

Questions	Responses
What is the email for budget questions?	blueprint@chesterfield.gov
Over the past 10 years, which years were schools not fully accredited?	Chesterfield County schools were partially accredited during each of those years. This is the closest Chesterfield has come to having full accreditation with only one school being partially accredited.
How does Chesterfield compare to other surrounding localities regarding Public Safety pay?	The Police Department is using a career development model similar to Henrico and the Fire Department is overhauling their career development plans in FY19.
Is Chesterfield County lower in compensation compared to the surrounding localities for Police and Fire?	Chesterfield County has very competitive compensation plans.
Where can citizens find dedicated sidewalk funding in the FY19 budget?	In FY19, funding for sidewalks is included within the Community Enhancement CIP budget. In FY20, dedicated funding for sidewalks will be included.
Has there been a grand opening for the Stonebridge Community Center?	It is operational today. There will be a grand opening in April.
Is there anything that can be done for the drivers of Access Chesterfield to appreciate them more?	Chesterfield County contracts the service. They are not County employees.
In seeing the average days a home is on the market in Chesterfield County is 38 days, why is Chesterfield's average so much higher than the City of Richmond?	The average number includes the data for all of Chesterfield County. Typically, smaller houses are on the market for a shorter period of time than larger houses which can also effect the average. Days on the market is similar across the region.
What is included in the Cultural Element piece of the dollar breakdown?	Parks and Libraries.
Is there any plan to implement a development plan along Jeff Davis?	The planning department is working on this. A JDSAP is coming soon.
25 years ago, there were Jeff Davis projects that had plans but were never implemented. The projects need to be official before the community can be involved to help. Is the County going to fund this project?	This will go before the Board of Supervisors in the April-May timeframe. Funding for specific projects would be identified once approved.
Will there be funding for personnel to follow through with the implementation plans for the Jeff Davis area?	The Capital Improvement Plan has some resources available for this as well as some additional money within the Community Development Block Grant. There are personnel within the Community Enhancement department to assist with implementation.
The PowerPoint presentation shows year-to-year funding but does not show real numbers. All localities have this structure for their community meeting PowerPoints as well and this makes it difficult for citizens to see the actual numbers associated with funding.	The full budget document is posted online within the Budget Department's webpage: http://www.chesterfield.gov/budget/
When looking at Chesterfield S.A.F.E.'s FY17 financial report, it shows that Chesterfield County has contributed \$26k or 9% of the program's budget. Is there a way Chesterfield can match donations from the private sector for this program?	In addition to the existing financial support, there are in-kind donations such as staff time and grant management.
Is there an exact dollar amount that is invested into opioid prevention?	There are many County resources dedicated to this cause. Each resource intertwines with other departments and makes it difficult to monetarily quantify. This is also a regional effort including teams from Richmond City, Henrico, and Hanover.
Was any effort made to contact the custodians that lost their jobs due to the custodial contracting to potentially hire them back on?	Current and former custodians in the buildings are able to apply for the custodial job openings.

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If the current custodians aren't doing their jobs now, why are they allowed to apply for the job openings?	The issue wasn't the custodians doing their jobs, it was that there weren't enough custodians in the building to meet staffing and cleanliness standards.
It is important to ensure the parents of students in vulnerable areas are engaged, heard, and listened to, especially regarding year-round schooling and parents who speak English as a second language.	The original meeting for year-round school was canceled due to weather and a survey was sent out in English and in Spanish in an attempt to get parent's opinions regarding this issue.
Where are the reallocations coming from for the new departments?	The reallocations are pulled from other departments to help fund Citizen Information and Resources as well as Community Enhancement.
Does the \$711 million include state and federal money?	There is very little state or federal money included in the \$711 million, but it would be primarily in the Social Services area.
Is Harrowgate the only fire station that doesn't have 24-hour ambulance service?	No, the station at Manchester has day service and volunteer service as a supplement for nights and weekends.
With Beulah Elementary relocating, will the old school become a senior citizen center? Where in the budget does this fall?	This is part of the capital budget. The old school building will become a community center as well as the new location of the Parks & Recreation Department's administrative staff.
Is the Community Engagement Coordinator in place now?	The Coordinator position is not in place now but will start July 1.
Where will this position be located?	The Community Development building in April.
Is Chesterfield County doing Narcan training?	Yes, it's called the Revive class and 250+ citizens have already completed the program.
When will Jefferson Davis area funding become available?	It is in the capital budget. There is \$500,000 set aside countywide for projects and Jeff Davis funding could be part of that.
How will Jeff Davis get part of the \$500,000 if it's for the whole County?	The County will have to prioritize the projects. Pieces of the Jefferson Davis plan can be considered after it's adopted.
How does the County plan on returning the \$23 million surplus to its citizens?	Year end surplus goes towards the "Rainy day" fund. County policy requires a reserve balance of 8%, these funds are set aside for times of economic turmoil in order to prevent dramatic swings to tax rates and service levels. A penny was returned on the tax rate in FY19, reducing the current real estate tax rate from \$0.96 to \$0.95 cents.
What is your take on what appears to be a spat between the Board of Supervisors and the Commonwealth Attorney's office?	There is disappointment that the issue has been escalated to this point. The Commonwealth Attorney has a 45% resource gap according to the Compensation Board and 35 of the 120 localities have more funding and positions than the model says they need. Perhaps if some of those positions were moved to Chesterfield County, there would no longer be an issue.
What is being done to address safety in schools?	A safety task force has been created and applications are being sorted through now. Hundreds of applications have been received.
Does the funding for sidewalks (in the CIP) include funding for crosswalks?	Yes, in many instances it does, will be evaluated on a case by case basis.
Are there any plans in the School funding to enhance security in CCPS?	Safety is of top priority in CCPS. In FY2018 administration put money towards professional evaluation and support for students posing potential danger to themselves or others; emphasis on mental health support. Diane Smith (Clover Hill School Board Representative) is leading a collaborative effort with school and public safety to develop and propose recommendations on safety in schools.

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Citizen has concerns about Access Chesterfield; have to purchase vouchers at library, must purchase a minimum of 6 vouchers, vouchers expire within a short time frame. How are these issues being addressed?	Funding for a part-time program manager has been made available to look at these and other issues with the program, the county is looking for better ways to address these valid concerns; including no expiration on vouchers, online accessibility, and other technologies.
CCPS cost per student more expensive than other localities in the Richmond area, why is this?	CCPS calculates the cost per student ratio based on the standards established by the Virginia Department of Education. This calculation excludes the debt service payments, as these amounts vary significantly across divisions/year-to-year. Looking at the average over multiple years, Chesterfield remains competitive in this area.
How are we addressing funding for our (Police) first responders?	The Police Department is reviewing deployment strategy to maximize the use of current resources. This budget does include 15 overfill positions to run academies while fully staffed. Career Development Plan enhancements are included in this budget. Also, additional resources have been included to address the opioid crisis.
What's included in the revitalization category of the CIP? What's included in the Community Enhancement budget?	Beulah/Parks and Recreation Renovation, Blight Eradication, Community Enhancement, County Contribution to Ettrick Elementary Replacement, Future Facility Land Acquisition, referendum Project Enhancements. Full details available in the CIP: http://blueprint.chesterfield.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/18/2018/01/Proposed-FY2019-FY2023-CIP.pdf . Community Enhancement, as a department, is predominately the personnel component to implement the programs.
Was funding for schools cut this year?	No. Schools received an additional \$8.3 million locally above what they received last year.
Where can I find information about the replacement of Harrowgate Park?	The Board of Supervisors will be having a work session on the Parks & Recreation master plan during the April 25th meeting.
Have we seen return on the County's investment in Stonebridge?	Stonebridge: the cost for infrastructure improvements that the County put in place has been repaid based on the tax revenue being generated.
How much tax is generated in the Bermuda district?	2017/2018 Tax Assessment data can be found online: http://www.chesterfield.gov/ManagementServices/RealEstateAssessments/Statistics.htm
How much money has been invested in the Jefferson Davis corridor?	Capital Investment is currently not tracked by location. In the future, staff will attempt to capture investment in the corridor.
What happened to monitoring stations at the Swift Creek Reservoir?	There are currently 8 monitoring stations in the reservoir.

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What is the projected life span of the Swift Creek Reservoir as a water source for the County?	Swift Creek Reservoir will be a viable and important drinking water source for a very long time. The reservoir, while shallow and subject to environmental issues not uncommon to other southern United States reservoirs such as algal growth, suburban runoff, natural contaminants, etc., is still of the highest quality compared to other national water sources. There are many water sources that have been around for millennia, and even though the Swift Creek Reservoir is a manmade impoundment, we believe it will continue to be a good water source supply into the foreseeable future.
Are there any plans for another reservoir?	Not at this time.
What's the status of the DRPT study? And then the relationship between the DRPT study and what's planned in the CIP?	The Board of Supervisors will be having a work session on this topic during the 5/25/2018 meeting. There are no funds included in the FY19 budget. However, the Board of Supervisors can take action to amend the approved the budget as appropriate.
What's the status of the Baxter Perkinson Center for the Arts?	Construction is slated to begin this summer (2018) and open in the fall 2019.
Can you provide a breakdown for the \$2.3 million in transportation funding?	It is the County's contribution to Access Chesterfield and GRTC.
Where can I find all of the budget details?	www.blueprint.chesterfield.gov
What's the increase in the utility rate?	The typical residential bi-monthly bill will increase by \$3.92 or 3.56%
What does the BOS plan to do with internal audit findings on schools SRP?	On 3/28/18 the Board of Supervisors will take action on amendment, restatement, and approval of the Supplemental Retirement Plans.
Has the County's SRP been audited?	It will be audited in 2018.
What's the revenue neutral tax rate?	0.93 for calendar year 2018.
How much local funding supports schools?	The FY19 budget local transfer to schools is \$302,066,300.
What are we doing for seniors?	Opening of Stonebridge Community Center, Support for Senior Advocate, Coordination of volunteer resources, tax relief for the elderly and disabled (+\$1.7M), programs embedded in animal services, CCPS, utilities, public safety, etc.
What's being done to address staffing/pay to retain public safety employees?	The proposed budget includes enhancements to career development plans across all public safety agencies.
At what rate do we (the County) borrow money?	Sub 3%.
Does the EDA effect our bond rating?	Economic Development, and prospective opportunities, are a large component of the County's review. The rating agencies want to see diversification in the tax base.
Who provides insurance coverage for the County?	The county is self-insured.
What's the residential ratio breakdown for single family versus multi-family?	The county is currently sitting at a ratio around 80% residential and 20% commercial.
What is the ratio of jobs in Chesterfield to those living in Chesterfield?	As of June 2017, .733 (was .65 in 2011)
How does the change from a renovation to a rebuild effect the Bond Referendum projects/funding?	General obligation debt sale planned for the beginning of FY19 will provide a portion of the funding. Considering the extensive costs of renovation in comparison to how long the life of the building would be extended, CCPS made the decision to replace the remaining schools. Costs to replace the schools, beyond the scope of the referendum, will be financed with other types of debt. Details are included in the CIP.
How is CCPS funding schools start times?	By repurposing existing bus funding.

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When is construction slated to start on Harrowgate Elementary	FY2020
Is there money in the budget for the megasite?	There is no funding in this budget related to that pending zoning case, and no part of this forecast envisions any potential revenues from future economic development projects at the site. Road improvements, as proposed in the case, would be funded like other major road improvements of the past via a combination of state, federal and new business investment sources. As with any such opportunity, those impacts will be weighed as the process unfolds, but they will not negatively impact the FY2019 budget.
Is the Fire Department adequately funded to respond to a major emergency at the mega site?	Fire and EMS is currently evaluating the zoning case that has been submitted. Their comments and full analysis will be provided in the staff report. The county has staff, equipment, and training to respond to Hazmat situations. Recognizing that a major catastrophic event requires a regional response from our local partnerships.
How much of the CIP is located in the southern end of the county?	Schools: new Ettrick Elementary, new Enon Elementary, new Harrowgate, new Matoaca Elementary, new Beulah Elementary; General Government: replacement Fire Stations for Chester and Matoaca, new Magnolia Green Fire Station, 24-hour medic at Harrowgate Fire Station, Enon/Ettrick Library Expansion Study/Design/Replacement, Bensley Community Center Improvements, Lowes Sports Complex, Beulah/Parks and Recreation Renovation, various Transportation projects
What's the status of the Schools SRP?	Plan was approved Board of Supervisors and School Board last year. Schools is paying the required contribution. Projected funding shows the plan to be fully funded in 10 -12 years
What are the unfunded priorities of CCPS?	1) additional major maintenance needs, 2) PTR reduction in general education, 3) 27 pool positions
Does the budget include funding for start times?	Yes, funding is in the School Board's approved budget.
What's the progress on schools replacement?	The schools originally slated for replacement [on the 2013 Bond Referendum) are near finish, the schools converted from renovation to rebuilds will be completed by 2021.
Beulah Elementary traffic concerns at new school	Turn lanes are part of the design.
Who's reviewing the risk assessment on a dual school location?	Risk Management
Is the County going to fund the Schools unfunded priorities?	Schools remain a high priority, additional \$8.3M is proposed to be invested in schools. Depends also on the outcomes of State funding.
Where does the money come from when the County provides business incentives?	Economic Development Business Incentives are performance based. Once the company has met or exceeded the defined performance goals, then may be eligible for business incentives; for example, the company may be reimbursed on taxes paid during a specific timeframe of operation after meeting the performance goals which could be related to expansion and/or job creation.
What's the current unemployment rate in the County?	3.2% (as of December 2017)
What does the county do for small businesses?	The County has one of the highest BPOL thresholds in the region. The Economic Development department also has project manager devoted to current and new small businesses

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Why are business incentives not available to the public?	There are numerous reasons why potential business prospects seek anonymity and discretion while they explore options for locating and expanding their business, and in order to promote Virginia localities' efforts to attract such businesses, the General Assembly has allowed for exemptions from the Freedom of Information Act during this decision-making aspect of the process. After a business expansion project in the county is announced publicly, any public records related to the project, including agreements between the County and/or EDA and a prospective or existing business, are available to the public in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
Where can I find a detailed transcript of the budget?	The County Administrator's Transmittal letter provides a thorough overview, it's located within the budget document.
Does the County have resources to address other types drug addictions?	Mental Health Support Services provides programs and services for other types of drug addiction
Will there be another chance to vote on a meals tax?	It's unknown at this time, but would be a community decision if and when we ever reach that point
What's the status on Ettrick Elementary?	Converted from a renovation to rebuild. The new school is expected to open September 2021
What's the status of Matoaca Middle and Elementary?	Matoaca MS - 22 classroom addition will be constructed on the existing East Campus. Expected to be completed by January 2020. Matoaca Elementary - Rebuild on Holloway Ave. Expected opening September 2020.
What's the status of the new Matoaca Fire Station?	Design to begin in FY2020, Construction planned to begin FY2021. (Citizen comment to consider adding fire and rescue equipment to handle taller buildings at VSU)
What's projected for new industry on the southern end of the County?	Pursuing other partnerships with VSU and local businesses; Always looking to grow business and jobs in the County.

Comments	
Valuation of housing running two times higher than GDP and population growth? New construction is not accounted for in assessment valuation.	
Bond Referendum vote should sync up with BOS election.	
Citizen would like to see county employee salaries increase (specifically teachers and public safety) to a level where they would not be lured to work for other localities.	
Regarding the Jefferson Davis special area plan-the area is declining and they recognize they are not the only area in the County to have needs but funding is needed. \$93,000 was requested in FY18 and \$25,000 was given to the area. This year, nothing was	
Would like to recognize the community police officer for the Jeff Davis area.	
There should be a line item dedication in the budget for the Jefferson Davis area.	
Interested to help out and do something positive along the Jefferson Davis Corridor	
Citizen applauded the County's efforts in the areas of community enhancement and transportation, specifically Access Chesterfield and the consideration of point-to-point transportation solutions. Issues/ideas requested to be considered going forward.	
Citizens made comments comparing the megasite to meadowville	
Many in the population of need in Jeff Davis corridor do not have the funds for Access; "Think outside the bus"; Utilize Jeff Davis Associations to see how collaboration rather than funding could bring creative positive impact to the area.	
Commending the County on the achievement of maintaining a triple AAA Bond rating, as only 30 out of 3,000 counties nationwide hold this standing.	In addition, the bond rating is not just a financial measure, but reviews all aspects of the organization's operations and what's happening in the community.
EDA bonds are not full faith and credit pledge, they are often referred to as Revenue Bonds. A Bond Referendum, as approved by the voters, issues General Obligation bonds.	