Town Council
Regular Meeting
Agenda Item 6.a.

Agenda Item: **Resolution 25-G-59 to establish a Town of Herndon Youth Engagement Policy**

Meeting Date: October 28, 2025

Category: Consent

Prepared by: Amanda Kertz, Town Clerk

Description:
This is a request for Town Council to adopt a resolution establishing the Town of Herndon Youth Engagement Policy, which the Council reviewed at its October 7, 2025 work session. This policy incorporates the discussions held at the August 6, August 12, September 9, and October 7, 2025 Town Council meetings, builds on the Herndon Youth Advisory Committee (HYAC) framework, and provides a structured approach for students at Herndon Middle and High schools—along with participating private and alternative schools—to contribute feedback and recommendations to the Council's decision-making process.

Background:
The Youth Engagement Policy draws on lessons learned from the more formal HYAC model and reflects input from Town staff, school partners, and community organizations. It expands engagement opportunities, emphasizes accessibility and consistency, and strengthens collaboration between the Town and local schools.

As presented at the October 7, 2025, Town Council work session, the proposed Youth Engagement Policy establishes a school-based model for engaging students in grades 7–12. Key elements include:

- School-based sessions are held during the school day, and coordinated by Town staff, teachers, and school administrators.
- Accessibility and inclusivity efforts to provide translation and age-appropriate materials as needed.
- Two sessions will be held per academic year at Herndon Middle and Herndon High schools, with at least one annual session at each participating private or alternative school.
- Town staff will summarize feedback to share with the Town Council at appropriately defined intervals.

Timing Impact:
Adoption of the policy will allow staff to coordinate with Fairfax County Public Schools and participating private and alternative schools for implementation during the 2025–2026 academic year.

Strategic Focus Area:
Good Governance

Fiscal Impact:
N/A

Legal Impact:
This policy will establish a formal process for how the Town of Herndon engages with the youth through school-based partnerships with Herndon High and Herndon Middle schools, private, and alternative schools in the Town of Herndon.

Staff Recommendation/Next Steps:
Recommend approval as presented.

Attachments:
1. Resolution (Proposed)
2. Proposed Youth Policy, Objectives