

NEWS RELEASE

Media Contacts

Karen Acar Thayer, APR
703-255-6330 | Office
571-263-4035 | Cell
Caleb Lester
703-255-6361 | Office
571-926-2241 | Cell

Feb. 1, 2024

Town Council Applauds Decision to Postpone Casino Vote

RICHMOND, VA — After a local push to persuade the Virginia General Assembly to abandon a bill authorizing a casino for Tysons, the Virginia Senate Subcommittee on Resources voted 4-0 to carry over the bill to the 2025 legislative session rather than advancing the bill to the full Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee. Vienna Mayor Linda Colbert and Hunter Mill District Supervisor Walter Alcorn were among those who testified in Richmond today about the detrimental effect a casino in neighboring Tysons would have on the entire region.

"Opposition to the casino bill is one of the Vienna Town Council's top legislative priorities," Colbert said. "Supervisor Alcorn and I expressed strong opposition to the legislation today during a Senate Finance Committee meeting this afternoon, and the bill was tabled for a year for further study."

Sen. Dave Marsden's (D-Burke) bill sought to put a referendum on a future ballot to authorize a casino for Tysons. Vienna Town Councilmembers, residents and others opposed to the proposal responded with numerous calls and emails to their representatives in Richmond.

"We are grateful to the Vienna community for signing petitions and sending emails and letters to the Town Council and Virginia legislators opposing the casino," Colbert said. "We are also thankful for the support we received from our legislative delegation, Del. Holly Seibold (D-Vienna) and state Sen. Saddam Salim (D-Falls Church).

Joining Mayor Colbert in Richmond today were Vienna Town Councilmembers Sandra Allen, Roy Baldwin, Jessica Ramakis and Howard Springsteen. All were there to participate in Virginia Municipal League (VML) Day at the State Capitol.