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 SENATE BILL NO. 640

Offered January 20, 2012

A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-2239 of the Code of Virginia, relating to capital improvements.

Patron—Ruff

Referred to Committee on Local Government

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 15.2-2239 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 15.2-2239. Local planning commissions to prepare and submit annually capital improvement

programs to governing body or official charged with preparation of budget.

A local planning commission may, and at the direction of the governing body shall, prepare and revise annually a capital improvement program based on the comprehensive plan of the locality for a period not to exceed the ensuing five years. The commission shall submit the program annually to the governing body, or to the chief administrative officer or other official charged with preparation of the budget for the locality, at such time as it or he shall direct. The capital improvement program shall include the commission's recommendations, and estimates of cost of the facilities and life cycle costs, including any road improvement and any transportation improvement the locality chooses to include in its capital improvement plan and as provided for in the comprehensive plan, and the means of financing them, to be undertaken in the ensuing fiscal year and in a period not to exceed the next four years, as the basis of the capital budget for the locality. In the preparation of its capital budget recommendations, the commission shall consult with the chief administrative officer or other executive head of the government of the locality, the heads of departments and interested citizens and organizations and shall hold such public hearings as it deems necessary.

Localities may use value engineering for any capital project. For purposes of this section, "value engineering" has the same meaning as that in § 2.2-1133.

Beginning July 1, 2012, no capital improvement program shall contain, and no locality shall approve, a capital project involving the locality's courthouse until such time as the United States Gross Domestic Product Annual Growth Rate is three percent or greater.