

RESOLUTION: 2026 ACCF LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
FINAL TEXT

Resolution by the Legislation Committee of the Arlington County Civic Federation (ACCF), Dave Schultz, Chair and POC, legislation.chair@civfed.org. Introduced at the 14 October 2025 Membership Meeting. **APPROVED** by the General Membership at the 11 November 2025 Membership Meeting. **VOTE: 37 YEA, 0 NAY, 1 ABSENTION.**

ON GOVERNANCE.

WHEREAS ACCF's TiGER Task Force has identified opportunities to increase citizen involvement in county affairs and improve the quality of County Board and School Board decision-making through election or representation reforms, including use of ranked choice voting, expanding the size of both bodies, and increasing opportunities for structured neighborhood input;

WHEREAS several members of the County Board have called for recruitment in 2025 of a citizen task force to consider reform mechanisms to improve Arlington's Form of Government;

WHEREAS for the implementation of several of the TiGER recommendations statutory changes will be required;

WHEREAS several possible reforms additional to those already identified by the TiGER have been widely discussed and have substantial citizen interest;

WHEREAS Arlington has less authority to determine the form of its government of its own volition in a number of policy areas than do many other jurisdictions in Virginia;

ON RESILIENCY.

WHEREAS the ACCF has identified several areas of land use management to address resiliency for stormwater and environmental threats, and which would require statutory changes for implementation;

WHEREAS the authority of local jurisdictions in Virginia to regulate tree removal and replacement tree planting has not been sufficient for Arlington to avert substantial loss of tree canopy in recent decades;

ON TRAFFIC SAFETY.

WHEREAS the authority of local jurisdictions in Virginia to determine the placement and number of traffic enforcement cameras has been limited;

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION [ACCF] REQUESTS THAT THE ARLINGTON COUNTY DELEGATION IN THE VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE:

ON GOVERNANCE.

Seek to enact legislation which will grant to Arlington County parallel authorities to those held by peer jurisdictions across the Commonwealth and which will enable the Arlington County Board, at its discretion, or the citizens of Arlington by referendum, to make changes in its form of government, to include:

- number of County and School Board members and their term of office;
- staggering of terms, including authority to replace staggered terms with simultaneous election of all or several members using ranked choice voting;
- level of compensation of School Board members;
- number and duties of staff to the County and School Boards;
- election of the School Board by ranked choice vote.

Enable the Board or citizens to choose whether Arlington will enable Arlington political parties to nominate Board members in partisan primaries.

ON RESILIENCE AND FLOOD CONTROL.

Seek to enact legislation which will permit local governments to adopt building and/or land use codes and ordinances that are future-facing and reflect climate risk for each jurisdiction and each jurisdiction's environmental and resiliency goals. This could include developing a "water disturbance" code for when it applies (disturbance to water tables, springs, stormwater capacities, etc.) and the technical retention requirements and testing.

Advance actions that align with the Arlington County Board's efforts to "Support legislation to provide local governments with greater authority in the reforestation, preservation, and management of urban forests in recognition of their ability to capture and store carbon, reduce stormwater runoff, improve air quality, lower energy use, mitigate invasive plant species effects, and mitigate urban heat islands and their health effects."

ON TRAFFIC SAFETY.

Seek to enact legislation which will give Arlington the authority to put speed cameras in any location in the County and not subject to review by outside authorities.

ACCF calls upon the County Board to forward the goals identified in the Civic Federation legislative agenda, including passage of Delegate Hope's bill, the successor to 2025's HB 2768.