



Supervisor

Caleb A. Kershner

Catoctin District



Loudoun County
VIRGINIA

Celebrating the Waterford Fair's 77th Anniversary

Dear Catoctin Residents,

September has come and gone quickly this year. It was full of the usual business and bustle, as school started up and the the crisp fall weather settled in. It also brought us some solemn moments, as we remembered the twentieth anniversary of 9/11. Twenty years have come and gone, but we have not forgotten the shock, the sorrow at the lives lost, nor the remarkable heroism that we saw in New York and elsewhere, on that day and through the difficult days that followed.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Waterford Fair this weekend! Back in full force after COVID, I know it will be a great outing this weekend!

Turning to more local and exciting history, I've been reading the work of [Eugene Scheel, Waterford historian and mapmaker](#). He has researched and collected a number of stories from Loudoun history. I'd like to share one of these with you. Specifically, about how in the 1940s and 50s, one of the largest turkey farms in the United States was right here in Loudoun County. It was created by a self-taught agriculturalist couple, got its start due to high demand for meat in World War II, and finally ended when California started exporting frozen turkeys and a local drug store chain stopped making sandwiches.

So let me tell you the story of Greenfield Farm.

- Greenfield Farm was [one of the last two large turkey farms in Loudoun County](#). Operating throughout the 1940s and 50s, Greenfield had around 20,000 turkeys, which also made it [one of the largest turkey farms in the country](#).
- The farm was founded by Edgar J. Orme and his wife, Nancy née Luttrell. Edgar left a business career to buy 343 acres on Hogeland Mill Road, south of Leesburg. To learn how to run the new farm, he studied agriculture for a year at the University of Maryland. He also got to know the current two large

turkey farms and their owners - Walter Grant, who owned Hillsbrook Farm, near Hamilton, and former Virginia Governor Westmoreland Davis, who owned Morven Park.

- "But wait," you say, doing some quick mental math. "You said this was about the last *two* large turkey farms in Loudoun. But now you've mentioned *three* of them." And you're right. But when Westmoreland Davis passed away in 1942, Morven Park got out of the turkey business, reducing the number to two. The Ormes actually bought most of Morven Park's equipment, and hired one of their former employees, Kenneth Yockers, to supervised their own burgeoning turkey operation.
- One of the farm's biggest initial customers was the US government. During World War II, Greenfield sold turkeys to the government, which was buying as much meat as it could find to feed US forces overseas. Wartime rules also made it easier to hire helpers, since men who worked as farm helpers would not be drafted.
- Their other major customer was the Peoples Drug Store chain. These stores operated lunch counters during the 40s and 50s. Their main offering was a chicken-salad sandwich - but they preferred to use turkey, which was easier for them to process. How did they solve the minor difficulty that their chicken salad sandwich was, in fact, turkey? When Eugene interviewed Edgar, he recalled that each of these mostly-turkey-salad sandwiches included "[a tiny bit of chicken to make it legal.](#)" (Well played, Peoples Drug Store Chain.)
- The farm also sold turkey eggs in Rockingham County, which was the largest turkey producer among Virginia's counties. Mennonite farmers bought many of the farm's eggs to use in their incubators, as well as poults to raise directly.
- Finally, the farm sold frozen turkeys straight to customers. At the time, many markets didn't sell whole dressed turkeys, or else sold them at a hefty markup. So the farm maintained a large freezer, which was kept stocked with ice from the Leesburg ice plant, and they sold frozen dressed turkeys to residents year round, with their biggest sales coming in around Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- By the late 1950s, the advantages that had made Greenfield Farm a successful turkey operation slowly faded away. California turkey farms started shipping whole dressed turkeys as far as the East Coast, and were able to sell for several cents cheaper than the Ormes could sell and still turn a profit. Then in 1959, the Peoples Drug Store chain closed its lunch counters and stopped serving its turkey-with-a-legal-bit-of-chicken-salad sandwiches. At that point, the last of Loudoun's large turkey farms decided to start raising hogs instead.

Thank you again to [Eugene Scheel](#) for researching and sharing this story. If you haven't read his other work, you can find a good collection of his articles at [LoudounHistory.org](#).

Please keep sending us your thoughts. We will be posting regular updates for the Catoctin District on [my Facebook page](#), and will be adding more information and resources to [my webpage](#).

Sincerely,

Caleb Kershner



If I tried to put all the interesting news from the Catoctin District into one monthly email, you'd be scrolling the rest of the month before you hit the bottom.

Which is why I also have a Facebook page.

So stay tuned to these newsletters for the big-picture news from the Catoctin District. But for the other day-to-day stories and updates, drop by my Facebook page and give it a like.

[Go to Facebook](#)

CURRENT EVENTS



Image Credit: [Photo](#) of broom maker at Waterford Fair (2006) / Waterford Foundation, Inc.

Waterford Fair This Weekend! Celebrates Its 77th Anniversary

The Waterford Fair is celebrating its 77th anniversary this year! Like many public events, it had to be held virtually in 2020. But it has returned to its in-person celebration this year, and so on **October 1-3**, it will take place in and throughout the Village of Waterford.

It is remarkable to realize that this fair has been going strong since October 1944. Originally known as the Waterford Crafts Exhibit, it has grown into a major fall festival in the mid-Atlantic region, and has won the Loudoun County Event of the Year award on no less than four separate occasions.

We got the change to publicly recognize this achievement at the Board's business meeting on September 21. I offered a resolution commemorating the Waterford Fair's 77th anniversary. Then I had the great privilege of presenting the signed resolution to Stephanie Thompson and Cate Magennis Wyatt, who accepted it on behalf of the Waterford Foundation.



Image Credit: Stephanie Thompson (left) and Caleb Kershner (myself, right) at presentation of resolution / Loudoun County

LOUDOUN COUNTY, VIRGINIA

RESOLUTION

Recognizing October 1, 2021, as the 77th Anniversary of the Waterford Fair

- WHEREAS** The first Waterford Fair, known originally as the Waterford Crafts Exhibit, was held 77 years ago in October 1944; and
- WHEREAS** The Waterford Fair has since won the Loudoun County Event of the Year award four separate times and has grown to become the mid-Atlantic's quintessential fall festival, hosting contemporary artisans, living historians, a juried art show, historic home and garden tours, and entertainment for all ages; and
- WHEREAS** The Waterford Fair provides fundraising opportunities for local scouting troops, school booster clubs and PTOs, local churches, and other community organizations, and proceeds from the Fair support the preservation and education efforts of the nonprofit Waterford Foundation; and
- WHEREAS** Each year, over three days, more than 400 volunteers freely give their time to help put on the Waterford Fair, which attracts over 120 artisans and fine craftspeople, 10,000 fairgoers, and 12 nonprofit partners, for an estimated local economic impact of \$4.5 million; and
- WHEREAS** Following the first Virtual Waterford Fair during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the 77th Waterford Fair this year is once again bringing the community together in person to welcome artisans, volunteers, vendors, and visitors to the Waterford National Historic Landmark on October 1-3, 2021.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors recognizes October 1, 2021, as the 77th Anniversary of the Waterford Fair.

Phyllis J. Randall, Chair At-Large

Karan T. Saines, Vice Chairman, Sterling District

Julie E. Briskman, Algonkian District

Sylvia R. Glass, Broad Run District

Tony K. Bullington, Blue Ridge District

Caleb A. Kershner, Catoclin District

Matthew F. Lefebvre, Dulles District

Kristen C. Umstott, Leesburg District

Michael R. Turner, Ashburn District

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
September 21, 2021





Image Credit: Cate Magennis Wyatt, Stephanie Thompson, and Board of Supervisors at presentation of resolution / Loudoun County

At this point in its history, the Waterford Fair has become a major three-day event. More than 400 volunteers assemble to help put it on, with support from 12 nonprofit partners. The fair includes over 120 artisans and fine craftspeople, and on average it draws more than 10,000 fairgoers.

This is a vital event for the Waterford community. It gives an estimated local economic impact of \$4.5 million annually. The fair is also a major fundraising opportunity for local scouting troops, school booster clubs and PTOs, local churches, and other community organizations. In addition, proceeds from the fair support the preservation and education efforts of the nonprofit Waterford Foundation.

So this October 1-3, the Waterford Fair invites you to come enjoy their event. Visitors can meet with contemporary artisans and living historians, attend a juried art show, go on historic home and garden tours, and enjoy entertainment for all ages.

[Learn More](#)

October 5th Board Business Meeting Important Catocin Items

[AT&T Monopole Application](#)
[SPEX-2020-0020 & SPMI-2020-0008](#)

The AT&T monopole application will be before the Board for a final vote at Tuesday's Board Business Meeting.

As I reported in my last newsletter, a public hearing was held on the SPEX/SPMI applications on September 14, 2021. Twelve members of the public spoke regarding the proposal – eight were in opposition to the application and four were in favor.

Those who spoke in opposition cited concerns over impacts to the viewshed of Short Hill Mountain, limited demand for a monopole at the site, and questioned the long-term viability of cell technology.

Those who spoke in support cited safety concerns due to lack of cell coverage in the area, the ability to utilize the FirstNet first responder system, and that improved cell service would benefit local businesses.

The Board weighed the safety and expanded coverage benefits of locating the monopole on top of the Short Hill Mountain ridgeline against the monopole's impact on the historic and natural viewshed of Short Hill Mountain.

In addition, the Board requested that staff provide the location of the nearest County facilities with micro-antennas; a list of all monopoles along ridgelines within Loudoun County, their height, and their distance from the proposed site; verification of whether first responders can verify coverage gaps in the area, the benefit from a coverage perspective of a monopole on a ridgeline versus a flat surface, whether there are any monopoles in the general area that have been approved but not constructed, and how many monopoles not on the ridgeline would be necessary to provide the same amount of coverage proposed with this application. Some of these answers can be found in the item linked above and others will be answered on Tuesday evening. There are compelling arguments on both sides of the issue.

I would like to thank all the individuals who have contacted my office and the Board about this application. Your voice is important. I also encourage others who have not weighed in in the issue to [sign-up to speak](#) on Tuesday or [e-mail the Board](#).

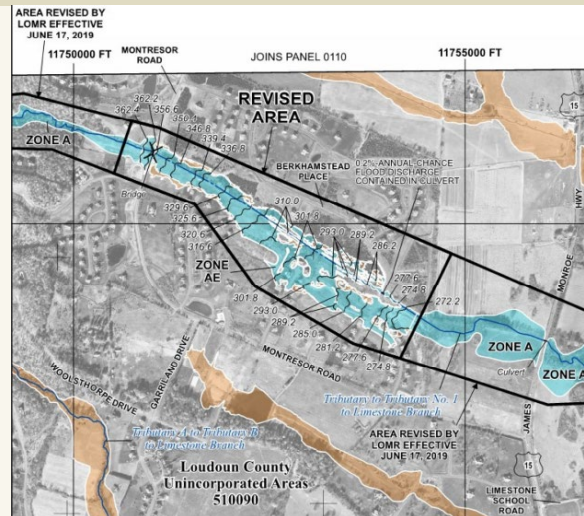


Image Credit: Draft FEMA map, included as attachment to [Oct. 13, 2020 FGOEDC staff report](#) / Trimmed from original

Selma Estates Flood Mitigation Proposal

We moved closer to a real solution for Selma Estates residents on at our FGOEDC meeting on September 13. I introduced a motion recommending that the Board tell staff to develop guidelines that would allow affected property owners in Selma Estates to choose either to sell their property to the county, or to perform their own mitigation using county grant funding. The FGOEDC voted 5-0 to approve the motion.

This item will come before the full Board at our October 5 business meeting. Right now it is on our consent agenda, and assuming it stays there, it will be approved by the Board and will become an official directive to staff by the end of that night.

The Selma Estates floodplain issue has been a major priority for my office, for as long as I've served as supervisor. One of my very first public meetings was with Selma Estates residents and County staff back in February 2020, where they told us about their long, frustrating experience, and where we reviewed the work that our staff had already put in to try and resolve the problem.

With this item, we take another crucial step toward getting some long-awaited relief for our Selma Estates residents. It has been frustrating to watch things take this long - far more frustrating for the residents, I know! - but we are getting closer to the solution. I'm grateful to Chair Randall and the rest of the FGOEDC for voting unanimously for my motion, and to all of my Board colleagues for supporting this important item.

Go to Project Website

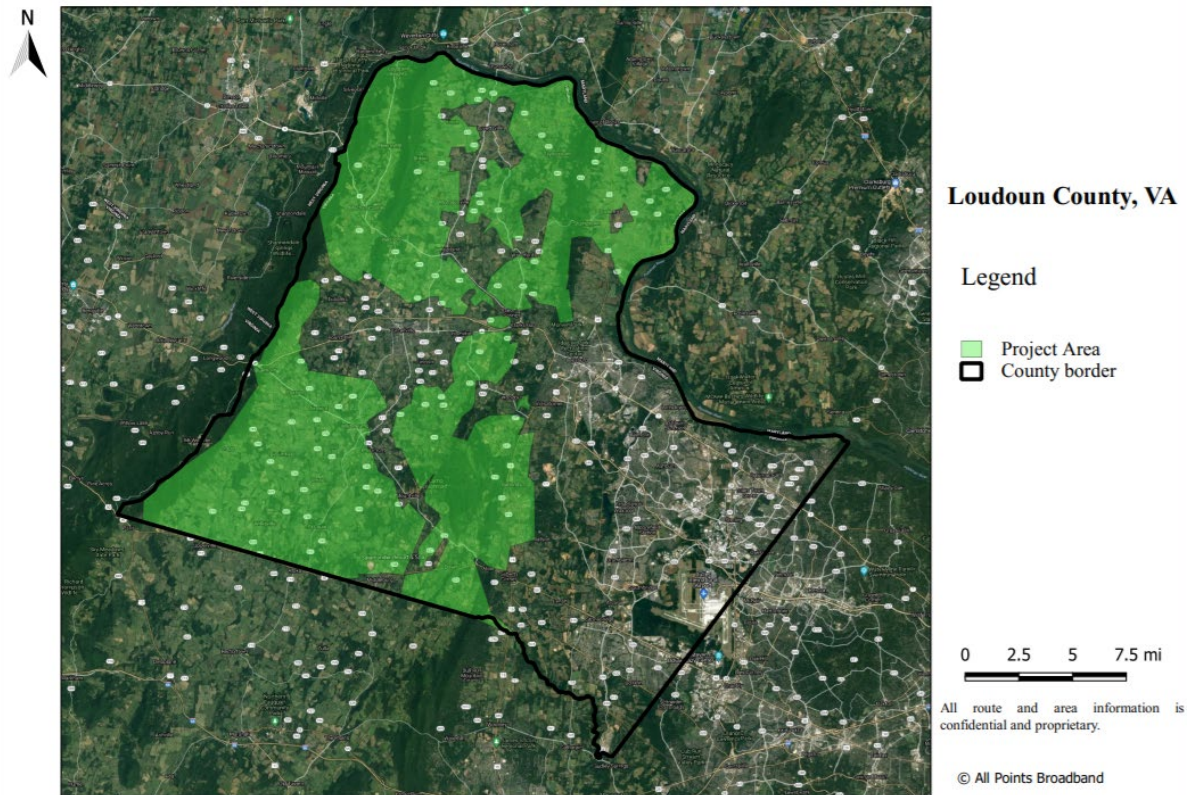
Emergency Broadband Initiative Update

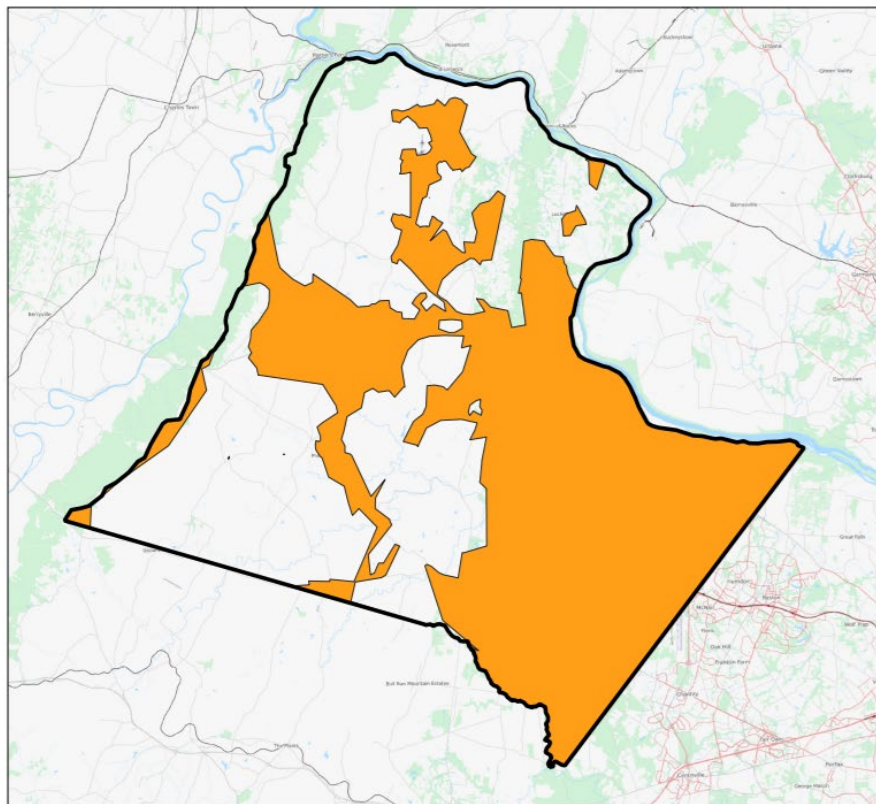
LOUDOUN COUNTY VATI GRANT APPLICATION

Good News! On September 13, 2021, Loudoun County successfully submitted the completed VATI application to the State of Virginia - Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for review and consideration of our request. The application in its entirety can be found through the link above.

On July 20, 2021, the Board approved an allocation of \$12,425,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to be used as the County's contribution for the VATI grant proposal. The County contribution equates to 17.5% of the estimated total project cost of \$71,975,000. The submission asked for a VATI grant of \$17,750,000 which equates to 24.7% of the estimated total project costs. The co-applicants All Points Broadband (APB) and Dominion Energy are contributing \$41,800,000 which equates to 58.2% of the estimated total costs.



The green map is the project area that will be covered under the All Points/Dominion/NOVEC project. The orange map are the areas in Loudoun that have broadband service.





Loudoun County, VA

Legend

- Served Area
-  Served Area
-  County border

0 2.5 5 7.5 mi

All route and area information is confidential and proprietary.

© All Points Broadband

The VATI Application Timeframe is listed below.

Table 1. Key FY 2022 VATI Application Milestones

May 17	Public Comment Period on Draft Guidelines Closes
June 4	DHCD releases Final Guidelines for the FY 2022 VATI Round
July 27	Notice of Applications Due
August 3	DHCD Posts Notices of Application on VATI website
September 14	Applications Due
September 21	DHCD Posts Applications on VATI Website
October 21	Application Challenges Due
October 28	DHCD Notifies Challenged Applicants
November 18	Deadline for Challenge Rebuttals
December 3	DHCD Notifies All Parties of Challenge Determination
Late December	Anticipated Announcement of Awards

More Great News!

In August 2021, the DHCD provided new guidance requiring VATI grant applicants to ensure households would not be charged special construction fees for long service drops to their homes.

The special construction fee is described as an additional cost to the customer above the standard installation fee. Originally, APB's standard installation cost (\$199.00) included a maximum 500- foot aerial service drop, with any installation costs beyond that distance paid for by the resident (cost of labor and materials plus 10%).

APB has estimated as much as two-thirds of the proposed western Loudoun project area will require service drops exceeding 500 feet. Under the new DHCD guidance, any cost passed on to the customer after 500 feet would now be considered special construction fees.

To meet DHCD's new requirement, APB (for a limited period of time) will not have a maximum footage service drop as part of their standard install fee, for all residents that apply for service (regardless of income level).

This change will be in place for the first 12 months following the launch of broadband service availability for each individual neighborhood. The DHCD exception to this requirement would be if the customer requests to have the service drop buried instead of

provided via aerial delivery. The customer would then be charged the cost (time and materials) plus 10% to bury the fiber service drop.



Image Credit: [Photo](#) of Lucketts Fire Station construction / Loudoun County

Sewer Service to Old Lucketts Fire Station (10)

Another important item is heading to the Board's October 5 business meeting - this one for the Lucketts Volunteer Fire Department's building.

As you may know, Loudoun County is building a new Fire and Rescue Station in Lucketts, just east of the existing building. Construction on the new station is getting close to done. A dedication ceremony has been tentatively scheduled, and Loudoun County Fire and Rescue plans to start operating from this new Station 10 in the very near future.

There is just one small (but vitally important) catch: the sewer system.

The old fire station got its sewer service via an existing wastewater treatment plant, which is owned and operated by LCPS on the Lucketts Elementary School property. Pipes for this service go across the Loudoun County's Community Center property and the Lucketts Elementary School property.

LCPS and Loudoun County had agreed to provide this sewer service to the old station. Now that the old station was being decommissioned, the general notion was to turn off that sewer service. There were discussions in 2020 about this, along with suggestions about examining the existing septic system for potential future uses.

Earlier this year, DTCl sent their formal letter saying they would be disconnecting the sewer service. But in July, I met with the Lucketts Ruritan Club. It turned out they were in discussions with the LVFD to identify possible adaptive reuses for the old station. They'd engaged the services of a civil engineer to help identify and plan alternatives for providing

sanitary sewer service to the site. And they needed more time to finish developing those alternatives and to implement a new sewer service plan.

So I'm sending a Board Member Initiative to the October 5 business meeting. This item will direct staff to coordinate with the Lucketts Ruritan Club and ask LCPS to delay disconnecting the old fire station from their sanitary sewer system for another 180 days. That will give the Ruritans time to line up a new sewer arrangement for the building.

[Go to Project Website](#)

Other Items & Events



Image Credit: [Graphic](#) of Spinks Ferry interchange and surroundings / Loudoun County

Spinks Ferry Roundabout Public Meeting Comment Period Open Until October 7!

DTCI held a virtual public meeting for the Spinks Ferry Roundabout project on September 23 from 6:00 - 7:00 PM. About fifteen members of the public participated, asking questions and sharing their thoughts on the proposals. The DTCI project team also gave a presentation on the project's status so far.

If you weren't able to attend, but would still like to ask questions or share your thoughts, you can still do that. DTCI is accepting comments on this project until **October 7**. You can send in your comments by [emailing DTCI](#) or by using their [online comment form](#).

[Learn More](#)



Image Credit: Screenshot of Sep. 21 Board business meeting / Loudoun County

My Views on the Proposed Initiative to Explore Reparations for Segregated Schools

At the September 21 business meeting, the Board also debated a proposal to study the harm caused by Loudoun County's operation of segregated schools, which ended in 1968. To complicate matters slightly, the proposal itself was divided into two separate motions:

- **Motion 1:** Forward this proposal to the Joint Board of Supervisors and School Board Committee, and have them return to a future Board meeting with their recommendations.
- **Motion 2:** Direct the Joint Committee to review and discuss the forced sale by the County-Wide League that conveyed land purchased for \$4,000 to Loudoun County for \$1, and to return to a future Board meeting with their recommendations.

I have very different opinions about these two motions.

Motion 2: Investigating a Specific, Defined Injustice

Motion 2 was excellent. Chair Randall proposed it as a friendly amendment to the item, and it reflects a good deal of careful thought. You'll notice that it identifies a specific misdeed - forcing people to give up their land for grievously *de minimis* compensation.

As a lawyer, I understand how vital property rights are, and how damaging it can be when a government runs roughshod over them. This incident was [a heinous trampling of those rights](#). It targeted the County-Wide League, a group made up of the PTOs of all the Black schools in Loudoun County. They had raised the money to buy eight acres of land, which they planned to use to build a Black high school. But in December 1940, they were then forced to convey that vital land for the nominal sum of \$1, so the Douglass High School could be built there. The carefully assembled value of their land was taken away from them and wiped out at a stroke.

This is a clearly defined injustice, and it is good and proper for the Board of Supervisors to investigate it. I gladly supported this motion.

Motion 1, however, is quite another story.

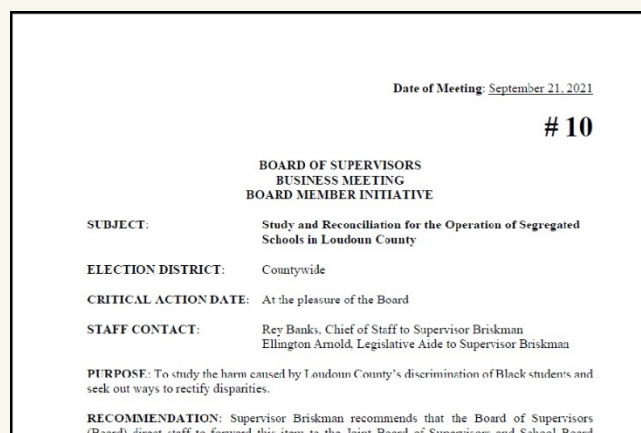


Image Credit: Screenshot of proposed initiative to explore reparations for segregation / Loudoun County

Motion 1: An Unworkable Proposal

This motion (and the rest of the item) wants to address lasting disparities in the Black community, which it believes have largely resulted from systemic racism and generational discrimination at the national, state, and local levels of government. It believes that racist policies, such as school segregation, have blocked our Black neighbors from reaching the levels of academic and financial success that they could otherwise have achieved.

There's a lot going on here. I also realize that this is a deeply controversial topic. My goal isn't to step on nerves, yours included. It is to walk you through the problems I see with this proposal, and to explain why I oppose it.

This proposal's biggest problem is that it doesn't a specific unjust deed, or set of deeds, for which there is a reasonable remedy. Again, as a lawyer, this is my bread and butter. When someone asks a court to help them, and to wield the tremendous power of the state on their behalf, they generally have to explain (A) who hurt them, (B) how they hurt them, and (C) what the proper remedy should be.

Who is the perpetrator that this proposal is targeting? Surely it is the members of those previous Boards, who ran the segregated school system until 1968. But to my knowledge,

none of them are currently in power. None of the men or women who currently serve on the Board of Supervisors or on the School Board are guilty of this deed.

Let's move on to the specific injustices. What specific bad actions did those prior Boards take that we wish to address? Again, Motion 2 picked a specific action - forcing the sale of eight acres of land, and unjustly depriving its rightful owners of its use and value. That made sense. But Motion 1 has no such specificity.

That brings us to the issue of a remedy. Reparations proposals often tend to lead to the creation of reparation funds, in an effort to financially compensate people for the effects of prior discriminatory systems. Those funds will presumably come from Loudoun's tax revenues. That raises some serious fairness issues. Many of Loudoun's current residents never participated in segregating our school systems - in fact, many of them didn't even live here at the time. Are we going to take their tax dollars to pay for injustices that they didn't commit? That weren't even committed while they resided in Loudoun County?

This proposal is trying to relitigate evils that have been dead and gone for half a century now. If you want me to join with you in throwing more dirt on the grave of segregation, I'm here for that. Let us be crystal clear on how wicked that idea was. Let us never forget that it did happen here, and that it is our responsibility to ensure that it never returns. But let us also acknowledge that Loudoun is a very different place today. We are not repeating the evils and mistakes of those past Boards. We have chosen a better way. Let's keep building a better future for ourselves, and leave the dead remnants of segregation in the ash heap of history, where they belong.

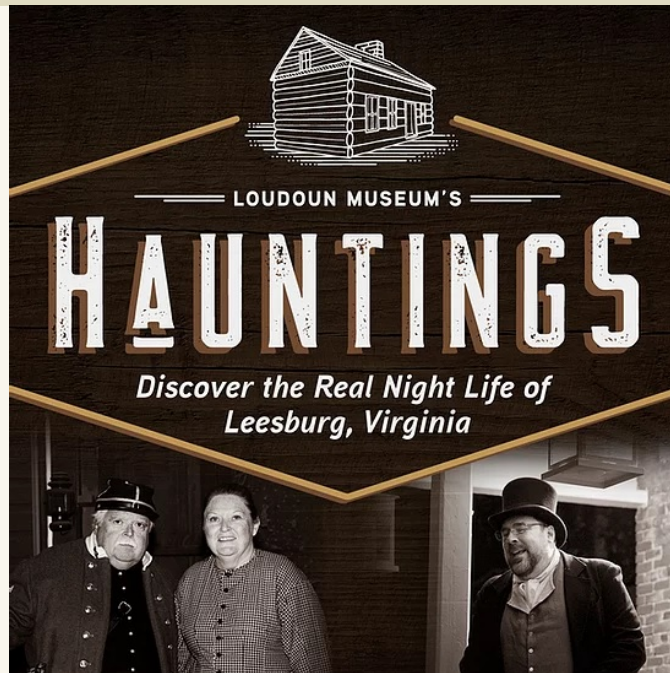


Image Credit: [Promo image](#) for the Loudoun Museum's 2021 Hauntings walking tours / Loudoun Museum

Loudoun Museum's Hauntings Tours Are Back!

Oct 22-23

The Loudoun Museum has begun selling tickets for its annual [Hauntings walking tours](#) of historic Leesburg. The tours will be held on **October 22 - 23**. Tour groups are spaced out 20 minutes apart - you can see which times are still available on the ticket listings.

This is the Loudoun Museum's largest fundraiser of the year and helps to support their future exhibits and programs. It's also a great chance to follow a trained museum guide down the streets of Leesburg and learn about the historic homes and their inhabitants, along with some local ghost stories.

[Learn More](#)



Image Credit: [Photo](#) of John Beatty, School Board Member for the Catoctin District / LCPS

August Update from John Beatty, Catoctin's School Board Rep

As the leaves stop growing and change into yellow and red in these first days of autumn, I am interested to know how schools and classes have changed for you in these first few weeks of the academic year. This year is not without its challenges, and I want to hear from you about those challenges.

One of those challenges for you and your neighbors may be the vaccine mandates for LCPS staff and student athletes. I was able to share concerns to the board and ask the superintendent about these mandates, but they still remain in place. Are these mandates negatively affecting you? How so? Please let me know. Another challenge has been the bus driver shortage. I know many students already have longer rides, and the board is looking into this problem. If you have examples you can share, I will bring them up. Finally, I'd like to hear about the quarantine guidelines. They've been shortened since the beginning of the school year, but I know it was very tough for families to be in school for a few days, and then have to stay home for two weeks. I'm hopeful these guidelines will improve shortly.

At our last board meeting, I was happy to help pass a new policy that requires LCPS to notify parents when LCPS screens students who are potentially at-risk or are academically struggling. The notification won't be overly complicated or filled with jumbled educational jargon. This helps inform families and puts a little more knowledge in the hands of parents and students.

While I want to hear your concerns, I also want to encourage you to keep learning and to keep educating, despite the struggles! As C.S. Lewis wrote, "If men had postponed the search for knowledge and beauty until they were secure, the search would never have

begun." Though we face a lot of challenges this year that could shake us, we can continue to learn and search for knowledge in our schools.

Reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns!

Sincerely,

John Beatty
John.Beatty@lcps.org
[Website](#)

Note: The bit that John quoted from C.S. Lewis comes from "Learning in Wartime," an address he delivered to a group of students in 1939, while they were all facing the prospect of the bombing of London and a possible German invasion. It lays out why, in his view, learning was worth pursuing, even in the midst of a war for their nation's survival. If you'd like to read it yourself, you can find the whole thing [here](#).

- Caleb



Image Credit: [Screenshot](#) of proposed Route 7 / Route 287 Interchange improvements / Loudoun County Government

Additional Funding Approved for Route 7/Route 287 Interchange Near Purcellville

More good news from the September 21 business meeting: by consent, the Board approved FGOEDC's unanimous recommendation to increase the contract award with Volkert, Inc., for the Route 7/Route 287 interchange project by \$61,900, for a new total amount of \$2,054,702.20.

This was an important item, because it covers the costs for a crucial change order to the project. That change order requires the following additional work to be done:

- Revise the 30% plans to include the American Disability Act (ADA) compliant shared use path and associated modification to the designs.
- Revise the 30% signal plans to incorporate an additional signalized pedestrian crossing at Hirst Road intersection, adding pedestrian-controlled signals and push buttons.

These additions are a genuine improvement to the project. I supported adding the funds for this change order, and was pleased that my colleagues supported it as well.



Image Credit: [Stock photo](#) of laptop / Pixabay

Dark Fiber Buildout Awarded to Segra

At the FGOEDC meeting on September 13, 2021, the FGOEDC recommended (5-0) to the Board of Supervisors (Board) that the Purchasing Agent be authorized to award a contract for Leased Dark Fiber Wide Area Network Services to Segra for the period October 1, 2021, through March 31, 2029, in the estimated amount of \$4,573,120.

This is the next step in implementing our Emergency Broadband Implementation plan. We are running this dark fiber network to six County facilities, which is valuable in its own right for County operations (especially for our emergency services). But we are also laying down far more fiber than we'll need. We are partnering with Segra to lease that spare fiber capacity to private broadband providers, making it easier for them to connect more of our homes and businesses to real broadband access.

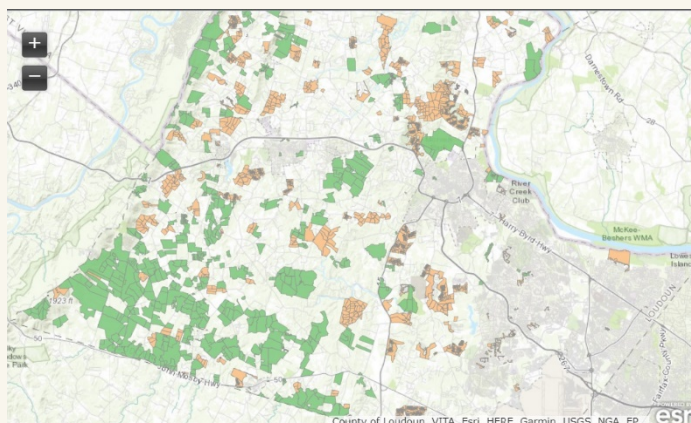


Image Credit: [Screenshot](#) of Loudoun's Conservation Easements Map Tool / Loudoun County Government

Conservation Easement Assistance Program Helps Us Preserve Rural Loudoun

One more bit of good news from the September 21 business meeting - the Board unanimously approved a proposal by Supervisor Buffington to loosen the income requirements for our Conservation Easement Assistance Program (CEAP).

CEAP was designed to support landowners who can't afford the up-front costs of placing their land into conservation easements. Those conservation easements are an important tool for preserving Western Loudoun's rural beauty.

Unfortunately, CEAP has only received 4 applications since it was created in 2019, and only one of those applications approved. This suggested it was time to go back to the drawing board and make some refinements. Which is precisely what Supervisor Buffington and his staff have done. They proposed making the following changes to the program to make it more usable:

- **Raise the Award Amount:** The current maximum award is \$15,000, or half of the up-front easement costs. Bumping this to \$25,000 will give more of an incentive for landowners to consider an easement.
- **Revise the Income Requirement:** Increasing the income bracket to \$155,938 makes the program more viable for Loudoun property owners and families.
- **Cut the Top Income from LLC/Family Trust Calculations:** Many of these families have placed land into family trusts or LLCs. Revising the income

rules to better fit those structures makes it easier for them to place the land into conservation easements.

These recommended changes make the program a more attractive offering to these landowners. I thought this was a great plan on Supervisor Buffington's part, and was glad to vote for it, as did the rest of the Board.



Town Events from Mayor Nate's Newsletter

Don't miss this great walk for breast cancer on October 16!



WALK 4 MOUNTAINS

SATURDAY
16
OCTOBER

WALK 4 MOUNTAINS

TIME
10:00AM
TO
4:00PM

VISIT WALK4MOUNTAINS.ORG
FOR UPDATES AND TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

LIVE MUSIC/GREAT FOOD AND DRINKS
FLU SHOTS/PRIZES AND MORE!

LOVETTSVILLE, VA
ON THE GREEN AT WALKER PAVILION



SCANNABLE QR
FOR DONATIONS.

Register to Walk

Veterans Pavers

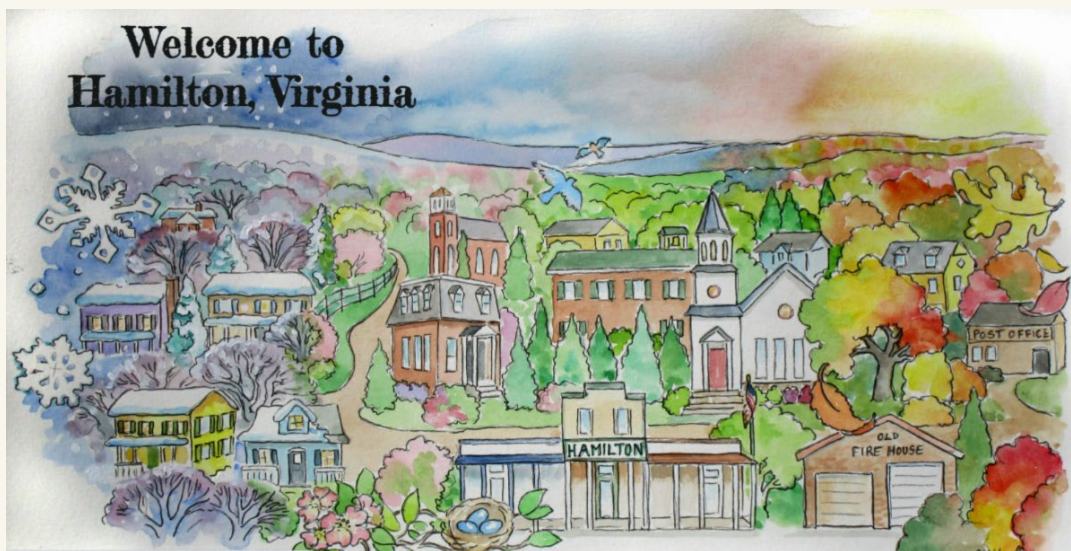
The Lovettsville Veterans' Memorial is one of the most iconic, beautiful, and reverent parts of our Town. It was dedicated to honor those who have served our country, regardless of where they live, and where they come from. The deadline to honor a Veteran by purchasing an engraved paver for this year's ceremony is quickly approaching on October

1st, 2021 (ONLY ONE WEEK LEFT). All pavers submitted by October 1st will be installed and dedicated at this year's Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11th, 2021. For more information, including our dedication request form, please stop by Town Hall or visit our [website](#)

Next Town Council Meeting Thursday, October 7th Work-Session.

- Biosolids Dewatering and Disposal Study (CHA)
- Subdivision Ordinance Amendments– Public Hearing
- Approve County Funding Requests for S. Loudoun/ S. Locust and S. Church St.
- American Recovery Plan Act funding options
- Continuation of Committee/Event Structure Work Session
 - In preparation for this meeting, please let us know your thoughts on possible structures for that discussion. There are many opinions on social media in relation to events, but we only had three individuals from the public participate in our last work-session. If you have any ideas, please join us or provide your constructive feedback in advance of our meeting.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, or simply want to verify information, please feel free to reach out to myself, any member of Town Council, the Planning Commission, and/or the Town Manager and we will be more than happy to answer your questions. There are many projects in process and our staff works diligently to ensure their success.



Next Hamilton Town Council Meeting

October 16, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are open to the public. If you would like to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting please arrive at the Town Office by 6:55pm.



Image Credit: [Photo](https://morvenpark.org) of the Morven Park grounds, morvenpark.org / Trimmed from the original

Morven Park Events - October 2021

Morven Park is [a 1,000 acre historic estate in Leesburg](https://morvenpark.org) that's operated by the nonprofit Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation. The park includes an equestrian center, sports fields, hiking trails, boxwood gardens, and the Davis Mansion.

(As noted in my introduction, it was also one of the largest turkey farms in Loudoun County until 1942!)

Here is a list of their upcoming events:

Morven Park Fall Horse Trials and CCI

Every spring and fall, Morven Park holds its horse trials, where equestrians compete in dressage, show jumping, and cross-country events. They have held this event since 1974, and are looking forward to having [their fall 2021 horse trials](#) in early October.

When: October 8–10, 2021, from 8:00 AM–4:00 PM

Where: Morven Park International Equestrian Center, 41580 Sunday Morning Lane, Leesburg, VA 20176

You can learn more about this event [here](#).

View Calendar

MAJOR ROAD PROJECTS



The Route 15 North Widening Project

Summary of the Project

The Route 15 North Widening project involves expanding Route 15 from two to four lanes between Battlefield Parkway and Montresor Road. This will involve a slew of road design, land acquisition, and construction tasks, all while following the Journey Through Hallowed Ground guidelines wherever possible.

The widening project will include:

- A signalized Continuous Green "T" (CGT) intersection at North King Street to allow through traffic to continue north on Route 15 without stopping,
- An updated signalized intersection at Whites Ferry Road,

- A two-lane hybrid roundabout at Montresor Road,
- A realigned section of Limestone School Road to connect with the Montresor Road roundabout,
- A shared use path on the west side of Route 15 from Tuscarora High School to Montresor Road, *and*
- A shared use path along the entire length of Whites Ferry Road.

Latest Updates

From now through the end of October, Loudoun County will be periodically [closing one lane along Route 15](#) between Battlefield Parkway and Montresor Road. When driving in this area, you'll see road signs that will let you know which lane is closed that day.

The county is doing this in order to conduct soil testing on this segment of Route 15. That testing will help us move forward on the capital project to widen Route 15 to four lanes.

No further update on the 60% design plans since last time. Loudoun County [submitted its 60% design plans](#) to the Building & Development and to VDOT on June 23, and right-of-way (ROW) acquisition is expected to begin in summer 2022.

Visit Project Website



Safety and Operational Study West Virginia to Route 7

The Route 9 Safety & Operational Study

The Route 9 Safety and Operational Study (SOS) is reviewing Route 9 from the West Virginia border to Route 7 to identify safety and traffic operational issues along the corridor. As with the Route 15 South Safety and Operations Study, public and focus group meeting will be held.

Ongoing Evaluation

No change since the last update. Work is still underway to evaluate existing conditions along Route 9, including roadway and intersection safety, roadway design and traffic.

Most Recent Focus Group Meeting on September 22

The most recent focus group meeting took place virtually on Wednesday, September 22, from 6:00 - 7:30 PM.

The [first Route 9 focus group meeting](#) was held on February 13, 2020. More meetings were held virtually on July 16 and September 30. There will be up to five such meetings throughout this study, which will wrap up in the summer of 2021. These focus group meetings are intended to allow discussion with property owners whose use or activity generates significant traffic, business owners, and representatives of civic organizations located in the area.

You can check the [project website](#) for further information. Please feel free to [email me](#) with your thoughts about the project.

Visit Project Website



Safety and Operational Study Leesburg to Prince William County

The Route 15 Safety & Operational Study

The purpose of the Route 15 South Safety and Operational Study (SOS) is to identify safety and traffic operational issues along the corridor. The goal of the proposed improvements is to ensure that this segment of Route 15 continues to carry local and commuter traffic safely and efficiently while still preserving the unique context of the historical roadway.

From October 2020 - January 2021, the study team worked on preliminary concept designs, which incorporated [feedback that the focus group offered](#) at the October 1 meeting. Now the team has made enough progress on those preliminary draft alternatives to start collecting more feedback.

The September 1 focus group meeting reviewed the proposals for the six segments of the corridor. You can review the proposed concepts [here](#). Segment D, Segment E, and

Segment F are located in the Catoclin District. Segment A, Segment B, and Segment C are located in the Blue Ridge District.

Next steps include VDOT feedback, project cost estimates, revisions and submission of the final report. The whole study is expected to wrap up this summer. The proposal is expected to come to the Board in December.

The [project website](#) includes all the documents from the focus group and public input meetings. Please take a look at it for further information, and feel free to [email me](#) with your thoughts about the project.

See Project Website

OTHER KEY ROAD PROJECTS

The latest on County and VDOT projects that impact Catoclin District residents

Crosstrail Boulevard - Segment B

Summary of the Project

The design and construction from Kincaid Boulevard to Russell Branch Parkway. A contract award for construction of this project item was approved at the Board Business Meeting on December 3, 2019.

Latest Update

No change since last time. As of our last update, concrete deck pours for the bridges over Tuscarora Creek and the W&OD [should be finished by September](#), weather permitting. Work on shared use paths and the roadway between Kincaid Boulevard and the W&OD will include asphalt placement and handrail installation.

Crosstrail Boulevard - Segment C

Summary of the Project

This project provides for the planning, design, ROW acquisition, and the construction of a four lane median divided road as a Major Collector between Sycolin Road and the Dulles

Greenway on a 120 ft. wide ROW. The project also includes shared use paths on both sides of Crosstrail Boulevard and a bridge over Sycolin Creek.

Latest Update

This Quarter: The design consultant, Dewberry, conducted project survey and field investigations.

Next Quarter: Survey and field investigations will continue and concept design will be initiated.

Evergreen Mill Road Widening – Town of Leesburg

Summary of the Project

This project adds two lanes to the two existing lanes on Evergreen Mill Road from South King Street to the eastern entrance of Heritage High School. This project is managed by the Town of Leesburg.

Latest Update

This project is managed by the Town of Leesburg.

This Quarter: The 30% Preliminary Design Plans were reviewed by the Town, VDOT and Loudoun County and a meeting was held to discuss the closing of scoping. VDOT suggested revising the design schedule to take into account the need for additional surveys, VDOT approval for land acquisition, and beginning of utility relocation. As a result, the completion of the design phase has been delayed from fall 2022 to summer 2023.

The 30% Preliminary Design Plans were presented at a neighborhood meeting on April 14, and property owners have been notified about additional surveying that is needed for the alignment shown on the proposed plans. Test hole work has begun to locate utilities. Work has also started on pavement and storm pond borings (which can sometimes be quite interesting), and field visits for the environmental evaluations needed to complete the 60% plans are underway.

Next Quarter: Additional surveying, geotechnical investigations, and environmental field visits will be completed in order to prepare and submit the 60% design plans in fall 2021.

Route 7 Improvements, Phase 3

Summary of the Project

This project provides for the planning, design, Right-of-Way acquisition, and construction to widen Route 7 eastbound from two lanes to three lanes between Route 9 and the Dulles Greenway (267), and Westbound from two lanes to three lanes from South King Street to West Market Street. It includes reconstructing/widening the following bridges: West Market Street over Route 7, Dry Mill Road over West Market Street, Children's Center Road over Route 7, W&OD Trail over Route 7, and Route 7 over Route 15.

DTCI will work with VDOT to develop a project agreement, where VDOT will administer a project to lengthen the acceleration lane on westbound Route 7 east of the Route 9 interchange. Concurrently, Loudoun County will perform investigations and develop a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document for the Route 7 widening planned between Route 9 and the Dulles Greenway.

Latest Update

This Quarter: DTCI contacted one of the County's task order roadway design consultants to develop a proposal for performing the NEPA work.

Next Quarter: The consultant proposal will be processed and project agreement coordination will begin with VDOT.

Town of Hamilton Pedestrian Improvements

Summary of the Project

This project provides drainage improvements and repair to the existing pedestrian sidewalks along Route 7 – Colonial Highway adjacent to the Town's western limits.

Latest Update

This project is being managed by the Town of Hamilton.

This Quarter: Work has started on erosion control activities, installing pipes, curb, and gutter, and other construction tasks.

Next Quarter: The construction work will continue, and it is expected to be completed by the end of the summer.

Route 7 & Route 287

Summary of the Project

This project provides for the planning, design, and construction of improvements for the Route 7 and Berlin Turnpike (Route 287) interchange. The project is funded using local tax funding and VDOT Smart Scale funding.

Latest Update

Loudoun modified the project design by adding a shared use path (SUP) on the west side of Route 287, running from the W&OD Trail on the south side of the interchange over to East Gate Drive. The revision was submitted to VDOT for their review and final approval.

The environmental documents required for Smart Scale funding were revised to incorporate the SUP and the revised documents were submitted to VDOT for review and approval. In addition, the design team held the preliminary utility field inspection meeting to coordinate with the utility stakeholders on the project.

This project is in its design phase, which is expected to wrap up in fall 2022.

Route 7 & Route 690

Summary of the Project

This project funds the design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of an interchange at Route 7 and Route 690 in Purcellville.

Latest Update

No changes since last time. As we noted before, staff has submitted a [limited access control change](#) along Route 7 to VDOT for review, and DTCL's design consultant will continue preparing the design plans and plats and coordinating with utility providers.

Plats denoting the proposed easements and right-of-way dedication were submitted to Loudoun County and to the Town of Purcellville. The land acquisition process should wrap up by summer 2022, and is about 15% complete so far.

The revised Environmental Assessment has been approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and by VDOT. In fall 2022, based on the appropriation timing, VDOT Smart Scale funding for the project and utility relocation should begin.

Finally, looking a bit further down the road, construction on this proposed interchange is [expected to start in 2023](#) and will take 36–48 months to complete.

John G. Lewis Memorial (Featherbed Lane) Bridge over Catoctin Creek

Summary of the Project

The purpose of this project is to develop conceptual bridge alternatives to address the existing historic truss bridge. VDOT presented three options to the State Department of Historic Resources. The DHS chose option 2A: building a new structure from the deck down, allowing the trusses to remain as ornamental.

John G. Lewis Memorial Bridge (Route 673 - Featherbed Lane) over Catoctin Creek is a single span steel pin connected Pratt through truss with a timber deck and asphalt overlay, supported on stringers and floor beams. The bridge was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on June 25, 1974. It is 157 feet long, has an overall width of about 14 feet and clear roadway width of 11.16 feet. It carries one alternating traffic lane. The bridge was originally erected in 1889 on the Leesburg & Alexandria Turnpike (Route 7) over Goose Creek, to replace a bridge destroyed by flooding. In 1932 the bridge was dismantled and moved to its current location. The bridge was posted 15 tons in 2004 and reduced to 3 tons in 2013 due to insufficient capacity. The existing bridge has an average traffic count of 57 vehicles per day with daily truck traffic less than 3 trucks.

Latest Update

No change since last time. VDOT estimates that this project will be completed by November 2021.

Route 7 & Battlefield Parkway

Summary of the Project

This project will replace the traffic signal at Route 7 (East Market Street) and Battlefield Parkway with a grade-separated interchange, and remove or modify the signalized intersection at Route 7 and Cardinal Park Drive to reduce congestion and improve traffic operations. Other improvements include accommodations for cyclists and pedestrians, and new interchange lighting. The Town of Leesburg has executed an agreement with VDOT to administer this project on the Town's behalf. The Town has also executed a reimbursement agreement with NVTA.

Latest Update

Since late July, night work has been ongoing on parts of Battlefield Parkway and Route 7. The night work starts at 8:00 PM and goes until 5:00 AM, Sundays through Thursdays. Work crews are installing traffic signal loops, doing paving work, and marking the pavement, which does require them to temporarily close lanes.

VDOT expects these final tasks to be finished in fall 2021. The Town of Leesburg's [news release](#) was more specific, saying the work should be done by the end of October.

At this point, [the Route 7/Battlefield Parkway interchange is open to traffic](#), and the traffic signal at the Route 7/Cardinal Park Drive intersection has been removed, with Cardinal Park Drive permanently right-in/right-out only at Route 7.

Route 9 & Route 287 Roundabout

Summary of the Project

This project includes design and construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Charles Town Pike (Route 9) and Berlin Turnpike (Route 287).

Latest Update

Loudoun has secured nutrient credits for the project, which were required to satisfy state and local stormwater runoff requirements. Each credit represents a specific amount of absorption of nutrients within a sub-watershed. Virginia's nutrient trading program is administered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

The project design team is coordinating with utilities within the project limits regarding relocation plans and needs. Right-of-way (ROW) activities will begin in late 2021.

Route 15 - Route 15 Interchange at Edwards Ferry/Fort Evans Road

Summary of the Project

This project includes the design and construction of grade separated interchanges at Route 15/Edwards Ferry Road and Route 15/Fort Evans Road.

Latest Update

No change since last time. The consultant is still investigating potential ways to phase this project.

Town of Lovettsville Broadway Streetscape, Phase 2A

Summary of the Project

This project provides for the design, ROW, and construction of sidewalk improvements along Broadway Street from Park Place to Light Street. This project is managed by the Town of Lovettsville.

Latest Update

The design plans for the East Broadway Streetscape Improvements are being developed. The project is still on schedule, as agreed upon by Lovettsville and their partnering engineering firm, Volkert. Lovettsville planned to meet with VDOT in late September to discuss the project design. Right-of-way (ROW) acquisition should start in January 2022.

Town of Lovettsville, Church Street & Pennsylvania Avenue Sidewalk Improvements

Summary of the Project

This project provides for improvements to the sidewalk at South Church Street and East Pennsylvania Avenue. In addition to sidewalks, improvements include roadway widening, storm water management, and street lights.

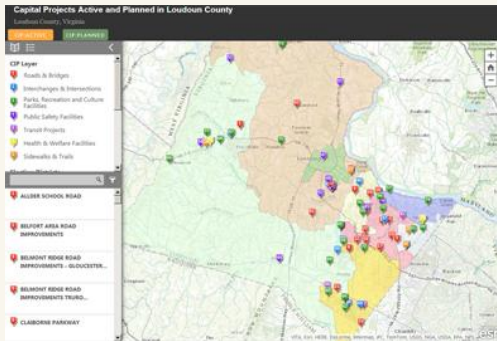
This project is managed by the [Town of Lovettsville](#).

Latest Update

This Quarter: A virtual public hearing was held on April 15, 2021; comments received from this meeting are being incorporated. The design engineer also coordinated with VDOT for review comments received on Design Waiver Request.

Next Quarter: The design work will continue to incorporate comments from public meeting and VDOT's review comments, and the design engineer will coordinate with utility companies on conflicts from proposed design layout.

ROAD RESOURCES



Loudoun's Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)

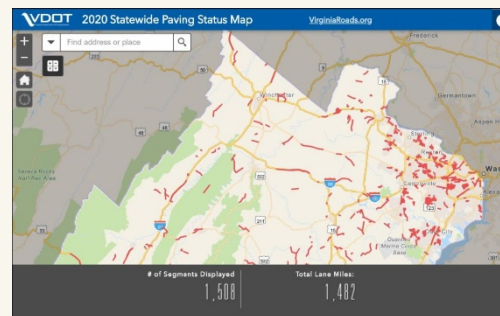
Use the county's interactive map to track capital improvement projects in Loudoun. It will show you active projects (currently funded) and planned projects (part of a later budget plan).

[View the map](#)

VDOT's Road Paving Projects

Use VDOT's interactive map to track the status of all road paving projects in Loudoun. The map includes roads that are getting all types of treatments, including plant mix, latex, and slurry.

[View the map](#)



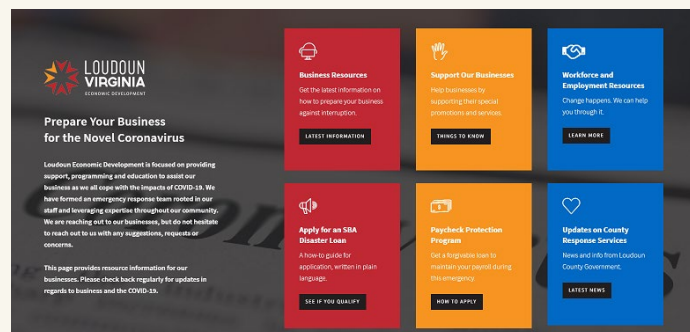
BUSINESS RESOURCES



The Official Guide To Starting Your Rural Business In Loudoun

Are you thinking of starting a rural business in Loudoun County? Our Department of Economic Development has put together this guide just for you. It gives an overview of important information for rural businesses, from farm and breweries to restaurants and bed & breakfasts, and helps you figure out if your specific use is permitted on your property.

Read Now



Guides & Resources

Whether you're anticipating interruptions in your supply chain and/or customer sales, there are resources that can help bolster your business. Learn more about financing, education and training opportunities, and what data centers are doing to fuel digital tools.

Here are the top online resources offered by the Department of Economic Development:

COVID-19 Resources

- [Join The Take Loudoun Home Campaign](#)
- [Workforce Resources for Businesses](#)
- [Workforce Resources for Employees & Job Seekers](#)

General Business Resources

- [Rural Business Educational Resources](#)
- [Financing and Loans](#)

- [Business Training & Education](#)
- [Digital Business Resources](#)

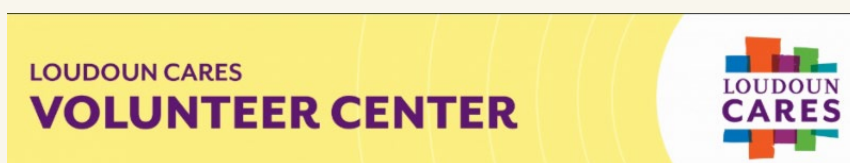
NEAT COUNTY RESOURCES



Loudoun Express Request

Loudoun Express Request is a helpful tool for contacting county staff regarding a wide spectrum of issues. Internet service, property use, environmental health, and much more can be entered on LEX. Enter your question or concern and LEX will contact appropriate county staff! Learn more [here](#).

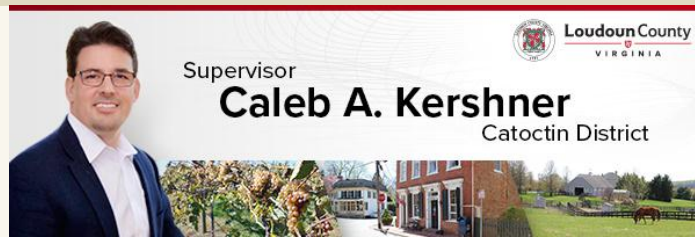
[Ask A Question](#)



Volunteer with Loudoun Cares

It's always a good time to think about volunteering. Check out volunteer opportunities with Loudoun Cares Volunteer Center. The Volunteer Center is the one-stop resource connecting nonprofit organizations in Loudoun County to individuals in the community looking for a place to volunteer their time and resources.

[Volunteer Now](#)



Share This Newsletter!

Do you have a friend or a neighbor who would benefit from the information in this newsletter? Go ahead and forward this newsletter to them!

My office is working to ensure as many Catoctin residents as possible are being informed about important issues - whether those are public hearing notices, road closure announcements, inclement weather advisories, or other updates on issues of importance to the district and to the county.

If you're the friend who got this newsletter, and you're interesting in getting more of them, click the button to subscribe.

Subscribe

Sincerely,

Caleb Kershner

Catoctin District | 1 Harrison St. SE, Leesburg, VA 20175

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