

Dear Leesburg Resident,

Happy New Year! At our first Board business meeting of the year, we set our meeting schedule for 2021 and reelected Sterling District Supervisor Koran Saines as Vice Chairman. Our monthly schedule of business meetings and public hearings will remain the same as last year:

- Business meetings on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 5:00 pm.
- Public hearing on the Wednesday of the week following the first business meeting of the month at 6:00 pm.
- Details about the Board's meeting dates are posted on our [online calendar](#).

Members of the public may provide input to the Board during business meetings and public hearings by [signing up in advance](#) at 703-777-0200 by noon on the day of the meeting.

- Public input at the Board's business meetings will begin as early as 6:00 pm.
- At the second business meeting of the month, an additional time of public input will be included at the beginning of the agenda at 5:00 pm. The number of speakers is limited and speakers must sign up in advance.
- Comments at public hearings are limited to the items on the agenda.

Members of the public who would like to provide comments to the Board of Supervisors are encouraged to do so remotely until further notice to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Details on how to provide comments remotely are available [here](#).

In 2021, I will continue to serve as the Co-Chair for the Joint Board and School Board Committee. At the regional level, I will serve on the Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee and the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board.

**Board's Strategic Workplan**

At the January 19th Board business meeting, we approved the vision statement and directed staff to develop a workplan to achieve our desired outcomes by December 31, 2023, which is the end of this Board's term. We will receive biannual updates on the initiatives to select projects to be prioritized and implemented. An overview of our workplan can be found in the [item](#). Our approved vision statement is the following:

*While appreciating and acknowledging our rich history, Loudoun County strives to be a prosperous, inclusive, equitable and sustainable community where residents feel free to live, work, learn and play.*

## FY 2022 Budget

At the January 5th Board business meeting, we provided [final budget guidance](#) to the County Administrator to prepare the FY 2022 proposed budget at one cent above the overall equalized tax rate and provide options to either increase 1 cent or decrease 1 cent from the proposed budget (please see table below). The current real property tax rate is \$1.035 and the overall equalized tax rate is \$1.015.

**Table 5. Real Property Tax Rate Scenarios and County Needs Addressed\***

Real Property Tax Rate Scenario	Included (Descending Sequentially)
<b>\$1.000</b>	Support to the CIP and a few Board priority resource requests
<b>\$1.005</b>	Approximately half of the Board priority resource requests
<b>\$1.010</b>	Most of the Board priority resource requests
<b>\$1.015</b> (overall equalized rate and decrease option recommendation)	All Board priority resource requests some departmental first priority resource requests
<b>\$1.020</b>	Additional department first priority resource requests
<b>\$1.025</b> (Proposed Budget recommendation)	All departmental first priority resource requests
<b>\$1.030</b>	Most departmental second priority resource requests
<b>\$1.035</b> (increase option recommendation)	All departmental second priority resource requests and most departmental third priority resource requests

\* All scenarios are current estimates and subject to adjustment. All scenarios fund employee compensation increases and opening new capital facilities

Tim Hemstreet, County Administrator, will present the proposed FY 2022 budget to the Board on Wednesday, February 10th at 5:00 pm. Two budget public hearings have been scheduled on Tuesday, February 23rd at 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm and Saturday, February 27th at 9:00 am. Members of the public who would like to provide comments to the Board are encouraged to do so [remotely](#). In-person comments are permitted and you can sign-up in advance at 703-777-0200 or at the meeting.

## Online Community Survey

An [online version](#) of the Loudoun County 2021 Community Survey is now open to all Loudoun County residents through February 1st. Loudoun County surveys its residents

periodically to get their feedback on government services, the county's quality of life and priorities for government initiatives. Responses are anonymous and will be analyzed to provide a full picture of the Loudoun County community.

Loudoun is one of many communities across the United States that use this tool to help improve governmental performance, guide policy decisions, strengthen communications with community stakeholders and identify clear priorities for use in goal and budget setting. Results of the survey are expected to be presented to the Board later this year. For more information on the 2021 Loudoun County survey, call 703-777-0539 or e-mail [budget@loudoun.gov](mailto:budget@loudoun.gov). Thank you for your feedback.

## Tax Relief for the Elderly & Disabled

2021 tax relief forms will be available by March 1st. Please click [here](#) to e-mail and request a form be mailed to you when they are available. Please include your full name and address in the e-mail.

Based on constituent feedback, Supervisor Turner and I sponsored an initiative on December 15th to review the household income criteria for the Tax Relief Program for the Elderly and Disabled for Real Property. Any change would require an ordinance amendment and would not become effective until tax year 2022. We expect an update from staff in March.

## Loudoun Restaurant Campaign

I support Loudoun restaurants and know that you do, too. Show your favorite Loudoun restaurant some love by participating in the #LoveLoudounFood campaign—dine in or carryout, it's up to you. Simply post a picture of your meal on Instagram or Facebook, tag the restaurant and use the hashtag #LoveLoudounFood. Every post enters you to win a dinner for 6 for Super Bowl Sunday, a dinner for 2 for Valentine's Day or a St. Patrick's Day dinner for 6.

Complete campaign information can be found on the [Loudoun Is Ready Restaurant campaign](#) website.



## COVID-19 Vaccination Registration Update

The Loudoun County Health Department has received more than 50,000 inquiries regarding appointments for vaccination. At this time, all currently available vaccine doses in Loudoun are allocated to individuals who are included in the Phase 1a or Phase 1b priority groups, and vaccination continues on a daily basis. As a result, there will be a delay in making additional appointments for those who have completed the [online pre-screening survey](#) until more vaccine arrives in Loudoun.

At today's Virginia Association of Counties and Virginia Municipal League conference, Dr. Danny Avula, an expert in local public health, gave an overview of vaccine availability in Virginia: The federal government is currently delivering only 105,000 doses per week to the state. The state's total population in the 1a and 1b groups, which include individuals 65 and over, is about 4.3 million - about 50% of the state's total population. At the rate of 105,000 doses/week, it will take about 38 weeks or over 9 months, to vaccinate everyone in the 1a and 1b groups. I am hopeful that, with more vaccine purchases announced by the federal government, Virginia will be able to vaccinate more individuals than current projections would suggest. Dr. Avula also made the point that all localities throughout the state are ramped up to increase vaccinations as more doses become available.

If you are eligible to be vaccinated and your employer has not made arrangements for vaccination, you are encouraged to submit an [online pre-screening survey](#) to the Health Department. Employers can sign up using this same survey by selecting "organization" when prompted.

### What You Need to Know if You Already Submitted Your Information

If you have already submitted your pre-screening survey, you do not need to contact the Health Department again to verify whether you are on our list. The survey does not provide a confirmation e-mail indicating you are registered; however, submitting your contact information online or by phone completes the first step for getting a vaccination appointment.

After submitting your information to the Health Department, please be patient. I know how difficult this is for everyone. Like many of my colleagues, I, personally, will eventually get vaccinated, but I am going to wait until vaccines are widely available to everyone in Leesburg who wants one before I sign up, probably in June.

### Time for Your Second Dose?

If you already received your first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and you are approaching the time for your second dose, you should seek vaccine appointments from the same source of your first dose. If you made your own appointment through the Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS), you should log in to VAMS and make your second appointment. You do not need to submit additional information to the Health Department. If you made an appointment by phone, the Health Department will contact you regarding an appointment for your second dose.

## VDH Vaccination Dashboard

Loudoun County's vaccine supply comes from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), which allocates doses to local health districts, such as Loudoun, based on each district's population. Virginia, like all states, gets vaccine doses from the federal government. You can keep track of doses administered to Loudoun residents through the [VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Summary Dashboard](#), which is updated daily.

## New Vaccination Site

At the January 19th Board business meeting, we voted to [execute a lease](#) for a Loudoun County full scale vaccination point of dispensing (POD) at the Dulles Town Center.

Currently, the County operates a COVID-19 vaccination POD out of a warehouse on Relocation Drive in Sterling. This POD location was ideal for the initial start-up of the vaccination process; however, it is not scalable and limits vaccinations to approximately 550-600 per day. In order to accelerate the vaccination rate for the Loudoun County population, a new facility needs to be secured with sufficient space to accommodate multiple POD functions and operations. As of today, this site is not open to the public. Appointments will still be required via the online pre-screening survey. The site will have the capacity to facilitate approximately 4,800 doses a day; however, the Health Department's ability to administer vaccine will still be dependent on doses received.

## COVID-19 Testing

The County will hold twice-weekly, free drive-thru [COVID-19 testing events](#) at multiple locations beginning in February. Please note, these are not mass testing events; a limited number of tests will be available based on the capacity of each location. To help reduce wait times, people who plan to attend the testing event are strongly encouraged to complete a [registration form](#) for each person who will be receiving a test prior to arriving at the testing site. **No COVID-19 vaccine will be available at these events.**

The events will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm.

- February 2 and 4: Franklin Park, 17501 Franklin Park Drive, Purcellville
- February 9 and 11: Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park, 42405 Claudia Drive, Leesburg (Enter the park on Crosstrail Boulevard from Sycolin Road)
- February 16 and 18: Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls (Access the testing location in the back parking lot, near the senior center)
- February 23 and 25: Dulles South Recreation & Community Center, 24950 Riding Center Drive, South Riding

# COVID-19 TESTING

**February 2021**

**Multiple  
Locations**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Drive-thru only. Free & open to everyone.

LOUDOUN  
COUNTY  
VIRGINIA

**[loudoun.gov/COVID19testing](https://loudoun.gov/COVID19testing)**

Warm Regards,

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## **Business of the Month** **Five Stones Healing & Wellness Center**

**Is stress affecting your health? Take our [Quiz](#) to find out.**

Located in Leesburg, this practice centers on the Five Stones of optimal health: Healthful Eating, Balanced Movement, Integrative and Functional Medicine, Mindful Stress Management, and Interconnected Living. The physicians and the medical team help patients achieve the essential balance of healing and lifestyle in mind, body, and spirit. We are open and able to see patients in the office or remotely during this difficult time.





## Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

**Business News:** On Saturday, January 23rd, downtown Leesburg experienced a devastating fire on Market Street. Presently, it appears there was a kitchen fire in one of the establishments that impacted both the Yummy Pig BBQ and the Wild Geese Irish Pub. Both business will be closed at that location while major repairs are undertaken. Thanks to the Leesburg Fire Company for their quick response and to all the additional fire companies that join in for support. This is a terrible blow to Leesburg's downtown economic recovery. Both of these businesses were integral to the diversity of dining options downtown and their departure from the dining scene will be strongly missed.



**Council News:** Newly-elected Council Members Ara Bagdasarian, Zack Cummings, and Kari Nancy officially took their seats on the Leesburg Town Council on January 1st. All

three bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the Council and I look forward to working with them.



**Development News:** A number of development projects continue to make progress including the Route 7/Battlefield Parkway Interchange. In early December, bridge beam installation began and utility relocation work continues. Daily lane closures will continue as needed and speed limits have been reduced from 55 MPH to 45 MPH between River Creek Pkwy and Cardinal Park. The entire project is on schedule to be completed by this fall. You can find updates [here](#).

A little closer to home, a new 2,500 square-foot Starbucks, located in the Leesburg Plaza Shopping Center, off East Market Street, is open! The café replaces the old M&T Bank building and presents a significant redevelopment opportunity as a catalyst for future redevelopment of the Leesburg Plaza site. The new location offers a drive-thru and outdoor seating for customers. The Bellewood Commons location has closed. To see a full list of development projects, visit the town's [website](#).





**Town Plan:** Legacy Leesburg provides important policy guidance for growth and development in Leesburg. It is also required by state code. Town staff is working on a series of videos that outline the process and content of the Legacy Leesburg document so that anyone can get up to speed from the comfort of their home. You can view these videos on the [Town's YouTube Channel](#), or by visiting the [Legacy Leesburg website](#).

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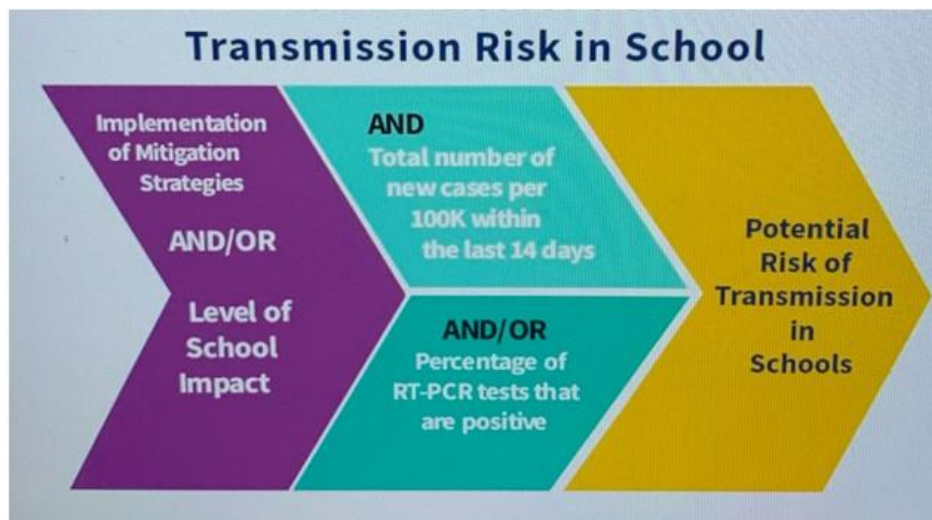
## Update from Beth Barts

We are fortunate in Loudoun to be well on the way to vaccinating our staff. I cannot express how grateful I am that we have this opportunity to provide protection to our frontline workers. Our vaccination point of dispensing (POD) at Brambleton Middle School has given out 6,178 first doses of the Moderna vaccine.

**Safety First:** We have created a “tipline” for staff to share concerns about safety protocols being followed as we transition back into hybrid. We received many e-mails from staff sharing gaps in safety and mitigation strategies from our prior hybrid modality in the fall. To address some of these concerns, we are installing plexiglass in classrooms as well as thermal imaging scanners for temperature checks. We have approved additional leave for staff who may have symptoms of COVID-19, but end up with negative results. We are also providing stipends for all full-time staff who must work in-person.

**Community Care:** Beginning Monday, January 25th, the secondary schools' walk-up meal service time will be extended to 2:30 pm. Beginning Monday, February 1st, meals for the week will be delivered to the designated bus stops on Mondays. Breakfast, lunch, snack, and supper for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday will be distributed only on Mondays. Families may find their nearest bus stop and associated time for delivery via the [interactive map](#) on the LCPS website. Schools will continue to offer daily walk up meal service Monday through Friday. These meals are free and available for all students.

**Returning to In-Person Instruction:** VDOE has issued new guiding principles for returning to in-person instruction (please see guidelines below). The decision to go back into the hybrid modality will be based on these indicators at the School Board meeting on February 2nd.



## Community Information



**Academic Paper Competition:** The Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's (COG) Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee is seeking to learn from high school, college and graduate students about emerging best practices and policies to address real-world sustainability and water resources issues. Below is a list of topics that would be most relevant to COG's elected officials.

- Diversity, equity, and inclusion in water quality decision-making, outreach, and recreation.
- Tree canopy and forest conservation.
- Mitigating and adapting to climate change, including flood resiliency.
- Agricultural Best Management Practices protective of water quality.
- Tackling fresh-water salinization (winter salts).
- Stream restoration projects.
- Water reuse.

To apply students should send an e-mail expressing interest to: Heidi Bonnaffon at [hbonnaffon@mwkog.org](mailto:hbonnaffon@mwkog.org) by February 28th. The e-mail should include the following:

- Student's name, contact information, school, department, teacher/professor, and course.
- 2 to 4 sentence description of their chosen research topic.

The 2021 research competition is capped at the first twenty submissions. Students are asked to submit completed papers to COG by April 16th. The top submission will receive a \$500 award.

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## Leesburg Police Citizens Support Team

### Newsletter Apr — Aug 2020

**NOTE:** The arrival of the COVID-19 virus pandemic at the beginning of this reporting period resulted in only a few events and incidents calling for Support Team assistance.

#### ST-4 Reports a Fight, June 18

As Steve Hood (ST-4) headed down Plaza Street NE to the grocery store, he suddenly came upon three males fighting in the middle of the street at the crosswalk in front of police headquarters. Steve immediately radioed in the disturbance to police dispatchers, and several officers, who were at headquarters sped out and stopped the combatants based on Steve's description of them.

#### Support Team Fundraiser for Holiday with the Cops (HWTC), Aug 29

Rain, rain, go away! The remnants of Hurricane Laura scheduled themselves to come through the Northern Virginia region on the very day the Leesburg Police Citizens Support Team and the Leesburg Police Department scheduled our HWTC fundraiser at Bear Chase Brewing Company in Bluemont, VA. Booo! But the show must go on and it did! Starting at about 9 a.m. and running until noon, when the event was to start, six Support Team members and several LPD officers braved the rain and set up the Bear Cave building for the event. Around noon, the rain let up and Bear Chase customers and LPD and Team supporters began arriving and bidding on the Silent Auction items and purchasing raffle tickets. Strong support from many local area merchants and individuals resulted in over 30 very desirable auction items being spread out on 2 picnic tables for bids. Santa (Officer Stephan Winkler) in his classy tropical shirt came off his summer vacation down south and worked the crowd for pictures and to bring folks to the auction tables. All in all, the event was very successful, with over \$4,300 raised to help make our upcoming December Holiday with the Cops event for needy kids a success. Many thanks to all who helped with the event!





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