

Draft Letter to District Councils and Other Fairfax County Civic Organizations

This letter is written to encourage your organization to identify those candidates for the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) and Fairfax County Public School Board (SB) who are willing/committed to take the next cooperative steps between the BOS and SB that are expected to result in significant savings and that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (Federation) believes are necessary to address projected budget needs in FY 2017 and beyond without increases in property taxes.

In a sequence of three Joint BOS and SB Committees over the past 5 years supervisors and school board members have expanded existing cooperative actions. (see background statement in attached resolution). The progress and short-comings of these joint committee efforts and suggestions for future joint action are discussed in background section of the attached resolution adopted by the Federation on _____

The following are presented as sample questions that might be posed to candidates to discern their true/meaningful attitude towards cooperation. [**This could go as an attachment or as a continuation of this letter**]

List of issues to probe

1. Do you support the development of common County/FCPS standards for prioritizing the urgency for new and renovated facilities?
2. Would you support the establishment of a single queue for building construction and renovation?
3. Would you support hiring a management consultant to assess the merits of combining various County and FCPS departments?
4. Should the potential benefits of combining the County's design and construction groups be studied by an outside consultant, and should the possible benefits of combining the County's design and/or construction groups be studied by an outside consultant?
5. Should all construction and renovation of County and FCPS facilities be approved by voter referendum? [Note: This would not include non-County or non-FCPS facilities funded for economic development].
6. What County and FCPS functions could be served through joint use of facilities?
7. What joint use of facilities have you supported or would you support?
8. Do you believe that "hoteling" has a role in more efficient use of joint facilities?
9. Should Information Technology support be provided by the County for both County and FCPS?
10. Should all Human Resource support for County and FCPS be provided by FCPS?
11. How can transportation functions be better coordinated between the County and FCPS?

12. Should all County and FCPS employees be provided a living wage?
13. Should County and FCPS administrative and support employees, especially those under the County's retirement system be provided fair and comparable compensation?
14. Would you support competitive compensation for FCPS teachers with those in the surrounding jurisdictions?
15. How can the BOS and SB better coordinate and focus legislative efforts?
16. Is there any benefit in having a common health insurance program for County and FCPS employees?
17. Would you support an expansion of PreK programs?
18. Would you try to appoint citizens to the Library and Park Boards who willing to coordinate their programs with FCPS?

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