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Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations

# Record

Volume LVIII No. 03, March 2025

## FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

1. Please ensure that your community attends the March 26, 2025 General Council meeting—there will be an important vote on the changes to the MVCCA bylaws.
2. The March meeting will present for your vote the MVCCA resolutions on the county 2026 budget. Your vote is important.
3. The full presentation regarding the County CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) is in this *Record* for your review.
4. There are no minutes for February since members attended the County 2026 Budget Presentation.

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### Environment & Recreation

Chair Larry Zaragoza called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Member Communities Represented: Huntington Community Association, Wellington Civic Association, Potomac Valley-River Bend Civic Association, Spring Bank Community Association, Belle View Condominium Unit Owners Association, Mount Vernon Manor, and Hollin Hall Village Citizens Association.

Environmental Budget Resolution: Chair Zaragoza presented a draft resolution on environmental budget concerns. Following a few editorial comments, Ellen motioned approval of the resolution, which was seconded by Anita. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Other Business: Chair Zaragoza also noted that the MVCCA plans to invite the National Park Service Superintendent to a General Council meeting where questions would be addressed. He also noted for the committee that the resolution on 1147 Westgate was substantially changed from the version that the E&R and Stormwater committees adopted and sent out. The letter that was sent to the county will be voted on for ratification at the General Council meeting. Larry also

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noted that the resolution on the JLARC data center resolution should wait until the ICPRB study on water is released in April.

Kevin motioned adjournment, which was seconded by Anita. All supported the motion.

### Education & Budget

#### MVCCA Joint Education Budget Committee Meeting March 5, 2025

We finalized our Budget Resolution and had a lively discussion about the list of cuts the county presented.

We also talked about the potential elimination of the Federal Department of Education and what that means for the schools in our district.

Next month we will be discussing boundaries if there are maps to view from the Boundary Advisory Committee meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

### Planning & Zoning

#### MVCCA Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Monthly Meeting March 3, 2025

##### Committee Attendees

P&Z Committee Chair  
MVCCA Co Chair 3  
Mt. Vernon CA  
Wellington CA  
New Gum Springs CA  
Hollin Hall Village CA  
Belle View Condominium  
Montebello Condominiums  
Potomac Valley River Bend  
Stratford Landing CA  
Riverwood HOA  
Gum Springs Homeowners Organization  
Huntington CA  
CA of Hollin Hills

##### Other Attendees

Editor, Mount Vernon on the Move

##### Guest Speakers

Lynne Strobel, Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley & Walsh,  
Alexandria Crossing Project  
Mark and Michael White, Grist Mill Barn project  
Drew Dunn, Quarterra, Alexandria Crossing project  
Clara Reyes, Quarterra, Alexandria Crossing project

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### Proceedings

The meeting was called to order by P&Z Committee Chair. The meeting had two topics:

1. Alexandria Crossing
2. Grist Mill barn project.

### Meeting Minutes: Alexandria Crossing Project Update

Project Overview: The Alexandria Crossing project is located on Richmond Highway, between Quander Road and Shields Avenue, at the site of the former Evolution building. This is the first project to be developed in accordance with the EMBARK plan, which allows for increased density in the area. The development involves the consolidation of 16 parcels and will include the following:

- 385 multi-family dwelling units with a structured parking garage.
- 23 stacked townhomes (46 units) with two-car garages.
- 35 townhomes with two-car garages.

Challenges: The project has faced several challenges, including:

- Topography: Significant grade differences across the site.
- Sewer Infrastructure: The existing sewer system, built in the 1940s, was over capacity and required replacement. The new development will be served by a 24-inch sewer line, which will meet the needs of the project and future demands.
- Easement and Property Owner Issues: Negotiations were needed with nearby property owners to resolve easement concerns.
- Street Modifications: Modifications to both private and local streets were necessary.

Collaboration and Solutions: The presenter, Lynne Strobel, credited Peyton Smith, Development and Land Use Liaison at Supervisor Storck's office, for bringing together all involved parties and facilitating creative solutions to the challenges. Key resolutions include:

- Addressing landscaping and tree challenges.
- Modifying the original housing plan to increase green space and open areas.

The current plan, which reflects these changes, is pending approval from Fairfax County. Once approved, the project can proceed with obtaining building permits and starting construction.

### Additional Considerations

- Sewer Capacity: The existing sewer system was undersized and overburdened. A new, larger 24-inch sewer line will be installed to meet the demands of the complex and ensure future capacity.

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- Wildlife and Environmental Concerns: Discussions also focused on the protection of local wildlife, trees, and maintaining appropriate buffering for the site.

This project is a significant step forward in line with the EMBARK plan and aims to address both community and environmental needs while providing much-needed housing.

## Meeting Minutes: Grist Mill Barn Project Proposal

**Project Overview:** The Grist Mill Barn project proposal has been accepted by the Fairfax County Park Authority for consideration. The project is currently in the conceptual phase, with ideas still in the early stages and subject to further development. Key parties involved in the project include Mark and Michael White, along with several local restaurateurs and construction companies.

**Project Leadership and Next Steps:** If no additional parties express interest in leading the project, the White brothers and their team will take the lead. At that point, formal negotiations for the public/private partnership will begin, including discussions on the division of responsibilities for the project.

**Community Feedback and Concerns:** The project has received largely positive feedback, with the community showing strong support. There are over 400 homes in the surrounding area, and several questions have been raised regarding potential traffic impact. However, with the new walking and biking trails nearby, the location is easily accessible without the need for cars, which is expected to mitigate some of those concerns.

**Project Details and Planning:** At this stage, the plan is to preserve the barn’s appearance and maintain its historical character. The Fairfax County Park Authority, as the landowner, will play an active role in overseeing the transformation. Specific details regarding the number of patrons or the project’s capacity have not yet been determined.

**Next Steps:** As the project moves forward, further details will be clarified, and formal negotiations will begin once the lead team is confirmed.

The next P&Z Meeting will be on April 7 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.



You have until March 28 to register for the annual Economic Summit at the early bird price of \$35. As always, this is a joint venture between SFDC and the Mount Vernon-Springfield Chamber of Commerce. This will

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be an important event this year, given all the economic uncertainty. Here’s the link to register:

<https://cca.mountvernon.springfield.com/EvtListing.aspx?dbid2=VAMTVL&evtid=31345&class=E>

All 10 “The Faces of One” sculptures along Richmond Highway have now been installed. Be sure to look for them as you’re out and about!

## Public Safety/Transportation

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### MVCCA Public Safety/Transportation Committee Minutes March 10, 2025

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens’ Association (MVCCA) Public Safety/Transportation Committee met at 7:00 p.m. on March 10, 2025 in a virtual gathering hosted on Zoom. Participating in the meeting were: Elvia Foil, Volunteer Lead, Fairfax Community Emergency Response Team (CERT); John Lincoski, MVCCA Public Safety/Transportation Committee Chair; John Bioty, MVCCA Transportation Committee note-taker for tonight’s meeting; and Katherine Ward, MVCCA Co-Chair.

Public Safety Committee representatives from the following MVCCA Associations were in attendance: Huntington Community Association, Mason Hill Citizen’s Association, Potomac Valley River Bend Civic Association, and Wellington Civic Association.

Transportation Committee representatives from the following MVCCA Associations were in attendance: Gum Springs Homeowners Organization, Hollin Hall Village Citizens Association, Huntington Community Association, Montebello Condominium Unit Owners Association, Mount Vernon Civic Association, Riverwood Homeowners’ Association, Stratford Landing Citizens’ Association, Villamay Community Association, Waynewood Citizens’ Association, Wellington Civic Association, Westgrove Citizens’ Association, and Williamsburg Manor North Community Association.

Total attendance, including several other interested individuals, was 20.

### Announcements

In the email meeting link, Chairman Lincoski indicated that the agenda for tonight’s meeting would include discussions on:

1. Fairfax CERT Program Termination.
2. Fire Department Budget Cuts.
3. Open Discussion on National Airport (DCA) Traffic.
4. Flock and Connect Fairfax County Camera Programs.
5. Prioritizing Transportation Committee areas of focus for 2025.

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The MVCCA Public Safety/Transportation Committee Chairman called the meeting to order and thanked all members for attending. He mentioned that this is the first combined Public Safety (PS)/Transportation (Trans) meeting. Due to similarities of roles, MVCCA decided to combine the PS/Trans Committees into one. Chairman Lincoski then stated that there would be a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) guest speaker, Elvia Foil, who would address the Committees on a funding issue that may result in termination for the CERT team.

### **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Termination**

Ms. Foil thanked Chairman Lincoski for the opportunity to address the Committees on the CERT Program in Fairfax County (FC). She showed a PowerPoint presentation that described the CERT function, indicating that CERT is a free training and volunteer program administered through the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. The training prepares residents to help themselves, their families, and their neighbors in the event of a disaster in their community. Through CERT, residents learn about disaster preparedness and receive training in basic disaster response and life-saving skills such as fire safety, search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. With this training, graduates of the program can provide critical support by giving immediate assistance to victims before first responders arrive on scene. Residents are trained to “self-activate” in case of major disasters and where regular emergency services may be overwhelmed. The function is closely aligned to FEMA’s mission and administered locally through the Fire Department.

Ms. Foil indicated that the program’s budget to administer training was \$34,000 a year and provided by Fairfax County. Due to the county’s funding shortages, however, Ms. Foil feared that the CERT Program would be terminated. She asked for the Committees support to convince the county to continue to fund the program. She offered that individuals could learn more about the specifics of the program by going to the website: [fairfaxcountycert.org](http://fairfaxcountycert.org)

**DISCUSSION:** Committees were supportive of Ms. Foil’s situation and agreed that this was an important safety issue that has the potential to save lives in the future. Several members asked Ms. Foil about the different types of emergencies that the team has responded to. She said CERT members have responded to accident traffic management, fire response, flood distribution situations, life-saving CPR, and even child care hygiene. She mentioned that the Team has certified about 4,000 members since CERT was instituted in 2003. She reiterated that Fairfax County Fire and Rescue was suitably postured to sponsor the CERT Program.

Chairman Lincoski asked how the Committee could support the CERT cause. Katherine Ward, MVCCA

Co-Chair, suggested that the issue be brought up at tomorrow’s MVCCA Budget Committee Meeting. Committee members agreed, and without further questions or input from the Committee, the item was closed.

### **Fire Department Budget Cuts**

In the read-ahead, Chairman Lincoski included a link to proposed Fairfax County Budget cuts and their potential affect on emergency services within the County. The link can be followed here: [https://www.fairfaxtimes.com/articles/fairfax-county-faces-potential-budget-cuts-to-fire-and-rescue-services/article\\_f27d17fc-d43d-11ef-b609-8b6962c0cd2d.html](https://www.fairfaxtimes.com/articles/fairfax-county-faces-potential-budget-cuts-to-fire-and-rescue-services/article_f27d17fc-d43d-11ef-b609-8b6962c0cd2d.html)

The article from the Fairfax County Times entitled “Fairfax County Faces Potential Budget Cuts to Fire and Rescue Services” discusses the potential loss of services from budget cuts.

**DISCUSSION** (summarized from the article) In a social media post, the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local 2068 urged the public to contact the Board of Supervisors to “demand action,” saying that “public safety is nonnegotiable.” According to union officials, seven ambulances and one medic unit are threatened, along with three ladder trucks and one engine. These cutbacks will reduce 24-hour rescue squad coverage. IAFF Local 2068 said that “due to a predicted budget shortfall, all Fairfax County department heads were required to submit 10% in potential budget reductions.”

Union leaders warned that ambulances in Annandale, Bailey’s Crossroads, Penn Daw, Clifton, Gunston, Crosspointe, and North Point would all potentially be shut down. Ladder trucks in McLean, Centreville, Crosspointe, and Franconia all face elimination, according to IAFF Local 2068. Leaders said rescue squads in Lorton, Fair Oaks, and Scotts Run also face closure, along with engine companies in Fairfax Center and Scotts Run.

Proposed budget cuts, the IAFF Local 2068 said, “for the Fire and Rescue Department, is more than \$26.7 million.” The article urges county residents to tell the Board of Supervisors not to vote for “catastrophic cuts.”

Chairman Lincoski suggested that the Committees track County budget decisions in light of their possible safety implications. He mentioned that we may revisit this issue at a later date.

### **National Airport (DCA) Airport Traffic (Open Discussion)**

Chairman Lincoski referenced the midair collision that occurred at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport on Jan 29, 2025 between an American Eagle regional jet with 60 passengers and 4 crew and an Army H-60 Blackhawk from Fort Belvoir VA with a crew of 3. All 67 people aboard those two aircraft perished. He opened the discussion to the Committee.

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**DISCUSSION:** Several members voiced their concern regarding aircraft noise at DCA. However, other members feared that safety was now a more legitimate concern than noise with aircraft flying over populated areas and the chance of collision. Another member referenced a recent Vianair, Inc. contract that discussed proposed Airport Advisory Committee actions to the FAA to reduce noise and reroute traffic. He stated that in a recent Mount Vernon Town Hall, Congressman Beyer was quick to recommend curbing helicopter traffic around DCA. Discussions then focused on whether there were too many flights in and out of DCA and what the FAA was going to do about it. The comment was made that the National Airspace System was overly crowded these days and that DCA had more than its share of commercial traffic.

Several members made reference to the term NextGen. NextGen stands for Next Generation (National Airspace System). A Committee member stated that NextGen had the ability to handle more aircraft than the previous system. The concept uses more accurate satellite navigation aids than ground-based systems and adds a time factor to the equation. This allows two aircraft to be in the same airspace (longitude, latitude, and altitude) as long as they are there at different times.

Some discussion transpired about whether NextGen was operational at DCA. Some thought not, whereas others thought it was. Committee members settled on the notion that the system is functional at DCA but not fully implemented.

Chairman Lincoski asked whether the issue of “crowded skies” at DCA is a transportation problem or a safety concern. After much discussion, Committees settled on the notion that it was both. Committee members were advised to be aware of FAA actions to resolve the “crowded sky” issue at DCA with respect to collision avoidance and noise abatement. Chairman Lincoski mentioned that this may be an item that the Committees may take up at a future time.

## **Flock and Connect Fairfax County Camera Programs**

Chairman Lincoski suggests that the Committees be aware of the County Flock and Connect Fairfax County Camera Program and its role in Public Safety.

**DISCUSSION:** Two years ago, the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) implemented License Plate Reader (LPR) technology. Police call it a data-driven initiative launched to enhance public safety. Since the program’s inception, FCPD has utilized fixed and mobile LPR systems from Flock Safety and Axon to solve crimes, locate missing people, and recover stolen property.

The Connect Fairfax County camera program registers household and commercial security cameras with FCPD

and, if the owner permits, allows access to the feed in case of nearby emergencies.

Chairman Lincoski is seeking a speaker from the county to discuss both programs.

## **Prioritizing Transportation Committee areas of focus for 2025**

Chairman Lincoski asked the Committees for potential Transportation priorities for 2025.

**DISCUSSION:** Transportation priorities generated considerable discussion at this meeting. Several members indicated that the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) remains a major area of concern. Speeding and reckless driving continue to be problems on the GWMP. Accidents continue to occur, and confusion exists as to right-of-way at both the Belle Haven and Belle View Blvd. intersections. It was suggested that since there was a new National Park Service (NPS) Superintendent (Jennifer Madello) named in December 2024, the Committee should invite her to address upcoming plans for GWMP improvements. Members wanted the Superintendent to address safety concerns and provide data on whether the Road Diet and other safety improvements have made any difference in speeding or accident prevention. Most members agreed that the GWMP was in need of repair and that a complete resurfacing would improve driving conditions. The biggest problem, several suggested, was lack of enforcement. This has generated the desire to place speed cameras on the Parkway. Other members desired to know the status of Virginia State Congressman Don Beyers’ bill to place speed cameras on the GWMP.

In addition to the GWMP and speed cameras, Beltway toll lanes were offered as a priority transportation item. Currently, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is studying a potential extension of the express lanes system on I-495 (Capital Beltway) from the Springfield interchange across the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge to MD 210 in Maryland. This 11-mile project has many concerns for local area residents since rush hour traffic already backs up local lanes for miles at the bridge. VDOT’s plan, if approved, would take one (1) or two (2) of the three local area lanes and make them into toll lanes. This would back up local traffic even more. Richmond Highway (Route 1) was also suggested as a transportation item with its upcoming expansion program.

In-person public information meetings regarding the project will be held from 6:30-8:30 pm on:

### **Tuesday, April 1, 2025**

West Potomac High School (Cafeteria)  
6500 Quander Rd., Alexandria, VA 22307

### **Wednesday, April 2, 2025**

Oxon Hill High School (Auditorium)  
6701 Leyte Dr., Oxon Hill, MD 20745

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## Monday, April 7, 2025

Thomas A. Edison High School (Cafeteria)  
5801 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, VA 22310

## Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Nannie J. Lee Memorial Recreation Center  
1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Per VDOT, the meeting format will include an open house with a presentation at 7 p.m. and VDOT representatives will be present to answer questions.

Chairman Lincoski noted these priorities and said he would see what he could do to add them as future agenda items and schedule the appropriate individuals to address these issues.

### Meeting Adjourned

Without further new business, Chairman Lincoski thanked all Committee members for sharing their thoughts, interests and concerns to MVCCA related items. The joint PS/Transportation Meeting concluded at 8:03 PM.

### Future 2025 Public Safety//Transportation Committee Meetings

- Apr 14
- May 12
- Jun 9
- Jul 14
- Aug 14—No Meeting
- Sep 6
- Oct 13
- Nov 19
- Dec 8

Note: Until further notice, all meetings will be held remotely.

## Fairfax Federation

The Fairfax Federation met with their membership on February 27, 2025.

At this meeting the membership received a briefing on the proposed 2026 Fairfax County Budget by Philip Hagen, director of the Fairfax County Department of Management and Budget. His full presentation is can be found by following this link:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/sites/budget/files/Assets/Documents/fy2026/advertised/FY2026AdvertisedPresentation.pdf>

The next meeting of the General Membership will be on March 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Jim Scott (formerly Providence) Community Center located at 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax)

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## Stormwater

### Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) Resolution

Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on 2026 County Budget Item Stormwater Services (*Fund 40100*)

Whereas: In March 2021, the MVCCA formed a Special Committee on Stormwater to investigate Mount Vernon District residents' complaints regarding stormwater problems affecting their homes and neighborhoods and the considerable expense they incurred to remedy stormwater run-off problems they did not cause.

Whereas: Since its inception, the Special Committee has identified residential properties in the Mount Vernon District suffering direct effects of stormwater run-off; challenged planned residential infill development projects that would increase and further aggravate stormwater run-off issues; and examined County ordinances and regulations governing stormwater.

Whereas: In its deliberations, the Special Committee has identified inadequate and aging stormwater infrastructure in many communities; issues related to infill development increasing impervious surfaces without regard to run-off issues; and inadequate ordinances, regulations, and best practices necessary to mitigate existing and future rain-driven flooding problems.

Whereas: In recognition of the stormwater run-off problem, in memorandum, dated April 23, 2024, the County Executive examined County flooding problems, summarized the nature and extent of the problem countywide, and offered a range of "projects, programs, and regulatory actions" to address these problems.

Whereas: Under the "projects" section, and with reference to the County's Resilient Fairfax plan, the memo cites a need to address "coastal flooding" issues in the Belle View watershed, and under "non-coastal flooding" the recognition that an additional 570 known projects above those in the 5-year capital improvement project (CIP) should be addressed, at an estimated cost of \$600 million.

Whereas: Under the "programs" section, the memo cites existing avenues of approach for understanding and mitigating issues, including technical assistance, outreach, work with the National Flood Insurance Program, etc. and recommendations for additional future programs to address flooding issues.

Whereas: Under the "regulatory actions" section, the memorandum acknowledges that changes to existing County regulations could help prevent flooding issues. The memorandum examines past changes and recommends additional changes to the regulatory framework for such purposes, including updates to the Zoning and Stormwater Management Ordinances, Public Facilities Manual, the Comprehensive Plan's

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Environmental Policy, and other policy materials to better ensure that flood-resilient and climate-ready communities are in alignment with the Resilient Fairfax plan.

Whereas: If left unaddressed due to a lack of funding or rules changes, flooding issues will continue to have a grave and growing impact on residents of the Mount Vernon community as well as other communities in Fairfax County.

Therefore, Be It Resolved: The MVCCA recognizes the importance of the elements outlined in the County Executive’s memorandum and asks the Board of Supervisors to move quickly to fund and implement the memorandum’s project, program, and regulatory change elements, and more specifically:

1. Provide environmentally, economically viable solutions to the flooding issues in the Belle View Watershed.
2. Begin work on a pilot program in the older communities in Mount Vernon District to improve stormwater infrastructure.
3. Identify long term funding streams to address known projects requiring flooding solutions, especially improvement or replacement of aging and inadequate stormwater infrastructure, so that residents and businesses will not be adversely impacted by flooding.
4. Continue, through individual grants or other such conveyances, direct financial assistance to homeowners to defray costs of correcting problems, including consideration of higher grant amounts and lower homeowner share ratios.
5. Require Fairfax County offices charged with land-use planning, land-use development, and stormwater management to explore changes to County ordinances, regulations, and policies to reduce damaging effects of stormwater run-off.
6. Recognize and address the impact that infill development has on flooding issues in established communities, such as increased impervious surfaces, inadequate stormwater infrastructure, and permissive regulation.

Be it Further Resolved: The MVCCA asks the Board of Supervisors to fund priority flood-related needs by examining and reallocating line-item funding of Stormwater Fee revenues in the current 2025 budget; using carry-over funding from previous budget year; aggressively seeking and securing grants from federal, state, and other sources to support this work; and incorporating funding into future years budgets by pursuing any other available funding mechanisms to correct problems attributable to stormwater.

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## Environment & Recreation

### Mount Vernon Council of Citizens’ Associations (MVCCA)

#### Resolution on the Proposed FY 2026 County Budget (MVCCA, E&R 2025-01)

Whereas, the Environment and Recreation Committee (E&R) of the MVCCA reviews and comments on County environmental and recreation programs.

Whereas, E&R is concerned that the County Executive’s proposed FY 2026 budget for the Park Authority will not adequately support the following areas:

1. Eliminating an Ecologist I position (\$65K), which is important to manage invasive plants, which are overtaking our parks, and funding for park staff or volunteer coordinators is inadequate to even maintain the status quo.
2. Reducing trail maintenance by 50% will increase the risk of injury to park visitors resulting from damaged/ degraded trails and may require trail closures.
3. Reducing park and facility maintenance by 37% will worsen the already deferred maintenance.
4. Reducing open space mowing by 17% will increase the likelihood of increased invasive vegetation encroachment into parks.
5. Closing one nature center and one historic site (\$644,000).
6. Reducing the summer concert budget, which draws people to our parks.
7. Reducing forestry contract services, which is critical to addressing high risk trees that threaten life and property.
8. Reducing Port-a-Jon cleaning by 28%.
9. Funding to support implementation of the county’s zero-waste trash and recycling program (currently trash overflows containers).
10. We need to maintain the parks, address trash and Port-a-Jon issues, and address invasives as a priority so that all residents, including One Fairfax residents, will have a rewarding experience.

Whereas, the MVCCA has long highlighted the need to manage flooding, the MVCCA supports the county’s flooding workplan and strongly supports the need for the county’s evaluation of stormwater issues in the Hollin Hall-Wellington area.

Whereas, eliminating funding for supplemental mowing from the Virginia Department of Transportation will not only result in less mowing but also impact removal of trash in the right of way, this reduction may seem minor but is likely to be widely unpopular.

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Therefore, be it resolved that the Park Authority budget should be adjusted to ensure that our parks do not degrade because facilities are not maintained, dangerous trees are not removed, and parkland is overtaken by invasive plants. The Park Authority should fully participate in the county's zero-waste initiative (including regular removal of trash so that trash bins do not overflow). We need to maintain the parks, address trash and Port-a-Jon issues, and address invasives as a priority.

Be it further resolved that DPWES funding be preserved at least at the levels in the County Executive's proposal.

Be it finally resolved that the county retain the funding for mowing in the right of way because reduced mowing will result in the accumulation of trash.

## Education

### Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA)

EDU-2025-1 Resolution with respect to School Transfer and related matters in the FY2026 County Advertised Budget

WHEREAS the Fairfax County Executive's FY2026 Advertised Budget Plan (County Budget), released on February 18, 2025, proposed a funding increase (School Transfer) for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) of \$118M compared to the \$268.3M requested by the Fairfax County School Board (School Budget), resulting in a discrepancy of about \$150.3M (School Shortfall); and

WHEREAS most (\$214M) of the School Budget reflects the proposal, reached through collective bargaining, to provide a 7% compensation increase for all employees (about 93% of which are school-based professional staff) to improve morale and address actual and potential competitive disadvantage with neighboring jurisdictions which already have teacher pay advantages and are considering FY26 raises of similar magnitude; and

WHEREAS the Virginia legislature has proposed additional support for schools in its funding packages, including teacher salary raises and a possible one-time bonus, but the details are not yet known, may require a matching increase as in the past, but will not in any event adequately address the funding failures highlighted in the 2023 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) costing FCPS and Fairfax taxpayers about \$569M a year; and

WHEREAS the status of federal funding, which partially supports the cost of federal mandates regarding special education services, Title I schools staffing, and other requirements (previously \$168M) is unclear due to ongoing federal upheaval, even as the underfunded mandates remain in place and the number of students eligible skyrockets; and

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WHEREAS the School Budget includes no new programs but continues support for multiyear investments including fine arts, athletic trainers, and preschool (collectively \$4M) as well as school security improvements and teacher preparation and credentialing (\$14.2M) but is not able to provide for known needs such as middle school sports expansion, accelerating maintenance needs, lower class sizes, middle school start time changes, or purchases of additional electric buses; and

WHEREAS the School Budget also includes unavoidable expenses (such as contractual increases, increasing enrollment of students with higher educational needs, debt service, transfers for major infrastructure maintenance for aging systems, workers compensation, and insurance); and

WHEREAS the School Budget's ability to make substantial system-wide reductions is limited because (1) the overwhelming preponderance of budget expenses is directly related to school-based staff salaries, (2) staffing levels and class sizes are subject to Commonwealth and U.S. regulation, and (3) schools must accept all students regardless of need or special education eligibility; and

WHEREAS the County Budget reduces support for mental health services for families and youth and for middle school after-school programs, although mental health problems are rising and middle school age youth need positive activities in the after-school hours to assure a positive transition to high school and avoid risky behaviors such as substance abuse, crime, and vandalism which affect the entire community; and

WHEREAS FCPS maintains its national reputation for excellence while keeping cost per pupil in the mid-range of surrounding jurisdictions and the lowest ratio of central management staff in the area (1.1% compared to 2-4%); and

WHEREAS FCPS is long recognized by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) as the single most important contributor to the economic health of the County, especially in uncertain times, and as its highest priority while a highly qualified, motivated, and fairly compensated school staff is the most critical asset of FCPS; and

WHEREAS notwithstanding the demonstrated needs of FCPS, the BOS, the School Board (SB), and taxpayers face severe economic and social disruption as the federal government downsizes and reorganizes, making it difficult to fully meet the School Budget's requested 7% compensation increase from projected revenue, however warranted by the need to hire, retain, and demonstrate support for FCPS' excellent teaching staff; and

## **- - - Budget Resolutions - - -**

WHEREAS the County Budget's proposed increase in real estate tax rate, though painful to many, is necessary to assure survival of our important institutions during this unprecedented period of dislocation, even though it continues the burden placed on taxpayers by the failure of the Commonwealth and the U.S. to appropriately support Fairfax County, and any benefits from a possible meals tax would not be realized for FY2026,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA), in order to protect our institutions, home values, and future growth potential, urges the BOS, as its first priority, to provide FCPS with funds sufficient to maintain its standards of excellence, to meet the needs of all children, and to provide a significant salary increase for staff; and

## **- - - Budget Resolutions - - -**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MVCCA urges the BOS to reconsider proposed reductions in mental health services and middle school activities as counterproductive to assuring a positive and healthy future; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the MVCCA urges the BOS adopt the proposed tax rate increase but to actively search out alternative revenue sources, especially a meals tax, and to work with elected representatives and other jurisdictions to assure that the Commonwealth meets its obligations on school funding and provides a fairer return on revenue received by the Commonwealth and attributable to Fairfax County taxpayers, businesses, and economic activity.

# Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations

## Proposed Changes to Bylaws

### ***REQUIRED VOTE BY THE MEMBERS ON BYLAWS CHANGES***

#### **1) Remove the last sentence of Article VIII, Section 1, as shown below:**

##### ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS

SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY. The elected Officers of the MVCCA shall consist of three Co-Chairs, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. At the time of election, an Officer must be a member in good standing of a member association in good standing, and a resident of the Mount Vernon Magisterial District. A Co-Chair shall not serve concurrently as the authorized representative, in any capacity, of his or her member association. ~~A Co-Chair shall not serve for more than two consecutive three-year terms, but shall be eligible to serve again after an intervening period of one year.~~

#### **2) Add a sentence to Article XII, Section 2, as shown below:**

##### ARTICLE XI. COMMITTEES

SECTION 2. STANDING COMMITTEES. The current Standing Committees of the MVCCA are the Budget and Finance Committee, the Consumer Affairs Committee, the Education Committee, the Environment and Recreation Committee, the Health and Human Services Committee, the Planning and Zoning Committee, the Public Safety Committee, and the Transportation Committee. Co-Chairs serving as Liaison to a committee shall not have a vote. **The Board, in its discretion, may temporarily or permanently combine or suspend one or more standing committees, subject to ratification by the General Council.**

#### **3) Delete the third sentence of Article XI, Section 4, and replace with a new sentence, as shown below:**

##### ARTICLE XI. COMMITTEES

SECTION 4. VOTING. A vote by a Standing Committee shall be valid only when at least five authorized representatives on the Committee are present and voting at the Committee meeting. Each authorized representative shall have one vote. ~~The Chair shall have no vote.~~ **The Committee Chair shall vote to break a committee vote tie.** The Chair of a Standing Committee may not serve on that Committee as his or her member association's Authorized Representative.

#### **4) Delete the last sentence of Article XI, Section 4, and replace with a new sentence, as shown below:**

##### ARTICLE XI. COMMITTEES

SECTION 4. VOTING (*continued*) ~~The Chair of a Standing Committee may not serve on that Committee as his or her member association's Authorized Representative.~~ **Except to break a tie, a Committee Chair shall not vote absent designation by the Chair's member association as its authorized representative to the committee, or as its alternate representative, as duly reported to the Secretary.**

# ----- Treasurer's Report -----

## Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, Inc. Treasurer's Report, Current Month and Fiscal Year to Date Compared to Annual Budget Periods Ending February 28, 2025

	February	Total July 1 to February 28	2024-2025 Annual Budget	Budget Variance To spend or Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>Cash Receipts (including deposits in-transit):</b>				
Dues - Current Members	\$ 130	\$ 3,582	\$ 3,955	
Money Market Interest	0	2	2	
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>3,584</b>	<b>3,957</b>	<b>\$ (373)</b>
<b>Cash Disbursements (including outstanding checks):</b>				
Administrative	-	555	540	(15)
Insurance Premium	-	707	707	-
Outreach/Town Hall Meets	-	-	-	-
"Record" Production	100	560	1,400	840
Web Site	-	354	800	446
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,176</b>	<b>3,447</b>	<b>1,271</b>
<b>Net Budget - Receipts in Excess(less than) Disbursements:</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1,408</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>\$ 898</b>

**Other Sources/Changes in Cash:**

Cash at Beginning of Period	11,273	11,545	11,545
<b>Total Cash at End of Period</b>	<b>\$ 11,303</b>	<b>\$ 11,303</b>	<b>\$ 12,055</b>

**End of Period Cash Balances by Account (adjusted for outstanding items):**

Burke & Herbert - Checking	\$ 5,139
Burke & Herbert - Money Market	6,164
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$ 11,303</b>

Respectfully Submitted,  
William J Kane, Treasurer  
March 1, 2025

**Notes:**

- 1 This financial statement uses the cash basis of accounting except as noted on the face of the statement.
- 2 Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar

### NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

**Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 7:00 p.m.  
Virtual**

**AGENDA**

- Call to order
- Vote on the bylaws changes**
- Minutes Approved
- Committee Reports
- Treasurer Report
- Resolutions
- Supervisor's Time
- Member's Time
- Adjourn

### COMMITTEE CALENDAR

**MVCCA Council—March 26, 7:00 p.m., Virtual  
MVCCA Board—April 8, 7:00 p.m., Virtual**

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
BUDG	4/7	7:00	Virtual	James Perkins
EDU	4/2	7:00	Virtual	Hosek
E&R	4/2	7:00	Virtual	L. Zaragoza
PL/Z	4/7	7:00	Virtual	Mathur
*PS/TRAN	4/14	7:00	Virtual	Lincoski
MSCS	4/9	7:00	Virtual	Milanowski

\*JOINT Public Safety/Transportation Meeting

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