



CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

P. David Tarter Mayor

P. David Tarter is currently serving his 5th term as Mayor of the City of Falls Church. During his tenure, the City has welcomed numerous new businesses and development, received its first triple AAA rating from all of the bond agencies, and constructed a new, state-of-the-art high school.

In addition to his duties as Mayor, Tarter has been a leader in regional matters, having served as the President of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and the Chair of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission.

Tarter is also the founder and principal of Tarter Nova Law in Arlington Virginia, where he specializes in commercial real estate and business law. In over twenty years of practice, Tarter has worked on a number of "smart growth" projects throughout the region and been recognized by his legal peers as a "Top Attorney" in publications such as Northern Virginia Magazine, Arlington Magazine and Martindale-Hubbell.



Prior to his election to Council, Tarter served on the City's Economic Development Authority for five years, chairing it for four. While Chair, the EDA established the "Little City" branding effort and consummated an innovative tax sharing deal to bring BJ's Warehouse to the City. He also served as Falls Church's interim City Attorney.

Tarter obtained his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Virginia, where he was a member of the University's rowing team. He also received a General Course Diploma from the London School of Economics and Political Science, in European and English law. Prior to commencing his legal career, Tarter worked for a non-profit organization in Riga, Latvia helping the Baltic nations transition from communist rule. Between college and law school, he taught English in Japan.



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Tarter and his wife, Karen, have three children who were “lifers” in the City’s public schools: David and Cole (both attending the University of Virginia) and Anna (at the University of St. Andrews (Scotland)). Karen, a lawyer by training, takes care of the City’s youngest students as the Clinic Aide for Mt. Daniel School.

Tarter was born and raised in Northern Virginia, where he has been a lifelong resident.

Term: January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2023

Elected Mayor: January 6, 2014, January 4, 2016, January 4, 2018, January 10, 2022

First Elected to Council: July 1, 2012 (has served continuously.)

Liaison to: Architectural Advisory Board (AAB); City Employee Retirement Board

Regional Organizations:

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Board of Directors (Alternate)

Northern Virginia Regional Commission, former Chair