



2024 General Assembly – Legislative Priorities

- 1. 1% Sales Tax for Local School Construction or Renovation** - The Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County will need to request that Delegate Wright introduce a bill in the upcoming General Assembly session that would add Prince Edward County to the list of counties that are enabled to collect up to 1 % in additional sales tax revenue for the construction or renovation of schools within the locality. Currently localities listed under §58.1-602 include Charlotte County, Gloucester County, Halifax County, Henry County, Mecklenburg County, Northampton County, Patrick County, Pittsylvania County, or the City of Danville. The County has estimated that a 1 % increase in sales tax would generate an estimated \$3,000,000 in annual revenue based on collections over the past five years. This is based on the County's share of 50% of local collections and our proportionate split of the remaining 50% with the Town of Farmville based on school age population. This would provide enough revenue to support significant improvements to the County elementary school as well as middle and high schools.
- 2. Allowing Prince Edward County to Establish a Solid Waste Fee** - The Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County requests that the General Assembly amend §15.2-2159 of the Code of Virginia to add Prince Edward County to the list of counties that are enabled to establish a fee for solid waste management. As the Board is aware, the County's solid waste management systems includes a county- owned sanitary landfill and seven convenience/recycling center sites. Currently, as outlined in Subsection A, the counties of Accomack, Augusta, Buckingham, Floyd, Highland, Pittsylvania, Russell, and Wise Counties may by ordinance, and after a public hearing, levy a fee for the disposal of solid waste not to exceed the actual cost incurred by the county in procuring, developing, maintaining, and improving the landfill and for such reserves as may be necessary for capping and closing such landfill in the future. Bath, Buckingham, Russell, and Southampton Counties may by ordinance, and after a public hearing, levy a fee for the management of solid waste not to exceed the actual cost incurred by the county in removing and disposing of solid waste. Such fee as collected shall be deposited in a special account to be expended only for the purposes for which it was levied. Additionally, the Counties of Floyd, Pittsylvania, Russell, Southampton,

and Wise Counties are enabled to purchase or subsidize the purchase of equipment used for the collection of solid waste. The Board of Supervisors would like Prince Edward to be added to §15.2-2159.

In 2022, the County hired a new landfill engineering firm, LaBella, and they have reviewed the County's solid waste operations and made recommendations on making the County's Solid Waste Enterprise fund self-sufficient. As part of the solution, the County would like to be able to establish a solid waste fee to help offset the cost of handling and disposal of County waste.

3. **Amendment to Allow for Extension of Enterprise Zone #48** - The counties of Prince Edward, Lunenburg, and Charlotte are requesting that the Enterprise Zone, which is currently scheduled to phase out on December 31, 2024 be granted, an additional 5-year grace period. Since Enterprise Zone #48 (Charlotte/Lunenburg/Prince Edward) was created prior to July 1, 2005 (2000) we would request modification of the language from one to two five-year renewal periods.
4. **Sandy River Reservoir Project**- The Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County requests that the General Assembly take any necessary steps to support the Sandy River Reservoir Project and the provision of water and sewer from Prince Edward to the State facilities in Nottoway County.
5. In addition, the Board supports the **2024 VACO Legislative Priorities**.