

Montgomery County

755 Roanoke St. · Christiansburg, Va. 24073

540-381-6887

IN THIS ISSUE
FY2020 Approved Budget
Capital Projects Progress
ACAC Grant
Broadband Study
Being Green and Clean



today

Spring 2019

FY 2019-20 Budget and Tax Rate Approved

The Board of Supervisors recently approved its FY2020 spending plan that goes into effect July 1. The \$201.5 million budget represents a \$12.1 million increase over the current budget. The real estate tax rate remains 89 cents per \$100 assessed value, and personal property taxes remain at \$2.55.

Of the total budget, 70 percent is allocated to school operations, capital, and debt service. This year, the County increased school funding for operations by \$3,844,609. Also a half cent was added to school capital projects, bringing the total allocation to 2.5 cents, or \$2,111,523 annually.

How Your Dollar is Spent



SCHOOLS
70 cents

COUNTY
30 cents



COUNTY
FUNCTIONS

COUNTY
DEBT

COUNTY
CAPITAL

The remaining 30 percent of the budget is dispersed among 12 county departments, five Constitutional offices, three agencies under separate boards, four

court functions, five rescue squads, five fire departments, and over 40 outside agencies. The current fiscal year ends June 30. For more, see www.montva.com.

County Capital Projects Progress Report: 10-year Review

Over the past 10 years, the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has strived to manage resources and facilities industriously. Since 2009, the Board of Supervisors has supported a total of 21 capital projects, 15 of which involved our schools. (See the full list below.)

All of this has been accomplished while maintaining financial stability for the

County. In 2018, Standard and Poor's (S&P) Rating Service raised the County's rating to AA+ on the basis of "sound operating performance" and a "stable outlook."

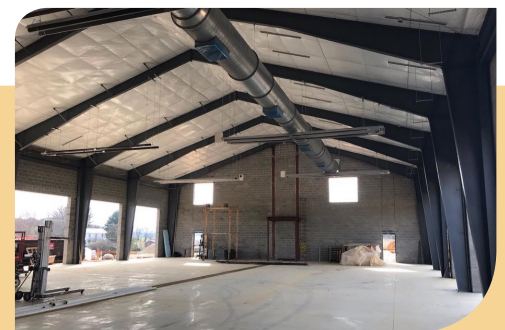
While the current list of capital projects is extensive, it is certainly not complete. The Board is discussing additional capital projects to include school upgrades in

Christiansburg; repurposing the existing Riner Fire Station once construction of the new Riner Fire Station is complete; a consolidated garage and maintenance facility to replace the County's outdated garage and maintenance facilities; and options for the former Sheriff's Office and adjacent former Clerk's Office.

County Capital Projects

- Construction of new Eastern Montgomery and Prices Fork Elementary Schools
- Construction of new Auburn and Blacksburg High Schools
- Renovation of the former Auburn High School for reuse as Auburn Middle School
- Investment in the former Christiansburg Middle School for use by Blacksburg Middle School during construction of a new high school in Blacksburg
- Repurposing of seven former school

- facilities: the former Elliston-Lafayette, Shawsville, and Prices Fork Elementary School sites, the former Auburn and Blacksburg Middle School sites, the former Blacksburg High School site, and the former MCPS Central office facility
- Expansion of Falling Branch Elementary School
- Beginning renovations at Christiansburg High School by installing state of the art athletic fields
- Construction of a new Courthouse facility
- Renovation of the former Courthouse for use as a Public Safety Building
- Construction of a new Animal Care and



- Adoption Center
- Purchasing 100+ acres for the expansion of Falling Branch Corporate Park
- Construction of new fire and rescue training facility (aka "Burn Building")
- Construction of new Riner Fire Station (pictured above)

Community Support Secures \$25,000 Grant for Animal Care and Adoption Center

In November, the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center (ACAC) was awarded a \$5,000 Holiday Wishes grant from the PetCo Foundation. Upon receipt of the \$5,000 grant, the ACAC was entered to win the PetCo Foundation People's Choice Award in the amount of \$25,000.

The ACAC depends primarily on donations and grants. It was thanks solely to the more than 7,000 votes they cast that the ACAC received the People's Choice Award, securing an additional \$25,000 donation from the PetCo Foundation.

To date, the money provided by the PetCo Foundation has specifically paid

for intensive care for an animal in severe gastric distress; an amputation on one dog and one cat; tumor removals and biopsies; and one dental extraction for a severely infected mouth. Several other small procedures, bloodwork and preventative care supplies have also been provided thanks to this grant.

In addition, the ACAC has earmarked the award money for the following:

- upgrading the ventilation system in the cat isolation area, which in turn will help the cats recover more quickly;
- purchasing equipment and supplies to help outfit the center's surgical area, with the long-term goal of being able to provide surgeries on site by



local veterinarians; and

- providing lifesaving veterinary care for the sick and injured animals regularly arriving at the ACAC

Since opening in April 2017, 3,025 animals have been adopted, reclaimed, or rescued and the center has achieved a 95 percent live release rate.

Broadband Study Needs Your Feedback

In partnership with the New River Valley Regional Commission, Montgomery County and City of Radford are seeking feedback from citizens regarding the current status of broadband in our communities. Please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BroadbandSurvey> and share your feedback.



In March, Montgomery County issued a Request for Proposals seeking consultant services that will support the development of a broadband plan for both Montgomery County and the City of Radford.

The intent of the study is to:

- assess current broadband coverage gaps;
- analyze infrastructure needed to deliver broadband service;
- utilize data from a forthcoming community-wide survey;
- receive input from a project management team comprised of broadband stakeholders in the public,

private and citizen sectors; and

- create sample partnership agreements the local governments may use to support future deployment solutions.

The plan development process is anticipated to last six months with a final plan anticipated in the fall of 2019. The intent is to utilize the plan to prioritize implementation projects that will address access issues to un-served and under-served areas.

For more information, visit <http://nrvrc.org/broadband-plan-for-montgomery-county-and-radford/>.

Being Green and Clean

The health of Virginia's waterways begins in your backyard.

- Pollution from nutrient runoff from fertilizer is the greatest issue for local waterways.
- Excess fertilizer can run off your lawn and pollute these waterways.
- It can encourage algae growth, reduce water clarity, and stress aquatic plant and animal life.
- Lawn runoff eventually reaches one of more than 3,000 creeks and rivers in Virginia.

What can you do?

- Encourage your lawn-service company to participate in Virginia's Water Quality Agreement Program.
- Consider a nutrient management plan for your yard. Contact your extension agent or watershed organization for help creating a plan for your yard.

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors

District D - M. Todd King, Chair

District G - April N. DeMotts, Vice Chair

District A - Sara Bohn

District B - Christopher Tuck

District C - Steve Fijalkowski

District E - Darrell Sheppard

District F - Mary Biggs

County Administrator - F. Craig Meadows

Connect with us!



Social Media
montgomeryva



Website
montgomerycountyva.gov
or montva.com