



General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 7 pm

Lorton, VA 22079

Summary

The September meeting of the South County Federation covered updates on various transportation projects, community events, and public safety initiatives in Fairfax County, including discussions on road repaving schedules, the Tour de Mount Vernon, and concerns about traffic safety and infrastructure. Updates were provided on trash collection, potential building leases, and school boundary changes, with particular attention given to federal funding losses and proposed changes to the residential solid waste collection model. The conversation ended with information on legislative priorities, committee activities, and upcoming community events, emphasizing the importance of public engagement and transparency in transportation funding allocation.

Call to Order- Ms. Wendy Henley, President

Ms. Henley called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm and thanked all those in attendance, welcoming them back after the August recess.

Approval of the Minutes (Secretary position vacant)

Ms. Henley presented the minutes for July.

Motion to approve the July Minutes as written, Ms. Henley. Second, Keith F. Shovlin. Vote unanimous.

Treasurer Report- Mr. James Fenton

Mr. Fenton was absent but sent his report to President Henley beforehand who then presented it.

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Truist Checking | \$787.29 |
| CD | \$5,064.88 |
| Total | \$5,852.17 |

- Three outlays this month: \$25 for State Corporation Commission registration, \$159.90 for the Zoom account, and \$233.38 for our website hosting.

Fairfax County Park Authority - Mount Vernon District Representative Linwood Gorham

Mr. Gorham reported on the opening of the new Mount Vernon Rec Center pool and mentioned upcoming budget cuts of 5% at the Park Authority. **Dale Rumberger requested** a future presentation on park funding comparisons with adjacent counties or cities.

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Report - Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck

Supervisor Storck spoke on a list of topics previously provided to his staff.

- **10th Annual Tour de Mount Vernon.** Saturday, October 18, ride through the scenic northern and central parts of the Mount Vernon District. Check-in begins at 7:45 a.m. and ride kickoff begins at 8:30 a.m., starting and ending at Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House. Registration can be found online
- **Mount Vernon District Hosts Small Business Forum.** Wednesday, September 24, in partnership with Fairfax County's Department of Economic Initiatives, a free small business preparedness event, from 8-10 a.m. at Primo Family Restaurant. Local business owners are invited to enjoy coffee, pastries, and networking while hearing from County leaders, first responders, and emergency experts on how to prepare for natural disasters, security threats, and other challenges

General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 7 pm

Lorton, VA 22079

- **VDOT Repaving.** Provided a link to VDOT's Statewide Paving Status Map, which displays the pavement project status for projects across Virginia including a segment of I-95 & I-395 Express Lane from Occoquan River Bridge to Turkeycock Interchange, with completion in 2025 Any Question/concerns: Project Manager: Rich Prezioso, 571-480-3775, rprezioso@transurban.com
 - Paving projects scheduled:
 - End of Old Colchester Road to Furnace Road
 - Segment of Harley Road off of Gunston Road
 - Springfield Drive and Park Road off of Gunston Road
 - Questions/concerns: Project Manager: Getahun Gebre, 571-262-5341, getahun.gebre@vdot.virginia.gov. For all repaving, we have sent a reminder to all project managers requesting thorough cleanup of repaving debris on roadways and ramps
- **VDOT Maintenance of Roadways.** Last week, Ms. Henley brought some VDOT maintenance concerns to our attention concerning vegetation cut-back, mowing, sign visibility. Christine Morin took photos of areas of concern, and we have submitted requests to VDOT for assistance. Will continue to provide updates on the service requests with VDOT.
- **Pohick Estates (Southrun Rd to Newington Forest) Repaving/Restriping Timeline:** At the September 23rd public meeting, FCDOT will present proposed bike lanes and crosswalks that could be implemented during VDOT's 2026 repaving season. There will be a 2-week public comment period during which residents may provide feedback on the proposed bike lanes and crosswalks. Each Supervisor's office has final review/feedback, before sent to VDOT. VDOT can also remove bike lanes and crosswalks from the list and typically publishes their final paving list in April
- **VDOT Presentation on Speed Limits:** VDOT confirmed they can present to SCF sometime after November. Diego Rodriguez Cabrera connected Ms. Henley with point of contact, Houda Ali, to get that scheduled.
- **Route 1 & Gunston Plaza Entrance Proposed Left Turn Restriction:** VDOT highly recommends a left turn restriction, prohibiting left turns out of the plaza, turning left onto Richmond Highway, due to a high number of vehicle crashes. At a July 1st meeting with VDOT and our office, Gunston Plaza representatives voiced their need for further internal discussion on traffic rerouting within the plaza and requested additional data. Data was provided by VDOT, and to date, we await a response from Gunston Plaza. We have sent a follow-up email this week to both representatives
- **Route 1 & Hassett Street Proposed Left Turn Restriction:** Along with Delegate Henson, we have indicated support of the left turn restriction southbound onto Route 1 from Hassett Street, and we are awaiting a timeline from VDOT's Traffic Engineering team. We will provide further updates as we receive them
- **South County High School / Laurel Crest Drive Left Turn Restrictions:** The County Attorney's Office is working with Fairfax County School Board's in-house Counsel on drafting an MOU for FCPD to enforce the two left turn restrictions on SCHS property, per Delegate Tran's recent letter. We will continue working with the County Attorney's office and provide SCF with updates as we receive them
- **Safety Concerns - Intersection of Silverbrook Road & Plaskett Lane:** I am aware of the petition in which 492 residents voice their pedestrian and driver safety concern at this intersection. My office, in collaboration with Delegate Tran's office, has requested that VDOT conduct a new traffic signal study as the last one was conducted over a decade ago (2012). Additionally, FCDOT has added a pedestrian Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at this location to their unfunded list. And we are waiting to hear back from the organizer of the petition (Ms. Namburi) about pursuing additional safety measures through the County's Residential Traffic Administration (RTAP) Program. We will pursue this option upon receiving the official RTAP request.
- **E-ZPass Toll Revenue in Fairfax County:** Ms. Henley asked how much local revenue is generated from E-ZPass

General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 7 pm

Lorton, VA 22079

- There are 5 toll facilities in Fairfax County: I-66 inside & outside the Beltway, I-95/395, I-495, Dulles Toll road
- Most generate annual payments that support regional transit projects through the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) and Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA)
- The Dulles Toll Road is operated separately by Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA), with revenues primarily used to pay debt on the Silver Line Metrorail Project
- VDOT shared that E-ZPass is a statewide program, and revenue collected is used to operate and maintain the overall system across Virginia. In other words, there is no direct local revenue stream from E-ZPass
- **Traffic Signal Timing on Lorton Road/I-95/Gunston Cove Road:** Residents asked why drivers exiting I-95 and those on Gunston Cove Road do not get green lights at the same time.
 - VDOT explained to our office and Delegate Tran's office that the signal timing is based on several factors including traffic volumes, pedestrian crossings, and the layout of the intersection
 - At this intersection, the signals run on "split phasing," meaning side streets move separately rather than together
 - The alternative, called an "eight-phase" system, is typically used only at much larger and more complex intersections with heavier traffic volumes, which their data determines is not warranted for this location.
- **I-95 Southbound Exit at Lorton Road:** A resident raised concerns about the lack of clear lane markings at the I-95 southbound exit approaching Lorton Road and suggested widening the pavement with added striping.
 - VDOT's Traffic Engineering team reviewed the location and determined that the existing ramp is wide enough to accommodate two travel lanes with re-striping, without the need for widening
 - They are developing a design and anticipate completing the re-striping work within 3-6 months, depending on schedules
- **Status of Silverbrook Road/Lorton Road Intersection Project:** Project is in the early pre-scoping phase. Before moving forward, VDOT and FCDOT will complete an updated traffic study this Fall (the last one was done in 2017) to help guide design choices.
 - VDOT has stated they would like to see the new study completed before proceeding with the RTA (Request to Administer)
 - The project currently has \$500K in federal earmark funding available, which must be obligated by September 2027 (through a contract, agreement, or similar) and spent by September 2032
- **Lorton as Cut-Through Route by Prince William County Residents:** SCF asked that our office coordinate with Delegate Henson's office on ways to discourage Prince William County residents from using Lorton as a cut-through route. We are coordinating with Delegate Henson's office on best path forward and will keep SCF updated.
- **Fairfax County Seeks Feedback on Proposed Active Transportation & Trails Plan:** The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) is currently seeking public feedback on the newly proposed Active Transportation and Trails Plan.
 - The new plan consolidates and updates the County's Bicycle Master Plan and the Countywide Trails Plan with the aim to create more accessible, connected, and inclusive transportation and trail network for all users
 - Two virtual community meetings were held on September 3rd and 4th. Public feedback on the proposed plan can be submitted online or by telephone
 - The public comment period ends at 4:30 pm on Friday, September 19th. Find more information on the proposed plan and how to provide input at publicinput.com/ATTP

General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 7 pm

Lorton, VA 22079

Questions from Andy Normand on road maintenance, Marty Schumacher on trash service, Keith F. Shovlin about the Workhouse, Dale Rumberger on transportation projects.

Ms. Henley also expressed appreciation to Supervisor Storck for the work of Angelique Rinaldi in gathering the transportation projects together in one document.

Fairfax County School Board Report - Mount Vernon District Representative Matteo Dunne

Mateo Dunne provided updates on school boundaries, federal funding, and milestone anniversaries for South County schools. He explained that Fairfax County is facing a loss of \$160 million in federal funding, which affects programs for students with special needs and low-income students. Mr. Dunne also discussed ongoing community meetings about school boundary changes and his efforts to educate the public on the process.

Special Presentation - Proposed Unified Trash Service by Chris Harrington, director of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services.

Mr. Harrington presented on trash, recycling, and solar initiatives in Fairfax County, highlighting proposed changes to the residential solid waste collection model. He explained that Fairfax County is required by Commonwealth law to provide a solid waste management plan every 5 years, looking ahead 20 years. He discussed the county's current residential and commercial trash collection systems, noting that a community-wide energy and climate action plan aimed for a 90% reduction in waste by 2040 was ambitious but ultimately paused by the board due to concerns about rapid change and lack of enabling authority. He clarified that the Board is considering a unified sanitation district as a potential solution, but no decision has been made, and further community engagement is needed. He also provided an update on the 5-megawatt solar project at the I-95 landfill, which is progressing on time and budget.

Legislative Updates

Scott Surovell - 34th District, Virginia State Senate

Represented by Fatimah Dandashi, Constituent Relations Manager

Ms. Dandashi discussed state legislative priorities, including preparations for the upcoming session and concerns about university board appointments.

Kathy Tran - 18th District, Virginia State Delegate

Represented by Benjamin Hermerding, Chief of Staff

Mr. Hermerding shared updates on Delegate Kathy's activities in Richmond and encouraged participation in the House and Senate page programs.

Roza Henson - 19th District, Virginia State Delegate

Represented by Max Jenkins, Chief of Staff

Mr. Jenkins provided information on committee hearings and emphasized the importance of using the VDOT portal for transportation-related issues. The conversation ended with an appeal for community members to reach out if they encounter unresolved issues.

Committee Reports

Environmental and Parks Committee, Co-Chairs Larry Clark and Dale Rumberger

Mr. Rumberger discussed a sensory nature trail in Meadow Wood Park, which the South County Federation Executive Committee has endorsed. Keith Gordon from the Workhouse Arts Center shared details about upcoming fall events, including Fermentation Fest, Oktoberfest, and various performances.

General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 7 pm

Lorton, VA 22079

The group also addressed ADA compliance issues with the Workhouse's miniature golf course, with plans to retrofit 60-70% of the course to be accessible.

Land Use Committee, Co-Chairs Nick Firth and Keith F. Shovlin

Mr. Firth and Mr. Shovlin provided updates on land use matters, including potential new developments and business changes at Gunston Plaza and Morton Station.

Transportation Committee, Co-Chairs Peter Weyland and Dale Rumberger

Mr. Rumberger provided a detailed report on various transportation initiatives, noting that while some projects are funded and moving forward, others are on hold due to lack of funding. He emphasized that there will be no road widening of Pohick Road from Route 1 to I95, but a path project is funded and will proceed.

Public Safety Committee, Chair Jonathan Kiell

Mr. Kiell clarified that parking issues fall under public safety. He recommended using the Fairfax County Police Open Data website for information on crime and traffic statistics. The group also discussed concerns about U-turns at Lorton Market and the need for a crosswalk between Fairfax Woods and Gunston Shopping Center, which Mr. Rumberger agreed to follow up on. Mr. Kiell announced the next Federation meeting will be at the Lorton Community Center on the 14th, featuring presentations from police station commanders. Major Patrick O'Hara, the Lorton police commander, shared that the Road Shark traffic enforcement campaign yielded 12,735 infractions in August, with one more phase planned for October. He also mentioned positive progress in staffing for the Fairfax County Police Department, with plans for another hiring class in October, and introduced Major Marques Lowery as the new commander at the Franconia station. Mr. Kiell added that the county's archery deer hunt began the previous weekend and will continue through February, with hunting restricted to designated public lands.

Education Committee, Chair Wendy Henley

Ms. Henley referred to Mr. Dunne's report.

Closing Business

Ms. Henley encouraged attendees to join committees and provided details about the next in-person meeting on October 14th.

Meeting adjourned

President Henley thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm. The next scheduled meeting is on October 14th, 2025 at 7 pm at the Lorton Community Center.

Action Items

- Community members: Attend the VDOT public meeting on September 23rd regarding proposed bike lanes and crosswalks for Pohack Estates. Submit comments during the 2-week public comment period following the VDOT meeting.
- Small business owners: Register for the Small Business Forum on September 24th at Primo Family Restaurant. Attend the Small Business Forum from 8-10am.
- Community members: Sign up for the 10th Annual Tour to Mount Vernon on October 18th.
- Linwood Gorham: Prepare information comparing park funding in Fairfax County to adjacent communities/counties for an October or November meeting.

General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 7 pm

Lorton, VA 22079

- Supervisor Storck's office: Follow up with Gunston Plaza representatives regarding the proposed left turn restrictions.
- Supervisor Storck's office: Provide updates on the Silverbrook Road and Plasket Lane intersection traffic signal study. Provide updates on VDOT's restriping work at the I-95 southbound exit at Lorton Road.
- Keith F. Shovlin: Schedule the next adopt-a-highway cleanup.
- VDOT: Present on speed limits to South County Federation sometime after November.
- Nick Firth: Send out Supervisor Storck's meeting packet to the general membership.