

The Board of Supervisors and the Leesburg Town Council are holding a joint meeting Thursday, April 28th at 5:00 pm in the Dulles Room, which is located on the first floor of the Loudoun County Government Center, 1 Harrison Street SE, in Leesburg. The two elected bodies are scheduled to discuss topics of mutual interest including plastic bag tax revenue sharing, data center revenue sharing, County space needs and affordable housing.

The meeting will be open the public. However, space is limited in the Dulles Room. You can watch the proceedings on Comcast Government Channel 23, Verizon FiOS Channel 40, or the livestream [here](#).

2022 Valor Awards



Bronze Medal of Valor recipient Deputy First Class Cameron Gentry (center) and Silver Medal of Valor recipient Deputy First Class Brandon Ewing (right) prepare to go onstage at the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards ceremony.

On January 2, 2021, Deputy First Class Cameron Gentry and Deputy First Class Brandon Ewing responded to the Sterling Walmart for a shoplifting complaint. DFC Gentry and DFC Ewing attempted to secure the suspect located in the loss prevention office. The suspect began resisting their efforts and, without warning, drew a firearm that he had concealed and began shooting. DFC Gentry was struck multiple times in both legs and both loss prevention officers suffered minor injuries. DFC Ewing immediately sprang into action and returned fire to stop the suspect, who was struck and fled the area on foot into the Walmart parking lot. DFC Ewing returned to his partner and applied two tourniquets and

rendered aid to the two loss prevention officers. The actions of the suspect were sudden and violent. DFC Ewing and DFC Gentry demonstrated courage, poise, and character. DFC Ewing was able to successfully stop the threat and protect DFC Gentry and the citizens in the room from further harm. His calm demeanor and response allow for clear communication which expedited the response of aid to DFC Gentry. For their actions and bravery, DFC Ewing and DFC Gentry are awarded Silver and Bronze Medals of Valor. Also recognized for their courage and actions, which kept DFC Gentry alive on the way to the hospital, were: Lt. Jason Illowite, FF/EMT Christopher Cloud, FF/EMT Bryan Jennings, Captain Dan Shelly, FF/EMT Noah Wing and PM/Lt. Andrew Fields.

PTA Playground



Mindy Trzcinski, President of the Cool Spring Elementary PTA (pictured with “Waddles”), thanks the students and parents of the Cool Spring community for raising \$36,000 for the new playground behind her. Those funds were combined with proffers collected by the Town of Leesburg to build the new playground.

Easter Bunny



Easter, commemorating the resurrection of Jesus, is one of our family's most joyful holidays. It is also a time when our neighbor Pete gives the Easter Bunny a ride through the neighborhood. Thanks to Pete for making everyone's day a little brighter. And thanks to our Jewish and Muslim friends for sharing their Passover and Ramadan stories this year.

Military Child Month



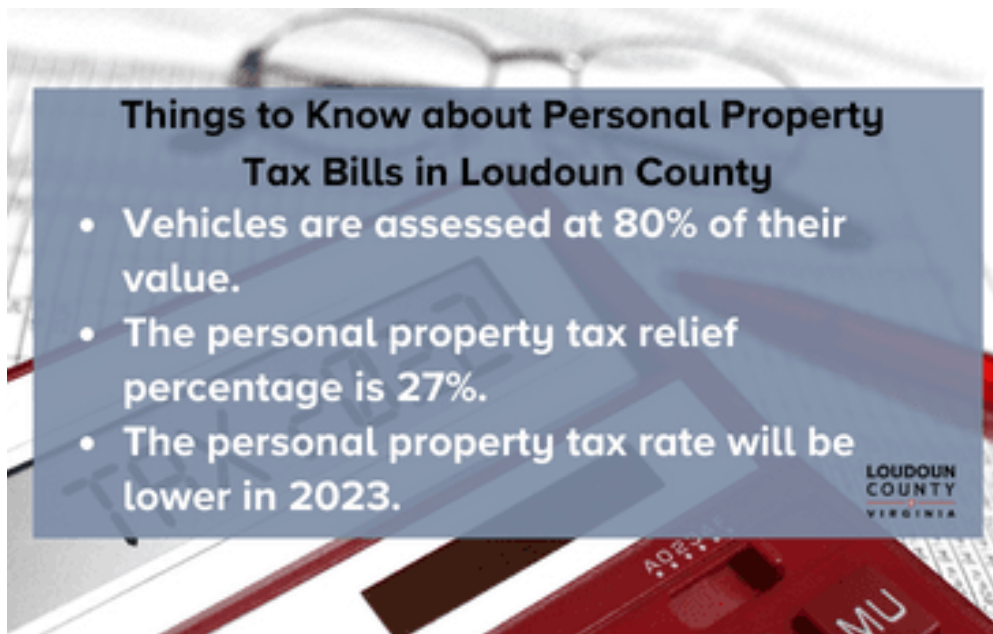
April is designated as the Month of the Military Child, underscoring the important role military children play in the armed forces community. Sponsored by the Department of Defense Military Community and Family Policy, the Month of the Military Child is a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices and the challenges they overcome.

FY 2023 Budget

At the April 5th Board business meeting, we moved to adopt the FY 2023 Budget, real property tax rate of \$0.89 (down from \$0.098) per \$100 of assessed value for Tax Year 2022, personal property tax rate of \$4.15 (down from \$4.20) per \$100 of assessed value for Tax Year 2023, and the FY 2023 – FY 2028 Capital Improvement Program.

I supported the budget and appreciate staff's hard work in a tough year. We were able to continue funding transportation projects and add \$5.9 million for affordable and attainable housing in the County. The schools are the most important part of the budget because if we don't fund education, our children cannot grow up to be solid members of the community. I am very pleased that we were able to fund more than the schools initially requested. The schools initially requested a \$49.9 million transfer increase and we funded a \$53.7 million transfer increase. The addition of \$53.7 million to the school budget brings the total local funding of the schools to \$1,067,759,336 and is a 5% increase over FY 2022.

Personal Property Tax Relief



As values of used cars have skyrocketed across the country due to global supply chain issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have taken the following steps to help reduce personal property tax bills.

1. **Lower Vehicle Assessments:** Virginia law allows jurisdictions the option to uniformly apply what is called an “assessment ratio” when determining vehicle assessments. Due to the increase in vehicle values, the Commissioner of the Revenue recommended and the Board approved using an “assessment ratio” of 80%. The first-half personal property tax bills are due May 5th and second-half personal property tax bills are due October 5th. These bills reflect the 80% assessment ratio.
2. **Personal Property Tax Relief:** In addition to the 80% assessment ratio, the Board approved a Personal Property Tax Relief percentage of 27% for 2022, which is applied to the first \$20,000 of value of qualifying personal vehicles.
3. **Lower Personal Property Tax in 2023:** To further mitigate the impact of rising values of vehicles, the Board adopted a FY 2023 budget that includes a personal property tax rate of \$4.15 per \$100 in assessed value in tax year 2023, which is 5 cents lower than the current rate.

Anyone with questions about the assessed values of their vehicles may contact the Office of the Commissioner of Revenue by e-mail cartax@loudoun.gov or 703 777-0260.

Data Center Land Study

At the April 5th Board business meeting, Supervisor Turner moved that the Board send the [Data Center Land Study](#) back to the Transportation and Land Use Committee for a larger land use and process discussion on targeted revisions to policies and regulations

concerning data center uses throughout Loudoun County, with a particular focus on data center uses in the Route 7 Corridor, within the Suburban Mixed Use Place Type, in the Route 28 Tax District, and in all parcels where data centers are a “by-right” use under the 1993 Revised Zoning Ordinance. Supervisor Turner's motion passed, 7-2 with Supervisor Buffington and myself opposed.

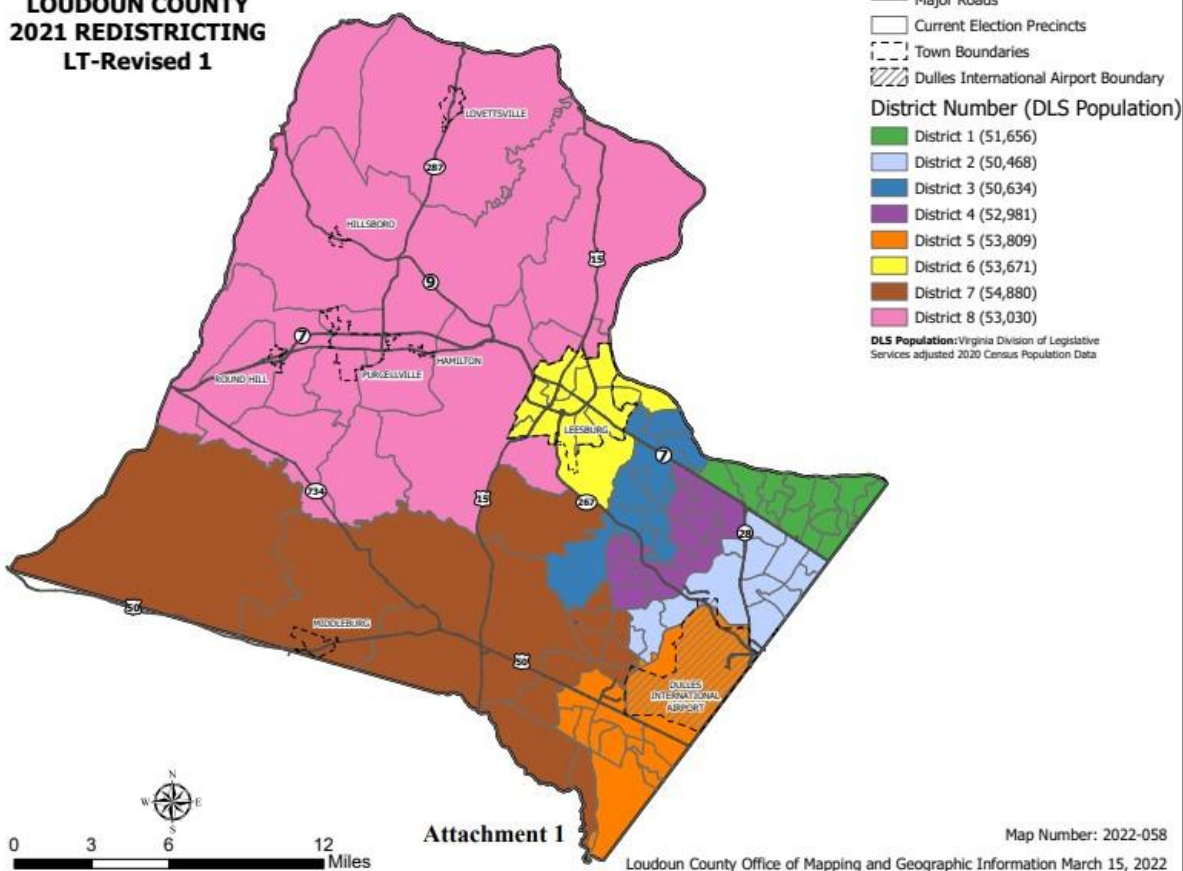
I did not support the item because I have been increasingly concerned about the perception that the data center industry will get from these discussions. I can absolutely agree that data centers can, and should, be architecturally attractive - increasingly, many are built to look like Class A office buildings. I also agree that data center campuses can, and should, be attractively landscaped with berms and native plantings. We need to support all our businesses, data centers included, because they provide our residents with needed tax relief and their employees are generous members of our community, who partner with Backpack Buddies, Loudoun Hunger Relief, and other nonprofits. Statements that are perceived by the data center industry as hostile are interpreted by our data centers and the CEOs of other non-data center companies as indicating that Loudoun is no longer open for business. The revenues provided by data centers pay for the County's transportation needs, including roads, transit buses and metro. They pay for our schools, our parks, sidewalks, trails, Child Protective Services, mental health services, and affordable housing initiatives. Data centers are our most valuable economic partners.

County Redistricting

At the April 5th meeting, Supervisor Turner moved that the Board confirm its direction from March 15th and authorize a May 11th public hearing for the LT-Revised 1 Plan. The motion passed 7-2. For District 7, the name Blue Ridge was removed from consideration by a unanimous vote. The two names that will be advertised for the May 11th public hearing are "Little River" and "Evergreen". After the public hearing, the item will be forwarded to a Board business meeting for a final vote. The map will then be reviewed by the Attorney General of Virginia for a Certificate of No Objection.

I don't think we could have done a better map keeping communities of interest together (please see the map below). I am impressed with staff's pleasant attitude during this process. Thank you to Supervisor Turner and Letourneau and everybody for your hard work.

**LOUDOUN COUNTY
2021 REDISTRICTING
LT-Revised 1**



Police Department Study

The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) provided the Board with a presentation on the findings of the [Loudoun County Police Department Study](#). Chair Randall moved that staff work with IACP to develop a best practice recommendation for further review and consideration by the Board, regarding the development of minimum qualifications for future candidates for the Office of Sheriff. This information will be presented to the Board upon completion, and the Board will consider adding this as an initiative to its 2023 Legislative Program. The motion passed 8-1 with myself opposed.

I am happy we are not creating a Loudoun County Police Department because the cost of \$350 million over 10 years is just breathtaking. When you look at the public satisfaction with the current Sheriff's Office, I cannot come up with a good argument to establish a police department. Regarding the motion that passed, we don't set qualifications for many elected offices. I don't know what the qualifications will be and believe it will not pass the General Assembly. Although sometimes it seems our system is broken, this initiative takes away a choice from the voters.

Douglass High School Time Capsule

The Douglass High School Commemorative Committee plans to bury a time capsule on the property of the Douglass High School to be re-opened in approximately 50 years. The committee asked the Board to identify items to be placed in the time capsule. We agreed to include the following: a Board pin, a letter from the Board, the Board's Code of Ethics, the Board's Rules of Order, and a picture of the full Board. Since the school is in the Leesburg District, I will be working with Chair Randall's office on the letter.

Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Public Comment

Loudoun County residents, businesses, community groups and other stakeholders can now review and comment on the first draft of the new Zoning Ordinance during the 90-day public engagement period. The Zoning Ordinance defines and implements land use and design standards for the unincorporated areas of the County. An [online interactive platform](#) will enable individuals to read through the draft Zoning Ordinance and provide comments on the content. A [virtual public engagement meeting](#) is scheduled on Monday, May 2nd from 6:00 to 8:00 pm for residents to ask questions, learn more about the process, and provide input on the ordinance.

Renewable Energy Opportunities

At the April 19th Board business meeting, I made the motion to direct staff to perform a financial analysis to identify costs and potential financial risks and benefits and to investigate legal questions related to the development of Countywide Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) and conduct discussions with Dominion Power representatives regarding the establishment of CCA in Loudoun County. I further moved that staff proceed with a Request for Proposals to evaluate Renewable Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) opportunities on County-owned facilities. Please see the staff report [here](#).

CCA allows a locality to aggregate all classes of customers (municipal, residential, commercial and industrial) to decide on the power generation mix it desires as a community to meet climate and energy goals. A PPA is a contract for the sale of electric generation where a developer arranges for the design, permitting, financing and installation of the renewable energy system on a customer's property at little to no cost to the customer.

I pulled this item off the consent agenda because CCA is a significant undertaking that could involve the creation of a new County department. Staff predicts that a CCA arrangement could result in a cost of \$1 billion, should the County move forward and set up another full-scale department in a new arena (energy). There is also the risk that residents and businesses would be included in a potentially risky cost scenario without their full knowledge (this is what happens with an opt-out-only system). These are issues that the staff and consultant will study before they report back to the Board. I support studying these issues carefully before we make any decision in this area.

American Rescue Plan Act Funds Update

At the April 19th Board business meeting, we unanimously approved the [recommended uses of funding for \\$20,237,455 of the American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\)](#) for the following: \$4.15 million for water and wastewater projects, \$12 million for preservation of affordable housing and displacement services, \$3 million for nonprofit support, and \$1 million for administrative and ongoing pandemic support. We further moved to conduct community outreach to inform staff recommendations for the remaining \$7.5 million of ARPA funds. Any remaining unencumbered funds from FY 2023 will be carried over to future fiscal years as required to fully spend the County's ARPA funding.

Staff anticipates coming back to the Board in 3 months with their recommendations based on community outreach (please see list of potential projects below). One of the outreach projects is a Child Care Needs Assessment to explore affordable childcare issues within Loudoun County.

Table 3. List of Potential Projects for Remaining ARPA Funds.

Potential ARPA Projects for Outreach	Amount
Available Balance	\$7,500,000
Child Care Needs Assessment	\$250,000
Transportation and/or Other Infrastructure	Unknown
Nonprofit Funding – Transformative Initiatives ¹³	\$3,000,000
<u>Business Reinvestment and Recovery Grant Funds¹⁴</u>	\$6,000,000
Department of Economic Development – Programmatic Support	\$450,000
Total Requests	\$9,700,000

Small Business Week 2022

The [11th Annual Loudoun Small Business Week](#) will be held May 1st to May 7th. This year, Loudoun Economic Development will celebrate the resiliency of our small business and entrepreneurial ecosystem following their difficult journey over the past two years. Throughout the week, an online Small Business Spotlight Series will share success stories, Inc. 5000 Alumni Reception will honor Loudoun's award-winning businesses, and the entrepreneurship community will come together and collaborate at five Loudoun co-working space receptions. Loudoun Economic Development will also promote community events taking place that week including the Town of Leesburg's Small Business Awards and Visit Loudoun's Annual Meeting and Luncheon.

Warm Regards,

Kristen C. Umstatt
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Business of the Month

SCS Safety, Health & Security Associates, LLC



SCS Safety, Health & Security Associates, LLC is a safety and health consulting firm, that helps clients with safety compliance, conducting jobsite safety inspections, safety meetings and programs, training certifications, driver safety meetings, and CPR/AED and Basic First Aid certifications. Our makeup of accredited instructors and consultants (Registered Nurses, Paramedics, Firefighters, Safety and Health Technologists, Emergency Managers and Emergency Medical Technicians) provide a diverse approach to safety and health programs and systems. Our experienced consultants can assist your business in establishing or enhancing your existing safety requirements and health needs.



Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

Leesburg Town Council Adopts Legacy Leesburg Town Plan: On Tuesday, March 22nd, the Leesburg Town Council adopted the Legacy Leesburg Town Plan, which will play an important role in guiding future development within the Town. Virginia State Code requires each locality to adopt a comprehensive plan that details long-range recommendations for the physical development of the locality and to review and update that plan regularly. Leesburg's previous Town Plan was adopted in 2012. While a comprehensive plan is a state code requirement, the Legacy Leesburg Town Plan is intended to do much more.

Liberty Street Parking Lot Redevelopment: The Town of Leesburg has issued a request for proposals (RFP) pursuant to the Virginia Public-Private Educational Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002, to redevelop the Liberty Street Parking Lot. It is a 2.03-acre parcel in downtown Leesburg, currently being used as a surface parking lot with a 1,500 square foot Public Works annex building. The property is zoned as B-1, Community (Downtown) Business District. The full RFP can be found on the [Town's website](#). Final proposals are due by May 31st. Staff anticipates presenting an analysis of the proposals received to the Town Council in late summer or early fall 2022.

Annual Leesburg Business Awards: The annual Leesburg Business Awards, a premier event for Leesburg's business community, will take place at Chefscape, in the Village at Leesburg, on Wednesday, May 4th. This year, 26 businesses and individuals were nominated for awards in five categories. The winners in each category will be announced at the awards ceremony, which will be held from 6 to 8 pm. Admission is complimentary. Please RSVP [here](#) on or before May 2nd.



Sidewalk Dining Returns: The sidewalk dining program has returned to downtown Leesburg. South King Street, from Market to Loudoun streets, will close on Friday and Saturday to create an outdoor dining area for participating restaurants. Dining hours are from 4 to 10 pm. Street closures begin 30 minutes prior. The sidewalk dining program will run through November 5th, weather permitting.

Yard Waste Collection Resumes: Patriot Disposal Services will collect yard waste every Monday for those living within the corporate limits of the Town of Leesburg. A maximum of 10 biodegradable paper bags (or 10 properly marked trash cans) will be picked up at each resident's home per week. Yard waste is limited to grass clippings, leaves, weeds and small twigs and must be placed at the curb by 6 am on the day of collection. Yard waste must be in biodegradable paper bags or in cans clearly marked as yard waste. The Town of Leesburg will provide residents with free "Yard Waste" stickers for this purpose. Residents can request stickers by calling 703-771-2790 or e-mailing trash@leesburgva.gov.

Community Information



Road Closures Scheduled for Loudoun Courthouse Construction Utility Work: This work will lead to overnight traffic detours for about two weeks, beginning May 1st. Weather permitting, the construction will take place in the evenings from 9:00 pm until 7:00 am, Sunday through Friday. This construction will require several roads to be closed, including:

- Edwards Ferry Road from Harrison Street NE to King Street.
- Church Street from Edwards Ferry Road and Market Street to Cornwall Street.
- Market Street from Harrison Street SE to King Street.

Traffic will be detoured around the construction. Road closure barriers, construction signs and detour signs will be setup prior to the work commencing each night and will be taken down the following morning. Access will be maintained to businesses at 114 and 116 Edwards Ferry Road in Colonial Square. Drivers and pedestrians should use extra caution when traveling through this area and follow all directions from the posted signs and road crews.



**REGISTER
ONLINE HERE!
(Optional)**

DISABILITY RESOURCE FAIR

Sponsored by The Arc of Loudoun | Co-hosted by The Loudoun County Disability Service Board

WHERE:

Rust Library, 380 Old Waterford Road, NW
Leesburg, Virginia 20176

WHEN:

Friday, April 29, 2022
10 am – 3pm

WHY:

To showcase to our community local
resources available for people with
disabilities

WHO:

Anyone with an interest in learning more
about options for people with disabilities
should attend!

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Arc of Loudoun:

Eileen Shaffer
Director of the ALLY Advocacy Center
703-777-1939
eshaffer@thearcofloudoun.org

Staff Liaison Loudoun County Disability Service Board:

Sahar Behboudifar
Accessibility Services Manager
571-258-3282
sahar.behboudifar@Loudoun.gov

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS:

- Disability Service Board
- Diversifi Consulting Group, LLC
- The Arc of Loudoun
- ECVN (formerly Loudoun ENDependence)
- Crossroads Jobs
- Tree of Life
- Brain Injury Services
- Advocacy Partners
- A Farm Less Ordinary
- A Place to Be
- Formed Families Forward
- Loudoun County Workforce Resource Center
- Northern Virginia Resource Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NVRC)
- Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)
- Loudoun County Parks and Recreation, Adaptive Recreation
- Mid-Atlantic ADA Center
- Loudoun County Parent Resource Services
- Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers
- Town of Leesburg
- Loudoun County Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services
- View of Heaven Farm

The Arc of Loudoun strives to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals, including individuals with disabilities, to engage fully. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please contact Eileen Shaffer prior to the event at eshaffer@thearcofloudoun.org.

Solarize NOVA: Now through June 30th, Loudoun County homeowners have the opportunity to sign up to learn more about solar power options specific to their property and take advantage of streamlined installation and financing processes. In addition to free satellite solar assessments, the program offers discounted pricing on solar panels and electric vehicle chargers and will connect participants with information on the current 26% federal tax credit, which is due to expire at the end of 2022, and other incentives, including the Solar Renewable Energy Credit market. Anyone interested in learning more about solar power is encouraged to attend an upcoming virtual information session about the Solarize NOVA program.

- Wednesday, April 27th at 6:00 pm
- Thursday, May 19th at 3:00 pm
- Tuesday, June 7th at 1:00 pm

More information about the Solarize NOVA program in Loudoun is online [here](#).

Smithsonian is coming to Morven Park: Morven Park is honored to be one of only six Virginia sites selected to host the Smithsonian's Crossroads: Change in Rural America exhibit. Running through June 6th at Morven Park's Winmill Carriage Museum, the exhibit explores the changes that have affected rural communities, such as Loudoun, over the last 100 years. The engaging, interactive exhibit invites visitors to consider the various forces that have created change within America's rural communities. It is open Fridays through Mondays, from 10 am to 4 pm and is FREE for all visitors. The exhibit is sponsored by Virginia Association of Museums and Virginia Humanities. More information about the exhibit can be found [here](#).

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