



General Membership Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, July 15, 2026 at 7 pm
Lorton, VA 22079

Summary

The South County Federation held its monthly meeting on July 15th, with discussions on various community issues and updates. Supervisor Dan Storck provided extensive updates on the recently approved Lorton 2040 Visioning Plan, which received unanimous board support after years of community engagement and multiple public meetings. Deputy Chief Wallace and Major Lowery from the Fairfax County Police Department shared updates on the new drone first-responder program now serving Lorton, recent vehicle tampering arrests, and ongoing safety initiatives including pedestrian safety campaigns and DUI enforcement. The legislative representatives reported on the passage of a bipartisan state budget including historic education investments and new tax deductions. The meeting covered several transportation resolutions including requests for traffic studies at exit 163 on I-95 and the Hassett Street/Richmond Highway intersection, which passed unanimously. The group also discussed local development updates including plans for a Shell station renovation and new restaurant openings, while noting that the next Federation meeting would be held in September at the Nomen Coal Water Treatment Facility..

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

Mr. Shovlin called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm and thanked all those in attendance. He noted the change in meeting date due to a conflict with the Board of Supervisors Hearing on the Lorton 2040 Vision Plan. Attendees were asked to write their names in the chat with what neighborhood they represent in order to track attendance.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the Minutes (Secretary position vacant)

Mr. Shovlin noted a change to the minutes from Wendy Henley. **Nick Firth motioned to approve the June minutes as amended, Larry Clark seconded, passed unanimously.**

Treasurer Report- Mr. James Fenton

Mr. Fenton shared the financial report.

Truist Checking	\$2837.27
CD	\$3000.00
Total	\$5837.27

Membership Drive

Mr. Weyland noted that no candidate for the Intern position has stepped forward. Outreach will continue until a candidate is found.

ATTENDANCE

Barrington	
Beechwood	X
Crandall Run	
Crosspointe	X
Estates of Roseland	
Gunston Cove	X
Gunston Manor	
Hallowing Point	X
Highlands at Gunston	
Hollymeade	
Laurel Highlands	
Laurel Hill	
Mason Collar	X
Mason Neck	X
Newington Civic	
Newington Commons	X
Newington Forest	X
NonAligned Caucus	X
Occoquan Glen	
Occoquan Overlook	X
Overlook Pointe	
Pohick Estates	X
Saratoga	
Shepherd Hills	
Shirley Acres	X
South Run Oaks	
Spring Hill	X
Terrace Town Homes of Gunston	
The Highlands at Gunston	
Townhouses of Saratoga	
Wildwood	X
Williamsburg Square	

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County Reports

Board of Supervisors - Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck

Supervisor Storck spoke regarding the Lorton 2040 plan, which was unanimously approved by the Board of Supervisors. Storck explained that the plan serves as a policy guide rather than an automatic construction authorization, and emphasized that community support would be required before any changes could be implemented. The discussion also covered transportation updates including the Lorton and Silverbrook Road project, VDOT's bi-directional express lanes study, and pedestrian improvements along Pohick Road. He reported that the comprehensive plan was mostly accepted with only minor changes, including the removal of specific language about potential roads that concerned the Wildwood community. The groundbreaking for the Overlook Ridge project is likely scheduled for September 23rd, with construction trailers expected in 2-3 weeks.

Park Authority - Mount Vernon District Board Member Linwood Gorham

Mr. Gorham provided updates on the Overlook Ridge Park project's progress and confirmed that construction would begin before the official groundbreaking date.

Animal Shelter - Gina Lynch

Ms. Lynch reported that the animal shelter had strong adoption numbers with 62 cats and 25 dogs adopted last week, and announced an upcoming "clear the shelter" event in mid-August where fees will be waived.

Special Presentation

Update from Deputy Chief Veva Wallace-Spaulling & Major Marques Lowery, FCPD

Chief Wallace provided updates on several key safety initiatives in the Lorton area. She announced that the Drone First Responder Program has been expanded to serve Lorton, with successful recent deployments including assisting with a house fire and helping locate a lost family in a park. The Department is focusing on pedestrian safety due to increasing fatal crashes, particularly along the Route 1 corridor, and has implemented increased enforcement, educational materials, and upcoming town hall meetings. Chief Wallace also reported on the Safe July DUI enforcement efforts which resulted in 23 DUIs and 264 citations in the first two weeks, and addressed concerns about e-bike safety issues being caused by teenagers in the McLean area.

Major Lowery reported on recent crime incidents in the Lorton area, including vehicle tamperings in late May where firearms were stolen, and a series of attempted KIA and Hyundai thefts in June. Detectives made arrests in both cases, recovering firearms and preventing further vehicle thefts. Chief Wallace provided context by noting that Lorton had the lowest number of Group A offenses year-to-date among the districts, with over 800 compared to Mount Vernon's 3,500. She provided updates on several FCPD websites, including the main police section, FCPD News website, and Pierce County Open Data Portal, which offer real-time crime and traffic data, as well as information on community programs and recent incidents. She announced that Major Justin Palenscar will be the new Lorton District Commander, effective July 25th, and that Major Lowery is transitioning to a new role as Personnel Resources Division commander.

Legislative Updates

Virginia State Delegate - 19th District, Rozia Henson

Represented by Temujin Choijilsuren, Chief of Staff

Mr. Choijilsuren provided legislative updates, highlighting key points from the recently passed state budget, including increased investments in public education, standard deduction adjustments, and new tax measures.

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Virginia State Delegate - 18th District, Kathy Tran

Represented by Benjamin Hermerding, Chief of Staff

Mr. Hermerding shared local updates, including requested tree trimming in several community areas and ongoing work with VDOT regarding road safety following a fatal accident on Old Keene Mill Road. He explained that an additional \$930 million in revenue was announced but will likely be allocated to the next budget during the April General Assembly session due to concerns about diminished revenues from Federal Government positions. **Larry Clark** inquired about construction at Lorton Road and the possibility of adding a permanent right turn lane, which Mr. Hermerding said he would follow up with VDOT.

Committee Reports

Public Safety Committee, Chair Jonathan Kiell

Mr. Kiell had nothing to report after the presentation by FCPD. He added that a cell tower will be constructed at Gunston Hall to improve coverage in the Mason Neck area, addressing both civilian and public safety communication needs.

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

Mr. Firth reported that the Lorton 2040 Visioning Task Force had been disbanded following Board of Supervisors approval, with no immediate development expected. He discussed upcoming applications including a Shell station redesign and potential rezoning of a vacant rock and sand lot.

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

Mr. Clark had nothing more to report.

Education Committee, Chair James Fenton

Mr. Fenton presented education updates including kindergarten registration information and open houses at local schools.

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

Mr. Weyland presented three resolutions for action. The first dealt with Exit 163 Southbound off of I95, seeking a traffic study of the intersection with Lorton Road and possible repainting of lines to allow two-lanes of traffic closer to the interstate.

Motion to approve the resolution by Peter Weyland, second by Larry Clark, passed unanimously.

The second resolution concerned left turns from Hassett Street onto Route One Richmond Highway during evening rush hour, seeking a traffic study to potentially ban the practice.

Motion to approve the resolution by Peter Weyland, second by Jonathan Kiell, passed unanimously.

Mr. Shovlin presented the third resolution, concerning the speed limit on Telegraph Road through the Newington communities.

Motion to approve the resolution by Keith F. Shovlin, second by Larry Clark, passed 13 for, 1 against.

The Transportation committee will meet the following evening to discuss the Bus Rapid Transit plan for the Lorton area, the state of rail in Virginia, & other transportation concerns.

Open Forum

Nothing.

Adjournment

President Shovlin thanked everyone for attending and reminded attendees that they are always welcome. He again asked for volunteers to serve as Secretary, Adopt a Highway Coordinator, and the

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paid intern position. He also reminded the members that there will be no meeting in August & the September meeting will be in person at the Noman Cole Water Treatment Facility on Richmond Highway.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Clark, Second by Mr. Kiell, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm.

The next scheduled meeting is on September 8th, 2026 at 7 pm at the Noman Cole Water Treatment Facility Auditorium, 9399 Richmond Highway, Lorton, VA.

Action Items

- **Keith F. Shovlin:** Send out information on how to attend the September meeting at the Noman Cole Water Treatment Facility and how to sign up for tours.
- **Jonathan Kiell:** Talk to Chief Wallace about setting up a briefing at the Real-Time Crime Center for the Executive Committee and interested residents
- **Supervisor Storck:** Forward Marty Schirmacher his written response to Supervisor Herrity regarding the trust policy.
- **Benjamin Hermerding:** Talk to VDOT about the possibility of installing a permanent right turn lane ("pork chop") at the Lorton Road and Silverbrook intersection while the area is already under construction.
- **Ebaddullah Ebadi:** Research and send Larry Clark the link or copy of the data center policies.
- **Deputy Chief Veva Wallace-Spaulding:** Send an email formally introducing Major Justin Palenscar as the new Lorton District Commander to the South County Federation.