



The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.

P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-9998

<http://www.mvcca.org>

**Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 530
Fairfax, VA 22035**

March 30, 2026

Dear Chairman McKay and Members of the Board,

Re:

- (1) Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Joint Resolution with Respect to Fairfax County FY2027 Advertised Budget Plan (MVCCA, BF-ED-SW-2026-1)**
- (2) Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Resolution on the Proposed FY 2027 County Budget (MVCCA, E&R 2026-01)**

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) has reviewed the proposed FY 2027 County Budget and convey our recommendations in two resolutions that were adopted by the General Council. The first resolution is a joint resolution from the Budget and Finances Committee, the Education Committee, and the Stormwater Management Special Committee (BF-ED-SW-2026-1). The second resolution is from the Environment and Recreation Committee (MVCCA, E&R-2026-01).

We welcome questions and thank you for your consideration of these resolutions.

Respectfully,

**Scott Taylor
Co-chair MVCCA**

**cc: Supervisor Dan Storck
Philip Hagen, Fairfax County Budget Director**

Enclosures (2)

1. Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Joint Resolution with Respect to the Fairfax County FY2027 Advertised Budget Plan (MVCCA, BF-ED-SW-2026-1)

2. Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Resolution on the Proposed FY 2027 County Budget (MVCCA, E&R 2026-01)

Enclosure 1

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS (MVCCA) JOINT RESOLUTION WITH RESPECT TO FAIRFAX COUNTY FY2027 ADVERTISED BUDGET PLAN (MVCCA, BF-ED-SW-2026-1)

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Executive's FY2027 Advertised Budget Plan (County Budget), was released on February 17, 2026, projecting revenues of approximately \$6.0 billion, including approximately \$3.05 billion in support of Fairfax County Public Schools, representing 51.2% of the General Fund disbursements; and

WHEREAS, continuing fiscal pressures including employee compensation, inflation in contracted services, and debt service obligations are noted, to preserve core services and maintain fiscal balance, the budget proposes modest revenue growth and selective reductions and position eliminations across County government; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2027 Advertised Budget includes \$3.05 billion in support for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS), representing an increase of \$118.1 million over FY 2026, which is less than the School Board's requested increase of \$138.4 million and results in a shortfall of approximately \$20 million; and

WHEREAS, the FY2027 Advertised Budget maintains the current real estate tax rate at \$1.1225 per \$100 of assessed value, tax bills will increase due to increased home valuations, with the average increase estimated at \$357 for residential property owners; and

WHEREAS, the County's Stormwater Fee of 3.25 cents per \$100 of assessed value does not adequately address stormwater and flooding mitigation requirements (see for example County Executive Memorandum, dated April 23, 2024); and

WHEREAS, FY2027 represents a transition year for Fairfax County's financial planning, including the first full fiscal year of revenue from the County's food and beverage (meals) tax and the start of a new Governor and General Assembly in Virginia, creating both uncertainty and an opportunity to position the County for more stable fiscal planning in future budgets; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of the School Budget reflects collective bargaining agreements providing compensation increases for employees (approximately 93 percent of whom are school-based professional staff) in order to remain competitive with neighboring jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, Virginia budget proposals include some additional funding for schools throughout the Commonwealth, but the details are not yet known, and are unlikely to substantially address the funding failures highlighted in the 2023 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) which cost Fairfax taxpayers in excess of \$600M per year and keep Virginia school funding near the bottom of all US jurisdictions; 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 \$168 million), is unclear due to ongoing federal uncertainty even as the underfunded mandates remain in place and the number of students eligible continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, the School Budget includes no new programs but is not able to provide for known needs such as middle school sports expansion, accelerating maintenance needs, and lower class sizes; 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 US regulation, and (3) schools must accept all students regardless of need or special education eligibility; 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 percent compared to 2–4 percent); 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; and

WHEREAS, the BOS, the School Board (SB), and taxpayers face continued economic uncertainty that creates additional fiscal pressures while reinforcing the importance of sustaining strong investment in Fairfax County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, residents of the Mount Vernon District and southern Fairfax County rely on County investments in public safety, human services, parks, libraries, transportation improvements, and environmental protection, and reductions in these areas can disproportionately affect communities along the Richmond Highway corridor and other parts of south county.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) supports adoption of the Fairfax County FY2027 Advertised Budget, and requests serious consideration to reduce the proposed real estate tax rate to mitigate increases in residents' tax bill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MVCCA encourages the BOS to close the remaining gap between the School Board request and the County Executive proposal using available discretionary funds or additional state funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that serious consideration should be given to address stormwater and flooding in the County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MVCCA urges the Board of Supervisors to maintain fiscal stability while ensuring transparent reporting on the collection and allocation of meals tax revenue and other revenue sources; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the MVCCA stands ready to work with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the School Board, and County staff to support policies and budget decisions that maintain the County’s fiscal strength, sustain high-quality public education, support the well-being and quality of life of residents, and protect essential services for residents throughout the Mount Vernon District and Fairfax County.

Approved by the MVCCA Members on March 25, 2026

Enclosure 2

**MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS (MVCCA)
RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED FY 2027 COUNTY BUDGET
(MVCCA, E&R 2026-01)**

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

WHEREAS, E&R is concerned that the County Executive's proposed FY 2027 budget will not adequately support the following areas:

1. Plan to restore funding to programs that have been impacted by HR1 and restore that funding when possible. The programs were outlined in John Morrill's September 16 presentation to the Board of Supervisor's Environmental committee. (see: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/sites/boardofsupervisors/files/Assets/meeting%20materials/committees/2025/Agenda-Item-2_Federal-Energy-and-Climate-Shifts_A-1a.pdf). The advertised 2027 budget of \$2,464,833 is less than the actual 2026 budget of \$2,805,995. This reduction in budget will make it ever harder to maintain the programs that are so important to climate change and resilience.
2. Support increases to the stormwater rate of \$0.0325 per \$100 of assessed value, which has not been increased in years. A modest increase of \$0.0025 is needed. This funding is needed to address flooding, meeting Municipals Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit requirements, and continue to address deteriorating stormwater infrastructure.
3. Increase fees for county trash to cover the cost of the services.
4. Terminate the leaf pile collection program. Terminating the service would require that residents bag their leaves as do the vast majority of county residents.
5. Given the recent experience with the Potomac Interceptor, it is critical that the county fund needed maintenance on sanitary sewer lines. The county is proposing to increase the sewer charge by 5.9% to \$9.88 per 1,000 gallons, which was based upon a comprehensive planning process for the county's wastewater management system. We appreciate that the increase is also needed to maintain the county's bond rating, which is critical to maintaining a lower interest rate.
6. The Park Authority continues to be underfunded. The proposed budget will result in a decrease of 2.5%, which means that the Park Authority Budget will not keep up with inflation. We appreciate the funding to support the zero-waste program and some new park funding. Continuing to defer work is not sustainable in the long term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, be it resolved that the Fairfax County Board adopt these recommendations.

Approved by the MVCCA Members on March 25, 2026