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## **District 1 Update: January 2026**

### **OVERVIEW OF COUNTY-WIDE ISSUES**

**Hello all,**

Welcome to 2026, everyone! After a busy holiday season, we've hit the ground running with our first Board meeting on January 6th. This meeting served as our organizational session, where we officially convened for the year and elected our Chair and Vice Chair.

I was pleased to recognize our outgoing Chair, Mrs. Sheila Noll, as she completed 30 years as a District Supervisor for York County.

The Board then elected me as the new Chair and Mr. Tom Shepperd as our new Vice Chair. I look forward to working with the full team throughout the upcoming year.

It is truly an honor to serve York County as your Chair, and I look forward to a successful and busy year as we celebrate the Nation's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday. Priorities for the Board of Supervisors will be set at our annual retreat in late January. You can refer to the county's link on important dates throughout 2026:

<https://www.visitYorktown.org/civicalerts.aspx?aid=1072>

### **Recycling Services have Returned**

As I mentioned in my last newsletter, a new contract for recycling was established with Republic Services of Yorktown, which is the same vendor currently collecting our trash.

Recycle services began on Monday January 5<sup>th</sup>, and although there were a few hiccups on day 1 with new trucks and drop off points, services are now fully back on schedule as of writing this newsletter. You can refer to the county's [Recycling Portal](#) for the latest information including what materials are accepted as this has changed slightly. We anticipate an overall better service with this change.

## York County Budget

The following dates are added to the Board's Rules of Procedure for consideration of the budget for Fiscal Year 2027. These meetings will be held at the specified times and open to the public. An itemized list of locations and topic for discussion at each meeting will be forthcoming.

- January 30, 2026: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM - Retreat at American Revolution Museum
- March 17, 2026: 6:00 PM – Budget Presentation at March BOS Regular Meeting
- March 19, 2026: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- March 24, 2026: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- March 26, 2026: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- March 31, 2026: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- April 7, 2026: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- April 9, 2026: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- April 14, 2026: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- April 16, 2026: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- April 23, 2026: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

These additional meeting dates have been scheduled to ensure ample time for the Board to discuss and address matters related to the Fiscal Year 20216 budget and other relevant topics.

## York County Real Estate Assessment

York County real estate assessments, are conducted once every two years, and as part of the 2026 reassessment, staff have reviewed sales, updated photographs and previously issued building permits. A district review of assessment value increase is provided below:

### Percent of Change by Magisterial District

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT	PARCEL COUNT	2025 TOTAL	2026 TOTAL	% OF CHANGE
Bruton	6,825	\$3,884,062,900	\$4,181,653,400	7.66%
Grafton	6,592	\$2,890,020,500	\$3,199,899,400	10.72%
Bethel	8,458	\$4,208,013,400	\$4,660,264,500	10.75%
Nelson	4,986	\$1,987,502,300	\$2,223,001,300	11.85%

## York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office (YPSO) Business Academy

The next session of the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Business Academy is scheduled to begin on February 3, and registration is now open. The Academy

is open to businesses located in York County and the City of Poquoson, including nonprofit organizations, volunteer groups, and faith-based organizations such as churches. All residents of York County are welcome.

The objective of the Business Academy is to "...enhance a collaborative working relationship with the businesses and faith-based communities in York County and the City of Poquoson through an educational process that focuses on business-related material, law enforcement and the criminal justice system."

This is a four-week program that will meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for about two hours per evening beginning at 7:00 PM.

Topics will include:

- Patrol Techniques
- White Collar Crimes
- Workplace Violence
- Robbery Prevention
- Business Watch Program
- Site Surveys
- 911 Communications
- Crisis Management Planning

For more information and to register, visit the [YPSO Business Academy portal](#).

### **Coffee with the Chair**

Also new this year, I have asked the County Administrator to develop plans for a monthly coffee and chat discussion with the Chair.

The intent of the session is to allow citizens from across the County to ask the Chair questions and receive direct answers in a small group forum.

Stay tuned for opportunities to register.

### **Williamsburg Regional Library (WRL) Update**

In the June and August newsletter, I highlighted that York County is requesting a new contract be developed for the WRL library services, ahead of any addition of libraries in JCC, and possible rebuilding of the downtown library. This year's cost has increased 8.4% following an increase in 2025 of 7.7%. We are at nearly \$1M per year now, for York County's share.

Mr. Stevens (JCC County Administrator) and Mr. Trivette (City Manager of Williamsburg) have indicated that they want to review the library's programs and their users before further discussion.

York County will have further discussion during budget review of our Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

## **DISTRICT 1 SPECIFIC ISSUES**

### **Queens Lake Dam, Spillway and Lake Funding**

**A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Dec 12th to recognize the start of construction on the dam and spillway at Queens Lake. The picture below shows the current condition as the lake levels are decreased to allow construction:**



**I continue to seek funding options for the restoration work at Queens Lake and have reached out to Queens Lake resident, Delegate Dr. Mark Downey, on this legislative priority. We are scheduling a meeting in early February.**

### **Waller Mill Heights Update**

**I reported last month that Waller Mill Heights Development had received an Emergency Stop Work Order in October, in response to 45 environmental violations at the construction site.**

**Three issues remain outstanding, and work has not progressed in the last month. The Stop Work Order remains in effect, ensuring that the County's standards on environmental protection are maintained throughout construction.**

## New Businesses

The number of new businesses in York County continues to grow, with 8 new businesses licensed in December, and 26 closures in the same month. The number of closures is surprisingly high; however, this is also when existing businesses receive their renewal license application.

One business license approved in District 1:

- The Lunch Box Cafe LLC, a commercial restaurant located at 500 Lightfoot Rd

I value your input and am happy to address questions or concerns on these or any other topics for the district. Please don't hesitate to contact me.

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