



Supervisor

Matt Letourneau

Dulles Direct Newsletter



March 2021

Welcome to the March 2021 edition of the Dulles Direct newsletter. I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather. For those who celebrate, I wish you a blessed Easter and a happy Passover to my Jewish friends. This is one of our longer newsletters due to the sheer volume of things currently happening on the Board. A few folks have commented that they think these updates are too long. I understand that sentiment, but I'd rather share as much as I can and let you pick and choose what you might be interested in - so feel free to keep scrolling if a particular item doesn't interest you!

I want to lead with some breaking news. This afternoon, Loudoun County Economic Development announced one of the largest development projects in the history of Northern Virginia - Rivana at Innovation Station. Rivana is an elevated mixed use community with office, residential and retail incorporating the CIT Building in both Loudoun and Fairfax counties. I have been involved in the planning stages of this project for several years, and what sets it apart from other proposals is the major financial backing it has and the top-shelf team behind it, who have a track record of delivering projects like this. This type of project has the potential to attract major corporate tenants and create high quality jobs for our residents - exactly the goal of the Silver Line

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extension. You can learn more about it in this new [video](#) and read more [here](#).

In other news, we continue to make progress with vaccinations in Loudoun County, which gives me great hope for a return to normalcy in the coming months. I have a comprehensive update on COVID-19 below.

March is Women's History Month nationwide, and the Board passed a resolution to declare the month-long celebration in Loudoun as well. The Board of Supervisors recognized all of the women who are serving or have served on the Board in the history of Loudoun.

I co-sponsored a resolution with Chair Randall to declare March 24 as International Data Center Day here in Loudoun County. Data centers can be a sore subject in Loudoun. A few years ago, the Board challenged the data center industry to become more involved in the totality of our community, and they have responded. You can see more about that in this new [video](#) (scroll down on the page to find it) that discusses the involvement of data centers in local activities. The FY22 budget forecasts \$586.8 million in tax revenue from data centers alone, most of which is programmed for operating expenses and some of which goes to fund capital projects in our CIP. To put it into perspective, computer equipment tax revenue comprises 30% of local tax funding - enough to fund all local tax funding operating expenditures for the County, or half for LCPS. In short, homeowner tax bills are significantly lower due to our thriving data center industry - over 60 cents per \$100 of assessed value lower. That translates into literally thousands of dollars of savings every year. The revenue from data centers is reinvested in the community through programs, services, infrastructure, and schools.

I was pleased to join the Committee for Dulles this month to discuss the Comprehensive Plan Amendment for Dulles' Airport Noise Overlay District. I covered the amendment in detail in last

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Announcements

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Commission](#)

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[Northern Virginia
Transportation Commission](#)

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Board](#)

Member

[Dulles Area Transportation
Association](#)

Contact Me

month's [newsletter](#) so I won't reiterate all the ins and outs here, but staff will be returning to the Board with more information in the coming months.

The County held a "topping out" ceremony for the new courthouse in Leesburg last week. The ceremony marked the milestone of the last steel beam being placed atop the structure. The new courthouse will have the capacity to serve many more Loudoun residents, and is expected to be completed and open to the public in 2023.



We've made some updates to the Dulles District website, which you can access [here](#). Our newsletter archive and links to other email updates are now separate, which should make searching for a specific past correspondence easier. Suggestions for increased ease of access are welcome; just email me at matt.letourneau@loudoun.gov.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Latest Numbers and Updates

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According to the official numbers released today by the Virginia Department of Health, there have been 25,251 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Loudoun County. 269 individuals have died from the virus in Loudoun. Virginia now has 618,976 confirmed cases with 10,252 deaths. You can see these numbers yourself at the Loudoun County COVID-19 [GeoHub](#).

Things continue to improve generally, although we are not out of the woods yet. The positive PCR test rate has declined over time from double digits to 6.5%, and there are fewer positive tests than there were last month. That being said, please continue to follow proper mitigation practices such as washing your hands, wearing a mask, keeping six feet apart, staying home when sick, and limiting social gatherings.

The Loudoun County Health Department continues to discourage non-essential travel at this time, particularly for spring break and upcoming holidays, to slow the spread of COVID-19 and limit the potential of bringing variant forms of the coronavirus back into the community. The more Loudoun residents travel to [areas where variant COVID-19 cases are spreading](#), the greater the potential of returning with a variant of the virus that causes COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that variants seem to spread more easily and quickly than other coronaviruses. The virus mutates as more people are infected. In order to slow the number of cases of COVID-19 and ensure that the County has the opportunity to vaccinate enough people to help bring an end to the pandemic, the Health Department encourages each member of the community to take steps to avoid risk.

Governor Northam has further relaxed orders limiting outdoor and indoor gatherings and some restrictions on entertainment venues/recreational sporting events. This change comes about as it is reported that one in four Virginians have now received at least one dose

[Loudoun County Traffic Incident Map](#)

[Sign up for Alert Loudoun](#)

[Loudoun Express Request \(LEx\) Citizen Request System](#)

[Loudoun Online Land Use Applications \(LOLA\) System](#)

[COVID-19](#)

of the vaccine. For the full release from the Governor's Office, click [here](#).

Loudoun County will continue a series of free drive-thru COVID-19 testing events next week. The next testing event is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2021, from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM at [Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park, 42405 Claudia Drive, Leesburg](#) (enter the park on Crosstrail Boulevard from Sycolin Road). The County has scheduled COVID-19 testing events every Tuesday through April 27, 2021. The complete schedule and links to required registration forms that can be filled out ahead of time are available at [loudoun.gov/covid19testing](#). Testing on April 20 will take place at the Dulles South Rec Center.

Latest News on Vaccination Efforts

The Loudoun County Health Department has announced that Loudoun County is expanding COVID-19 vaccination opportunities to all [Virginia Department of Health Phase 1b priority groups](#), which include people 65 years of age, people 16-64 years of age with high-risk medical conditions, and eleven categories of front-line essential workers. The first appointments for people in the expanded 1b group were scheduled for March 24.

The Phase 1b list of essential workers includes:

1. Police, fire, and hazmat personnel
2. Corrections and homeless shelter workers
3. Childcare/preK-12 teachers/staff (public and private)
4. Food and agriculture workers (including veterinarians)
5. Manufacturing workers
6. Grocery store workers
7. Public transit workers
8. Mail carriers (USPS and private)
9. Officials needed to maintain continuity of government (including judges and public-facing judicial workers)

10. Clergy/faith leaders
11. Janitorial/cleaning staff

As Loudoun County continues to invite people who have pre-registered and are on our waitlist to make vaccination appointments, invitations to make appointments will now be offered to anyone who meets the current Phase 1b priority group criteria. Appointments will continue to be offered in the order in which pre-registration forms were received.

Anyone who has not yet submitted a pre-registration form for a COVID-19 vaccine is encouraged to do so at vaccinate.virginia.gov. Anyone who does not have access to the internet may pre-register for a vaccine by calling 1-877-VAX-IN-VA (1-877-829-4682).

Loudoun County anticipates the ability to further expand vaccinations to the Phase 1c priority group in April. The Virginia Department of Health has announced that anyone who is over the age of 16 and lives or works in Virginia will be eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine in Phase 2 of the state's vaccination efforts, which is expected to begin by May 1, 2021.

Loudoun County has launched an online [COVID-19 Vaccine Data Dashboard](#) to help residents follow the County's progress in the ongoing vaccination efforts. The dashboard highlights key indicators of progress and status including:

- Date of pre-registration for which the Health Department is currently scheduling appointments
- Number of individuals remaining on the waitlist
- Vaccine doses received by Virginia and Loudoun County
- Vaccine doses administered in Loudoun County

The pre-registration date for which appointments are being scheduled and waitlist information will be updated weekly. The vaccine doses received and administered will be updated daily with data from

the [Virginia Department of Health \(VDH\) Vaccine Summary](#).

The vaccine data dashboard can be viewed at loudoun.gov/vaccinedata.

As of today, over 53,000 Loudoun residents are now fully vaccinated. Our pod at the former Nordstrom at Dulles Town Center is running efficiently and smoothly, and has the ability to ramp up when supplies allow. More retail partners are coming online as well in the federally partnered program. For more information about COVID-19 vaccination efforts in Loudoun County, visit loudoun.gov/COVID19vaccine.

FY22 BUDGET UPDATE

The FY22 budget process is wrapping up, with final approval scheduled for the Board's April 6 Business Meeting. Our final work session last week left us with a real property tax rate of \$.98/\$100 - which is two cents below this year's overall equalized tax rate of \$1.00. The overall equalized tax rate takes into consideration the value of both commercial and residential properties which had a particularly large spread in equalized rates this year. The equalized rate for residential properties is \$.975 and commercial is \$1.08. So, even though the Board's actions have reduced the tax rate by 5.5 cents from the current tax rate of \$1.035, the owner of a home assessed at the average value will still see a small increase in their tax bill. Assessments vary by housing type and location, so your specific situation may be different.

I will be doing a more in-depth review of the FY22 Budget in my annual budget report that I will send after the Board's final approval next week. I do want to highlight a few things for you. We were able to accommodate all the department priority staffing requests that are needed to keep pace with our

population growth in Loudoun. The budget will include the staffing needed to open many new capital facilities like the Courthouse expansion and the long-awaited Hal and Berni Hanson Regional Park. The budget also provides a 3% pay increase for County employees.

For LCPS, funding is increased by \$109.5 million, or 7.9%, over last year's budget. Budgeted student enrollment is only expected to grow by 112 students, or 0.1%, over last year. I supported this level of funding increase to provide pay increases to employees, increase staffing for enrollment growth, and support the planned opening of two new elementary schools: Hovatter in Dulles South and Elaine Thompson near Arcola Center.

The School Board has ultimate decision-making authority on how their appropriated funds are used, but this year's discussion was somewhat contentious regarding a few issues. Generally speaking, this year's requested budget increase by the School Board - 9.7% - was larger than normal (in a year when many people are struggling and have less income, and school enrollment growth is almost non-existent). As difficult as I know it has been for our educators, I found the size of the requested increase rather tone deaf given the year we are in. As I mentioned, the County is providing our employees with a 3% pay increase and LCPS had proposed an average 5.4% increase, with some positions slated for a 6%+ raise. The Board felt that it was not appropriate for the difference in pay increases to be so large. There was also some confusion about funding for pay increases from the State. The Governor and General Assembly announced that they provided a 5% raise for teachers. In reality, they only provided funding for 28% of the cost of providing a 5% raise for LCPS staff. This funding was contingent upon the County agreeing to provide a raise of 5% over a two-year period (last year and this year). Because of the level of raise provided last year, only 3.1% was needed in FY22 to max out the state funding. So, even at the 4% increase that we

ultimately settled on this year, we are more than maxing out the State's request.

Before the 4% pay increase for teachers passed, I made the motion to reduce the average salary increase for LCPS to 3.5% in order to give teachers roughly the same spectrum of raise as frontline workers and essential County employees. While my motion failed 3-6, the motion to reduce the salary increase to 4% passed 6-2-1.

There also was quite a bit of discussion about a new program the School Board has proposed called Virtual Loudoun - a fully online school. The School Board proposed budget contained \$4.2 million for this program, which the Board of Supervisors eliminated from funding for two reasons. First, on a temporary basis, we believe that federal COVID-19 relief funds could be utilized to cover costs of providing distance learning in the next school year. Second, some of us on the Board have real questions about whether this type of program should be funded at taxpayer expense and is a good investment for LCPS. I would certainly want to have a great deal more community discussion before supporting that kind of investment.

On the CIP front, we were able to maintain capital funding for important Dulles transportation projects, most of which I'll cover in my annual budget report next week. One noteworthy change was a timeline acceleration in the widening of Braddock Road from Paul VI to Bull Run Post Office Road. At one of our work sessions, the Board voted to move \$750,000 from the Capital Project Management account to the Braddock Road project in order to begin preliminary engineering. Much of the local tax funding that was sequestered in future CIP years for the Northstar Boulevard project has been reassigned to Braddock Road in order to get that done sooner (General Obligation Bonds and some local tax funding will end up covering the Northstar project). I have been looking for opportunities to accelerate funding for Braddock widening for a couple years, and more

work will need to be done to widen Braddock all the way to Loudoun County Parkway. When the new timeline is clearer, I'll provide another update.

DULLES UPDATES

Metro Silver Line Phase II

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) has announced that substantial completion of Phase II is expected around Labor Day. As a Metro Board member, I am very well aware of lingering construction issues that must be resolved before Metro takes delivery of the project.

The Silver Line extension is now expected to open for use in early 2022. I said previously that I thought the estimate of a summer opening was ambitious, and this new timetable confirms my suspicions. The Metro Board's FY22 budget will now reflect this operating reality, which I hope will be the final delay in this long awaited project.

Moorefield Voting Precinct to Briar Woods High School

At our March Public Hearing, the Board voted to approve relocation of the 118-Moorefield Voting Precinct from the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) to Briar Woods High School, located at 22525 Belmont Ridge Road. As I reported in last month's newsletter, the move comes after the NRPA notified us that we could no longer use their site as a precinct.

As I mentioned last time, this sets up a less than ideal scenario in which Briar Woods will serve as the home to two voting precincts: 312-Briar Woods in the Blue Ridge District is already onsite at the high school. That being said, there were limited options and redistricting will necessitate a full-scale precinct

review in the near future anyways. Since people who vote in this precinct have already been going to Briar Woods for the last few elections, I supported officially moving the precinct to the high school until district lines are redrawn and we have a clearer picture of who will be voting where.

Northstar Boulevard

Progress continues on the County's projects to construct the missing segments of Northstar Boulevard between Tall Cedars Parkway and Evergreen Mills Road. The segment from Evergreen Mills Road to Route 50 has had a design-build contract awarded and is currently going through the design process. We expect that 60% design plans will be submitted for review by the end of the month.

The southern segment of Northstar Boulevard from Route 50 to Tall Cedars Parkway has completed the right of way acquisition process, and utility relocations are underway. We expect those relocations to be complete by this May and a contract for construction to be awarded later this year. I will update you when a contract is awarded.

DULLES LAND USE UPDATES

Goose Creek Overlook

ZMAP-2020-0005, ZCPA-2020-0008, ZMOD-2020-0020, & ZMOD-2020-0026

The Board of Supervisors ultimately denied an application to rezone property along the Goose Creek and Sycolin Road to build 238 residential units. I wouldn't normally discuss information on an application this far outside our district, but this item was notable for a few reasons. At our March 2 Business Meeting, the Board actually approved the application on a 5-4 vote. I voted against the project because I believe the proposal is not in alignment

with our recently approved Comprehensive Plan. That plan identified this property for the Suburban Neighborhood Place Type, which is predominantly comprised of single family detached and attached homes. The application proposed almost 50% multi-family, with the majority of that in an affordable rental unit apartment building. The apartment building did not meet the building types that the Place Type called for. This inconsistency with the plan was overlooked by some who felt that the affordable housing component outweighed any other issues. There was a significant amount of concern from the community about the environmental impacts of the application; these concerns were echoed by organizations such as the Goose Creek Association.

At the following Business Meeting, the Ashburn District Supervisor, who had initially supported the project, made a motion to reconsider approval. Ultimately, two members of the Board changed their votes to no (with one abstention) and the application was denied 6-2-1. I think the Board ultimately got this one right, although I wish we had done so when first considering the application.

Kincora Village Center

ZMAP-2018-0014, ZCPA-2018-0013, ZRTD-2020-0005, SPEX-2020-0013, ZMOD-2018-0035, ZMOD-2020-0029, & ZMOD-2020-0032

The Kincora Village Center is a previously approved residential and commercial application that is located west of Route 28 in the Broad Run District. The original application was approved for 1,400 residential units. Of those units, 781 have not been built yet.

At our March Public Hearing, the applicant returned to the Board with a request for 1,200 more multifamily residential units and an increase in retail/commercial space of 575,000 sq. ft. – in return for donating a desirable parcel on which to construct the Northern Virginia Science Center (turning over

the Landbay for construction of the Science Center will eliminate about 250 planned residential units from the development).

I support the idea of bringing the museum to Loudoun. I think it will be a great resource for local residents – the Science Center has been something the Board has supported and been planning for a number of years. That being said, 1,200 additional units is a big ask – especially in this location, where we are hearing from current residents that there are already severe parking problems. I am always concerned about the effects of residential applications on area transit and transportation. While the applicant did address transit, saying they would work on connecting existing routes to Metro and provide their own bus service, my concern about transportation is outstanding – our road network in this area probably isn't equipped for the increased traffic burden that an additional 1,200 homes will inevitably add.

I, along with most of the other Supervisors, raised these and other concerns at the Public Hearing. As a result, the item was sent to our Transportation and Land Use Committee, where the Board members who make up that committee hashed out many issues with the applicant and County staff. While they were able to reach agreements on some of the items – for example, the applicant agreed to strengthen environmental protections and increase their regional roads contribution – there are still outstanding questions.

The item is scheduled to come back to the Board of Supervisors at our second Business Meeting in April. There, I expect discussion to center on two issues – density and affordable units.

I'll keep you updated once we discuss this application again in April. If you'd like to sign up to speak at the meeting, click [here](#).

SVK SAI Child Care

SPEX 2019-0043

At the April 14 Public Hearing, the Board of Supervisors will consider a special exception to permit the SVK SAI Child Care Center, a 9,500 sq. ft. facility south of Braddock Road and east of Gum Spring Road. The application has been through the Planning Commission.

The child care center would service up to 157 children at any given time. In addition to the 9,500 sq. ft. indoor facility, the application includes a 5,500 sq. ft. outdoor play area and associated parking. Overall, the project would occupy a 4.32-acre portion of an undeveloped parcel in the Transition Policy Area.

Staff has some concerns with the application. First, they have determined that a childcare center is not consistent with the 2019 General Plan's vision for the Transition Large Lot Neighborhood Place Type, which governs this area. The place type envisions detached single-family homes, low-density communities, or agricultural uses. The proposed child care is a commercial use, and staff has stated that it would be better suited for a suburban location. The location in question is on the edge of the Transition Policy Area along a major corridor for commuters and near other uses such as schools and a commercial area. However, other childcares have been approved on similar properties nearby.

Second, staff has noted the size of the structure as a potential issue, which I expect will be a focal point of the Board's discussion in April. I expect to hear from staff and the applicant about demand for childcare in the area and whether the size of the proposed building is appropriate.

Despite these concerns, the Planning Commission did forward the application to the Board with a 7-2 recommendation of approval. They noted that the site design includes enhanced buffering and provides the amount of open space endorsed by the 2019 General

Plan, and they stated that Braddock Road can accommodate the extra generated traffic. I anticipate that these items will all be part of the discussion at the Public Hearing. Click [here](#) for information on how to participate in the Public Hearing.

Milestone Tower – Rock Ridge High School *CMPT 2021-0001*

An initial commission permit application for a Milestone telecommunications tower at Rock Ridge High School has been accepted by County staff. The application is for a 140-foot wireless monopole at Rock Ridge, located at 43330 Loudoun Reserve Drive in Ashburn. The tower is intended to bolster the area's network and host private cell providers.

The application has not yet come before the Board of Supervisors or Planning Commission and will still need to go through the staff review and referral process. The applicant will be planning an informational community meeting to take place in the near future. In the meantime, click [here](#) for more information on the project.

Catholic Church and School in Fairfax County

I have received questions from residents in the Blue Spring Farm community about a land use proposal in Fairfax County. The Catholic Diocese of Arlington is seeking to build a church, parish hall, rectory, and private nursery school near the intersection of Pleasant Valley Road and Herndon Avenue in Fairfax. Obviously since this process is not playing out in Loudoun, our Board of Supervisors has no say over what ultimately happens. That being said, I wanted to provide some detail since the application is adjacent to our district and should it be built, will impact some of our residents.

Fairfax has a Special Permit process (which Loudoun does not) that allows churches and other establishments to go directly to the Board of Zoning

Appeals, bypassing both the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. The closest equivalent in Loudoun would be our special exception process, although our SPEX applications are reviewed by both the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors to ensure compliance and resolve any outstanding concerns.

Fairfax's Zoning Ordinance allows churches in the zoning district that governs the aforementioned area along Pleasant Valley Road. The church will have to submit a traffic study in case additional signals, turn lanes, or widenings are necessary. During the process of looking into this issue, we did learn that VDOT is constructing a signal at the intersection of Herndon Avenue and Pleasant Valley, which should help traffic challenges in that area. That signal is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

The application is currently scheduled for a Fairfax BZA hearing on May 12 at 9:00 AM. For information on the special permit process in Fairfax, click [here](#). The Fairfax County project page for this application can be found [here](#). The applicant is expected to submit revised materials in April, and we will be reviewing those for potential feedback from the County. I have also requested that my office and Loudoun planning staff be included on future submissions. I will keep you updated as I learn more.

LOUDOUN UPDATES

Greenway Legislation Signed Into Law

Some good news regarding our fight to curb toll increases on the Greenway: the House and Senate Greenway bills ([HB 1832](#) and [SB 1259](#)) have been signed by Governor Northam. Both pieces of legislation are effective July 1, 2021.

I have covered the bills (which are identical) in great detail in past [newsletters](#), so I won't repeat all that here. Suffice it to say, they will set in place much firmer rules for when the State Corporation Commission can allow toll increases and will result in real, material benefits to frequent Greenway commuters.

I'd like to thank Delegate Suhas Subramanyam, Senator John Bell, Delegate David Reid, Delegate Wendy Gooditis, former Delegate David Ramadan, Chair Phyllis Randall, Loudoun County Attorney Leo Rogers, and everyone else who worked hard to make these bills a reality.

Firearms on County Property

The Board voted 6-3 this month to add section 684.04 to the County's Codified Ordinance, which prohibits "the possession of firearms or ammunition in buildings owned or used by the County for governmental purposes, as well as parks and recreation / community centers and those parts of buildings used, but not owned by, the County." The section does contain an exemption for concealed carry permit holders, but only at County parks. Weapons are already prohibited by state law in schools and County community centers with preschools such as Dulles South.

I voted against the ordinance because it did not align with what I had proposed throughout this process. I would have supported the motion had it only prohibited firearms in County buildings in which the prohibition could be enforced and there is an armed security presence. It is normal practice for government buildings not to allow firearms, with magnetometers commonly used for screening in these cases. Select County facilities in Loudoun are manned with armed Sheriff's deputies. The County's employee policy already prohibits employees from bringing firearms to work, which is a term in our insurance policy and standard practice. The only

individuals allowed to bring firearms are visitors, and at that point I'd rather the deputies be armed and nobody else. I think the prohibition is a viable solution for the County Administration Building, Shenandoah Building, and Ridgetop Circle buildings in which deputies are present and magnetometers would be installed.

However, in other circumstances, it clearly will be impossible to enforce an ordinance like this. It isn't feasible to put magnetometers at more than 100 County facilities - the costs would be enormous. Gun policy is a contentious issue, and the Board heard very well reasoned testimony from both sides on what is best for safety. Ultimately there are no easy answers to that question, but the Board is only considering County policy and not the macro issues that dominate debate on this topic. I absolutely appreciate that some of my colleagues wish to make things safer by proposing an ordinance like this - I just don't believe that goal will be accomplished simply by putting up a sign saying that weapons are prohibited in a particular park or building. I also don't like to vote for things I know can't and won't be enforced - simply throwing more laws on the books is not usually the answer. The Board is now going to have to make some decisions about implementation, so we'll see what this ordinance will look like in practice.

Arcola Boulevard / Dulles West Boulevard

The Arcola Boulevard and Dulles West Boulevard projects are being constructed as proffers by the developer of Arcola Center. Both are currently anticipated to be complete and ready for traffic later this year. The project has been split into phases (see graphic below); we have some progress updates that I'll cover separately:

Arcola Boulevard (Phases 1A and 1B): Evergreen Mills Road/Arcola Mills Drive to Dulles West Boulevard:

- Currently working to complete the tie-in to Arcola Mills Drive
- Paving for Phase 1A and 1B is complete (the road is currently closed to public traffic and being used only as ingress/egress to the Wheeler Survey facility)
- Associated plats and dedication can be finalized once revised bonds are issued

Dulles West Boulevard (Phase 1B)

- Base paving from Dulles Landing to Hutchinson Farm Drive is complete
- Base paving from Hutchinson Farm Drive to Arcola Boulevard is complete
- Construction and paving of the Diaz/Roo intersection is complete

Arcola Boulevard (Phase 2): Dulles West Boulevard to Route 50

- Currently in permitting and site development phase
- Mass earthwork in progress
- Completion anticipated this July

When these roads open to public traffic will depend on when the associated traffic signals are operational, especially at the Arcola Mills Drive intersection. There will be one more phase of Arcola Boulevard between Arcola Mills Drive and Loudoun County Parkway. This specific phase has not been triggered by the level of development in Arcola Center yet, but the Board approved an agreement that accelerates the project using County funds that would be reimbursed when the development meets the actual trigger. The right of way still needs to be acquired, so we don't have a specific timeline on that portion of the project yet. VDOT and the County are working to expedite things for the developer, and we are hopeful that substantial completion will be reached by the end of the year.



Hanson Park

Crews have continued progress on the Hal and Berni Hanson Regional Park construction project. They are currently conducting earthwork, asphalt paving, curb and gutter installation, and renovation of the onsite Hanson House (exterior siding, with first floor framing and subfloor completed). The athletic fields are being graded and lit, and construction is progressing on the skatepark, splashpad, playground, and grandstands at the athletic fields.

I will continue to update you on progress made at the park site. Expected completion is currently spring 2022. For more information, visit the project page [here](#).



Ashburn Senior Center

As of this month, construction is substantially complete on the Ashburn Senior Center, which is a 15,000 sq. ft. facility aimed at providing services to the senior population. It will be the first senior center in Ashburn and the fifth in Loudoun overall. Currently, crews are completing punch list items and furnishing the site.

Once the Ashburn Senior Center is open, patrons will be able to enjoy its many features, including a gym, multipurpose room, classrooms, commercial kitchen, fitness room, game room, computer lab, arts and crafts room, and more. The center will be operated by our Department of Parks and Rec, and I'm excited to see it open for public use later this spring! For more information, visit the project page [here](#).



ANNOUNCEMENTS

2021 VDOT Northern Virginia Paving Program

The Virginia Department of Transportation has announced its 2021 paving schedule for Northern Virginia. An interactive map has been posted to the VDOT website and can be found [here](#). Contact information for project managers can be found by clicking on the road in question. There are many roads scheduled to be paved this year in Loudoun. Specific roads in the Dulles District are Millstream Drive, Riding Center Drive, Eastgate View Drive, Elk Lick Road, Gum Spring Road north of Braddock, Route 50 west of Stone Springs Boulevard, and Route 606 east of the Greenway. When timelines are announced for these projects, I will share that information with you.

Dulles South Neighborhood Closet Clothing Event

The nonprofit Dulles South Neighborhood Closet is hosting a community clothing event on Saturday, May 1 from 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM at Lightridge

Highschool, 41025 Collaboration Drive, Aldie, VA 20105. See <https://dullescloset.org/> for information on clothing donation dates and volunteer opportunities. Upcoming events in 2021 are planned for August 21, November 13, and December 4.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule

Loudoun has released its schedule of household hazardous waste collection events for spring 2021. All events run from 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM.

- Saturday, April 24: Harmony Park and Ride, 39464 East Colonial Highway, Hamilton, VA 20158
- Saturday, May 22: Ashburn North Park and Ride, 45151 Russell Branch Parkway, Ashburn, VA 20147
- **Saturday, June 26: Freedom High School, 25450 Riding Center Drive, South Riding, VA 20152**

The household hazardous waste program provides a safe and free way for residents to get rid of hazardous material that may have accumulated in their homes. Household hazardous waste is any waste produced in the home that is dangerous or potentially harmful to human health or the environment. Please don't bring ammunition, propane tanks, motor oil and car batteries, electronics, medical waste, or paint. The limit per household is 15 gallons of liquid waste and 40 pounds of solid waste with a maximum container size of 5 gallons.

For more information about the Household Hazardous Waste Program, call 703-771-5500 or visit the [website](#).

Work in Loudoun

Loudoun's Department of Economic Development has launched a new initiative called Work in Loudoun. Visit workinloudoun.com for a whole host of professional services intended to connect the region's workforce with open positions at businesses in the County. Work in Loudoun has resources for

jobseekers and employers, current Loudoun businesses, and businesses looking to open in or relocate to Loudoun in the future.

Donations to Local Food Banks

Donations to the Dulles South Food Pantry can be made in person at the former Arcola Volunteer Fire Department, located at 24300 Stone Springs Boulevard (temporary location) on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM, or [online](#). The Dulles South Food Pantry provides food assistance up to twice a month to any person who resides in the attendance zones for the following high schools: Freedom, John Champe, Lightridge, Independence, Rock Ridge and Briar Woods. Call 703-507-2795 or email <mailto:info@dsfp.org> to schedule an appointment. See the Dulles South Food Pantry's [website](#) for information on how you can help the food pantry fight local hunger. Donations to the Dulles South Food Pantry, Inc. are tax deductible.

Donations to Loudoun Hunger Relief can be made in person at 750 Miller Drive SE in Leesburg or via their [website](#).

Blood Donation

The American Red Cross continues to have an urgent need for blood and platelet donations. Donation sites follow the required social distancing during the collection events. No drop-in donations are allowed. To schedule an appointment, please visit redcross.org/give-blood.

Inova Blood Services has blood drives scheduled and takes donors by appointment. Visit <https://www.inovablood.org/> to schedule an appointment.

Medical Reserve Corps Volunteering

The Health Department continues to seek volunteers for the Loudoun Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).

With the COVID-19 pandemic a reality, the need for Loudoun Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers - both medical and nonmedical personnel - is greater than ever. The MRC is asking medical doctors, nurses, physician assistants, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, dentists, veterinarians, and other medical professionals to consider volunteering their time to help protect the community's health during the pandemic and beyond. Nonmedical professionals can operate the Loudoun County Health Department's information line or help support testing activities, contact-tracing efforts, logistics support, and other nonmedical functions. For more information, visit loudoun.gov/mrc. Register through the [Virginia Volunteer Health System](#).

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