

Commission on Local Government

Estimate of Local Fiscal Impact

2023 General Assembly Session | 01/19/23

In accordance with the provisions of 30-19.03 of the Code of Virginia, the staff of the Commission on Local Government offers the following analysis of legislation impacting local governments.

SB 1322: Comprehensive plan; healthy communities strategy. (Patrons: Senators Jennifer L. McClellan and Ghazala F. Hashmi)

Bill Summary: Comprehensive plan; healthy communities strategy. Authorizes cities with populations greater than 20,000 and counties with populations greater than 100,000, beginning July 1, 2023, to consider, at the next and all subsequent reviews of the comprehensive plan, adopting a healthy communities strategy. The bill provides that the locality's strategy may include identifying neighborhoods with major sources of pollution or hazardous waste and identifying objectives and policies to reduce health risks in such neighborhoods, to promote civic engagement by residents of such neighborhoods, and to prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of such neighborhoods.

Local Fiscal Impact: Net Additional Expenditure: x Net Reduction of Revenues:

Summary Analysis:

Number of Localities Responding: 5 Cities, 8 Counties, 6 Towns, 1 Other

Localities estimated a negative fiscal impact ranging from \$0 to \$40,000 over the biennium. Three localities provided estimates of potential costs, ranging from \$1,000 to \$40,000.

Because many localities are below the 100,000-person population threshold, this bill would not apply to them. Localities above the threshold noted that the bill authorizes, but does not mandate, them to include a healthy communities strategy. However, if localities choose to proceed with adopting a healthy communities strategy in their comprehensive plan, this would require additional staff time, consultants and/or subject matter experts potentially producing a negative fiscal impact.

As introduced, this bill is identical to HB 1798.

Net Increase in Expenditures: Itemized Estimates by Responding Localities

| Locality | Juris | Recurring Expense- Personnel | | Recurring Expense - Operating | | Recurring Expense - Capital | | Recurring Expense - Other | |
|------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|------|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|------|------------------------------|------|
| | | FY23 | FY24 | FY23 | FY24 | FY23 | FY24 | FY23 | FY24 |
| City of Alexandria | City | | | \$ 20,000 | \$ 20,000 | | | | |
| City of Danville | City | | | | | | | | |
| City of Harrisonburg | City | | | | | | | | |
| City of Manassas | City | | | | | | | | |
| City of Norfolk | City | | | | | | | | |
| Augusta County | County | | | | | | | | |
| Henrico County | County | | | | | | | | |
| Mecklenburg County | County | | | | | | | | |
| Montgomery County | County | | | | | | | \$ 6,000 | |
| Prince George County | County | | | | | | | | |
| Rappahannock County | County | | | | | | | | |
| Roanoke County | County | | | | | | | | |
| Rockingham County | County | | | | | | | | |
| Northern Neck PDC | Other | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Blacksburg | Town | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Christiansburg | Town | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Leesburg | Town | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Luray | Town | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Marion | Town | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Scottsville | Town | | | | | | | | |

Net Increase in Expenditures: Itemized Estimates by Responding Localities

| Locality | Nonrecurring Expense - Operating | | Nonrecurring Expense - Capital | | Nonrecurring Expense - Other | | Penny Value of Increase on Real Estate Rate* | Total Increase in Expenses (Biennium Total) |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|------------------------------|------|--|---|
| | FY23 | FY24 | FY23 | FY24 | FY23 | FY24 | | |
| City of Alexandria | | | | | | | | \$ 40,000 |
| City of Danville | | | | | | | | |
| City of Harrisonburg | | | | | | | | |
| City of Manassas | | | | | | | | |
| City of Norfolk | | | | | | | | |
| Augusta County | | | | | | | | |
| Henrico County | | | | | | | | |
| Mecklenburg County | | | | | | | | |
| Montgomery County | | | | | | | | \$ 6,000 |
| Prince George County | | | | | | | | |
| Rappahannock County | | | | | | | | |
| Roanoke County | | | | | | | | |
| Rockingham County | | | | | | | | |
| Northern Neck PDC | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Blacksburg | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Christiansburg | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Leesburg | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Luray | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Marion | | | | | | | | |
| Town of Scottsville | | | | | \$ 1,000 | | 0.0015 | \$ 1,000 |

| Locality | Expenditure Narrative by Responding Localities |
|------------------------|---|
| City of Alexandria | Since the language is authorizing, as opposed to mandating, it would seem from the City's Health Department perspective that any additional costs would be related to subject matter experts providing insight on these topics, community engagement, and perhaps costs related to a CHA/CHIP to assist. Contractor costs for past assessment support was \$20,000. |
| City of Danville | |
| City of Harrisonburg | This bill's exact impact on the City's expenditures is unknown, but it would increase costs. Increased costs would come in the form of paying a consultant to help update the Comprehensive Plan as well as in the form of additional staff time when updating the Comprehensive Plan. |
| City of Manassas | |
| City of Norfolk | Based on the bill's description, we read this as this is not a mandatory new requirement. The city of Norfolk already has extensive civic outreach through the Community Services Board and a resident survey. |
| Augusta County | |
| Henrico County | Bill doesn't mandate changes and departments are already considering or have implemented many of the strategies addressed in this bill. Could potentially impact real estate values by labeling properties with exposure to hazardous materials, but it is difficult to determine what that impact could possibly be. |
| Mecklenburg County | We do not have a population greater than the amount required by the proposed 15.2 - 2223.6(A). |
| Montgomery County | This would be something we would incorporate into our plan re-write which is scheduled to begin sometime this year. It could lead to an increased cost in the development of the plan as additional research/development may be needed; however, I could not estimate an exact figure. At the most maybe \$5-6k? |
| Prince George County | We fall under the 100,000 population threshold and this legislation would not impact our expenditures. |
| Rappahannock County | |
| Roanoke County | N/A -under the population threshold. |
| Rockingham County | |
| Northern Neck PDC | Neither the NNPDC nor any of its member-localities reaches the population thresholds impacted by this legislation. Input from affected localities should be considered. |
| Town of Blacksburg | If passed, this change would not require any additional funding, as the town has existing plans (NRV Hazard Mitigation Plan, TOB Climate Vulnerability Assessment, etc.) referenced in the Town Comprehensive Plan. |
| Town of Christiansburg | The proposed provision seems to allow this as an option, so it is not required. |
| Town of Leesburg | This bill only applies to cities and counties, so it does not affect the Town of Leesburg. |
| Town of Luray | |

| Locality | Expenditure Narrative by Responding Localities |
|---------------------|--|
| Town of Marion | |
| Town of Scottsville | Subsection C enables small towns to opt in and include the health strategy in the town comprehensive plan. Our town has this strategic interest and would probably accept this policy guidance. The \$1,000 cost estimate represents staff time to summarize and draft a narrative using existing health strategy documents in the region. Community health would be included in the agendas of meetings within an existing Comprehensive Plan update process. |

* Penny value is defined as the amount a locality would need to raise their real estate tax rate to cover the fiscal impacts of the bill, assuming no other changes to revenues or expenditures. It is represented in terms of dollars (e.g., 0.01 is a one cent increase in the real estate tax rate, etc.).