

2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES & POSITIONS

PRIORITIES

Policy Studies - Joint Legislative Audit & Review Commission (JLARC) **(Supports the County's Strategic Priorities, listed on back)**

- York County requests legislation directing the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to perform a study of the manner in which the **Internet** sales taxes, paid to the Commonwealth, are distributed to the localities. Upon comparison of the amounts received by York County with amounts received by neighboring jurisdictions for specific businesses, due to the shared postal zip codes for Williamsburg, James City County and York County we have concerns that some E- businesses delivering goods to the County may have been mistakenly sent to adjacent localities. The lost revenue concern is compounded by the Wayfair decision which provides for higher internet sales collections making fair allocations even more critical.

Public Safety (Supports the County's Strategic Priorities, Exemplary Public Safety, and Customer Service)

- Pass legislation allowing localities to build Emergency 911 databases to identify those with developmental or behavioral issues prior to public safety responses. Similar data bases constructs could be use in pandemic situations.
- Virginia Communications Sales and Use Tax was enacted to establish a statewide tax rate and to preempt local taxes on communications sales and services. York County supports setting the tax rate at the same level as the state sales tax rate and broadening the coverage of the tax to include audio and video streaming services and prepaid calling cards. York County opposes transfers of these revenues to the state general fund for purposes other than those currently stipulated in the Code of Virginia.

Transportation (Supports the County's Strategic Priorities, Environmental Stewardship, Value-Driven Economic Development, and Customer Service)

- Widen I-64 to 6 lanes between Williamsburg and Richmond.
- Allocate additional funds to the Virginia Smart Scale Program.
- Provide additional maintenance funds for secondary road paving, drainage, mowing and litter control.
- Local Assistance Program should include award parameters for sea level rise and resiliency.

Education (Supports the County's Strategic Priorities, Excellent Educational Opportunities)

- Full state funding for **Special Education**, Support Staff and Operations, **SOQ**, Capital Projects and Maintenance and Teacher Pay Increases.
- Support school **Security Initiatives**.
- Fully fund State Aid for libraries.

POSITIONS

Unfunded Local Mandates

York County urges the General Assembly to oppose and reject legislation that would impose new unfunded mandates and fiscal responsibilities on local governments or reinstate any "local aid to the Commonwealth" measures. Moreover, the County supports a "First Day of Session Filing" requirement for any General Assembly Bills having a fiscal impact on localities.

Public Notice and Public Hearing

York County supports legislation that would give localities the option to use electronic or other forms of notification as an alternative to newspaper advertising for required notices of public hearings.

Qualified Immunity

York County opposes the repeal or revision of the judicial doctrine of qualified immunity. Qualified immunity protects officials from frivolous and harassing litigation while allowing legal cases with merit.

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County Strategic Priorities

1. Exemplary Public Safety
2. Excellent Educational Opportunities
3. Value - Driven Economic Development
4. Maximize Outstanding Communications and Customer Service
5. Environmental Stewardship with a Focus on Resiliency
6. Quality technology Investments

Legislators:

At the conclusion of the General Assembly, session please share with us the progress on these items. If you need additional information, please contact any member of the York County Board of Supervisors or County Administration.