Prince William County

TRAILS AND BLUEWAYS COUNCIL

Advisors to the Board of County Supervisors

MOTION: Steven Cover July 23, 2024

SECOND: Duane Martin

Regular Meeting

Res. No. 24-15

RE: DEVELOPER PROFFER INCONSISTENCY FOR RECREATIONAL TRAILS, PARKS, AND OPEN SPACE

ACTION:

WHEREAS, The County has received applications for a significant number of new residential developments based upon changes that were approved in the 2023 update to the Land Use Chapter of the Prince William County Comprehensive Plan, and

WHEREAS, monetary contributions for Parks and Open Space to provide recreational facilities for the new residents of new subdivisions are being calculated in an inconsistent manner using criteria generated by the individual developer rather than by the county or state, resulting in widely varying contributions, or the conclusion by the applicant that no contribution at all is necessary to mitigate the impact of the new residents in an area, and

WHEREAS, this problem affects monetary contributions to Recreational Trails, Parks, and Open Space, and potentially leaves the funding for resources to provide these public services to substantial numbers of new residents totally up to the existing taxpayers, which could eventually result in increases in taxes or a substantial decrease in the quality and availability of public services, and

WHEREAS, the legal basis for this inconsistency appears to be based upon the applicants' individual interpretation of state law: Section 15.2-2303.4 of the Code of Virginia,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Trails and Blueways Council recommends that the County's Board of Supervisors requests interpretation by state lawmakers and possible changes to the above referenced law to ensure that there is a balance between contributions by developers and the impacts of the new population on Parks and Open Space and other public services.

Votes:

Ayes: 12 Nays: 0

Absent from Vote: 0 Absent from Meeting: 4

For Information: County Attorney

SIGNED: Elizabeth Gonauer

Prince William Trails and Blueways Council chair