Board of Supervisors Environmental Committee
Meeting Summary
February 24, 2026, at 11:00 A.M.
Government Center Conference Room 11

Board of Supervisors (Board) Members Present:
Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay
Supervisor Walter L. Alcorn, Hunter Mill District
Supervisor James N. Bierman, Jr., Dranesville District
Supervisor Andres F. Jimenez, Mason District
Supervisor Patrick S. Herrity, Springfield District
Supervisor Rodney L. Lusk, Franconia District
Supervisor Dalia A. Palchik, Providence District (Committee Chair)
Supervisor Rachna Sizemore Heizer, Braddock District
Supervisor Kathy L. Smith, Sully District
Supervisor Daniel G. Storck, Mount Vernon District

Others Present:
Bryan J. Hill, County Executive
Elizabeth Teare, County Attorney
Jennifer Miller, Deputy County Executive

Link to agenda and meeting materials: Board of Supervisors Environmental Committee Meeting: Feb. 24, 2026 | Board Of Supervisors

Item I: Opening Remarks
The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Supervisor Palchik, Environmental Committee Chair. The February 24, 2026, meeting summary was accepted.

Item II: Environmental Highlights from 2025 and Initiatives for 2026
John Morrill, Director, Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination (OEEC) presented environmental highlights from 2025 and initiatives for 2026. Highlights included the Energy Compass program launch, electrification of county fleet vehicles, county facility energy upgrades, continued expansion of the Green Business Partners program, and actions to address tree canopy and water quality improvements.

The Board discussed evaluation of the Energy Compass pilot, grant funding opportunities from environmental organizations and foundations, the Green Business Partners program, Unified Sanitation Districts, control of invasive species, and building energy upgrades and certifications.

Item III: Operational Energy Strategy Implementation
OEEC Division Manager, Kevin Smith, provided an update on the Operational Energy Strategy (OES). Highlights from 2025 included solar installations at Fairfax County Park Authority, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, and Fairfax County Public Library buildings, and aggregate savings of $5 million in yearly avoided energy costs. He shared a map

of the county's retrofit projects and progress toward OES targets. Mr. Smith requested Board feedback on two recommendations related to OES implementation: The first was a recommendation to count grid-supplied renewable energy toward the county's renewable energy targets; the second was to apply renewable energy credits (RECs) generated from the solar installation at the I-95 Landfill to new county facilities to help achieve Net Zero Energy targets.

The Board discussed implementation of a well-balanced energy approach. Several committee members, including Supervisors Palchik, Smith, and Herrity, were in favor of staff recommendations. Supervisor Storck mentioned the importance of local action toward our energy goals as we can't always depend on the state. The Board also discussed a monitoring-based commissioning pilot that is being implemented at seven county facilities.

Item IV: Presentation on the Annual Report on the Environment and Other Environmental Topics

Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) Chair Larry Zaragoza, Vice-Chair Eric Goplerud, Providence District EQAC member Kathy Alsegaf, and Hunter Mill EQAC member Ken Lanfear presented the 2025 Annual Report on the Environment (ARE) and other council priorities to the Board. Chair Zaragoza explained the ARE's priority recommendations, legislative priorities and 2026 proposed meeting topics. He concluded by sharing EQAC's 2026 proposed role of serving as independent advisors to the Board of Supervisors, promoting the coordination of environmental touchpoints, and supporting community involvement in environmental matters.

Board discussion focused on the ARE priorities, including data centers and the need to balance environmental considerations with economic development. The Board also discussed the county's wastewater infrastructure, regional coordination on water quality in the Occoquan watershed, recycling rates and illegal dumping, the impact of the plastic bag tax on the use of disposable plastic bags, the heat island effect on mobile home communities, solar group purchasing programs, the impact of Dominion Energy's interconnection fees on county solar projects and EQAC's coordination with the Planning Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 12:31 p.m.