed, recommended, and upholded by you all to carry that strong rating in the market to move us forward with a really good place to carry that interest rate we always want to get as low as possible.

[03:38:18] So, Chairman, with that, also one last piece here, too. Ideally, we will get just over that 50 percent threshold included in this bond, which will allow us to release ultimately a debt service reserve

requirement that was built into these bonds when this resolution was first set up in the mid-1980s.

[03:38:33] The fact that we've kind of moved modern day to a AAA status, this reserve is really unnecessary, validated by the underwriters and more importantly validated by our financial advisors. So, an ability to do this will allow us to essentially release roughly about $38 million back into this sewer fund. for additional capital improvements within the system so a good sign of how far things have come and a testament to the people who manage and oversee these projects. Thank you chairman any questions I'm here. Thank you very much excellent presentation and excellent news. Are there any questions? Seeing and hearing none this is a public hearing. Is there anyone here present in the auditorium who would like to testify? I have no one who signed up in advance. Is there anyone

[03:39:13] present who would like to speak? This is a public hearing. Seeing and hearing no one let me ask the Clerk, if anyone has called in. There are no callers. No callers. Any further closing comments or recommendation from county staff is to move approval, correct?

[03:39:31] Allie Cotting, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services. Staff recommends approval. Thank you, Ms. Cotting. We did not recognize you without the vest on. So thank you very much. If there are no questions of board members, we will close the public hearing, and I will recognize Supervisor Smith for a motion.

[03:39:55] I move approval of the recommendation by the county executive. And I'm happy to second that motion. Is there any discussion on the motion? Other than staff, excellent job. Much appreciated. All those in favor of the motion, please say aye.

[03:40:10] Aye. Any opposed? Any abstentions? That motion carries. Thank you very much. Our next and final public hearing today is actually not a public hearing. It's decision only for a public hearing to validate and convey property.

[03:40:27] the Franconia Governmental Center to the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority in the Franconia District. I understand this decision is being further deferred, so at this time I will turn to Supervisor Lusk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With a deferral of the decision to transfer the Franconia Governmental Center property to the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority until May 21st, 2024, we have the opportunity to have a thoughtful conversation about the future the site to that end i'm convening a series of three community meetings in partnership with a variety of county agencies including neighborhood and community services and my office the meetings

[03:41:06] will be held at john lewis high school on the following dates saturday april 13th from 12 to 12 to 2 p.m second monday april 22nd from 6 to 8 p.m and third monday may 6th from 6 to 8 p.m as i've mentioned previously the meetings will be led by a skilled outside facilitator to help ensure the perspectives of the entire community will be heard in a welcoming and respectful environment the means will allow residents and stakeholders the opportunity to express

[03:41:40] their ideas and vision and in a subsequent meeting those who participate will receive feedback on their proposed ideas development process and their concepts these in-person community conversations along with an online engagement platform option are also intended to increase public understanding of affordable housing and other community needs and general information to inform decision making so with that mr chairman i move that the decision only to validate and convey property at

the franconia governmental center to the fairfix county redevelopment and housing authority be deferred to a date and time certain of may 21st 2024

[03:42:19] at 3 33 pardon at a date and time certain of may 21st 2024 at 3 30 p.m second you've heard the motion and the second is there any discussion on the motion seeing any hearing none all those in favor of the motion please say aye aye aye any opposed any abstention that motion carries and if there's no further discussion that brings us to the end of our board meeting of march 5th 2024 And with that, our board meeting is adjourned.

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