ATTACHMENT B

Town Of Herndon

2026 Virginia General Assembly Legislative Positions

Land Use

- **Oppose Any Reduction of Local Land Use Authority:** The Town Council opposes legislation that weakens local authority to plan and regulate land use, zoning and property maintenance. This authority should remain with local governing bodies. The Town Council generally supports the granting of additional land use, zoning, and property maintenance authority to localities, especially in areas experiencing high rates of sustained growth, and to address the fiscal burdens experienced by localities in providing needed public services to local residents. The Town Council supports existing local authority to accept cash and in-kind proffers from developers to assist localities in financing the capital facilities and infrastructure needed to serve new development and opposes legislation to eliminate or restrict that authority.
- **Wireless Communication Facility Placement:** The Town Council opposes any legislation that limits the Town's authority to regulate the placement of wireless communication facilities in Town right-of-way and on Town-owned facilities and rental and permit fees related to such equipment.

Environment

- **Tree Save Efforts:** The Town Council supports efforts that would strengthen localities' ability to require private new construction projects to save existing trees.
- **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative:** The Town Council supports the Commonwealth of Virginia rejoining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) as an important step in improving public health, reducing air pollution, and investing in community resilience. Participation in RGGI provides essential funding for energy efficiency and flood mitigation programs that directly benefit local governments and residents.

Transportation

- **State Oversight of Locally Administered Projects:** The Town Council supports state policy changes to reduce state oversight of locally administered transportation projects to create greater efficiency.
- **VDOT Cost Estimates:** The Town Council supports state policy changes to mandate further refinement of VDOT cost estimates for transportation projects to improve accuracy. In those circumstances when there are excess funds on a specific project, allow those funds to be reallocated to other transportation projects more efficiently.

Utilities

- **Chesapeake Bay TMDL and State Water Quality Management Planning Regulation:** The Town Council urges the Commonwealth of Virginia to provide adequate funding for state and federally mandated capital improvements for TMDL, water quality, and lead abatement (public and private water systems/services).

Finance

- **State Funding for School Resource Officers:** The Town Council supports legislation that would provide state funding for school resource officers at all public elementary, middle and high schools.
- **Bills of Financial Impact to the Town:** The Town Council supports reinstatement of the requirement that bills resulting in a net expenditure and/or net decrease in revenue for local governments be filed on or before the first day the legislature convenes.
- **Business, Professional and Occupational License (BPOL) Taxes:** The Town Council opposes any legislation that would eliminate the BPOL tax, unless current revenue from the BPOL tax is replaced with new local revenue that is distributed directly to each locality based on point of sale. Further, the Town Council requests that if the BPOL tax is eliminated, localities be granted the authority to issue an annual license to businesses physically located within the locality for a nominal fee to recover administrative costs necessary for the collection of requisite information for other business processes and state mandated reporting.
- **Marijuana Sales Tax:** If authorized, the Town Council supports the Commonwealth of Virginia centrally collecting taxes on marijuana sales and distributing the tax on a monthly basis to each jurisdiction (counties, cities, and towns) based where the local portion of the tax was assessed and collected.
- **Vape Sales Tax:** The Town Council supports Commonwealth legislation related to the taxation of vape and liquid nicotine products specifically authorizing municipalities including towns to Levy a local excise or sales tax on vape product sales conducted within town boundaries and retain and use collected revenues at the local level to address community-specific needs

General

- **Marijuana Regulations:** The Town Council requests that the General Assembly take action to clarify state and local roles and responsibilities pertaining to marijuana rules and regulations.
- **More Authority for Large Towns: When** crafting legislation that impacts localities, the General Assembly, when practicable, should grant large towns the same authorities that are granted to cities and counties.
- **Oppose Any Reduction of Local Taxing Authority:** The Town Council opposes any reduction or narrowing of the taxing authority of local governments, including but not limited to business license tax, machinery& tools tax, sales tax, and meals tax. Further, the General Assembly should take no action to restrict the use of current local revenue sources.

- **Oppose Any Unfunded Mandates:** The Town Council opposes any new state mandates that are not fully funded by the Commonwealth and opposes the shifting of fiscal responsibility from the state to localities for existing programs.
- **Support Revenue Sharing with State:** The Town Council supports any state revenue sharing formula to assist local governments with public infrastructure needs. The formula should include recognition of the needs in high growth localities.
- **Legal Notice Publication:** The Town Council supports legislation that would give localities the authority to post legal notices on the locality's official website as a substitute for publishing legal notices in print newspapers.