

FISCAL IMPACT COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary October 26, 2010 Purcellville Room 4:00 p.m.

Present: Burton, Jim – Chairman
 Adamo, Sam
 Capretti, Michael
 DeLong, Steven
 Gorski, Ed
 Mitchel, Hobie
 Schonder, Charles
 Winters, Jack

Call to Order

Committee Chairman Burton called the meeting to order. Mr. Burton explained that the purpose of this meeting was for the Committee to edit, change, or approve the draft transmittal letter that would be submitted to the Board.

Mr. Burton stated that he had a few minor edits to the letter:

1. Second paragraph, third line – change “their” to “its”.
2. Second paragraph, last line – change “their” to “its”.
3. Always capitalize “Bow Wave” to keep it consistent.

He had questions on the following bulleted information:

1. Bullet #6 – “apply certain Capital Facility Standards county wide so that service delivery could be provided anywhere in the County rather than only in a specific geographic planning area.” Examples would include the larger parks and High Schools.
2. Bullet #10 – “develop alternatives to provide public service without having to acquire land. “ Examples would include placing a library in a mixed use center or in a commercial building.

The number of additional housing units in the pipeline was discussed and whether or not the County could continue to provide necessary services at the level the County strived for. Mr. Capretti noted that language should be added to the letter, possibly included as a new bullet #2, that addresses those housing units already approved and in the pipeline.

Sam Adamo discussed the anticipated school needs and noted that approximately 70% of the future demand in the next 10-15 years would be in the Dulles sub-area.

Mr. Burton commented that in future reviews, the Parks and Recreation standards would have to be lowered and there would be necessary changes in the school standards. As a side, Mr. Burton suggested that one idea could be to slowly replace the natural turf at the high schools with artificial turf so that the fields could be available for the community use.

Mr. Schonder raised a question on Bullet #9 and indicated he had requested information on possibly raising the debt ceiling and raising the property tax by 1 cent to prepare for the “Bow Wave” of necessary facilities. He questioned the verbiage in this particular bullet.

Mr. Burton stated that he would not be in support of raising the debt cap. Ben Mays, Department of Management and Financial Services, explained the revenue received for each penny increase which would equate to about \$5 million and discussed the County’s debt ratio and debt to expenditure policies.

A discussion was held whether or not to remove Bullet #9. Mr. Mitchel suggested adding the word “review” raising the debt cap. Mr. Winters commented that it would be wrong to remove the bullet. Mr. Delong stated it should be left in but should be revised as it appears “too editorializing”.

Mr. Mays offered some alternative language for consideration: “to identify additional funding sources and potentials during the existing Six-year CIP. This could include maximizing the County’s debt cap, additional local tax fund for capital projects”.

Mr. Mays stated he believed that a bullet was missing which addressed the biggest issue behind the “Bow Wave”, the current CIP that impacts FY17.

The student generation factors were discussed and the Committee agreed to remove the bullet (#12) which referenced reinstating the school aged children census which came from the LCPS Board.

Mr. Mitchel suggested the Committee look at how the County will be conducting business in the future.

Mr. Winters suggested dividing the bullet points into three categories: Lowering the service levels, raising taxes to allow for the current level of services to continue, or develop a plan to provide services for less money. This language will be added to the second paragraph on page 2.

Following the review of the transmittal letter, staff indicated that they would incorporate the changes discussed and send out a final copy to all committee members. Upon sign-off of the transmittal letter, copies and the accompanying attachments will be forwarded to the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.

Next Meeting

There are no more regularly scheduled meetings planned for 2010. However, the Committee is expected to convene in late Spring 2011.

Meeting Adjourned

There being no further business to come before the committee, Committee Chairman Burton adjourned the meeting.

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(NOTE: The final signed transmittal letter was signed November 3, 2010 and is posted at www.loudoun.gov within the Fiscal Impact Committee’s 2010 documents.)