



Arlington County Civic Federation

The Civic Voice

The Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation
April 2024 | Volume 108 | Number 08

April General Membership Meeting

Location: Hazel Auditorium, Virginia Hospital Center

Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

Invitation: Delegates, Alternate Delegates, others associated with member organizations, and the public are invited to attend this meeting.

Delegates: All requests for delegate swaps with alternates must be submitted to the secretary@civfed.org by Sunday **April 7th** at 12 noon. No exceptions.

Options for attending the meeting:

- 1. In-Person** (Delegates, Other Guests): No registration is needed to attend in-person.
- 2. Facebook Live** (Other Guests): No registration is needed to watch the live stream which can be found on the [ArlCivFed Facebook page](#).
- 3. Zoom** (Delegates): Registration is required ([link](#)) by Monday **April 8** at 12 noon. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. The Zoom passcode is 123456, but if you use the links provided after you register you will not have to enter it.

Meeting Agenda

- 7:00 - 7:10 p.m. Opening and approval of March [minutes](#)
- 7:10 - 8:45 Arlington Wellbeing: Equity in Arlington Health and Access to Green Space
- 8:45 - 9:00 Other business and adjourn

Reminder: Parking passes will be provided. Meetings are held in the 'Conference Center' depicted on the map below.

PARKING AND ACCESS INSTRUCTIONS

The VHC Director of Security has advised CivFed that we should begin to park in Parking Garage C (map below). You can then walk across to the Oncology entrance and gain admittance until 8 p.m. **After the meeting, you MUST EXIT via the Women's and Infant lobby.**

ENTER (until 8 p.m.): Zone C Ground floor Oncology entrance (only open until 8

pm, Monday-Friday)

- Sign into the visitor kiosks (**need driver's license each time**)
- Get visitor sticker and wear at all times when inside the hospital
- Take a right at the double doors by the visitor kiosks
- Take a right at the single door
- Go to elevators and take to lobby floor
- Exit elevators and go left to hall directly behind welcome desk in lobby
- Take a left at the single door and continue down the hall toward a set of double doors
- Go through double doors and go right
- Conference center auditorium is directly ahead

ENTER or EXIT (24/7): Zone C first floor Women's and Infant lobby entrance (please use this entrance to exit after 8 pm, open 24/7):

- Sign into the visitor kiosks (**need driver's license each time**)
- Get visitor sticker and wear at all times when inside the hospital
- Walk to hall directly behind the welcome desk in the lobby
- Take a left at the single door and continue down the hall toward a set of double doors
- Go through double doors and go right
- Conference center auditorium is directly ahead



President's Message

At a recent meeting, one of our delegates came up to me and wondered why CivFed doesn't make more time for thoughtful examinations of big, county-wide issues. She remarked on the degree to which operational issues and requirements drive civic and government discussion in our county.

Our upcoming April 9 program is an eloquent response to this member's concern.

A program organized by our CivFed executive board vice-chair Jackie Snelling will offer a detailed look at the challenge of inclusive wellbeing for Arlington with presentations and discussion on access to public health facilities and natural green space. Our presentations will also identify geographic inequities in health and green space in our community.

Please see Jackie's more detailed preview below.

I also want to highlight for you two additional, important CivFed events in April. The first

is the return of our annual banquet, to be held next Friday April 12 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Patton Hall on Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. You don't have much time left to purchase your tickets for this gala event: The deadline is this Thursday, April 4. More details are in Nick Giacobbe's report below.

Secondly, on April 24 CivFed will host a candidates' forum for the four Democrats and one independent candidate currently running for two open positions on the Arlington County School Board. The forum, to be moderated by our Schools Committee chair Todd Truitt, will be held in the Oak Room at Lubber Run Community Center beginning at 5:30. A refresher primer on ranked choice voting will precede the candidates' forum. Dave Schutz' more detailed report can be found later in this newsletter.

Also, particularly for those interested in climate change and its impact on the county – and for residents in the Lubber Run watershed in particular – there will be a public meeting at the Lubber Run Center at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10. There will be significant updates from County staff and data sharing that those in this watershed will not want to miss.

Our May 14 membership meeting will feature another candidates' forum, this time for all current candidates for the County Board seat being vacated by current board chair Libby Garvey. We'll have much more detail on this in our May newsletter.

Wrapping up this 2023-24 year will be our annual election meeting on June 11, which will also feature reports by our revived committees and the Executive Board's annual report to the membership.

In closing for this month, I want to highlight for you two items that may be of interest. The first is a valedictory article in ArlNow by a very able young journalist, Jo DeVoe, who has now left the area to join her husband in Wisconsin. Jo's lengthy piece examines civic engagement in Arlington County, its challenges and successes. Several CivFed leaders are quoted extensively. This thoughtful piece can be found at this [link](#).

Also, CivFed's report to the County Board on the 2025 budget, drawn from our March membership meeting, is at this [link](#).

Happy Easter, and I look forward to seeing you next Tuesday!

Best, John

March General Membership Outbrief

CivFed sponsored a discussion on the County budget for the year ahead. We leveraged our committee leaders as panelists who provided committee-focused input for where the county should prioritize spending and staff time and where cuts should be made.

In general, there appeared to be a somber awareness of increasing taxes for the general population due to the increase in commercial vacancies. Our Board Chair, Adam Henderson started off the review by sharing some County summary tables for overall tax increase/decreases and he shared the County Manager's 1-page summary, which is very good at summarizing the budget planning (see the full budget overview at this [link](#)).

Adam noted the 2022 CivFed resolution on budget and effective tax rate guidance, which at this time, is unclear to CivFed leaders as to whether the County has taken heed of this request.

Therefore be it resolved that the Arlington County Civic Federation (ACCF) urges the Arlington County Board to include a provision in its annual budget guidance to the County Manager requiring the manager to take into account the impact of the effective tax rate increase (i.e., increased assessment plus the nominal/base tax rate) on county residents—especially vulnerable populations—and businesses in order to balance new spending with reasonable mitigation of the growing tax

In the context of the resolution, members were asked to frame their comments to provide priorities for staff time and workplans that support the priorities given a constrained fiscal environment.


On behalf of the R&E Committee, Adam provided specific options for savings including removing the proposed \$150 K for a tree canopy study and using the recent independent study instead, reallocating \$200K earmarked for an unexplained “contingent” for the Northern VA Juvenile Detention Center, which the state may close due to excess capacity, eliminating 150 FTEs of the 200+ added in FY2022 and FY2023 that remain unfilled. Exempt unfilled auditor, revenue- generating and public safety (police/fire/EMS/sheriff's department) positions.

During the panel, CivFed rotated through our committee structure, with committee representatives providing an overview of work priorities, spending or budget cut ideas related to the work their committees perform. We then took comments from our member delegates. As anticipated, there was a wide range of concerns that required a change of focus or additional spending, but there were also ideas provided for spending cuts. The discussion panelists with some of the discussion focus areas outline below:


- Public Services (Jackie Snelling)
 - Stormwater
 - Public Health
 - Public Safety
- Housing (Anne Bodine)
- Arts and Culture (Tina Worden)
- Environmental Affairs (Mary Glass)
- Legislation (Dave Schutz)
- Parks and Recreation (Jackie Snelling)
- Planning and Zoning (Brian Harner)
- Transportation (Adam Henderson)

On the whole, it appeared that CivFed members were more focused on strategies to accomplish key priorities requiring changed staff workplans within the Proposed Budget or additional budgets. There was also a general sentiment that we should reduce taxes.

Meeting Video Link: [Arlington Cty Civic Fed \[ACCF\] \(vimeo.com\)](https://www.vimeo.com/711111111)



County Manager's Proposed FY 2025 Budget



\$1.62B Budget

4.7% Increase (\$72M) from FY 2024 Adopted

\$10.1M in Cuts to Balance the Budget

33 position cuts
Includes both filled and vacant

Budget Overview: By the Numbers

- 4.4% growth in overall tax revenue
- 2.5% growth in real estate property assessments

Proposed Property Tax Rate
\$1.028 per \$100 of Assessed Value

- ➊ A 1.5¢ tax rate increase, plus elimination of the 1.7¢ stormwater rate
- ➋ New stormwater utility annual fee

Fiscal Year 2025 Begins July 1, 2024

Racial Equity

Arlington County applies an equity lens to budget priorities and decisions. Who benefits? Who is burdened? Who's missing? How do we know?

Housing Investments
\$110M (8% of the County's budget)
Direct assistance to stabilize households and improve housing conditions

- \$26.6M for Housing Choice Vouchers, ↑ \$0.2M from FY 2024
- \$15.1M for Housing Grants (includes a pilot for youth aging out of foster care), ↑ \$0.7M from FY 2024
- \$5.7M for Permanent Supportive Housing, ↑ \$0.3M from FY 2024
- \$5.0M for Real Estate Tax Relief for the Elderly, Disabled, and Disabled Veterans
- \$4.9M for Shelters for the Homeless, Transitional Housing, and for Survivors of Domestic Violence
- \$2.3M for Eviction Prevention (transition to ongoing funding), ↓ \$2.3M from FY 2024

Affordable Housing Supply

- \$20.5M for the Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF) ↑ \$5.2M from FY 2024
 - \$10.5M ongoing & \$10M one-time
- \$19M for Barcroft debt buydown plus \$2M dedicated from the Columbia Pike Tax Increment Financing Area

Investments in Teens

\$1.2M dedicated to teen mental health and substance use intervention, prevention, and education, in addition to \$750,000 in one-time funding

- Intervention: Additional programs to provide direct services for teens in crisis
- Prevention: Provide afterschool programming and raise awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
- Education: Enhance communications and engagement for existing programming and services for teens

Workforce Investments

The budget invests in the County workforce through employment compensation increases, a new pay plan, and a new retirement program.

Environmental Sustainability

- \$1.0M funding for the Climate Action Fund to invest in our facilities and provide funding for pilot programs
- \$1.0M in tree maintenance, supporting a 5-year maintenance cycle
- \$300,000 to address emerging invasive threats to Arlington County natural lands
- Funding for 23 electric vehicles in continued fleet transition efforts
- \$1.5M for capital investments in energy performance and renewable energy installation in County facilities, and increasing the number of vehicle chargers in Arlington

Investments in Schools

\$626.5M

- \$621.1M in ongoing funding to Arlington Public Schools (APS), a 4.5% increase over FY 2024
- 46.8% of local tax revenues are provided to APS for FY 2025
- PLUS \$5.4M in one-time funds to APS

Timeline

- March 5 to April 16 Budget Work Sessions with County Departments
- April 2 Public Hearing on Budget*
- April 4 Public Hearing on Tax Rates*
- April 20 FY 2025 Budget Adoption
- July 1 FY 2025 Begins

*Registration to sign up for public comment opens five business days before the public hearing dates.

arlingtonva.us/fy2025

April General Membership Meeting: Arlington Wellbeing: Equity in Arlington Health and Access to Green Space

Planning for Arlington’s vision for wellbeing and equity. Wellbeing and equity are among the key values identified in our visioning for Arlington’s future. Our understanding of these values is complex and diverse with many challenging components. If we want to plan for wellbeing and equity, we need to take a closer look at the components, the metrics for assessing status and progress, and the best strategies to improve outcomes.

What is public health wellbeing and equity in Arlington? How is regular access to open green space and nature related to wellbeing and what is biophilic Arlington? What are our priorities and community commitments to wellbeing in these areas? What are effective strategies? At the county level, Arlington has high ratings for public health and green space compared to other jurisdictions but when the data is disaggregated, there are significant, identifiable gaps for our residents.

How should Arlington meet the challenge of equity for public health and wellbeing? Members are asked to consider what we can do as a community. Following each speaker, our members will be invited to ask questions or suggest strategies.

Panelists:

		
Dr. Reuben Varghese Arlington Director of Public Health	Janeth Valenzuela Community Advocate and President of the Arlington Hispanic Parents' Association	Lesley Daigle Chief Executive Officer of Arlington Free Clinic

How should Arlington meet the challenge of creating a biophilic community with equitable access to public green space and nature to reap the benefits to health and wellbeing? The panel will discuss current access, the biophilic approach, and strategies for increasing equity for access to green space and to nature. After each speaker, members will be invited to ask questions and contribute suggestions for responding to the challenges.

		
<p>Jonathon Huntley Senior Economist at The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, joint author of the ACCF Parks Committee 2021 White Paper on Green Space Equity</p>	<p>Caroline Haynes Served on County commissions on parks, natural resources, public spaces, and biophilic design. She is a founding member and active in the Arlington Regional Master Naturalists.</p>	<p>Shruti Kuppa Chairperson of the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust (NVCT) Board, and the current Vice Chair for the Arlington Parks and Recreation Commission</p>

Candidates' Night for School Board and Discussion of Instant Runoff Ranked Choice Voting Mechanism

April 24, 6:30 to 8:30 – Oak Room at Lubber Run Community Center

The program will consist of:

(1) a short discussion of proportional representation (e.g., how it is accomplished with instant runoff, threshold number of ballots to win with different numbers of candidates, how it worked in the recent County Board primary). We will not be discussing the specific arrangements the Arlington Democrats are making to manage their caucus, which is set forth on the website <https://www.arlingtondemocrats.org/vote>.

(2) candidate introductions, followed by moderator questions and questions from the audience (in person and virtual).

We have also invited Vell Rives, the announced independent running in the fall School Board race, to take part in the event; at this time, he does not plan to attend.

Although CivFed is nonpartisan, we're doing this event because we feel it's important that the candidates have maximum chance to expose their views to the public. In addition, CivFed is an advocate for instant runoff ranked choice voting as the mechanism for selecting several candidates at once (the mechanism chosen by the Democrats for this caucus).

The Democratic Party's May caucus will select two nominees, and as a single transferable vote two-nominee process it's like the voting mechanism which nominated County Board members last year. After that primary election, there was some confusion about how the votes had been counted, so CivFed is eager to clarify any confusion in advance of the caucus.

Please contact Todd Truitt at toddtruitt@yahoo.com or Dave Schutz at formofgov.chair@civfed.org for more information.

APS Faces a Budget Shortfall Next Year and Beyond

by Todd Truitt, CivFed Schools Committee Chair

APS Superintendent Duràn [released](#) his fiscal year (FY) 2025 budget request for the coming 2024–2025 school year. His request of \$825 million is a modest 1.5% increase over this year's FY2024 adopted budget, but there is presently a \$29.5 million shortfall, even after accounting for more than \$18 million in cuts at Syphax and nearly \$3 million in cuts to schools.

Worse, APS projects even larger shortfalls in the three years after the 2024–2025 school year, of \$60, \$70, and \$78 million (see [page 73](#) of the budget request), which School Board member Kadera addressed in her remarks. An increase in per-pupil spending to [\\$25.175](#) (with projected FY2025 enrollment roughly equal to [FY2020 enrollment](#)) coupled with the exhaustion of federal pandemic-relief (one-time) funds has created an imbalance between available ongoing revenues and increases in ongoing spending.

The [budget presentation](#) included several scenarios in which the \$29.5 million shortfall for the coming school year decreases, but is not entirely filled. At present, the County Board has [advertised](#) a possible property tax rate increase of 2.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value, and Virginia’s General Assembly has finalized a [biennial budget](#) that increases funding for public education. That budget is awaiting the governor’s signature, amendment or veto.

However, the **APS budget does not balance under any scenario presented** . Even if the County Board increases property taxes and the General Assembly provides more school funding, a shortfall of at least [\\$3.4 million \(or possibly higher\)](#) will remain.

In past years, APS has put forward possible tiered reductions to explain how it would balance the budget if sufficient revenues failed to materialize. (See Tier 1, 2 & 3 reductions in the [2020 budget](#) for example.) However, this year’s proposed APS budget did not provide any options for how it would cover the projected remaining shortfall in the 2024–2025 school year, which ranges from \$3.4 to \$29.5 million.

Please contact Todd Truitt at toddetruitt@yahoo.com for more information.

What’s Driving Up Arlington’s Budget?

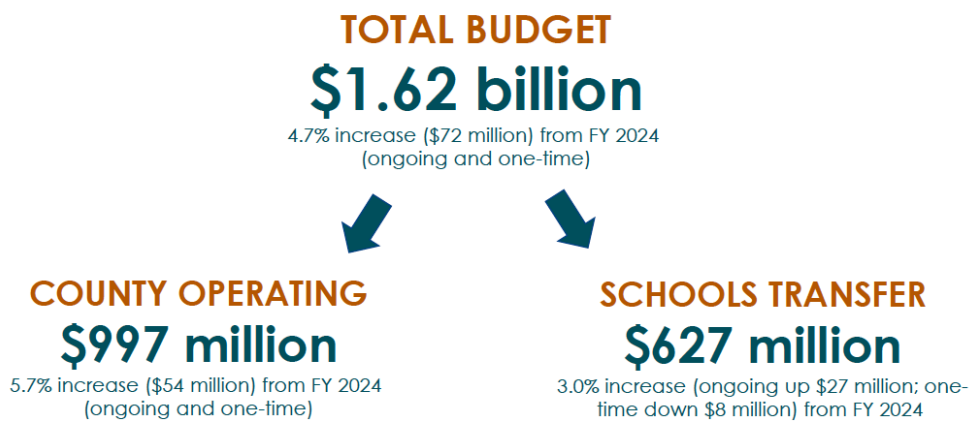
by Suzanne Smith Sundburg, Revenues & Expenditures Committee Point of Contact

In March’s *Civic View*, we reviewed the proposed real estate tax-rate increase for fiscal year (FY) 2025: the County Manager’s proposal to add 1.5 cents to the tax rate was increased by the County Board’s direction to add an additional 1 cent, for a total tax-rate increase of 2.5 cents/\$100 of assessed value.[1] Meaning, the existing real estate tax rate of \$1.013 cents in 2023 will rise to \$1.038/\$100 of assessed value in 2024.

If you include the impact of higher property assessments (which affects most homeowners and apartment owners) along with the 2.5-cent increase, the *effective* rate increase equals 3.3 cents/\$100 of assessed value. The effective rate represents how much Arlington County would need to cut the tax rate in order to keep the amount of revenue it receives in calendar year (CY) 2024 the same as it received in CY2023.[2]

So where and how much more are we spending?

In the slide below (from the County Manager’s Feb. 2022 presentation to the County Board), we see how much additional spending there would be with a 1.5-cent increase in the county’s real estate tax rate[3]



One of the county’s budget largest increases (not including the school’s portion) is the increase in employee compensation costs (salary + benefits). In FY2020, the share of employee compensation costs accounted for 31% of the county’s total General Fund spending. By FY2025, it will account for 33% of General Fund spending. If you look at All Funds (not including schools), you also see an increase of 2% over 5 years:

Compensation Costs FY2020–FY2025*		
Fiscal Year	All Funds	General Fund
FY2020 (adopted)	\$492,200,159	\$434,445,466
FY2025 (proposed)*	\$602,405,936	\$527,100,631
% change between FY2020 and FY2025	18% increase	18% increase
Compensation as a % of \$1.42M FY2020 Budget	35% of budget	31% of budget
Compensation as a % of \$1.62M FY2025 Budget	37% of budget	33% of budget

*Table’s compensation data is pulled from the County Manager’s Proposed FY2025 Budget, which is based on a 1.5-cent real estate tax-rate increase (and not the 2.5-cent increase that was subsequently advertised), and from the Adopted FY2024 Budget’s Compensation Summary.[4] NOTE: The All Funds category includes operations like the Stormwater Utility Fee Fund, the Ballston Parking Garage Fund, etc., items funded separately by dedicated fees or other dedicated income streams.

Why is the budget’s percentage of compensation costs important?

As compensation costs for county employees increases and the number of county employees actively employed grows, we spend more on compensation alone — utilizing money that could have been spent on other budgetary priorities instead, without having to raise the tax rate.

R&E’s 2022 white paper (covering the tax burden and the Manager’s proposed FY2023 budget) revealed that 400+ county positions (not including school positions) had remained unfilled for 1 year or longer as per March 9, 2022.[5] (One must wonder how much more of the county’s FY2025 budget would have been consumed by compensation costs had all vacant jobs been filled.)

If funding for unfilled positions remains unspent at the end of each fiscal year (on June 30), the result is a surplus. It is the high number of chronically vacant county positions (plus the 200+ newly added positions in FY2022 and FY2023) that may have fueled, in part, large end-of-year budget surpluses in recent years.

The year-end surplus **rose sharply from \$26.9 million (not including the APS share) in FY2022 to a whopping \$46.3 million (not including the net \$20 million APS share) in FY2023.**[6]

Cutting the budget (or not so much)

At the County Board’s 11-14-2023 close-out review and FY2025 budget forecast

meeting, the County Manager noted the following with respect to proposed budget cuts for the coming fiscal year:[7]

- **Preparing for Budget Reductions/Re-alignments**

- Guidance to departments for 7% reductions
- Asking for \$38.6 million in cut proposals for consideration

Instead of identifying \$38.6 million in spending cuts as he indicated in November 2023, the Manager identified only \$10.1 million in cuts and “efficiencies” at his proposed FY2025 budget presentation to the County Board in February 2024. No explanation was forthcoming as to why the Manager identified less than 1/3 of the cuts he had envisioned making as recently as November.

What’s important to remember is that each 1-cent increase in the real estate tax rate generates about \$9.1 million in revenue.

Had the Manager identified spending cuts equal to \$38.6 million, as originally planned, he could have funded all of the new spending he said is needed in FY2025 without having to raise the tax rate — and still have had money left over.

Supporting end notes are found at the end of this newsletter.

For more information, please contact Suzanne Sundburg, ACCF Revenue and Expenditures Committee POC, at rev.expend.chair@civfed.org.

CivFed Environmental Affairs Committee

by Mary Glass, Environmental Affairs Committee Chair

Updates on Board Public and Work Sessions on the FY2025 County Budget

County Board Budget Public Hearing. New date for speakers to make public comments on any item in the proposed FY2025 budget to the Board is APRIL 2, 2024, at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 307, Arlington Virginia 22201 in a meeting at 7:00 P.M. Interested persons may comment on the Annual Plan and past performance of these programs. Sign up to speak in advance at www.arlingtonva.us/Government/County-Board or call 703-228-3130 between 8am and 5pm starting March 26, 2024, until 7:00pm on April 2, 2024. Speaker sign-up is available in-person and online until 7 pm on the 2nd. Online speakers will use Microsoft Teams. The meeting will be livestreamed at www.arlingtonva.us and broadcast on local cable stations on Comcast 25 & 1085 and Verizon FiOS 39 & 40.

County Board Work Sessions. On April 2nd from 3 to 6 pm, the Board will conduct a work session on the Forestry and Natural Resources and Parks and Recreation portions of the proposed budget for FY2025. The public can attend but cannot speak at these meetings.

The schedule for all the budget sessions including tax rates can be found at: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Budget-Finance/FY-2025-County-Board-Work-Sessions> .

The budget document can be found at: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Budget-Finance/FY-2025-Proposed-Budget>. Details of the Parks and Recreation Budget including Forestry

Successful Public Town Hall Meeting on Arlington's Deer Management Options

This Zoom meeting on Tuesday, February 27th drew a large crowd to hear the current and potential steps to shape a deer management program in Arlington. Three expert speakers gave short overviews of the issues followed by 40 minutes of Q&A from the attendees. Detailed factors to consider in the future planning were covered, including the most recent data and flexibility in options.

The full recording of the meeting is available on the ACCF website at <https://vimeo.com/928006740>.

The presentations are available at <https://www.civfed.org/newContent/2024-02/2024-02%20ACCF%20EnvAff%20Deer%20Management%20Town%20Hall%20Presentations.pdf>.

Additional references are available at <https://www.civfed.org/newContent/2024-02/2024-02%20ACCF%20EnvAff%20Deer%20Management%20Town%20Hall%20References.pdf>.

Coordination with Planning and Zoning Committee

The Environmental Affairs Committee welcomed an invitation from the Chair of this committee to work together on issues where interests overlap. This could include areas such as Mater Plan components, environment, stormwater, heat, and other topics.

PLEASE JOIN the Environmental Affairs Committee! As Arlington continues to grow, environmental awareness will be critical. We need your opinions and energy to address these topics. Delegates and Alternates are especially important to this work, but any members of ACCF member organizations are welcome to participate.

If you have questions or want more information, please contact the Committee Chair Mary Glass at environmental.affairs.chair@civfed.org.

CivFed Planning and Zoning Committee Update

by Brian Harner, Planning and Zoning Co-Chair

Next meeting (virtual only): April 24, 7 :00 - 8:30 pm

Please register at: https://uso6web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEuc-urpz8iGdOdYISzrnqULMMf_jGjg2Pv

The Planning and Zoning Committee of the Arlington County Civic Federation held its third meeting on March 20. Chair Brian Harner made a presentation showing the County's actual, current density, as well as urban design tools that could help the County manage growth going forward. Use of the concepts and tools presented could also help the County manage competing preferences such as growth/density and environment. The meeting video is posted on the P&Z web page at 20 Mar 2024 [VIDEO; 1h 20m 46s](#).

During its next meeting on April 24, presentations and discussions will focus on the use of these concepts and tools with respect to environment. Discussion will follow.

CivFed Public Safety Subcommittee

by Mike McMenamain, Public Safety Subcommittee Chair

The Public Safety Subcommittee is working with Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) to plan a joint Community Policing Workshop to learn more about public safety and crime at the Civic Association level and to work together with ACPD and other partners on Civic Association and neighborhood level plans.

We have rescheduled the meeting until May with a tentative date of May 15. We will finalize the date next week and will be encouraging all Civic Associations and potential partners to attend.

Please save the date of Wednesday, May 15, 2024, from 6:30-9:00 p.m. We'll send out registration and more details. Please email Mike McMenamain public.safety.sc.chair@civfed.org with any questions.

Please email Mike McMenamain public.safety.sc.chair@civfed.org with any questions.

Business Outreach Specialist (Police Department)

Arlington County Police Department's Community Engagement Section is seeking a Business Outreach Specialist as a member of its Business Outreach Unit (BOU). The BOU builds and maintains relationships with stakeholders within Arlington County including local businesses, community groups, civic associations, and other departments within County and State government.

This [position](#) is responsible for planning, developing, and administering County projects, programs, services, and contracts on behalf of the Arlington County Police Department.

Prepare now for Financial Recovery after a Disaster

People at all income levels experience challenges in rebuilding their lives after a disaster or emergencies. If you prepare now, you can have what you need later to start recovery and save time and stress. Lack of access to critical documents is one of the biggest causes of delays in recovery.

There are three basic steps:

1. Download and fill out the [Emergency Financial First Aid Kit](#) (EFFAK). This is a joint publication of Operation Hope and FEMA that has a checklist of all the documents you will need in one place to start your recovery.
2. Find a safe and secure place to store the EFFAK and the documents. Store

an original and a copy in different places where you can get them easily. If digital, make sure it is password protected. If paper, make sure it is safe from water, fire or other damage.

3. Make sure you understand your insurance options and coverage for specific types of disasters. For example, Arlington has urban flooding in many areas that are not in the FEMA flood zones. Homeowners insurance doesn't cover floods. Look at your flood risk on riskfactor.com and consider flood insurance.

Get more information about financial resilience for disasters and emergencies at <https://www.ready.gov/financial-preparedness> and

About the EFFAK

The EFFAK helps individuals and families organize critical financial, medical, and household information. It includes a checklist of important documents and forms to compile your relevant information:

-  Household Identification
-  Financial and Legal Documentation
-  Medical Information
-  Insurance Information
-  Household Contacts



<https://www.consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/disasters-and-emergencies/>



Arlington Earth Day Events 2024

One day, a week, even a month can't contain Arlington's multifaceted efforts to improve the planet's health.

But the promise of spring's renewal and the annual attention given to Earth Day are always strong, welcome reminders.

Go to:

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Office-of-Sustainability-and-Environment/Earth-Day-Events>

Arlington's Earth Day website provides many community earth event options daily in March and April.

2023-2024 Board of Directors

Officers

President, [John Ford](#)

Vice President, [Ron Haddox](#)
Secretary, [David Smith](#)
Treasurer, [Benjamin Watts](#)

Board of Directors

Board Chair, [Adam Henderson](#)
Board Vice-Chair, [Jackie Snelling](#)
Member at Large, [Dave Schutz](#)
Member at Large, [Jim Todd](#)
Member at Large, [Michael McMenamin](#)
Member at Large, [Nicholas Giacobbe](#)
Member at Large, [Richard McNamara](#)
Member at Large, [Scott Miles](#)

ACCF PUBLIC INTEREST COMMITTEES

- Arts and Culture – Co-Chairs Tina Worden and Sandi Chesrown
- Diversity – Chair TBD - if interested contact bod.vicechair@civfed.org
- Environmental Affairs – Chair Mary Glass
- Housing – Co-Chairs Anne Bodine and Matt Hall
- Legislation – Chair Paul Holland
- Parks and Recreation – Chair TBD - if interested contact bod.vicechair@civfed.org
- Planning and Zoning – Chair Brian Harner
- Public Services – Chair John Ford
- Revenues and Expenditures – Chair Suzanne Sundburg
- Schools – Chair Todd Truitt
- Transportation – Chair TBD - if interested contact bod.vicechair@civfed.org

Any delegate, alternate delegate, or member of a member organization may participate on any public interest or support committee. Please contact the applicable committee chair, point-of-contact, or President John Ford if you are interested in participating on ACCF committees.

[Link to Committee Website](#)

Interested in being an Arlington County Civic Federation Delegate?

The Arlington County Civic Federation was founded in 1916. Today, it has 80+ member organizations dedicated to advocacy and community involvement. The Federation membership reflects the broad array of interests and talents found in the County and is open and welcoming to all groups within Arlington, firmly believing that a broader range of groups creates better problem-solving outcomes for Arlington and its residents. Our purpose continues to be promoting the general welfare of Arlington County and its vicinity in a non-partisan, non-sectarian, non-sectional, and non-political manner.

Arlington County Civic Federation delegates enjoy the full benefits of participation, voting, and serving in Civic Federation leadership positions. If your organization is a member of the Civic Federation, ask if it has open slots for delegates. If it is not a member organization of the Civic Federation, encourage it to join. Here is a link to our website for more details.

joinus@Civfed.org

CivFed Calendar FY2024

April

- Tuesday, 4/9: General Membership Meeting
- Friday, 4/12: ACCF Annual Banquet & Awards Ceremony
- Sunday, 4/14: Board Meeting
- Wednesday, 4/24: Planning and Zoning Meeting
- Wednesday, 4/24: Candidates' Night for School Board and Discussion of Instant Runoff Ranked Choice Voting Mechanism
- Monday, 4/29: Deadline for May Newsletter Input

May

- Tuesday, 5/14: General Membership Meeting
- Wednesday, 5/15 (TBD): Public Safety - Community Policing Workshop
- Sunday, 5/19: Board Meeting
- Monday, 5/27: Deadline for June Newsletter Input

June

- Tuesday, 6/11: General Membership Meeting
- Sunday, 6/23: Board Meeting

Subscribe to our
emails!

End Notes for *What's Driving Up Arlington's Budget?*

[1] March 2024, *The Civic Voice*, Volume 108 | Number 07, "Bigger FY2025 Budget with a ~~1.5~~ 2.5-Cent RE Tax-Rate Hike": <https://www.civfed.org/newContent/2024-03/CivicVoice%202024-03.pdf>

[2] March 2024 – Legal Notices – NOTICE OF PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/County-Board/Board-Actions/Legal-Notices-2018-to-Present/March-2024-Legal-Notices>. Also delivered via email: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/VAARLINGTON/bulletins/39169be>

[3] Manager's 2-24-2024 Budget Presentation to the County Board: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/sharedassets/public/v/3/budget/documents/fy-2025/fy-2025-proposed/cmo-presentation-fy-2025-proposed-budget-overview.pdf>. See the presentation on video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwA1-5-wTPA>

[4] Source of Compensation Table Information: FY2024a Compensation Summary, part of the FY2024 Adopted Budget: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/budget/documents/fy-2024/fy-2024-adopted/fy24a-compensationsummary.pdf> and the FY 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/budget/documents/fy-2025/fy-2025-proposed/section-a-fy25p-budget-summaries.pdf>

[5] "Impacts of Rising Real Estate Assessments/Tax Burden on Vulnerable Residents: The Arlington County Manager's FY2023 Proposed Budget," Arlington County Civic Federation Revenues & Expenditures Committee, April 2022: <https://www.civfed.org/newContent/2022-04/2022-04%20ACCF%20Rev%26ExpComm%20Res%20FY23%20Assessment%20and%20Tax%2>

[oBurden%20Report%20on%20Impacts.pdf](#) and Appendix A: Results of FOIA — a list of Arlington County positions remaining vacant for 12 months or longer (list compiled on 3-9-2022): <https://www.civfed.org/newContent/2022-04/2022-04%20ACCF%20Rev%26ExpComm%20Res%20FY23%20Assessment%20and%20Tax%20Burden%20APPENDIX%20A%20County%20Vacancies.pdf>

[6] County Board Meeting Agenda 11-11-2023 Item—Financial Results & Close-out for the Fiscal Year (FY) Ending June 30, 2023:
[https://meetings.arlingtonva.us/CountyBoard/Documents/ViewDocument/_1%20-%20Board%20Report%20\(Final\)%20-%202026125828.pdf?meetingId=327&documentType=Agenda&itemId=32838&publishId=2792&isSection=false](https://meetings.arlingtonva.us/CountyBoard/Documents/ViewDocument/_1%20-%20Board%20Report%20(Final)%20-%202026125828.pdf?meetingId=327&documentType=Agenda&itemId=32838&publishId=2792&isSection=false)

[7] FY 2023 Year-End Financial Summary & FY 2025 Budget Outlook on 11-14-2023 (slide 10): https://meetings.arlingtonva.us/CountyBoard/Documents/ViewDocument/_2%20-%20Item%20Attachment%20-%20STAFF%20PRESENTATION%20-%202026125828.pdf?meetingId=361&documentType=Agenda&itemId=32901&publishId=3003&isSection=false

[8] County Manager's Proposed FY 2025 Budget, Budget Overview, February 24, 2024 (slide 6):
<https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/sharedassets/public/v/3/budget/documents/fy-2025/fy-2025-proposed/cmo-presentation-fy-2025-proposed-budget-overview.pdf>.

follow us on 



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

Arlington County Civic Federation | PO Box 42091, Arlington, VA 22204

[Unsubscribe wm@civfed.org](#)

[Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by accf@arlingtoncountycivcfederation.ccsend.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!