



**COUNTY OF FAUQUIER
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Paul S. McCulla, County Administrator
10 Hotel Street, Suite 204
Warrenton, Virginia 20186
PHONE 540-422-8001
FAX 540-422-8022
E-mail: paul.mcculla@fauquiercounty.gov

PRESS RELEASE

Contact:

Erin M. Kozanecki
Director, Management & Budget
Fauquier County Government
320 Hospital Drive, Suite 24
Warrenton, Virginia 20186
(540) 422-8360
erin.kozanecki@fauquiercounty.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fauquier County Board of Supervisors Adopts FY 2021 Budget, Calendar Year 2020 Tax Rates, FY 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Program, and FY 2022 Fiscal Plan

Warrenton, Virginia – The Fauquier County Board of Supervisors adopted the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 budget, Calendar Year 2020 tax rates, FY 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), and FY 2022 fiscal plan on March 26, 2020.

In recognition of the economic uncertainty that surrounds the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Supervisors directed Staff to submit an updated FY 2021 and FY 2022 budget proposal that included no new tax increases and flat funding to the School Division. In addition, Staff in discussion with the Board of Supervisors believed it to be prudent given economic uncertainty due to the unknown long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic response to review revenue estimates and adjust accordingly for the potential of a long-term economic downturn. As such, the FY 2021 adopted budget totals \$349 million beginning July 1, 2020, including no increase to any County tax rates for Tax Year 2020, with General Fund expenditures totaling \$191.3 million.

The FY 2021 adopted budget and FY 2022 fiscal plan include only increases that are mandated, previously committed by the BOS in FY 2020, or a contractual increase for programs and services. It includes FY 2020 adopted budget level funding to the School Division, for local support of \$93.1 million, not including consolidated services or debt service funding. In total, with debt service and consolidated services, the School Division local tax funding support is approximately 65% in both years. This includes maintaining the Cedar Lee Middle School project in FY 2021 in the Capital Improvement Plan. The Board of Supervisors recommitted to the Middle School Renovation Conceptual Plan, adopted during the FY 2020 budget process, with the understanding that timing may shift based on economic conditions.

The adopted budget maintains all tax rates at their Tax Year 2019 levels. As such, the annual tax bill for the average residential assessment, based on the 2018 reassessment, of \$378,000 will be maintained at \$3,770.96 including the County-wide Stormwater Management Fee of \$13.64/year, based on the overall real estate tax rate of \$0.994 per \$100 of assessed value.

Tax Rate Change	Tax Year 2019	Tax Year 2020	Tax Year 2020 Change	Tax Year 2021	Tax Year 2021 Change
Overall Real Estate Tax Rate:	\$0.994	\$0.994	\$ 0.000	\$0.994	\$ 0.000
Real Estate – General	\$0.855	\$0.855	\$ 0.000	\$0.855	\$ 0.000
Real Estate – Fire & Rescue	\$0.133	\$0.133	\$ 0.000	\$0.133	\$ 0.000
Real Estate – Conservation Easement District	\$0.006	\$0.006	\$ 0.000	\$0.006	\$ 0.000

Annual Tax Bill Change	Tax Year 2019	Tax Year 2020	Tax Year 2020 Change	Tax Year 2021	Tax Year 2021 Change
Annual Tax Bill by Assessed Value:	\$0.994	\$0.994	\$ 0.000	\$0.994	\$ 0.000
Per \$100,000 of assessed value	\$994.00	\$994.00	\$ 0.00	\$994.00	\$ 0.00
Average Residential Assessment: \$378,000	\$3,757.32	\$3,757.32	\$ 0.00	\$3,757.32	\$ 0.00

Note: All tax bills also include \$13.64 per parcel fee for the County-wide Stormwater Management Fee, but not included in the above amounts.

The adopted Capital Improvement Plan totals \$106.9 million from FY 2021 through FY 2025, with an additional \$181.4 million designated for future fiscal years. Over the five-year planning period (FY 2021-FY 2025), \$10.9 million would be allocated for public safety and fire and rescue projects, \$2.4 million for courthouse renovations, \$17.3 million for the Central Library project, \$9.3 million for parks and recreational projects, \$0.25 million for environmental services projects, \$9.0 million for utility and infrastructure projects including \$8.0 million for broadband development, \$0.26 million for Airport projects, and \$57.5 million for school division projects.

The FY 2022 fiscal plan totals \$341.97 million, with General Fund expenditures totaling \$192.2 million. The General Fund is set to increase by less than a half-percent, 0.49%, in FY 2022, maintaining level local support to the School Division. The FY 2022 plan includes only contractual or mandated increases, with no tax increase, in comparison to the FY 2021 adopted budget. The primary increase within the FY 2022 fiscal plan is the reallocation of capital cash funding to debt service funding to support the Cedar Lee Middle School project.

Information about the FY 2021 budget process, the proposed budget document, amended proposed budget summary plan, and a summary of the FY 2021 adopted budget are available on the Fauquier County website at <http://www.fauquiercounty.gov/government/departments-h-z/management-and-budget>. The detailed FY 2021 adopted budget will be posted on the Fauquier County website in June 2020.

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