

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Agenda Item**




<b>Meeting Date:</b>	September 16, 2014
<b>Title:</b>	Authorize the County Administrator to Advertise a Public Hearing to Amend the Noise and Weapons Chapters of the County Code Regarding "No Shooting Zones"
<b>Department:</b>	Planning and Zoning
<b>Staff Contact:</b>	Jeffrey A. Harvey, Director
<b>Board Committee/ Other BACC:</b>	Public Safety Committee
<b>Staff Recommendation:</b>	Approval
<b>Budget Impact:</b>	N/A
<b>Time Sensitivity:</b>	N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1.	Background Report	3.	Proposed Ordinance 014-38
2.	Proposed Shooting Prohibited Areas Map	4.	Proposed Resolution R14-227

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Consent Agenda</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Other Business</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Unfinished Business</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Discussion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Presentation</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Work Session</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>New Business</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Add-On</b>

**REVIEW:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Administrator	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Attorney	 for Charles L. Shumate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sheriff	

<b>DISTRICT:</b>	N/A
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## **BACKGROUND REPORT**

The Board is asked to consider changes to the Noise and Weapons chapters of the Stafford County Code as it pertains to the discharge of firearms, pneumatic guns, arrows, and shooting in prohibited areas (No Shooting Zones). Many of the proposed amendments are technical in nature and are based on changes to the Virginia Code, practical application of regulations, and the effects of land development and urbanization in certain areas of the County.

The proposed change to the Noise chapter of the County Code would clarify that the “average,” rather than the “geometric mean,” of three sound level readings would be used to determine sound levels. This measurement would apply to all activities, not just sound related to shooting. This change would make the Noise provision easier to understand and enforce.

Virginia Code § 15.2-915.4 was amended in 2011, to provide specific provisions as to how localities may regulate pneumatic guns. The proposed amendments would bring the County Code into compliance with the Virginia Code. The proposed amendments would adopt the Virginia Code’s definitions of pneumatic guns, including BB guns, pellet guns, paintball guns, and any other gun that expels a projectile by pneumatic pressure. The amendments would allow the use of pneumatic guns in the following areas of the County: (1) at facilities approved for shooting ranges; (2) on property where firearms may be lawfully discharged; and (3) on private property with permission of the owner (or legal possessor) when conducted with reasonable care to prevent a projectile from crossing the bounds of the property. All minors would require parent or guardian permission to use pneumatic guns, and minors under the age of 16 would only be allowed to use pneumatic guns when accompanied by an adult. A violation of this Code section would be changed from a Class 2 misdemeanor to a Class 3 misdemeanor. Current regulations only prohibit the use of pneumatic guns on public streets and in public places.

County Code currently only allows the discharging of arrows at an established archery range and by licensed hunters. The proposed amendments would remove this limitation, and prohibit bows from being discharged in a manner that can impact another’s property without permission. This change would allow greater uses of bows, but prohibit irresponsible use of bows. Additionally, the restrictions for discharging firearms or hunting within 100 yards of an occupied residence would be clarified to note that the restriction would not apply to the property owner’s residence, or where permission was granted to discharge firearms or hunt on the property. The 100-yard shooting restriction would also be amended to prohibit shooting or hunting within 100 yards of a private road or in a subdivision with lots of 10 acres or less, rather than lots greater than 10 acres.

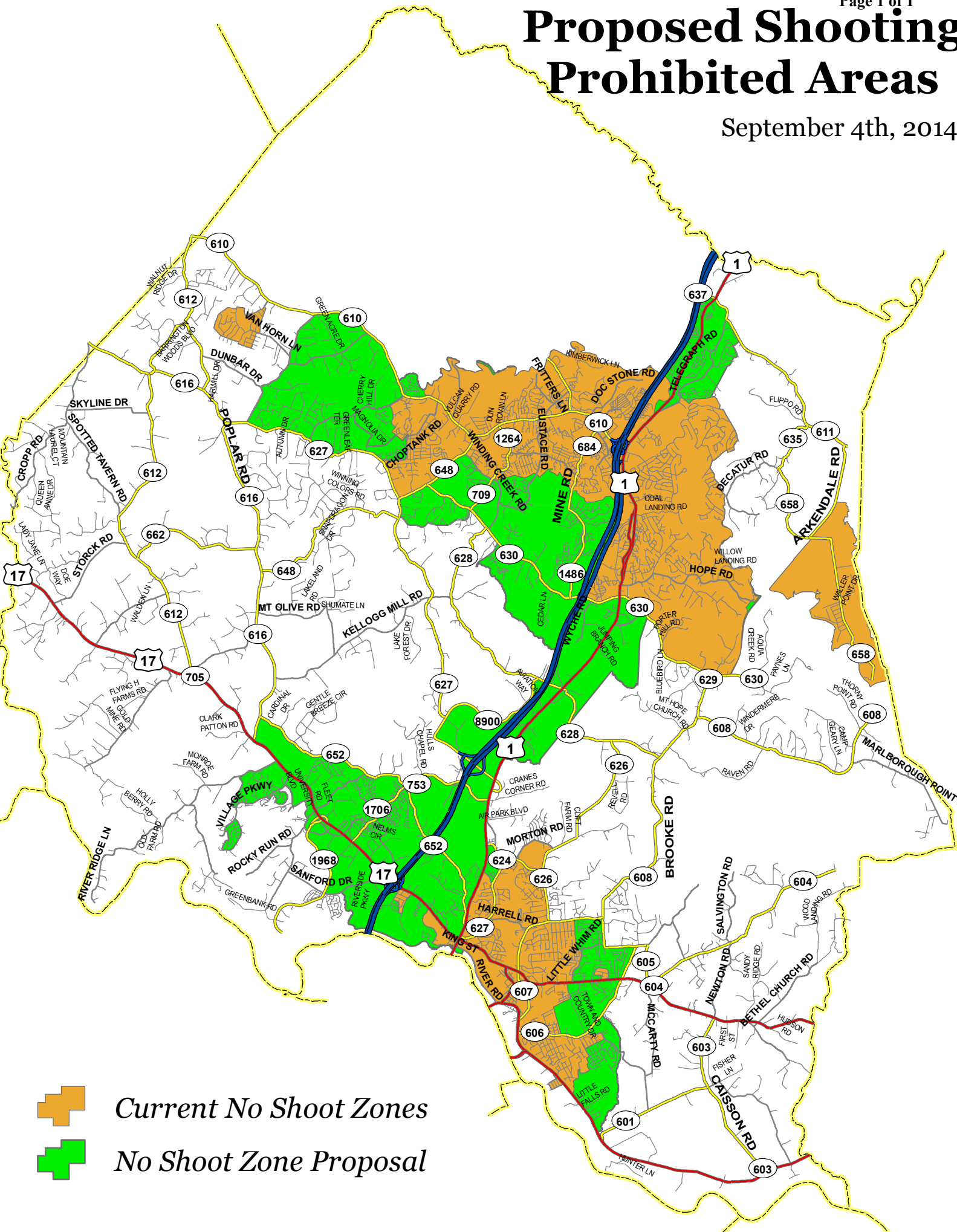
The County’s Code No Shooting Zones were last updated in 2004. There has been substantial growth and development in the past decade. No Shooting Zones are intended to prohibit firearms from being discharged in areas so heavily populated as to make the outdoor discharge of firearms dangerous. There are currently five No Shooting Zones in the County (Aquia, Garrisonville, Widewater, Lake Arrowhead, and South Stafford). Due to the expansion of development in the proposed Ordinance, the Aquia, Garrisonville, and South Stafford zones would be incorporated into a larger zone called a Development Area. The Widewater and Lake Arrowhead areas would remain unchanged. The Development Area zone covers much of the Urban Services Area (USA) as identified in the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan identifies the USA as being suitable and planned for higher density development. Staff believes that such areas are not suitable for the discharge of firearms. Attachment 3 contains a map showing the limits of the Development Area zone as identified in proposed Ordinance O14-38. The boundary of the Development Area zone must follow physically identified features such as roadways, streams, and utility rights-of-way where overhead lines or marked in-ground pipelines are readily identifiable. Property lines are not suitable for zone boundaries since many property lines are not clearly distinguishable.

The Sheriff's Office worked with the County Attorney's office on the text of the proposed Ordinance. Both the Sheriff and staff are in full support of the proposed Ordinance. Following staff's report to the Public Safety Committee, there was a full consensus to recommend sending No Shooting Zones to the full Board.

Staff recommends adoption of Resolution R14-227, which authorizes the County Administrator to advertise a public hearing for changes to the Noise and Weapons Ordinance as detailed in proposed Ordinance O14-38.

# Proposed Shooting Prohibited Areas

September 4th, 2014



Current No Shoot Zones



No Shoot Zone Proposal

PROPOSED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF STAFFORD  
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

ORDINANCE

At a regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the day of, 2014:

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MEMBERS:

Jack R. Cavalier, Chairman  
Gary F. Snellings, Vice Chairman  
Meg Bohmke  
Paul V. Milde III  
Laura A. Sellers  
Cord A. Sterling  
Robert "Bob" Thomas, Jr.

VOTE:

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On motion of , seconded by , which carried by a vote of , the following was adopted:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN STAFFORD  
COUNTY CODE, SECTION 16-4 "MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE  
SOUND LEVELS GENERALLY," AND CHAPTER 26, "WEAPONS"

WHEREAS, the Board desires to amend the County's weapon ordinance to address the change in population and population density in certain areas of the County;

WHEREAS, the Board finds these areas to be so heavily populated as to make the shooting of firearms dangerous to the citizens therein;

WHEREAS, amendments to the Virginia Code necessitate amendments to the County's weapon ordinance with regards to pneumatic guns;

WHEREAS, the amendment to the Noise Ordinance would better-enable law enforcement and staff to enforce the County Code;

WHEREAS, the amendments secure and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the County and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Board carefully considered the recommendations of the Sheriff's Office, staff, and the testimony of the public, if any, at the public hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the day of , 2014, that Stafford County Code, Section 16-4, "Maximum permissible sound levels generally," and Chapter 26, "Weapons," be and they hereby are amended and reordained as follows, all other portions remain unchanged:

## **Chapter 16 - NOISE**

### **Sec. 16-4. Maximum permissible sound levels generally.**

(b) Measurement procedures. The measurement of sound or noise pursuant to this section shall be as follows:

- (1) The measurement of sound or noise shall be made with type 2 sound level meters which meet the standards prescribed by the ANSI. The instruments shall be maintained in calibration and good working order. The sheriff shall develop and promulgate standards and procedures for testing and validating sound level meters according to the specifications and regulations of the manufacturer and used in the enforcement of this chapter. A minimum of three (3) sound level readings shall be taken. The ~~geometric mean~~ average of these readings will be used as the average sound level. If the background noise is equal to the levels set forth in this section, three (3) dB shall be subtracted out of the average sound level.

## **Chapter 26 - WEAPONS**

### **Sec. 26-4. Discharging ~~air~~ pneumatic guns ~~in public places~~.**

~~(a) No person shall discharge shot or pellets from a BB gun, air gun or other similar instrument in any street or highway in the county or in any place of public business or place of public gathering in the county.~~

~~(b) A violation of this section shall constitute a Class 2 misdemeanor.~~

~~(a) For purposes of this section, "pneumatic gun" means any implement, designed as a gun, that will expel a BB or a pellet by action of pneumatic pressure. "Pneumatic gun" includes, but is not limited to, a paintball gun that expels by action of pneumatic pressure plastic balls filled with paint for the purpose of marking the point of impact.~~

~~(b) In the opinion of the board, certain areas of the county are so heavily populated as to make shooting pneumatic guns dangerous to the inhabitants of the areas. It shall be unlawful to shoot pneumatic guns in the areas set forth in County Code Section 26-18, except as provided below:~~

~~(1) at facilities approved for shooting ranges;~~

~~(2) on property where firearms may be lawfully discharged; and~~

~~(3) on private property with permission of the owner or legal possessor thereof when conducted with reasonable care to prevent a projectile from crossing the bounds of the property.~~

- (c) It shall be unlawful for any minor below the age of sixteen (16) to use pneumatic guns on private or public property without supervision by a parent, guardian, or other adult supervisor approved by a parent or guardian of any minor. Minors above the age of 16 may, with the consent of a parent or guardian, use a pneumatic gun at any place designated for such use by the board or on private property with the consent of the owner in accordance with Section 26-4(b). Minors, whether permitted by a parent or guardian to use a pneumatic gun or not, shall be responsible for obeying all laws, regulations and restrictions governing such use.
- (d) A violation of this section shall be a Class 3 misdemeanor.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prohibit the use of pneumatic guns at facilities approved for shooting ranges or on other property where firearms may be discharged.

State law reference: Virginia Code § 15.2-915.4.

#### **Sec. 26-5. Discharging arrows.**

- (a) No person shall discharge an arrow from any bow in a manner that can be reasonably expected to result in the impact of the arrow upon the property of another without permission from the owner or tenant of such property. ~~or other similar instrument at any place within the county; provided, however, that this shall not be construed to prohibit the discharge of arrows at a regularly established archery range or by properly licensed hunters.~~
- (b) A violation of this section shall constitute a Class 2 misdemeanor.

State law reference: Virginia Code § 15.2-916.

#### **Sec. 26-8. Limitations on firearms.**

- (a) It shall be unlawful to shoot or hunt within one hundred (100) yards of any regularly occupied structure, which is not the shooters/hunters own residence or structure, without written permission of its owner or occupant. The written permission shall contain the following information:
- ~~(b) It shall be unlawful to hunt within one hundred (100) yards of any regularly occupied structure without advance permission of its owner or occupant.~~

#### **Sec. 26-9. One-hundred-yard safety zone, private roads.**

It shall be unlawful to shoot or hunt within one hundred (100) yards of any private road located in a subdivision where lots are ten (10) acres or ~~more~~ less in size without written permission of the owner or occupant.

## ARTICLE II. SHOOTING-PROHIBITED AREAS

### Sec. 26-16. Definitions.

For the purposes of this article, the following terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

~~Bow shall mean and include cross bows, hunting bows, target bows, or any similar mechanism, by whatever name known, which is designed and capable of firing arrows or similar projectiles.~~

State law reference: Virginia Code § 15.2-1209.

### Sec. 26-17. Prohibited shooting.

In the opinion of the board, certain areas of the county are so heavily populated as to make the outdoor shooting with firearms so dangerous to the inhabitants of these areas of the county, that it ~~it~~ shall be unlawful for any person willfully to shoot or discharge any firearm ~~or bow~~ within or into any of the shooting-prohibited areas of Stafford County, designated as such in section 26-18, following.

State law reference: Virginia Code § 15.2-1209.

### Sec. 26-18. Designation of shooting-prohibited areas.

(a) Generally. The following areas in Stafford County shall be designated as shooting-prohibited areas, subject to the prohibitions contained in sections 26-4 and 26-17:

- (1) Lake Arrowhead: Beginning at the intersection of Garrisonville Road (State Route 610) and Lake Arrowhead Drive; thence southerly along Lake Arrowhead Drive to its intersection with Hillcrest Drive; thence southerly along Hillcrest Drive to its intersection with Van Horn Lane; thence ~~easterly~~ westerly along Van Horn Lane to its intersection with ~~Forest~~ Hillcrest Drive; thence southerly along ~~Forest~~ Hillcrest Drive to Beech Drive; thence westerly along Beech Drive to its intersection with Boundary Drive; thence westerly along Boundary Drive to its intersection with Lake View Drive; thence northeasterly along Lake View Drive to its intersection with Arrowhead Drive; thence northerly along Arrowhead Drive to its intersection with Hillcrest Drive. ~~This zone includes all roads which are interior to Lake Arrowhead Subdivision.~~



- (2) ~~Garrisonville: Beginning at the intersection of Austin Run and I-95; thence northerly along I-95 to Aquia Creek; thence westerly along Aquia Creek to its intersection with Joshua Road (State Route 643); thence southerly along Joshua Road to its intersection with Garrisonville Road (State Route 610); thence westerly along Garrisonville Road to its intersection with Joshua Road; thence southerly along Joshua Road to its intersection with Saint George's Drive; thence southwesterly along Saint George's Drive crossing an unnamed creek to Choptank Road; thence southerly along Choptank Road to Mountain View Road (State Route 627); thence southeasterly along Mountain View Road to Shelton Shop Road (State Route 648); thence northeasterly to Winding Creek Road (State Route 628); thence southeasterly along Winding Creek Road to Austin Run; thence easterly along Austin Run to I-95.~~
- (3) ~~Aquia: Beginning at I-95 and Aquia Creek; thence easterly along Aquia Creek to its intersection with Jefferson Davis Highway (U.S. Route 1); thence northeasterly along Jefferson Davis Highway to its intersection with Telegraph Road (S.R. 637); thence northeasterly along Telegraph Road until its intersection with an unnamed tributary to Aquia Creek; thence easterly along unnamed tributary to its intersection with a straight line extending in a northwesterly direction from Bosun Cove; then southeasterly along said line and Bosun Cove until its intersection with Harpoon Drive; thence southeasterly along Harpoon Drive to Beacon Cove; thence southerly along Beacon Cove back to its intersection with Harpoon Drive; thence southerly along Harpoon Drive to its intersection with Lighthouse Cove and Bulkhead Cove back to their intersection with Harpoon Drive; thence southwesterly along Harpoon Drive to its intersection with Titanic Drive; thence southeasterly along Titanic Drive to Aquia Creek; thence easterly along Aquia Creek to the RF&P Railroad track; thence southeasterly along the RF&P Railroad track to Courthouse Road (S.R. 630); thence westerly along Courthouse Road to I-95; thence northerly along I-95 to Aquia Creek. This shooting prohibited area includes all roads interior to Aquia Harbour Subdivision.~~
- (4) ~~South Stafford: Beginning at I-95 and Warrenton Road (State Route 17); thence easterly along Warrenton Road to Musselman Road; thence southerly along Musselman Road to Steely Lane; thence easterly along Steely Lane to Old Forge Drive; thence northerly along Old Forge Drive to Warrenton Road; thence easterly along Warrenton Road to its intersection with Lendall Lane; thence southerly along Lendall Lane to its intersection with Ingleside Drive; thence westerly and easterly along Ingleside Drive; thence easterly along Ingleside Drive to its intersection with Washington Street; thence easterly along Washington Street to River Road; thence easterly along River Road to Kings Highway (State Route 3); thence easterly along Kings Highway to Leonard Street; thence southerly along Leonard Street to Mimosa Street; thence easterly along Mimosa Street to Rumford Road; thence northerly along Rumford Road to Kings Highway; thence easterly along Kings Highway to a stream leading from Lake Carroll; thence northerly along said stream to Lake Shore Drive; thence northerly along Lake Shore Drive to Carroll Circle; thence easterly from Carroll Circle to Ashbury Drive (inclusive of all the streets within Briarwood~~

~~Estates Subdivision); thence easterly along Ashbury Drive to its intersection with Colebrook Road (State Route 682); thence westerly along Colebrook Road to its intersection with Ferry Road (State Route 606); thence westerly along the south side of Ferry Road to its intersection with Braddock Drive; thence northerly along Braddock Drive to Claiborne Run; thence northeasterly along Claiborne Run to its intersection with Town and Country Drive; thence northerly along Town and Country Drive to its intersection with White Oak Road (State Route 218); thence easterly along White Oak Road to Kendallwood Drive; thence northerly along Kendallwood Drive to its intersection with Karen Terrace; thence westerly along Karen Terrace to its intersection with Sebastian Road; thence northerly and southerly along Sebastian Road (all inclusive of Sebastian Road) to its intersection with Matthew Lane; thence easterly along Matthew Lane to its intersection with Kendallwood Drive; thence southerly along Kendallwood Drive to its intersection with White Oak Road; thence westerly along White Oak Road to its intersection with Little Whim Road (State Route 669); thence northerly along Little Whim Road to its intersection with Roger Street; thence westerly along Roger Street to its intersection with Edwards Drive; thence northerly along Edwards Drive to its intersection with Deacon Road; thence westerly along Deacon Road to its intersection with Leeland Road (State Route 626); thence northerly along Leeland Road to its intersection with Morton Road (State Route 624); thence westerly along Morton Road to its intersection with Forbes Street (State Route 627); thence southerly along Forbes Street to its intersection with Manning Drive (State Route 1005); thence westerly along Manning Drive to its intersection with Jefferson Davis Highway (U.S. Route 1); thence southerly along Jefferson Davis Highway to Warrenton Road; thence westerly along Warrenton Road to its intersection with I-95.~~

- (5 2) ~~Widewater: Beginning at Aquia Creek and the RF&P Railway~~ CSX Rail Line; thence northeasterly along the ~~RF&P Railway~~ CSX Rail Line to railroad Mile Marker 73; thence in an easterly direction to the Potomac River; thence south along the bank of the Potomac River to Brent Point; thence westerly along the bank of the Potomac River to Simms Point; thence north and northwesterly along the bank of Aquia Creek to the ~~RF&P Railway~~ CSX Rail Line.
- (3) Development Area: Beginning at I-95; thence easterly at Telegraph Road to its intersection with Widewater Road; thence easterly along Widewater Road to its intersection with Tamerlane Drive; thence southerly at Tamerlane Drive to its intersection with Bloomington Lane; thence easterly at Bloomington Lane to its intersection with Birkenhead Lane; thence westerly to its intersection with Barclay Lane; thence westerly along Barclay Lane to its intersection with the Virginia Dominion Power electric transmission line; thence southerly along the Virginia Dominion Power electric transmission line to its intersection with Harpoon Drive; thence southerly along Harpoon Drive to its intersection with Aquia Drive; thence southerly along Aquia Drive to its intersection with Voyage Drive; thence, southerly along Voyage Drive to Aquia Creek; thence easterly along Aquia Creek to the CSX Rail Line; thence southerly along the

CSX Rail Line to Courthouse Road; thence westerly along Courthouse Road to the Dominion Virginia Power electric transmission line; thence southerly along the eastern branch of the Virginia Dominion Power electric transmission line to Accokeek Creek; thence westerly along Accokeek Creek to the western branch of the Virginia Dominion Power electric transmission line; thence southerly along the western branch Virginia Dominion Power electric transmission line to Potomac Creek; thence westerly along Potomac Creek to Jefferson Davis Highway; thence southerly along Jefferson Davis Highway to Cambridge Street; thence southerly along Cambridge Street to its intersection with Layhill Road; thence easterly along Layhill Road to Forbes Street; thence easterly along Forbes Street to its intersection with Morton Road; thence easterly along Morton Road to its intersection with Leeland Road; thence southerly along Leeland Road to its intersection with Deacon Road; thence easterly along Deacon Road to its intersection with Brooke Road; thence easterly along Brooke Road to its intersection with Ringgold Road; thence southerly along Ringgold Road to its intersection with White Oak Road; thence southerly from the intersection with White Oak Road along Ferry Road to Little Falls Run; thence, southerly along Little Falls Run to Kings Highway; thence westerly along Kings Highway to its intersection with Rumford Road; thence southerly along Rumford Road to its intersection with Leonard Road; thence northerly along Leonard Road to its intersection with Kings Highway; thence westerly along Kings Highway to its intersection with River Road; thence westerly along River Road to the Falmouth Bridge; thence southerly along the Falmouth Bridge to the northern banks of the Rappahannock River; thence westerly along the northern bank of the Rappahannock River to England Run; thence northerly along England Run to Sanford Drive; thence westerly along Sanford Drive to Celebrate Virginia Parkway; thence northerly along Celebrate Virginia Parkway to its intersection with Banks Ford Parkway; thence, westerly along Banks Ford Parkway to its intersection with GEICO Boulevard; thence westerly along GEICO Boulevard to its intersection with Stafford Lakes Parkway; thence southerly along Stafford Lakes Parkway to its intersection with University Boulevard; thence westerly along University Boulevard to its intersection with Village Parkway; thence southerly along Village Parkway to its intersection with Aurelie Drive; thence easterly along Aurelie Drive to its northern intersection with Basalt Drive; thence westerly along Basalt Drive to its southern intersection with Aurelie Drive; thence northerly along Aurelie Drive to its intersection with Basalt Drive; thence southerly along Basalt Drive to its intersection with Fieldcrest Drive; thence westerly along Fieldcrest Drive to its intersection with Village Parkway; thence southerly along Village Parkway to its intersection with Royal Crescent Way; thence easterly along Royal Crescent Way to its intersection with Hopkins Branch Way; thence northerly along Hopkins Branch Way to its intersection with Quarter gate Dive; thence northerly along Quarter Gate Drive to its intersection with Mill Springs Drive; thence westerly along Mill Springs Drive to its intersection with Village Parkway; thence northerly along Village Parkway to its intersection with Country Manor Drive; thence, northerly along Country Manor Drive to its intersection with Holly Corner Road; thence easterly along Holly Corner Road to its intersection with Warrenton Road; thence westerly along Warrenton Road

to its intersection with Poplar Road; thence northerly along Poplar Road to its intersection with Truslow Road; thence easterly along Truslow Road to its intersection with Enon Road; thence easterly along Enon Road to I-95; thence northerly along I-95 to Centerport Parkway; thence northerly along Centerport Parkway to its intersection with Ramoth Church Road; thence easterly along Ramoth Church Road to I-95; thence northerly along I-95 to Accokeek Creek; thence westerly along Accokeek Creek to Woodcutters Road; thence northerly along Woodcutters Road to its intersection with Courthouse Road; thence westerly along Courthouse Road to its eastern intersection with Monument Drive; thence westerly along Monument Drive to its intersection with Lightfoot Drive; thence westerly along Lightfoot Drive to its intersection with Mountainview Road; thence northerly and westerly along Mountainview Road to its intersection with Rockhill Church Road; thence northerly along Rockhill Church Road to its intersection with Garrisonville Road; thence easterly along Garrisonville Road to Aquia Creek; thence easterly along Aquia Creek to I-95; thence northerly along I-95 to Telegraph Road.

State law reference: Virginia Code § 15.2-1209.

#### **Sec. 26-19. Exceptions.**

The prohibitions and other terms of this article shall not apply to the following:

- (1) The discharge of firearms ~~or bows~~ on any approved target, trap, skeet or shooting range or hunting preserve lawfully existing on May 7, 1985, or thereafter established in compliance with all other provisions of this Code or other county ordinances or state law.
- (2) The discharge of firearms ~~or bows~~ on any target or rifle range established and operated by the Stafford County Sheriff's Office or any police or law enforcement department or agency.
- (3) The discharge of firearms ~~or bows~~ in any private basement or cellar target range.
- (4) The discharge of firearms ~~or bows~~ in defense of one's life or to kill any dangerous or destructive wild animal.
- (5) The discharge of firearms by any sheriff's deputy, duly authorized peace officer, or law enforcement official acting in the proper performance of his duties.
- (8) The discharge of shotguns and muzzleloaders, ~~and the use of bows and arrows,~~ by the members of a bona fide sportsmen's or hunt club on land owned or leased by such a club consisting of at least two hundred fifty (250) acres, whether one parcel or the sum of two (2) or more contiguous parcels, provided that sportsmen's or hunt club had the lease or ownership interest as of December 17, 2002.
- ~~(9) Nothing in this article shall apply to the discharge of an arrow equipped with a blunt rubber tip or rubber suction cup, from a bow with a "pull" or a "draw weight" of less than ten (10) pounds.~~
- (9) The killing of deer with a firearm pursuant to Virginia Code § 29.1-529 on land of at least five (5) acres that is zoned for agricultural use.

- (10) The discharge of a pneumatic firearm, as defined by Stafford County Code Section 26-4(a), on private property with permission of the owner or legal possessor thereof when conducted with reasonable care to prevent a projectile from crossing the bounds of the property.

**Sec. 26-20. Penalties.**

Unless otherwise provided, Any person who violates any provision of this article shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished by confinement in jail not to exceed twelve (12) months, or a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or any combination of such confinement and fine.

State law reference: Virginia Code § 15.2-1429.

AJR:JAH:dk

PROPOSED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF STAFFORD  
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014:

MEMBERS:

Jack R. Cavalier, Chairman  
Gary F. Snellings, Vice Chairman  
Meg Bohmke  
Paul V. Milde III  
Laura A. Sellers  
Cord A. Sterling  
Robert "Bob" Thomas, Jr.

VOTE:

On motion of , seconded by , which carried by a vote of , the following was adopted:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ADVERTISE A PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND AND REORDAIN STAFFORD COUNTY CODE, SECTION 16-4 "MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE SOUND LEVELS GENERALLY," AND CHAPTER 26, "WEAPONS"

WHEREAS, the Board desires to amend the County's weapon ordinance to address the change in population and population density in certain areas of the County;

WHEREAS, amendments to the Virginia Code necessitate amendments to the County's weapon ordinance with regards to pneumatic guns;

WHEREAS, amendment to the County's Noise Ordinance will better-enable law enforcement and staff to enforce the County Code;

WHEREAS, the amendments would secure and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of the County and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Board is required to and desires to receive testimony, if any, at a public hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014, that it be and hereby does authorize the County Administrator to advertise a public hearing to amend and reordain Stafford County Code, Section 16-4, "Maximum permissible sound levels generally," and Chapter 26, "Weapons," pursuant to proposed Ordinance O14-38.

AJR:JAH:dk