



# Calvert County NEWS

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*Board of Commissioners*

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** May 4, 2018  
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## **Calvert County Board of County Commissioners Propose Lowering Property Tax Rate**

**PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – May 4, 2018** – The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) voted unanimously Tuesday, May 1, 2018, to hold a public hearing on a proposed reduction in property tax rates. If passed, the move could lower the Calvert County property tax rate from \$0.952 to \$0.937, or about 1.5 cents per \$100 of a property's assessed value.

The vote highlights the BOCC's 2016 commitment to revisit the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 tax rate increase each year and evaluate whether any portion of the tax could be rolled back based on county budget projections. The proposed tax decrease could save county residents an estimated \$1.7 million annually.

"Faced with a \$9 million deficit in FY 2017, we made the difficult decision to increase the income tax rate – and increase the real property tax rates," explained Board President Evan Slaughenhaupt Jr., adding that real property taxes had not been raised since 1987.

In FY 2018, Calvert County received the planned pre-payment from the Dominion Cove Point expansion in the amount of \$25 million. The Dominion Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) for FY 2019 totals \$50.9 million.

"Today, we have a structurally sound spending plan," Slaughenhaupt continued. "The staff recommended FY 2019 budget totals \$296.58 million. In response to our improved fiscal outlook, we have directed staff to include a property tax rate reduction to the Board's Recommended FY 2019 budget."

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Citizens are encouraged to view the current [FY 2019 Staff Recommended Budget](http://www.co.cal.md/FY2019StaffRecommendedBudget) online at [www.co.cal.md/FY2019StaffRecommendedBudget](http://www.co.cal.md/FY2019StaffRecommendedBudget).

For additional information, contact the Calvert County Department of Finance & Budget at 410-535-1600, ext. 2435 or via email at [timothy.hayden@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:timothy.hayden@calvertcountymd.gov). Written comments concerning the budget may be submitted by emailing [COMMISS@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:COMMISS@calvertcountymd.gov) or through the U.S. mail to the BOCC at 175 Main St., Prince Frederick, MD 20678.

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