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JEFFREY C. MCKAY
CHAIRMAN

Board Matter

A Coordinated Communications Campaign on the Availability and Status of the COVID-19 Vaccine and Others

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During the COVID-19 pandemic, Fairfax County, led by the Fairfax County Health Department (FCHD), Board of Supervisors, and Office of Public Affairs, provided accurate and timely information to our residents on how to protect themselves in mitigating the spread of the virus. Moreover, when vaccines became available, the FCHD and other County agencies had already developed a plan to vaccinate thousands of residents each day. Through these actions, Fairfax County furthered itself as a trusted source of information.

With changes occurring at the federal level, coupled with new guidance on who will be eligible to receive the updated COVID-19 vaccine, along with a rise in cases in our area, it is imperative that Fairfax County remain a bearer of trusted and accurate messaging. The FCHD recently updated its website with the latest information on this subject, and this too should be shared with the broader community.

Therefore, I move, without objection, that the Board direct the Office of Public Affairs to work with the FCHD on a coordinated communications program related to information on who is eligible for the vaccine, where they can receive the vaccine, and that this is pushed out and updated to our community as appropriate.

There is a lot of uncertainty and concern here in Fairfax County, and nationally, about vaccines in general. As such, we ask that the FCHD continue, as they have, to remain on top of these developments and push out science-based medical advice that the County has historically used to share information about the importance of vaccines that promote public health.

I further move, without objection, that the FCHD relay to the Board any and all pertinent information as it relates, but may not be limited to, structural challenges that may be incorporated into the Board's Legislative Program. This is meant to ensure that both Fairfax County and the Commonwealth of Virginia are at the forefront of public health, grounded in medical research, data, and accuracy in keeping our residents healthy.