

Stafford Highlights for 2014

Statistical

- Approved FY15 budget; estate tax bill 14% from FY09-FY14 on an inflation-adjusted basis.
- Maintained the lowest general government costs among peer localities, and non-public safety staffing at less than 10 years ago.
- Passed FY15-FY24 CIP; fully leverages state revenue sharing funds, \$10M annually.
- Refinanced lease revenue bonds results in \$200,000 savings.
- 27 commercial projects under construction totaling 416,000 sq. ft.
- Completed 19 capital projects; 28 capital projects in the pipeline.
- Accepted 14 streets into the State Secondary System in FY14; 16 more in the process for a total of 30 streets expected to be accepted into the system this fiscal year for a total of 9.86 miles.
- Implementing a retail strategy to bring high-end retail opportunities to Stafford. Met with 70 retailers, and welcomed Chipotle, Verizon Smart Store, Dunkin Doughnuts, Sonic, Wawa, Walgreens and others in 2014.

- Increased local transfer for schools operating by more than \$3.1 million from FY14 to FY15, equating to a 3.5% increase from last year to this year.
- Provided 70% of our new revenues to the schools this budget year.
- Increased the number of jobs in Stafford by 42% over the past decade. In raw numbers jobs have grown from 25,781 jobs in County in 2003 to 39,753 jobs in County by 2013.

Accomplishments in 2014

- Celebrated Stafford's 350th Anniversary with major signature events including: Celebrate Stafford 350th; Founder's Day parade; Celebration Stage at Pratt Park; Wings and Wheels; Trail to Freedom and unveiling of the African American History Mural at the Rowser Building; and world premiere of the movie, "Stafford County: Our American Story.
- Completed construction on the Lake Mooney Reservoir and Dam. Reservoir will hold approximately 5.3 billion gallons of water.
- Received Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for CAFR for 32 consecutive years and GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation for 25 consecutive years.
- Received Heart Safe Community Award from the International Association of Fire Chiefs for creative approaches in managing and treating Acute Coronary Syndrome and Sudden Cardiac Arrest.

- Designated Stafford County as state's first Heart Safe community by the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services and the Rappahannock Emergency Medical Services Council also designated
- Funded the full CIP request by the School Board and accelerated expansion of Colonial Forge, Brooke Point, and Mountain View high schools.
- Implemented joint audit contract with the schools.
- Established network connectivity between the County and Schools, providing the Sheriff's Office access to cameras that are installed in County Schools in the advent of an emergency incident.
- Renovated the Curtis Park Pool and reopened it this summer. Project was part of the 2009 Parks and Recreation Bond Referendum.
- Won Best Restored Beach Award for Aquia Landing from the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association.
- Completed Joint Land Use Study with neighboring localities and Quantico. Established guidance to encourage compatible community growth around MCB Quantico and improve the quality of life in the surrounding communities.
- Opened Chichester Park, which features five diamond fields, four are both baseball/softball fields. One is baseball only.
- Recognized Stafford Training School for its historical significance in the desegregation of Stafford's schools which led to the subsequent integration of schools in the

greater Fredericksburg area with a historical highway marker by the Virginia Department of Historical Resources.

- Opened the new park and ride lot at Staffordboro with VDOT, which adds more than 1,000 parking spaces, bringing the total available to 1,865.
- Established a “regeneration station” to help the Dark Fiber extension from Ashburn to Richmond. This represents a potential cyber and broadband highway for the 21st century and helps Stafford to serve its businesses better and makes the community more attractive for potential businesses.
- Announced the first certified Data Center site in Stafford, which will reduce both time and risk for any business selecting a site.
- Saved approximately \$2 million in CY13 with volunteers from Citizens Assistance, Fire and Rescue and the Sheriff’s Office.
- Assisted in opening of Interstate 95 Express Lanes from Garrisonville Road to Beltway

Exciting Things for 2015

- Studying joint services opportunities with schools.
- Designing Section 4 of the Belmont-Ferry Farm Trail, the part of the trail running from Pratt Park along the Rappahannock River towards Ferry Farm. The trail is part of a larger trail system that is envisioned to connect Stafford’s parks and historical resources along the

Rappahannock River with those of Fredericksburg, forming the “Heritage Loop.”

- Broke ground on the Jeff Rouse Swim and Sport Center at Embrey Mill Park, which will have an indoor 50 meter X 25 yard competition pool, a warm-down pool and a therapy pool as well as a gym and rooms for exercise classes. Embrey Mill Park is out to bid.
- Other CIP Projects include:
 - Mountain View Road Improvements, Phase I and II
 - Stafford High School
 - Second Right Turn Lane at Route 1 and Garrisonville Road
 - Centreport Parkway
 - Corporate Center Boulevard
 - Falmouth Intersection Improvements
 - Crow’s Nest Nature Preserve – Public Access
 - Embrey Mill Park Rectangular Field Complex
- Launching customer service training for County staff to enhance customer care skills.