



Mount Vernon
Council
of Citizens'
Associations

Record

Together we make a difference

Founded in 1969

Volume LIX No. 2, February 2026

FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

1. Supervisor Storck is hosting a March 2, 2026, review of the County Executive's Advertised Budget, to be released February 17, 2026 (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/topics/budget-finance). **See page 4 for details.**
2. MVCCA's nominating committee for the election of FY2027 officers will be forming in March. If you are interested in serving on the committee as one of the general membership members and/or would like information on positions to be elected in May, please contact us.
3. Protecting and Restoring Native Habitats. **See page 4 for details.**
4. Callery Pear Exchange Program. **See page 4 for details.**

MVCCA BOARD

Co-Chairs	Katherine Ward co.chair1@mvcca.org
	Judy Harbeck co.chair2@mvcca.org
	Scott Taylor co.chair3@mvcca.org
Secretary	Tamara Srader secretary@mvcca.org
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PS/TRAN	John Lincoski chair.pst@mvcca.org
SFDC	Ellen Young rep.sfdc@mvcca.org
FCFCA	vacant rep.fairfaxfederation@mvcca.org
Stormwater	Leo Milanowski . specialcommittee@mvcca.org
Webmaster	Jason Zaragoza webmaster@mvcca.org

MVCCA General Council Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2025 Meeting Virtual Meeting/ZOOM

PRESIDING: Co-Chair Scott Taylor

ATTENDING

- Co-Chair Judy Harbeck
- Treasurer—William Kane
- Secretary—Tamara Srader

Committees

- Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation—Ellen Young
- Storm Water Management Special Committee—Leo Milanowski
- Environment and Recreation—Larry Zaragoza
- Education—Teresa Taylor
- Public Safety and Transportation—John Lincoski
- Budget & Finance—Kim Shaw
- Webmaster—Jason Zaragoza
- MVCCA Record Editor—Terry Mulligan

Communities Attending

- Belle View Condominium Unit Owners Association
- Gum Springs Homeowners Organization
- Holland Court Property Owners Association
- Hollin Hall Village Citizens Association
- Mount Zephyr Citizens Association
- Riverwood Homeowners Association
- Montebello Condominium Unit Owners Association
- Wessynton Homes Association
- Huntington Community Association
- New Alexandria Citizens Association

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Website: www.mvcca.org

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Mount Vernon Civic Association
Collingwood Springs Civic Association
Wellington Civic Association
Belle Haven Citizens Association
Collingwood on the Potomac

Community Member: Michael Schaefferkoetter

Fairfax County Staff

Fairfax County Mt Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck
Peyton Smith, Development and Land Use Aide
Patrick Foltz – Fairfax County Assistant County Attorney,
Land Use/Environmental Law Section

26 Total participants

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Meeting opened with a presentation by Patrick Foltz, Fairfax County Assistant Land Use Attorney

Patrick Foltz, a County Attorney in Fairfax, presented an overview of his office's responsibilities, focusing on code enforcement and land use issues. He explained the office's jurisdiction, enforcement procedures, and the different types of codes they handle, including building, zoning, fire prevention, and health codes. Patrick also discussed the typical process for investigating code violations, emphasizing that enforcement is complaint-driven. He clarified the role of the County Attorney's office, distinguishing it from the Commonwealth's Attorney and explaining that they only handle civil litigation on behalf of the county. Patrick concluded by outlining the stages of code enforcement before legal action is considered and noted that while complaints are anonymous, confidentiality may not be maintained in court proceedings.

Patrick explained the process for handling code enforcement complaints, from initial investigation through to court action. He described how inspectors verify complaints, issue notices of violation, and handle appeals to various boards. Patrick also detailed the court process, explaining that most cases start in General District Court, where penalties are capped at a few hundred dollars, whereas more serious cases go to Circuit Court where injunctions can be sought. He noted that enforcement can be challenging, because some property owners may not comply with court orders, requiring repeated court appearances and potential contempt proceedings.

Patrick explained that although counties can enforce more stringent fire codes than state requirements, they cannot do so for building codes or other areas without specific legislative authorization due to the Dillon rule. He clarified that code officials can issue variances for specific cases, allowing for flexibility in code enforcement without requiring full code amendments. Leo inquired about the confidentiality of complaint filers, to which Patrick confirmed that identities are protected, with concerns primarily focusing on community relationships rather than legal liability.

Scott then provided an update on the Daryl Court property, explaining that the property had been transferred to Mr. Carter's heirs through probate, and although most maintenance issues had been addressed, there was still one outstanding window code violation.

Minutes from the December meeting were approved.

Committee Reports

Public Safety and Transportation: John about the Public Safety and Transportation committee's discussion of Bellevue intersections and plans for a future visit to the Fairfax 911 Center.

Education: Teresa reported on the approval of proposed school boundary changes by the school board and ongoing monitoring of the budget process, with a joint meeting with the Budget and Finance Committee planned for February 5th.

Budget: Kim discussed the upcoming County Executive's budget presentation and the cancellation of the Budget and Finance Committee's regular meeting in favor of the joint meeting.

Environment and Recreation: Larry reported on the Environment and Recreation Committee's meeting with Linwood Gorham from the Parks Authority, discussing invasive species removal at Collingwood Park and upcoming presentations on PFAS.

Stormwater: Leo provided updates on the Stormwater Management Special Committee and Master Plan Steering Committee, noting no recent meetings but plans to collaborate with the Budget Committee.

Southeast Fairfax County Development Corporation (SFDC): Ellen shared insights from the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation meeting, expressing concerns about marketing strategies for Route 1.

Fairfax County Federation of Citizen Associations: The MVCCA board voted to withdraw membership from the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations, pending further assessment.

Planning and Zoning: The Planning and Zoning Committee approved letters supporting a tire business at 7835 Richmond Highway continuance for 5 years while the property owner moves forward with rezoning the commercial portion of the property to residential, which is consistent with the objectives of the Gum Springs neighborhood improvement program. The letter was sent on January 6 to get it to the planning commission before they were scheduled to vote on it and a gas station's redevelopment plan. The letter was shared during the meeting via screen share.

VOTE: Membership ratified the letter.

Resolution: MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS (MVCCA) RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT AT 8500 RICHMOND

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HIGHWAY (MVCCA Planning & Zoning Committee Resolution 2026-01)

VOTE: Motion approved the resolution as published in *The Record*.

Treasurer’s Report: Bill presented the Treasurer’s Report, noting no income in December and \$11,499 in bank accounts. December Treasurer’s Report approved as published in *The Record*.

Membership: Added one community, with new total of 34 member organizations.

Supervisor’s Time

Supervisor Dan Storck provided updates on several key initiatives, including the upcoming town meeting on February 7th, the budget meeting on March 2nd, and the Commons project expected to open in early 2027. He discussed ongoing efforts to improve road conditions during the winter storm and emphasized the importance of speed cameras in school zones. The group also addressed concerns about Fort Hunt Road, including the need for contiguous sidewalks and speed mitigation measures. The conversation ended with a brief discussion about email technical issues affecting the group.

Co-Chair Time

A community member from Hollin Hall Village addressed concerns about Fort Hunt Road, including the need for contiguous sidewalks and speed mitigation measures on Shenandoah Road.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Tamara Srader

FCPS staff reported that the FY 2027 proposed budget totals approximately \$4.1 billion, an increase of \$197 million, or about 5 percent, over the current fiscal year. The proposed budget focuses primarily on base requirements, including employee compensation, benefits, and continuation of previously approved multi-year investments. The School Board is requesting \$138 million in additional County funding, which staff noted is significantly lower than the prior year request.

Compensation remains the largest driver of cost growth. Approximately \$180.7 million is allocated to support collective bargaining agreements, including market scale increases, step increases, and contract extensions. Staff noted that recent compensation investments have improved FCPS’ regional competitiveness and increased employee retention to over 90 percent.

Staff also reported a projected decline in student enrollment of just under 5,000 students, the largest decrease in several decades, driven in part by declining birth rates. While overall enrollment is decreasing, costs are partially offset by continued growth in special education and multilingual learner needs. Previous reductions have included class size increases and reductions in certain administrative positions.

Revenue assumptions for FY 2027 include increased County transfer funding and higher state revenue driven by re-benchmarking and changes to the Local Composite Index. Federal and other revenues are projected to decline slightly. Staff stated that, based on current information, no specific federal funding cuts to IDEA or other major programs have been implemented, though uncertainty remains.

FCPS staff also discussed longer-term planning considerations, including class size, elementary STEM, inclusive pre-kindergarten expansion, facilities maintenance, workforce partnerships, and world language programs. Public hearings on the proposed budget are scheduled for February, with School Board adoption later that month. Additional budget details and work session materials are available on the FCPS website.

The Budget Committee will meet on Wednesday, March 4, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The Education Committee will next meet on Thursday, March 5, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

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Joint Budget & Finance and Education

**MVCCA Joint Education and Budget & Finance Committees Meeting
February 5, 2026**

The Education and Budget and Finance Committees held a joint meeting at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom on Thursday, February 5, 2026, to receive an overview of the Fairfax County Public Schools FY 2027 proposed budget and forecast. Presentations were provided by FCPS staff. The meeting was chaired by the Education Committee Chair, Teresa Taylor, and Budget & Finance Committee Chair, Kimberly Shaw. MVCCA Co-Chair, Scott Taylor, also attended.

Meeting attendees included representatives from Belle View Condominium Unit Owners Association, Hollin Hall Village Citizens Association, Huntington Community Association, and Riverwood HOA.

Public Safety/Transportation

The Public Safety and Transportation Committee did not meet in February. Our next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on March 9, 2026.

The chair notes that a date has been set for the tour of the Emergency Operations Center and the 911 Center. The tour of the will occur on Thursday, March 12, 2026, from 3:00–5:00 p.m. The group will meet at the McConnell Public

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Safety and Transportation Center, 4890 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030.

All are welcome, and attendees are strongly encouraged to RSVP to the committee chair so that an estimate of party size can be provided to county staff.

Environment & Recreation

No meeting was held in February. Below are some of the topics that we plan to address in upcoming meetings.

1. Watershed plans (i.e., the status of work proposed to improve the quality of streams and water bodies like Little Hunting Creek) in the Mount Vernon District.
2. Invasive management efforts to address invasive plants, which displace native plants. Native plants are critical for food, habitat, reproduction, and other needs.
3. The county supposedly requires the use of electric landscaping equipment from contractors, yet it seem that many are still using gas powered equipment. What percentage of the contractors have transitioned to electric landscaping equipment, and when will this transition be complete?
4. We are interested in a joint meeting with the Transportation committee to hear about plans for bike lanes in the Mount Vernon District.
5. We continue to share interests with the Stormwater Committee on the impact of infill.
6. We are interested in the redevelopment of the Richmond Highway Corridor and opportunities to improve stormwater management.

Planning & Zoning

The Planning and Zoning Committee did not meet in February. In lieu of our March 2026 meeting, Supervisor Dan Storck, School Board Member Mateo Dunne, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, and the South County Federation will have a Virtual Budget Town Meeting. *See details and a Microsoft Teams link in the next column of this page.*

SFDC

There will be a verbal report at the General Council meeting.

Stormwater

No updates this month.

Fairfax County Budget and School Budget Virtual Town Hall

Supervisor Storck is hosting a review of the County Executive's Advertised Budget, to be released February 17, 2026. (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/topics/budget-finance). School budget materials are on the FCPS website (www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/budget). We urge you to attend this important event.

DATE & TIME

March 2, 2026—7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

We will be joined by staff to discuss the County Executive's proposed FY 2027 Budget for both the County and the schools. Following brief presentations on the budgets, viewers will have the opportunity to get their questions answered. The meeting will be recorded and posted to our website for future viewing.

Presenters:

- Phil Hagen, Director for the Department of Management & Budget
- Leigh Burden, FCPS Chief Financial Officer

Microsoft Teams Link:

<https://tinyurl.com/mvdbudgetmarch2>

Meeting ID: 211 660 695 179 03

Passcode: xr3PK9HJ

Telephone:

+1 571-429-5982

Phone Conference ID: 326 464 027#

Protecting and Restoring Native Habitats

The Fairfax County Park Authority has an Invasive Management Area Volunteer Program for people interested in helping remove invasive species and planting natives in Fairfax County parkland. Their program includes guidance on identifying invasive and native species and restoration work to remove invasives and save native trees from invasive vines. A new change in the law now allows properly trained volunteers to apply herbicide in some cases. The link for more information or to volunteer is: <https://fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/IMA>.

Callery Pear Exchange Program

The Virginia Department of Forestry is currently offering Virginia residents free native trees to replace up to 3 Callery Pear trees on their property while supplies last. Callery Pears, often called Bradford Pears, were a favorite of developers and nurseries because of their rapid growth and curb appeal. They are non-natives and invasive, and are known for breaking in high winds or snow. If you are interested in participating in the program, the Department of Forestry link is: <https://dof.virginia.gov/forest-management-health/forest-health/financial-assistance-program/callery-pear-exchange-program/>

The MVCCA Has Worked to Make Life Better for Mount Vernon Citizens For Over 55 Years

The accomplishments listed below were presented at Supervisor Storck's 39th Town Hall meeting on February 7, 2026

In The Past Year Alone, We Have:

1. Urged the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to prioritize full funding for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) to maintain standards of excellence, meet the needs of all students, and provide a significant salary increase for staff.
2. Recommended re-evaluating study options and considering bike lanes along Belle Haven Road or other suitable local streets instead of Belle View Boulevard.
3. Determined that the draft Flood Risk Reduction Policy requires changes and additions to improve clarity.
4. Requested that the Board of Supervisors extend the public comment period on the Plan Forward project, hold outreach sessions, and clarify how its objectives align with the Countywide Strategic Plan, One Fairfax, the zoning ordinance, and other County plans and policy goals.
5. Made specific policy recommendations related to PFAS.
6. Urged collaboration to reuse the current Whitman Middle School building and the Supervisor's Office to broaden community use of these facilities.
7. Advocated that redevelopment at the North Kings Highway and Richmond Highway intersections include feasible traffic solutions that ensure safety and efficiency.
8. Documented serious stormwater management problems and worked with state and County authorities to address them.
9. Recommended against the adoption of Tier 2 generators for data centers.
10. Recommended legislation addressing important environmental issues during the current legislative session.
11. Supported development of a plan to establish a full-time Advanced Academic Program (AAP) center in every middle school.
12. Reviewed and provided recommendations on the Large-Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Zoning Ordinance.
13. Declared support for the proposed road diet on Huntington Avenue, which would convert four travel lanes into two lanes with a center turn lane.
14. Recommended that the I-495 Southside Express Lanes include options for public transportation and that impacts on feeder road traffic be reviewed.
15. Requested that the National Park Service retain and reinvest revenue generated from speed cameras on Park Service land into the parks where the funds originate.
16. Held monthly General Council meetings with Supervisor Storck and briefings by other Fairfax County officials, including Police and Fire representatives, on crime and safety issues, while maintaining regular contact with County, State, and Federal officials on matters affecting the Mount Vernon District.
17. Represented our members at Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission meetings.

IF THESE ARE THE KINDS OF ISSUES THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU OR YOUR COMMUNITY, PLEASE JOIN US! GET INVOLVED! TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

www.mvcca.org

----- 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 January 31, 2026

	January	Total July 1 to January 31	2025-2026 Annual Budget	Budget Variance To spend or Favorable (Unfavorable)
Cash Receipts (including deposits in-transit):				
Dues - Current Members	\$ 165	\$ 3,550	\$ 3,595	
Money Market Interest	1	4	2	
Total Cash Receipts	166	3,554	3,597	\$ (43)
Cash Disbursements (including outstanding checks):				
Administrative	-	553	600	47
Insurance Premium	-	824	800	(24)
Outreach/Town Hall Meets	-	-	-	-
"Record" Production	80	540	1,400	860
Web Site	-	972	1,590	618
Total Cash Disbursements	80	2,888	4,390	1,502
Net Budget - Receipts in Excess(less than) Disbursements:	86	665	(793)	\$ 1,458

Other Sources/Changes in Cash:

Cash at Beginning of Period	11,499	12,284	12,284	
Total Cash at End of Period	\$ 11,584	\$ 11,584	\$ 11,491	

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

Burke & Herbert - Checking	\$ 5,415			
Burke & Herbert - Money Market	6,169			
Total Cash	\$ 11,584			

Respectfully Submitted,
William J Kane, Treasurer
February 1, 2026

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, February 25, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
(Virtual)**

AGENDA

- Call to order
- Minutes Approved
- Committee Reports
- Treasurer Report
- Supervisor's Time
- Member's Time
- Adjourn

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Council—February 25, 7:00 p.m., Virtual
MVCCA Board—March 10, 7:00 p.m., Virtual

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
BUDG	3/4	7:00	Virtual	Shaw
EDU	3/5	7:00	Virtual	Taylor
E&R	3/4	7:00	Virtual	L. Zaragoza
PL/Z	3/2	7:00	Virtual	Mathur
*PS/TRAN	3/9	7:00	Virtual	Lincoski
MSCS	3/5	7:00	Virtual	Milanowski

*JOINT Public Safety/Transportation Meeting

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