

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 8, 2021

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Neil A Morgan, County Administrator



SUBJECT: 2022 Legislative Priorities

Staff has compiled a draft Legislative Priorities proposal for your consideration. My recommendation is that we schedule this topic for discussion after the August special General Assembly session, but before the January regular session. We may have modifications following the special session in the meantime. Any suggestions are appreciated.

Copy to: James E. Barnett, Jr., County Attorney
Richard Hill, Deputy County Attorney

NAM/mlb 3309

2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Policy Studies - Joint Legislative Audit & Review Commission (JLARC) **(Supports the County's Strategic Priorities, #1-6)**

- Health Department funding / resources – Study the performance of the local Health Departments during the pandemic, making recommendations for future actions. If appropriate, improve their resources without creating a burden on localities.
- York County supports a review of local government classifications, specifically county, town, city. The definitions have not changed in more than 50 years. (Local Government Definitions Article VII Local Government Section 1.) The proposed review would evaluate extending authorities currently granted to some local governments to all local governments, such as revenue generation and governance. Statewide population increase, infrastructure, core local government services and changes in technology suggest a review and modernization would be appropriate.

Finance (Supports the County's Strategic Priorities, #1-6)

- State allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Local funds were not allocated evenly between cities and counties; consider using state funds to mitigate this discrepancy.

Transportation (Supports the County's Strategic Priorities, #1, #3, #4, #5)

- Complete the widening of I-64 between Williamsburg and Richmond.
- Fund VDOT maintenance to appropriately care for roadway litter and drainage, staffing, materials and contracting.
- Provide additional resources for secondary road paving.
- Increase local transportation allocations for active transportation such as the Birthplace of America Trail.
- Promote electric vehicle infrastructure.

Technology & Resiliency (Supports the County's Strategic Priorities, #5, #6)

- Support policies and programs that advance **Fiber Deployment** and subsequent 5G service.
- Support offshore wind programs and related businesses. These programs bring economic development, energy resilience and environmental benefits to the region.

Education (Supports the County's Strategic Priorities, #2)

- Support state allocations for local school capital needs.

Unfunded Local Mandates

York County urges the General Assembly to oppose and reject legislation that would impose new unfunded mandates and fiscal responsibilities on local governments or reinstate any “local aid to the Commonwealth” measures. Moreover, the County supports a “First Day of Session Filing” requirement for any General Assembly Bills having a fiscal impact on localities.

Public Notice and Public Hearing

York County supports legislation that would give localities the option to use electronic or other forms of notification as an alternative to newspaper advertising for required notices and public hearings.

County Strategic Priorities

1. **Exemplary Public Safety**
2. **Excellent Educational Opportunities**
3. **Value - Driven Economic Development**
4. **Maximize Outstanding Communications and Customer Service**
5. **Environmental Stewardship with a Focus on Resiliency**
6. **Quality technology Investments**

Legislators

At the conclusion of the General Assembly session please share with us the progress on these items. If you need additional information please contact any member of the York County Board of Supervisors or County Administration.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Neil A. Morgan



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Walter C. Zaremba
District 1
Sheila S. Noll
District 2
W. Chad Green
District 3
G. Stephen Roane, Jr.
District 4
Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.
District 5

July 6, 2021

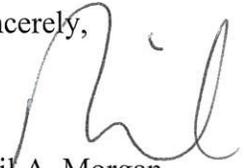
Mr. Robert A. Crum, Executive Director
Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization
The Regional Building
723 Woodlake Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Bob
Dear Mr. Crum:

York County is pleased to join the City of Newport News to support the Hampton Roads Planning Organization's (HRTPO) Reinvesting in America's Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant proposal requesting funding for important segments of the proposed Birthplace of America Trail/Capital Trail extension.

As part of this grant program we understand that the RAISE program will fund 80% of the project costs for successful grant applications, with the remaining 20 percent provided via local match. York County is prepared to allocate \$600,000 of available appropriated funds in addition to a Newport News allocation of \$2,200,000 to commit the necessary local match to advance approximately 4.5 miles of this trail from Fort Eustis Boulevard to the McReynolds Athletic Complex. The estimated cost of this project will be approximately \$13.9 million, requiring the associated \$2.8 million match.

We believe this project offers exciting opportunities for our communities and region, and are pleased to pledge the local resources to serve as the local project match.

Sincerely,

Neil A. Morgan
County Administrator

Copy to: Cynthia D. Rolf, City Manager
City of Newport News

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 6, 2021

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Neil A. Morgan, County Administrator



SUBJECT: COVID-19 Report

In early 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic began to unfold, I requested that staff develop a comprehensive report to be shared with the Board and our citizens regarding the impact of the situation on York County operations. My objective in requesting this information was twofold: to provide interested parties with detailed descriptions of how we as a staff have managed to operate in this global pandemic, and to assist any future County officials who may one day face a similar emergency situation. Just as the COVID-19 pandemic has been compared to prior health crises, it is not out of the realm of possibility that another global situation will emerge and officials will look to the actions taken in 2020/2021 as they navigate through their event.

This report contains a timeline of the virus as it emerged, financial information detailing how the pandemic affected the County's revenue stream as well as the assistance received through CARES Act funding and assorted grants, the process through which Operation Vaccinate the Peninsula was established and our participation in the vaccination program, and an "in their own words" section from our departments describing the challenges of continuing to provide services to the community under the restrictions caused by the virus.

I trust that you will find the report, [linked here](#), to be informative and interesting. Some of the information contained within will be familiar to you; however, some of the details provide a behind-the-scenes look into the ingenuity of our employees as well as their ability to rapidly adapt to the ever-changing situation. We have also made the report available on the homepage of www.yorkcounty.gov under "Quick Links"

Addendums to the report may one day be required. However, it is my hope that the majority of the story is contained within. Should you have any questions or need clarification on any part of this report, please let me know.