



General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 7 pm
Lorton, VA 22079

Summary

The South County Federation held its March General Membership Meeting, featuring updates from several local officials and community leaders. Supervisor Dan Storck discussed the county budget process and upcoming public hearings, while Supervisor Pat Herrity shared concerns about affordability and public safety issues. School Board Rep Mateo Dunne presented an overview of recent school boundary changes and budget considerations for FCPS. The Workhouse Arts Center's Keith Gordon highlighted recent developments and upcoming events at the campus. Planning Commissioner Walter Clarke provided updates on land use matters and upcoming Planning Commission hearings. Major Veva Wallace-Spaulling introduced herself and will welcome the Federation to the Lorton Police Station for April's meeting.

Call to Order- Mr. Keith F. Shovlin, President

Mr. Shovlin called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and thanked all those in attendance. He informed attendees that survey link will be in the chat and asked all to complete it after the meeting. He also asked that all questions be asked in the chat due to the many speakers on the agenda.

Approval of the Minutes (Secretary position vacant)

Peter Weyland motioned to approve the February minutes, Nick Firth seconded, passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report- Mr. James Fenton

Mr. Fenton shared the updated financial report.

Truist Checking	\$2963.10
CD	\$3000.00
Total	\$5963.10

Administrative Matter - Membership Drive

President Shovlin and Mr. Weyland announced the opening of a intern position to conduct a new membership drive. The intern would be paid \$20/hour and reach out to local HOAs and community based groups to both bolster attendance and membership. Mr. Shovlin noted that officers are not allowed to be paid a stipend, and so no family of officers are eligible for the position.

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

Supervisor Storck provided updates on the county budget process, early voting for a constitutional amendment, and upcoming community events including Reading Opens the World and Stuff the Bus. He also announced the Senior Summit on May 1st and mentioned ongoing road improvements on Snowden Ashford Road, with substantial completion expected by September. In the Q&A, he discussed the Unified Sanitation District Initiative, noting that while there was negative feedback from HOAs about establishing a new bureaucracy, he supported examining the issue to evaluate potential improvements to current collection services. He clarified that no formal action had been taken by the board and emphasized the importance of gathering facts before making decisions. The discussion also covered the impact of meals tax revenue on the budget, public safety concerns, and the status of water main line work on Silverbrook Road at Lorton Road, which was reported to be on schedule for completion by the end of March.

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Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Report - Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity

Supervisor Herrity discussed key county issues, focusing on affordability challenges, public safety, and budget concerns. He emphasized the need to address rising costs and regulatory burdens affecting housing and development, while also highlighting positive projects like the Burke Center and upcoming transportation improvements. He expressed disappointment in the Board's lack of action on certain policies and called for a deeper review of budget impacts. He also criticized the Commonwealth Attorney's performance and pushed for improvements in public safety and facility maintenance.

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

Mr. Dunne discussed the recent FCPS boundary review, noting that while it aimed to reduce attendance islands and split feeders, only modest changes were made, with 22 attendance islands remaining. He expressed concerns about student population imbalances, overcrowded schools, and a growing deferred maintenance backlog, emphasizing the need for innovative solutions. Mateo also highlighted a small boundary change affecting 19 off-base Fort Belvoir students and mentioned his vote against the superintendent's final recommendation due to incomplete information. He concluded by addressing budget issues, including plans to undo last year's class size increases and restore advanced academic resource teachers and special education department chairs, while calling for a comprehensive review of the FCPS budget for potential cost savings. In the Q&A, Dunne discussed school safety concerns, including the need for warning blinkers on Laurel Crest Road near South County Middle School, which he will research and address with Supervisor Storck. He expressed concerns about the transition to electric school buses, citing limited charging infrastructure and performance issues in cold weather, and noted that the school board approved a limited transportation policy for affected students.

Fairfax County Park Authority - Mount Vernon District Representative Linwood Gorham

Mr. Gorham presented the Park Authority's budget situation, highlighting a \$919,000 reduction and the addition of \$1.2 million for a zero waste trash initiative, while also discussing rising construction costs that affect bond projects and the need to prioritize REC center renovations.

Special Presentation - Workhouse Arts Center Update from President Keith Gordon

Mr. Gordon presented an overview of recent activities at the Workhouse Arts Center, highlighting a significant increase in visitation numbers from 2024 to 2025, and the launch of new programs like Early Access to the Arts. He discussed upcoming events, including the Workhouse Ball, a community open house, and a fireworks festival, as well as new partnerships and expansions, such as the relocation of Potomac Music and the expansion of the mini-golf course. Gordon emphasized the center's goal to become a regional cultural destination, distinct from other venues, and encouraged attendees to visit the campus for upcoming events. In the Q&A, Mr. Gordon explained that the "Art of Movement" classes, including rowing and Pilates, would not be reinstated due to poor financial performance and competition in the area. However, the wellness series, including yoga, sound baths, and meditation, would continue. He also discussed upcoming roof replacement and structural repairs for several vacant buildings on campus, which will be presented at the ARB meeting.

Special Presentation - Fairfax County Planning Commission Update from Mount Vernon District Commissioner Walker Clarke

Commissioner Clarke representing the Fairfax County Planning Commission, provided updates on local land use applications, including Bunnyman Brewery's expansion to serve breakfast and Trash Away's outdoor storage proposal, both scheduled for review in April. Clarke emphasized his role in representing community interests and noted ongoing efforts with the Lorton 2040 Visioning Task Force. In the Q&A,

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he offered a clarification about a Shell gas station location and plans for an upcoming Federation meeting. Mr. Clarke confirmed that the Pohick Road development proposal had been dropped and he would follow up for confirmation.

Legislative Updates

James Walkinshaw - 11th District, U.S. House of Representatives

Represented by Fatima Malik, District Director

Ms. Malik provided updates on Congressman Walkinshaw's work, including the creation of the Federal Workforce Caucus.

Scott Surovell - 35th District, Virginia State Senate

Represented by Fatimah Dandashi, Constituent Relations Manager

Ms. Dandashi discussed the ongoing Virginia General Assembly session, redistricting, and upcoming events, including the Little Hunting Creek cleanup on April 11th. She explained Senator Surovell's support for a potential casino in Fairfax County due to revenue shortfalls and the need to diversify revenue sources.

Kathy Tran - 18th District, Virginia State Delegate

Represented by Benjamin Hermerding, Chief of Staff

Mr. Hermerding provided an update on the legislative session, focusing on the biennial budget and ongoing negotiations between the House and Senate. He also discussed updates on road projects and environmental concerns related to Davis Industries..

Committee Reports

Public Safety Committee, Chair Jonathan Kiell

Mr. Kiell was absent, Major Veva Wallace-Spaulling, newly named commander of Lorton Police Station, introduced herself and took questions from attendees.

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

Mr. Rumberger discussed progress on Overlook Ridge, with funding secured for park startup but delays in funding playing fields.

Peter Weyland presented Beautify Lorton, a new initiative focusing on improving intersections and public spaces, while Mr. Rumberger raised concerns about the Potomac River spill, suggesting further investigation and advocacy through state representatives.

Land Use Committee, Co-Chairs Frank Diallo & Nick Firth

Mr. Firth reported on the Land Use Committee, including the indefinite deferral of Ox Road and plans for a Shell Station expansion.

Transportation Committee, Co-Chairs Keith F. Shovlin & Peter Weyland

Mr. Weyland provided an overview of transportation projects, highlighting the CSX Bridge project and its impact on Lorton. **Mr. Shovlin** discussed potential Capital Bike Share expansion in South County and announced the first monthly Transportation Committee meeting on March 19th. In the Q&A, **Rob Dolce** shared concerns about a proposed roundabout at the Hooes Road intersection, arguing it could worsen traffic and safety issues.

Education Committee, Chair James Fenton

Mr. Fenton updated the group on Skyview High School's focus on aerospace and AI, the cell phone ban policy, and the adopted school budget of \$4.1 billion.

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Open Forum - President Shovlin invited attendees to speak on any matter important to the Federation's concerns for no longer than 5 minutes

No respondents

Meeting adjournment

President Shovlin thanked everyone for attending and reminded them of the survey and that the next meeting will be in person at the Lorton Police Station Community Room.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Rumberger, Second by Mr. Firth, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:21 pm.

The next scheduled meeting is on April 14th, 2026 at 7 pm at the Lorton Police Station.

Action Items

- Peter Weyland: Post contact information in the chat for those interested in the intern position.
- Interested members: Attend the Transportation Committee organizational meeting on March 19th and help draft a list of possible Capital Bikeshare station locations for South County, with the aim of preparing a resolution for the April meeting.
- Dale Rumberger: Draft a resolution opposing the Unified Sanitation District proposal, including the cost of the study, and coordinate with Supervisor Storck for additional input before presenting at the April meeting.
- Mateo Dunne: Research and publish a response in his newsletter regarding the placement of school warning blinkers on Laurel Crest Road near South County Middle School, in coordination with Supervisor Dan Storck and VDOT.
- Mr. Dunne: Work with Supervisor Dan Storck to examine the issue of the removed traffic camera on Silverbrook Road and include findings in an upcoming newsletter.
- Walter Clarke: Confirm whether the Pohick Road high-rise/condominium proposal by Christopher Companies has been withdrawn or is still active, and communicate findings to Andy Normand (and the group).
- Mr. Clarke: Require electric vehicle charging stations (including actual stations, not just infrastructure) for any new or expanded gas stations coming before the Planning Commission.
- Mr. Rumberger: Put link to Potomac Riverkeepers in the chat and encourage donations/support for water quality monitoring.
- Mr. Weyland: Publicize Dean Nadjocks' Potomac Riverkeeper presentation in April at Gunston Hall to the group via the chat.
- Transportation Committee: Follow up with Supervisor Storck's office to see if there is anything the Federation can do to support the VPRA Occoquan third rail project funding bid.
- Keith F. Shovlin: Remind members to fill out the post-meeting survey to help plan future meetings.
- Mr. Weyland: Continue planning and announce details for upcoming beautification projects at key Lorton intersections and the Lorton sign, including volunteer and project submission forms on beautifylorton.org.
- Fatimah Dandashi: Send out the flyer/sign-up link for the Little Hunting Creek cleanup once available.
- Major Veva Wallace-Spaulling: Send email contact information for volunteering with Fairfax County Police Department and provide details on volunteer programs to interested members.
- Mr. Weyland/Transportation Committee: Update and maintain the South County transportation project list on mountvernon.net, including status updates for all projects.