

# **Farmers Market Opening Day May 2**

It's back! The 2024 Herndon Farmers' Market opens next Thursday, May 2, and runs every Thursday until November 7. Market vendors offer fresh produce, artisanal goods and local delights weekly, 8am to noon. From the season's brightest strawberries to yummy breakfast sandwiches to delicious pickles (yes, pickles!) and much more, it's all available at the Herndon Farmers' Market. Plus it's a weekly occasion to connect with your neighbors and friends in the Town of Herndon. The market will also feature live music in the summer months, gardening clinics by Fairfax County Master Gardeners; and more. The market is organized in partnership with the Fairfax County Park Authority.

Mark your calendar for opening day, and we'll see you at the Herndon Farmers' Market!

**Farmers' Market Info** 



## **Big Truck Day May 3**

Big Truck Day is an opportunity for children – and their parents – to see the town's big trucks and heavy equipment on display.

#### Join us Friday May 3, 9am – 7pm Town of Herndon Public Works Maintenance Complex 1479 Sterling Road

The event is free; however, attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food donations for communities in need. Large groups should call ahead. For more information visit the town's website at <a href="https://www.herndon-va.gov/PublicWorks">www.herndon-va.gov/PublicWorks</a>; call 703-435-6860; or email public.works@herndon-va.gov.



### **Proposed FY 2025 Budget Public Hearings**

### **Public Hearing Scheduled for May 14**

Herndon Town Manager Bill Ashton has proposed a Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Budget of \$74,632,184, a 19.9 percent increase from the adopted FY 2024 Budget. The town's FY 2025 begins July 1, 2024, and extends to June 30, 2025.

Most town tax rates and fees in the Proposed FY 2025 Budget remain unchanged from the current fiscal year. "While most property owners will receive higher tax bills in FY 2025 due to rising real estate values, the town's proposed real estate tax rate remains at \$0.26 per \$100 of assessed value, a rate that was reduced in FY 2024 after holding steady for more than a decade," Ashton said. Increases are proposed for water and sewer rates, attributed to higher supply and treatment costs.

The proposed FY 2025 Budget is available in interactive detail at <a href="Herndon-va.gov/Budget">Herndon-va.gov/Budget</a>. A comprehensive accounting of the proposed budget is presented, including narratives, charts and graphs that are easily navigated and accessible to all. The interactive tool allows taxpayers to enter their personalized tax amounts and see how their taxes are allocated.

By law, the Herndon Town Council must adopt a FY 2025 Budget by June 30, 2024, with enactment to begin on July 1, 2024, the first day of the new fiscal year. The council will hold the second of two public hearings on the proposed budget, on Tuesday May 14, beginning at 7pm in the Ingram Council Chambers. Comments may also be submitted online at Herndon-va.gov/Budget or via email at budget@herndon-va.gov.

Interested in receiving notices of upcoming meetings directly into your inbox? Visit https://herndonva.portal.civicclerk.com/ and select "Sign In" to register your email and select for which meetings you would like to receive notifications when agendas are posted.

## New Economic Development Director Appointed

The Town of Herndon has named Marc G. Smith as director of Economic Development.

In his new post, Smith will be responsible for promoting the Town of Herndon as a desirable location in which to start or grow a business; establishing cooperative and mutually beneficial relationships between town businesses; and furthering initiatives related to economic development and business vitality. He will serve as the town's primary liaison to the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce and other entities dedicated to Herndon's commercial sector, and he will work with new and existing town businesses as they navigate town processes.



Smith most recently served as senior business development manager for Arlington County, where he led a team charged with attracting and retaining businesses in the county, resulting in \$28 million capital investment and 6,400 new jobs, to include the recent location of CoStar Group's headquarters in the county, a net of 650 jobs and \$20 million capital investment. He also managed the county's lead generation and business development portfolio and created a new strategic plan for the division. Previously, Smith was a business manager for the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), the economic development authority for the Commonwealth.

Smith begins his employment with the town on May 13. Effective on that date, he may be reached at Marc.Smith@herndon-va.gov or 703-435-6800 x2085.

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