

Mayor Kelly Burk and I appreciate the residents, Town Council members and State Senator Jennifer Boysko who attended the Homelessness Town Hall on Monday, September 20th.

I want to thank the following panelists: Captain Smith and Sergeant Abilmona of the Leesburg Police Department, Lieutenant Colonel Prugh of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, Yolanda Stevens from the Department of Family Services, Rachel Enghauser from the Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Developmental Services, Katrina Cole from Friends of Loudoun Mental Health, Paul Smith from Tree of Life Ministries and Christopher Spera, Leesburg's Town attorney for participating in the panel. Below is more information about homeless services and resources.



Homelessness Resources

Homelessness is not a crime. If a homeless person is not breaking the law, he or she cannot forcibly be put into jail or a mental institution.

The **Leesburg Police Department and the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office** conduct welfare checks to engage a homeless person. They offer services and give rides to a shelter or drop in facility. Both are part of the continuum of care and work with the department of family services and mental health.

The **Loudoun County Department of Family Services** provides information, assistance and referrals to County residents who are experiencing or facing homelessness. The County provides **a wide range of services and programs** to meet residents' needs. To access these programs, call Coordinated Entry Services at 703-777-0420 to complete a referral. The Coordinated Entry Services line is open Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Coordinated Entry is a process designed to quickly identify, assess, refer, and connect people experiencing a housing crisis, such as homelessness, to housing assistance and services.

Loudoun County has three emergency shelters. Each shelter is open to residents of Loudoun County and offers tailored programs to help with short-term needs as well as lower the risk of homelessness in the future.

- Loudoun Homeless Services Center, 19520 Meadowview Court in Leesburg, phone: 571-258-3033.
- The Good Shepherd Alliance, 20684 Ashburn Road in Ashburn, phone: 703-724-1555.
- Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS), 105 E Market Street in Leesburg, phone: 703-771-3398.

The **Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Developmental Services** has a PATH (projects for assistance in transition from homelessness) program to support those experiencing homelessness or those at risk. Contact the PATH team for guidance and support by calling Diane Daddio at 703-737-8702 or Wendy Murphy at 571-233-0104.

Emergency services are available to anyone experiencing a mental health or substance use related crisis. Call 703-777-0320, 24 hours/7 days a week for support.

Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan

At the September 8th Board business meeting, we adopted the the Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan (UHNSP). When deciding whether or not to vote for any residential upzoning, whether or not affordable units are involved, I look at two issues: 1) What impact will the project have on existing taxpayers, since existing taxpayers have to subsidize new residential housing because, in general, housing units consume more in services than they pay in taxes; and 2) What impact will the project have on school overcrowding. There is no fiscal impact associated with the adoption of the UHNSP. However, individual plan components have fiscal impacts which will be provided in detail when they are presented to the Board for consideration. You can see the plan in **Attachment 1** of the Board item.

Renaming Route 7 and Route 50

At the September 21st Board business meeting, staff presented the [Renaming of Route 7 and Route 50 Task Force short list](#) of alternate roadway name recommendations to the Board for approval. The following motions were approved:

Motion 1

Vice Chair Saines moved that the Board approve the short list of name recommendations provided by the Task Force as presented in Table 4 (please see the list below) and move forward with the remainder of the renaming process (motion passed 9-0).

Motion 2

Vice Chair Saines moved that as part of the remainder of the renaming process, staff contact residents on Little River Lane to discuss renaming Little River Lane to comply with the road name duplication criteria of the ordinance and avoid adverse impacts on public safety if Route 50 is renamed Little River Turnpike and contact residents on Leesburg Court if Route 7 is renamed Leesburg Pike (motion passed 9-0).

Task Force Name Recommendations

Route 7

- Loudoun Heritage
- Potomac Gap
- Piedmont Gateway
- Virginia Piedmont
- Catoctin Valley
- Loudoun Trail
- Potomac Heritage
- Leesburg Pike *

Route 50

- Virginia Piedmont
- Loudoun Heritage
- Middleburg
- Piedmont Gateway
- Piedmont Heritage
- Little River Turnpike *

* Denotes further discussion required

Currently, Route 7 is called “Leesburg Pike” in Fairfax County. This was the historic name for Route 7 throughout Fairfax and Loudoun before the Loudoun section was renamed for the segregationist Harry Byrd in 1968. Returning Route 7 to its historic name of “Leesburg Pike” would create a seamless transition from one county to the next and return the road to its longer historic significance. However, I don’t want to make light of the imposition any road renaming has on every resident and business living or operating along the road. When it comes to Route 50, the road was historically called “Little River Turnpike” before it was renamed in 1982 after the Confederate John Mosby.

A [renaming Route 7 and Route 50 webpage](#) was established to keep the public informed on the project’s progress. It provides background information on the Inventory of Confederate and Segregationist Symbols and the renaming of Harry Byrd Highway and John Mosby Highway. A name ranking survey is posted on the [project website](#) through October 14th. The Board is scheduled to select new road names on December 7th.

Cigarette Tax

At the September 8th Board business meeting, we approved the [new Loudoun County Codified Ordinance – Cigarette Tax](#) at a rate of forty cents per pack of twenty cigarettes with an effective date of November 1, 2021. We further moved that staff return to a future business meeting with the Northern Virginia Cigarette Tax Board final agreement for the administration of the cigarette tax, enforcement efforts, and collection of revenue. The Code of Virginia authorizes counties to levy a cigarette tax up to two cents per cigarette (\$0.02) or 40 cents (\$0.40) per pack of twenty effective July 1, 2021. Several studies suggest that higher cigarette taxes lead to less cigarette use by encouraging current smokers to reduce consumption and discouraging new smokers, especially teenagers and young adults. Staff estimates that a cigarette tax at the proposed forty cents per pack rate will result in \$2.2 million of net annual General Fund unrestricted revenues.

Utility Work for Courthouse Expansion

First, let me say that I know this project has not been easy for any of our residents or businesses in the vicinity. You have been extraordinarily patient and I thank you for that. Loudoun County is scheduled to begin utility work as part of the courthouse expansion in Leesburg over the next few weeks. Residents will see increased construction activity and changes to the vehicular traffic flow on Edwards Ferry Road and Church Street.

The following work is scheduled to occur:

- Sanitary and water work to include closure of Edwards Ferry Road from 7:00 pm until 7:00 am until approximately Friday, October 1st. Members of the public should expect construction noise and bright lights at the construction site. In addition, a portion of Edwards Ferry Road adjacent to the new courthouse will be closed each evening until this work is complete. Drivers should expect detour signs and barricades each evening. All barriers will be removed by 7:00 am when the road will open to vehicular traffic.
- Utility work by Dominion Power, Comcast and Verizon to include partial closure of Church Street starting the week of September 27th and ending the week of October 11th. Dominion Power will install a new temporary power pole with transformers to provide power to the historic building at the corner of Market and Church Streets known as the “Valley Bank building,” and Comcast and Verizon will relocate their communication lines to the new pole. No power outages are expected for residents. Drivers should expect a partial lane closure of Church Street at the corner of East Market Street and Church Street. A travel lane will be maintained until October 4th.

For more information about the courthouse expansion project, visit the [project website](#).

County Government Vaccination Requirement

At the September 8th Board business meeting, Chair Randall moved that the Board of Supervisors direct the County Administrator to establish a policy and process whereby County government and library employees and contractors who work in County facilities will be required to get vaccinated or to submit to weekly COVID-19 testing as a requirement of employment. The policy and process will include religious and medical exemptions. I know that, for some members of County staff, this will not be a wildly popular requirement; however, I believe this will help reduce the transmission of the Delta variant to members of the public and other County staff members. Employees who do not get vaccinated will have access to free weekly testing.

QR Codes to Verify COVID-19 Vaccination Status

The Virginia Department of Health announced the addition of QR codes – a type of barcode that can be scanned with smartphones – to Virginia COVID-19 vaccination records.

QR codes – short for “quick response” – are commonly used in retail, logistics, and other sectors. The technology allows anyone to show proof of vaccination with a digital or printed QR code instead of a paper card, and without the need for an app. As more and more employers and businesses respond to calls by President Biden and Governor Northam to require that employees and customers be vaccinated, QR codes will help improve the consistency and security of vaccination information while protecting individual privacy.

A person vaccinated in Virginia can visit [Vaccinate Virginia](#) to obtain their free vaccination record with QR code, which can then be saved to a phone gallery, printed on paper, or stored in a compatible account. Businesses and employers that choose to verify an individual's vaccination status can scan QR codes with the free [SMART Health Verifier App](#). Individuals do not need to download an app to use QR codes. Virginia is now the fifth U.S. state to adopt the [SMART Health](#) format for QR codes.

COVID-19 Vaccine Booster

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has authorized local health districts to begin administering booster doses of the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine for certain individuals as [recommended](#) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Who Can Get Booster Shots

Loudoun County is now offering booster doses of the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine to the following groups approved by the CDC and authorized by VDH at its Dulles Town Center clinic [by appointment only](#). The boosters for these specific populations are to be administered at least six months (180 days) after the second dose of Pfizer vaccine.

- People 65 years and older.
- Residents of long-term care facilities.
- People 18-64 years old with underlying medical conditions.

- People 18-64 years old who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional settings, such as, but not limited to, health care workers and caregivers for frail or immunocompromised people.

The recommendations from the CDC and VDH do not include people who received the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccines. Anyone who received Moderna or J&J COVID-19 vaccine should not seek a booster dose of Pfizer vaccine, and instead wait for future recommendations from the CDC and VDH.

State health officials have been working with pharmacies, medical offices and other providers to make sure there are convenient options available to receive a booster dose. All residents who qualify may receive a booster from many providers in the community, such as medical offices and pharmacies including, but not limited to, CVS, Giant Food, Harris Teeter, Safeway, Walgreens, Walmart and Wegmans. These locations have the benefit of being able to also provide flu vaccine at the same time. Visit vaccines.gov to find a vaccination site near you.

Dulles Town Center Vaccination Clinic Reopens

With booster shots, the County is shutting down the Sterling Elementary School vaccine clinic and reopening the Dulles Town Center clinic by appointment only. To make an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccine at the County's Dulles Town Center site, visit [here](#). Anyone without internet access can call the COVID-19 Information Line at 703-737-8300 to make an appointment. Staff will not turn away anyone who may show up without an appointment as long as there are no capacity restrictions.

118 First Responders Graduate

The Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue System (LC-CFRS) is honored to announce the graduation of 118 first responders who successfully completed various levels of fire and rescue training. A graduation ceremony was held on Thursday, September 23rd at Heritage High School in Leesburg, and recognized the accomplishments of numerous men and women who have committed to honorably serve their communities.



Walk to Fight Suicide

Last weekend, over 100 people and their pets gathered at Leesburg's Ida Lee Park for the Walk to Fight Suicide and remember the friends and family members who are no longer with them. For more information on resources available if someone you know is dealing with these overwhelming issues, go [here](#).



Advisory Boards, Commissions & Committees Vacancies

The Leesburg District has vacancies on two Boards and Commissions that provide an opportunity to be involved in and have an impact on local government and your

community. You can apply to serve on the Communications Commission and Community and Criminal Justice Board by filling out this [application](#).

For more information about these Boards and Commissions, please visit the County [website](#). For questions, please e-mail Valerie at valerie.suzdak@loudoun.gov. Thank you!

Warm Regards,

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Business of the Month

880 Harrison (The Blockchain Building)

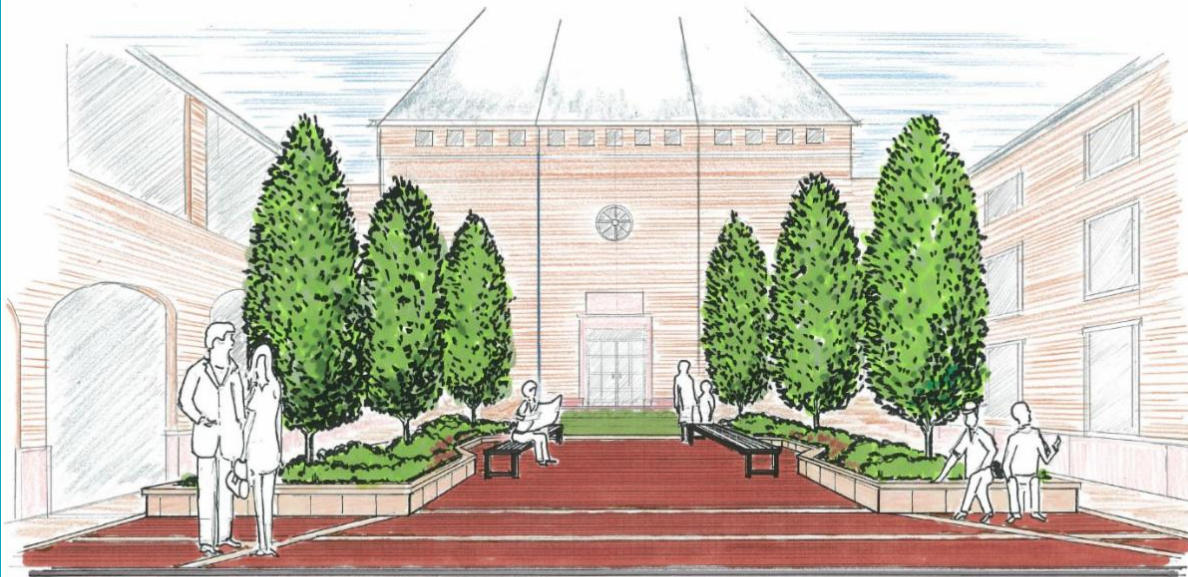


Centrally located in the Leesburg HUBZONE and minutes from downtown Leesburg, [880 Harrison \(The Blockchain Building\)](#) is reimagining the workplace for those that live and work in Loudoun County. Whether you are seeking a space for your small business or are a remote worker, 880 Harrison offers a comfortable and collaborative office environment for every local professional to not only work, but to network and share ideas with local industry peers. We offer a variety of workspaces to meet your needs- whether you seek a company headquarters, a private office for a few remote employees, or are an individual seeking a co-working or shared workspace to collaborate and to work outside the home. State-of-the-art technology, including high speed wired and wireless Internet, insures connectivity and productivity. Contact us [here](#) to schedule a tour.



Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

Construction of the Town Green is underway. The renovation project is part of phase one of the Town Hall campus improvements, a Capital Improvement Project that aims to transform public spaces on the property. The project will replace four circular benches and planting containers, near Market Street, with an updated landscaping area that will include new trees and improved soil for healthy long-term tree growth, along with landscaped beds and seating areas. The project is expected to be completed in November.



Town Green
View from W. Market Street

The Academies of Loudoun will present the 33rd annual Leesburg Car Show on Saturday, October 2nd in downtown Leesburg from 12 to 4 pm. Downtown streets will close at 11 am for car show staging and they will reopen to the public by 5 pm. For more information, including how to register your vehicle for the show, visit the [website](#) or call 571-252-2080.



Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission seeks nominations for the twenty ninth annual Loudoun History Awards. This event honors individuals who have made a significant contribution to preserving Loudoun's past through collection of County documents and memorabilia, preservation of historic landmarks, visual arts, writing and long-term involvement in local history organizations. The deadline for nominations is Monday, October 4th. The awards ceremony will be held at the Thomas Balch Library on Sunday, November 7th at 2 pm. For more information, contact Alexandra Gressitt at 703-737-7195 or agressitt@leesburgva.gov.

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has awarded the Town of Leesburg its prestigious Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the Town's Fiscal Year 2022 budget. Leesburg has received this award every year since 1986. It is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting. The award recognizes organizations that meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting. Recipients must satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget development and presentation. Budget documents must be rated as "proficient" or "outstanding" in all four categories, and in the 14 mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Town of Leesburg, in coordination with Loudoun County, are asking travelers to provide feedback on a study regarding potential improvements to Route 7 Business (East Market Street) between Plaza Street and Route 15 (Leesburg Bypass) in Leesburg. The study will assess existing traffic and safety conditions along Route 7 Business, including congestion that occurs

during morning and evening peak periods. Route 7 Business currently averages 36,000 vehicle trips a day within the study limits. The survey can be found [here](#) and will remain open through Monday, October 4th.



Update from Beth Barts

September was a busy month for the School Board. After many months of work, the School Board unanimously approved a body-positive, gender neutral dress code. It allows students to have greater freedom of expression as well as a focus on their comfort. It also allows teachers to focus on instruction and not enforcing excessive dress code rules. We updated our Professional Conduct and Grading and Assessment Policies. Budget discussions will start soon. Creating an International Baccalaureate (IB) program in one of our high schools and focusing on best practices in literacy are still at the top of the list of priorities.

This year more than ever, as we transition from virtual learning, it is essential to get to know your child's teacher. They will be your partners throughout the coming year. I hope you participated in your child's Back to School Night and return to school activities. If you missed any of these events, I encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher and administrators to introduce yourself and establish a strong school-to-home relationship. Many PTOs and PTAs are still looking for volunteers. Consider offering up some of your time and energy to help enrich your child's school experience.

A public hearing will be held on October 5th at 6:30 pm to consider candidates for the vacant Broad Run District seat. Eight district residents have announced their interest in the appointment. The School Board will select the representative until an election is held in November 2022. I look forward to this process and helping select a candidate that represents the wishes and will of the Broad Run community.

While COVID-19 mitigation protocols are still in place, our students are once again busy with clubs, sports, band and theatre activities. I encourage families to support these organizations by attending games or a show. As always, feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns at beth.barts@lcps.org.

Community Information



Loudoun Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Seeks Volunteer Vaccinators: MRC is issuing a call for volunteer vaccinators—especially for those who are comfortable with vaccinating young children—to help in protecting the community’s health as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. The County anticipates an upcoming increase in demand for the COVID-19 vaccine, which will require additional support from the Loudoun MRC and the medical community.

In the coming weeks, it is expected that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will recommend that children ages 5 to 11 receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Shortly after this occurs, it is expected that the Virginia Department of Health will authorize local health departments to begin administering vaccines to this age group.

Registered nurses, nurse practitioners, licensed practical nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists and physicians with a current Virginia license who are comfortable vaccinating children as young as 5 years old are needed now to ensure there are enough vaccinators available as soon as the Loudoun County Health Department is authorized to begin administering the COVID-19 vaccine to this younger age group. More information about the MRC, including an online volunteer registration form, can be found [here](#).

Fair Housing Public Forum: The Loudoun County Office of Housing invites residents to attend a virtual fair housing public forum and input session as part of the process to develop a regional fair housing plan. The virtual public forum will be held on Wednesday, October 6th from 6:30-8:00 pm.

Loudoun County is one of eight participating jurisdictions that are working collaboratively to develop a regional fair housing plan, also known as the Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. The process is being coordinated by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. The forum will include an overview on fair housing; presentation of Loudoun County data; discussion of policy priorities; and three breakout sessions on discrimination in housing, barriers to affordable housing and housing for persons with disabilities.

Pre-registration is required for this virtual public forum. To pre-register, and to get more information about the plan, visit [here](#).

The poster features a stylized skyline of houses in shades of orange and red against a light blue sky with sun rays. At the top, the Loudoun County Virginia logo and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments logo are displayed. The main title 'FAIR HOUSING' is in large, bold, white letters, with 'PUBLIC FORUM' in smaller white letters on a red banner below it. The date 'WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2021' is in bold red letters, followed by the time and location 'Time: 6:30PM - 8:00PM | Where: Virtual via Zoom' in orange. A box labeled 'YOU'RE INVITED!' contains an invitation to attend a community forum. Below this, a list of five topics is shown with red square bullet points. At the bottom, it states the forum is free and open to the public, and can be participated in virtually via computer, laptop, smartphone or telephone.

Loudoun County
VIRGINIA

Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

FAIR HOUSING

PUBLIC FORUM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2021

Time: 6:30PM - 8:00PM | Where: Virtual via Zoom

YOU'RE INVITED!

Loudoun County invites you to attend a community forum to participate in the Regional Fair Housing Plan and provide input on housing issues important to you and your community.

- Racial and ethnic segregation in access to housing.
- Access to communities with high quality schools, good jobs, and public transportation.
- Fair housing enforcement.
- Housing challenges faced by families with children and voucher holders.
- Access to housing for persons with disabilities.

The forum is free and open to the public.
You can participate virtually by computer, laptop, smartphone or telephone.

Business Hazardous Waste Collection Event: The next Loudoun County Business Hazardous Waste Collection is scheduled for Thursday, October 7th. **Pre-registration** is required to participate, and must be received no later than Friday, October 1st. To be eligible to participate in the Business Hazardous Waste Program, your business or organization must:

- Be located in Loudoun County
- Qualify as a Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator and meet the following conditions concerning amounts of hazardous wastes generated:
 1. Less than 100 kilograms (220 pounds) of hazardous wastes are generated per calendar month.
 2. Less than 1 kilogram (2.2 pounds) of acutely hazardous wastes are generated per calendar month.
 3. Not more than 1,000 kilograms (2,220 pounds or roughly five 55-gallon drums) of hazardous wastes are accumulated on-site at any time.

Constant Contact Data Notice

Sent by kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov powered by

