



Board of Supervisors

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County Administrator

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## New Kent County Legislative Agenda

### 2021 General Assembly Session

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#### 2021 Legislative Agenda Action Items

1. Transportation Funding  
Request additional funding for the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) Six Year Secondary Road Program and Revenue Sharing program.
2. VDOT Traffic Speed Studies  
Request that a committee be formed to develop a process that allows localities to have more input in the outcomes of traffic speed studies. Localities are responsible for traffic enforcement, emergency services, and other impacts related to traffic speeds along roadways within its jurisdiction, therefore there should be a process in place that takes into account input from the locality.
3. Broadband  
Request the General Assembly to increase the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) fund to assist localities with their efforts to deploy affordable high-speed internet services ("Broadband") for the benefit of businesses and education in unserved and underserved.
4. Interstate 64 Widening  
Request the General Assembly make the widening of I-64 from Interstate 295 to exit 232 (Lightfoot) a priority, and that the widening occurs with aesthetic sensitivity. I-64 is the primary gateway to many commercial and tourist destinations, military installations, and all of eastern Virginia. New Kent asks the Richmond based legislative delegations to develop and pursue a long term, unified strategy to accomplish the widening of I-64.
5. Funding for Alternatives to Groundwater  
Request the creation of an Alternative Water Supply Fund would help businesses and communities meet the new groundwater withdrawal requirements, while reducing the depletion of groundwater supplies. Whether new water supplies come from existing

surface water withdrawals, reclaimed water usage, or communities banding together to obtain new surface water withdrawals, the costs will be extremely expensive causing businesses and communities to suffer economically, not only in those regions affected, but to the Commonwealth as a whole.

## **Part II. Position/Legislation Supported by the County**

- 2-1. New Kent 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.
- 2-2. New Kent supports full funding for all legislation mandated for localities by the General Assembly that has a cost associated with it. Also, in the event that funding is no longer provided by the Commonwealth at a future time the mandate would sunset and no longer be binding on the localities.
- 2-3. New Kent supports legislation that incentivizes regional cooperation and service delivery to promote efficiency, mitigate inequities, and overcome barriers that result from Virginia's unique local government structure.
- 2-4. New Kent 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.