

Board of Supervisors Adopts Fiscal Year 2018 Budget - Lowers Tax Rate by Two Cents

Last night the Board voted 8-1 to approve a responsible \$2.5 billion budget that reduces taxes while expanding county services and improving our education system.

The approved budget reduces the real property tax rate by 2 cents from \$1.145 to \$1.125 per \$100 in assessed value. This represents an average homeowner savings of approximately \$90 per year. The personal property tax rate remains unchanged at \$4.20 per \$100. I appreciate my colleagues for working together to pass this budget.

Please see below for Operating and Capital Improvement Program budget highlights along with the county's official press release.

Operating Budget Highlights

County Government:

- Funded staffing for the new Kirkpatrick Farms Fire & Rescue Station
- Funded staffing for the new Brambleton Library
- Funded staffing for the newly expanded Dulles South Multipurpose Center
- Funded a full-time (previously part-time) Veteran Services Coordinator

- Increased funding to each of our Constitutional Officers in order to maintain or increase their level of service to residents. Those offices consist of:
 - Loudoun County Sheriff
 - Clerk of the Circuit Court
 - Commonwealth Attorney
 - Treasurer
 - Commissioner of the Revenue

- Funded new position for a Brambleton Middle School Resource Officer
- Increased funding for several county departments in order to maintain or increase their level of service to residents. Those departments consist of:
 - Transportation & Capital Infrastructure
 - Mental Health, Substance Abuse & Developmental Services
 - Family Services
 - Fire & Rescue
 - Health Department
 - Community Corrections
 - Parks, Recreation & Community Services
 - Information Technology
 - Election & Voter Registration Office

- Increased funding by nearly \$900,000 for Employment and Day Support Service Providers whose mission is to find employment for individuals with disabilities and empower them to achieve their optimal level of personal, social and economic success.

Loudoun County Public Schools:

Provided a 7.7% increase in local operating funding to accommodate 3.8% enrollment growth. This budget funded 99.3% of LCPS's local increase request and was the third largest funding increase in a decade. While the School Board has full discretion regarding the distribution of funds, I believe the amount transferred should allow them to:

- Accommodate all enrollment growth
- Expand Full Day Kindergarten from 52% - 82% as they have requested
- Provide better pay increases, in most cases, than county staff will receive
- Fund the vast majority of their other requests

**Six-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
Blue Ridge District Highlights**

Everything the County constructs is funded within our six-year CIP, which is separate from the operating budget. Here are a few highlights that are important to the Blue Ridge District:

Roads:

- Accelerated funding for future Rt 9/Rt 287 roundabout
- Accelerated funding for Evergreen Mills widening (Northstar to Rt 606)
- Accelerated funding for future improvements to Rt 7/Rt 287 interchange
- Added new project for future intersection improvements at Evergreen Mills at Watson and Evergreen Mills at Reservoir
- Added new project for future Belmont Ridge widening (Shreveport to Evergreen Mills)
- Added new project for future Braddock widening (Gum Spring to Royal Hunter)
- Added new project for future Rt 50 roundabout at Everfield Drive
- Added new project for future interchange at Rt 50/Rt 606
- Increased funding for future Rt 7/Rt 690 interchange
- Increased funding for future Belmont Ridge widening (Truro Parish to Croson)
- Increased funding for future Arcola Blvd (Rt 50 to Dulles West Blvd)
- Increased funding for improvements at intersection of Braddock and Summerall/Supreme
- Increased funding for future Fields Farm Park Rd (Woodgrove HS to Rt 690)
- Maintained funding for future Northstar Blvd (Shreveport to Rt 50)
- Maintained funding for future Dulles West Blvd (Dulles Landing to Arcola)
- Maintained funding for future Western Loudoun Park & Ride Lot

Schools:

- Accelerated funding for construction of HS-9 to enable one year early opening
- Added new project for future ES-29
- Maintained funding for future ES-23, ES-28, MS-7 and HS-11

Towns:

- Hillsboro: New funding for improvements to the Old Stone School
- Hillsboro: Increased funding for future Traffic Calming & Pedestrian Safety project
- Middleburg: Increased funding for Crosswalk & Sidewalk project
- Purcellville: New funding for A St. sidewalk project (Blue Ridge MS to Maple)
- Purcellville: Provided full NVTA funding transfer (their was talk of reducing this)

Parks & Recreation:

- Completed funding for future Hal & Berni Hanson Regional Park (between Brambleton and Willowsford)
- Completed funding for future Sleeter Lake Park (near Round Hill)
- Increased funding for future Fields Farm Park (near Purcellville)
- Maintained funding for future trail from Franklin Park to Purcellville

Public Safety:

- Maintained funding for future Round Hill, Aldie and Philomont Fire Station replacements

Miscellaneous:

- Maintained funding for future Brambleton Library
- Accelerated funding for Howardsville Community Wastewater System

Official County Press Release

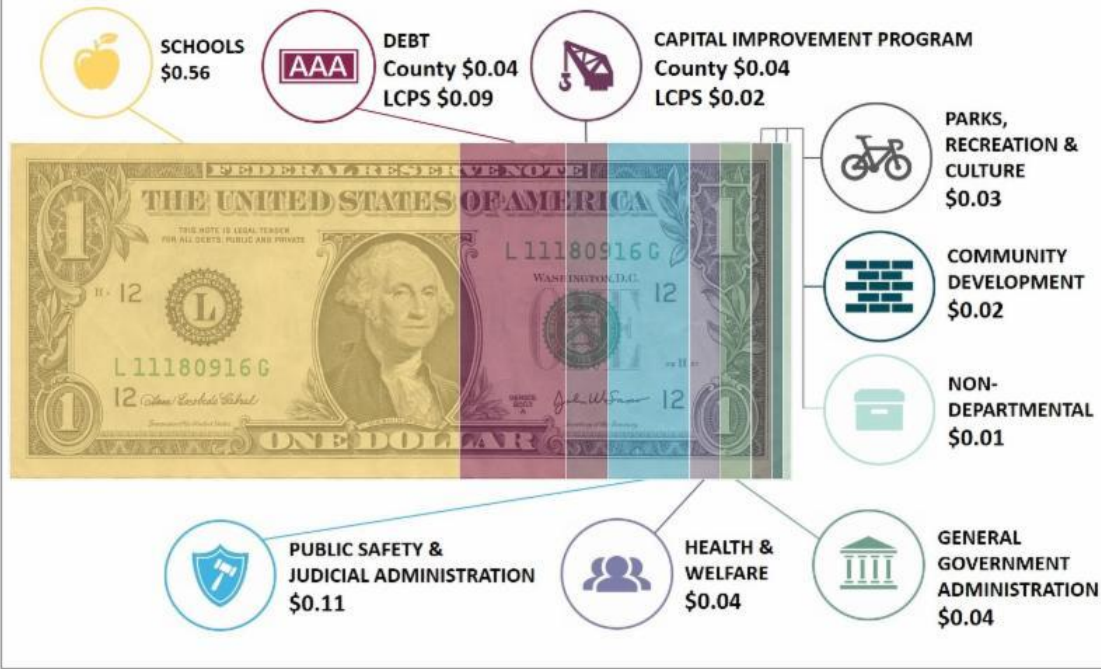
Board of Supervisors Adopts FY 2018 Budget; Lowers Tax Rate by Two Cents

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors has approved a budget totaling approximately \$2.5 billion in total appropriations for the general county government and school system for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018. The adopted budget includes a real property tax rate of \$1.125 per \$100 in assessed value, two cents lower than the current tax rate. The personal property tax rate remains unchanged at \$4.20 per \$100. The budget includes a local transfer to Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) of \$747.9 million, which is a 7.7 percent increase in local tax funding over FY 2017 and represents 99.3 percent of the School Board's budget request.



Your Tax Dollar At Work

FY 2018 Adopted Budget



Budget Summary

The FY 2018 operating appropriation is comprised of more than a dozen separate funds totaling \$1.7 billion. The operating appropriations include:

- \$1.1 billion for LCPS
- \$504.2 million for general government operations; and
- \$9.0 million for the Children's Services Act Fund

In addition, the adopted budget includes \$202 million for debt service appropriations, of which \$131.2 million is for LCPS, \$59.6 million is for general government projects and \$11.2 million is for special tax districts.

About 67.5 percent of the \$895.3 million in revenues from local taxes, including real property and local sales taxes, and use of prior year fund balance will be used for school operating expenses, capital projects and debt service. The remaining 32.5 percent will be used for the general county government for operating expenses, capital projects and debt service.

The FY 2018 budget includes funding for 211.99 new full-time equivalent positions (FTE) and other resources that focus on public safety and social safety net services

and the opening of new facilities, including the Dulles South Multipurpose Center, Kirkpatrick Farms Fire Rescue Station, the Brambleton Library and the Ashburn's Sheriff Station. The adopted budget also includes a 3 percent merit pay increase for eligible county employees.

Capital Improvement Program


The Board also amended the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that totals \$2 billion for the six-year planning period from FY 2017 to FY 2022. The category with the largest expenditure percentage is transportation projects at 39.6 percent followed by school projects at 31.5 percent.

To help address overcrowding and projected growth in the Loudoun County Public School system, the CIP accelerates the opening date of a new high school in the Dulles South area by one year to the fall of 2020. Additionally, the CIP accommodates the acceleration of two synthetic turf athletic fields in FY 2017 at Heritage and Dominion High Schools. The CIP also maintains funding for high priority general government projects.

Public Process

Adoption of the FY 2018 budget came after a public process that included the presentation of the Proposed FY 2018 Budget by the County Administrator in February, followed by the Board of Supervisors' public hearings in February and March and a series of budget work sessions in March. The budget will go into effect on July 1, 2017, while the new tax rates are effective April 4, 2017, and will be used for the spring tax collection. More information about the budget process is online at www.loudoun.gov/budget.

All my best,



Tony Buffington
Blue Ridge District Supervisor
tony.buffington@loudoun.gov

Shevaun Hochstetler
Chief of Staff
shevaun.hochstetler@loudoun.gov

Rachael Holmes
Legislative Aide
rachael.chambers@loudoun.gov

Pamela Keegan
Legislative Aide
pamela.keegan@loudoun.gov

Supervisor Tony Buffington | Loudoun County Board of Supervisors | 703-777-0210 |
tony.buffington@loudoun.gov | www.loudoun.gov/blueridge

Was this email forwarded to you?

[Join My Mailing List](#)



Blue Ridge District, 1 Harrison Street, S.E. 5th Floor,
PO Box 70000, Leesburg, VA 20177-7000

[About our service provider](#)

Sent by tony.buffington@loudoun.gov in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today