



Chair **Phyllis J. Randall**

Newsletter



Hello, Loudoun

You are cordially invited to attend my 2022 State of the County Address that will take place in the Loudoun County Government Center Board Room on Wednesday, May 25th at 6:00 pm. At this event, we will be distributing free canvas bags. Please let me know if your business or nonprofit would like to donate some. Thank you!



Loudoun County
VIRGINIA



Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

Chair Phyllis J. Randall

Cordially invites you to view the

STATE *Of The* **COUNTY** ADDRESS

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 | 6:00 P.M.

This event will take place both in person and online.

Watch Online:

- loudoun.gov/meetings
- facebook.com/LoudounCountyVa

Watch on TV:

- Comcast Government Channel 23
- Verizon FIOS Channel 40

Attend in Person:

- Loudoun County Government Center
1 Harrison St., SE, Leesburg
Board Room

Adopted FY 2023 Budget

On April 5th, we approved the FY 2023 budget totaling \$3.5 billion in appropriations for the County government and school system and the FY 2023-2028 Capital Improvement Program. The adopted budget includes a real property tax rate of \$0.89 per \$100 in assessed value, 9 cents lower than the current tax rate. The adopted budget also plans for a decrease in the personal property tax rate to \$4.15 per \$100 in assessed value in tax year 2023, which is 5 cents lower than the current rate.

I never start the budget process wanting to get to the equalized tax rate, which is the rate at which the average real property owner's tax bill would remain flat year over year. Instead, I want to get to a tax rate as low as possible while still funding County and school needs. This was the toughest budget year we have ever had. Thank you to County staff for all of their hard work.

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 Board approved using an assessment ratio of 80%.
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.

American Rescue Plan Act Funding

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.

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 address affordable childcare issues. When the needs assessment comes back, I would like to earmark some of the outstanding ARPA funds as seed money to implement the recommendations. The Loudoun Coalition on Women and Girls (LCWAG) did an extensive survey about unmet needs, and out of nearly 400 respondents more than 40% of women need child care support. Please see an invitation to a LCWAG listening session in the Community Information section of this newsletter.

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

Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Public Engagement

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 public comment period is open until July 18, 2022. 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.

In addition to the 90-day public engagement period, the public will also have the opportunity to provide comment at a Planning Commission public hearing anticipated to take place in fall 2022 followed by a Board public hearing.

Lovettsville Community Park



On April 2nd, we celebrated the completion of the Lovettsville Community Park project to construct active and passive park facilities on approximately 90 acres near East Broad Way, Lovettsville Road and Milltown Road. The Lovettsville Community Park project includes equestrian trails and an equestrian arena, walking trails, an off-leash dog park, community gardens, a pond, an amphitheater, rectangular athletic fields, diamond athletic fields, concession stand, and restrooms.

Military Child Resolution

April is the month of the military child. Being one myself, I know the life of a military child. I can tell you most military children move an average of nine times between kindergarten and 12th grade. Moving is hard, but it also makes military children more malleable and accepting of different cultures and traditions. Also, did you know Loudoun County has three Purple Star Schools? A Purple Star School is a public or charter school that has committed to supporting the unique educational and social-emotional needs of military-connected children. The three Purple Star Schools in Loudoun are:

- River Bend Middle School
- Belmont Ridge Middle School
- Trailside Middle School

Military family members serve right alongside their loved one who wears the uniform. I was honored to bring this resolution. Thank you to every person who has served in the military, and a huge thank you to your children.



New Sister City

The Sister City agreement between Loudoun County and Holmes County, Mississippi is the first of its kind through the National Association of Counties, part of a new partnership between one of the nation's richest counties and one of its poorest counties. The formal transfer of the retired fire truck and the ceremonial signing of the Sister County agreement took place on Saturday, April 30th. Thank you to our Combined Fire and Rescue System and staff for helping bring a dream to reality for our new Sister City.

The citizens of Holmes County are humble, kind, and appreciative people. They repeatedly insisted that I pass along their gratitude to all of Loudoun. The trip was a huge success! A very special thank you to Battalion Chief Davis who stayed an extra day to train the Holmes County crew and Jeff Bennett from the Department of General Services for the logistical assistance.



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 in May 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.

[Contact Us](#)

Sincerely,

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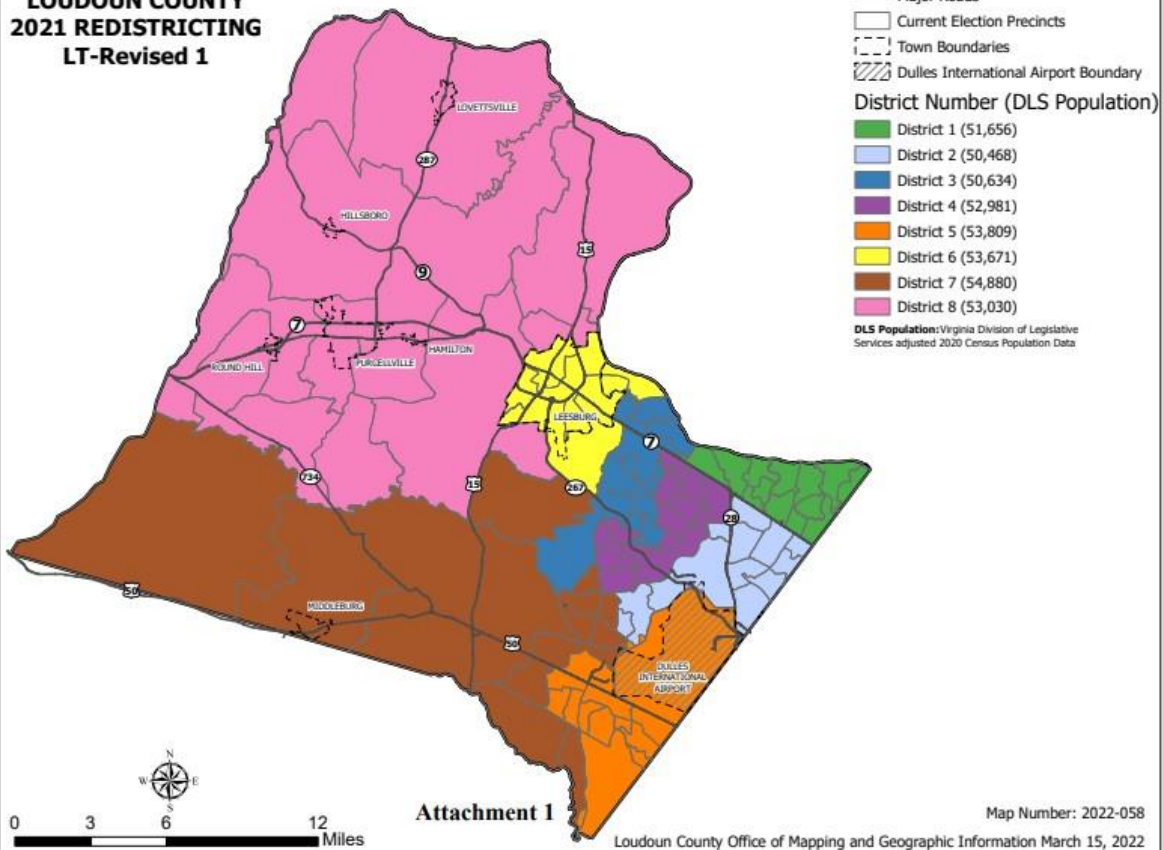
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Board Business

Redistricting Plan: 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 (see map below). The motion passed 7-2.

Supervisor Buffington made a motion that was approved to remove the name "Blue Ridge" from consideration for District 7. The two District 7 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.

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



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 (TLUC) 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 (please see TLUC schedule below). Supervisor Turner's motion passed 7-2.

I respect and appreciate the data center community but this does not mean data centers belong everywhere. I want to build a sustainable and diverse 2040 County. Revenue from data centers is important but we need to be forward thinking and make land use decisions that protect the quality of life for residents. Throughout this discussion, I will listen to my constituents and have a dialogue with the data center industry.

Purpose

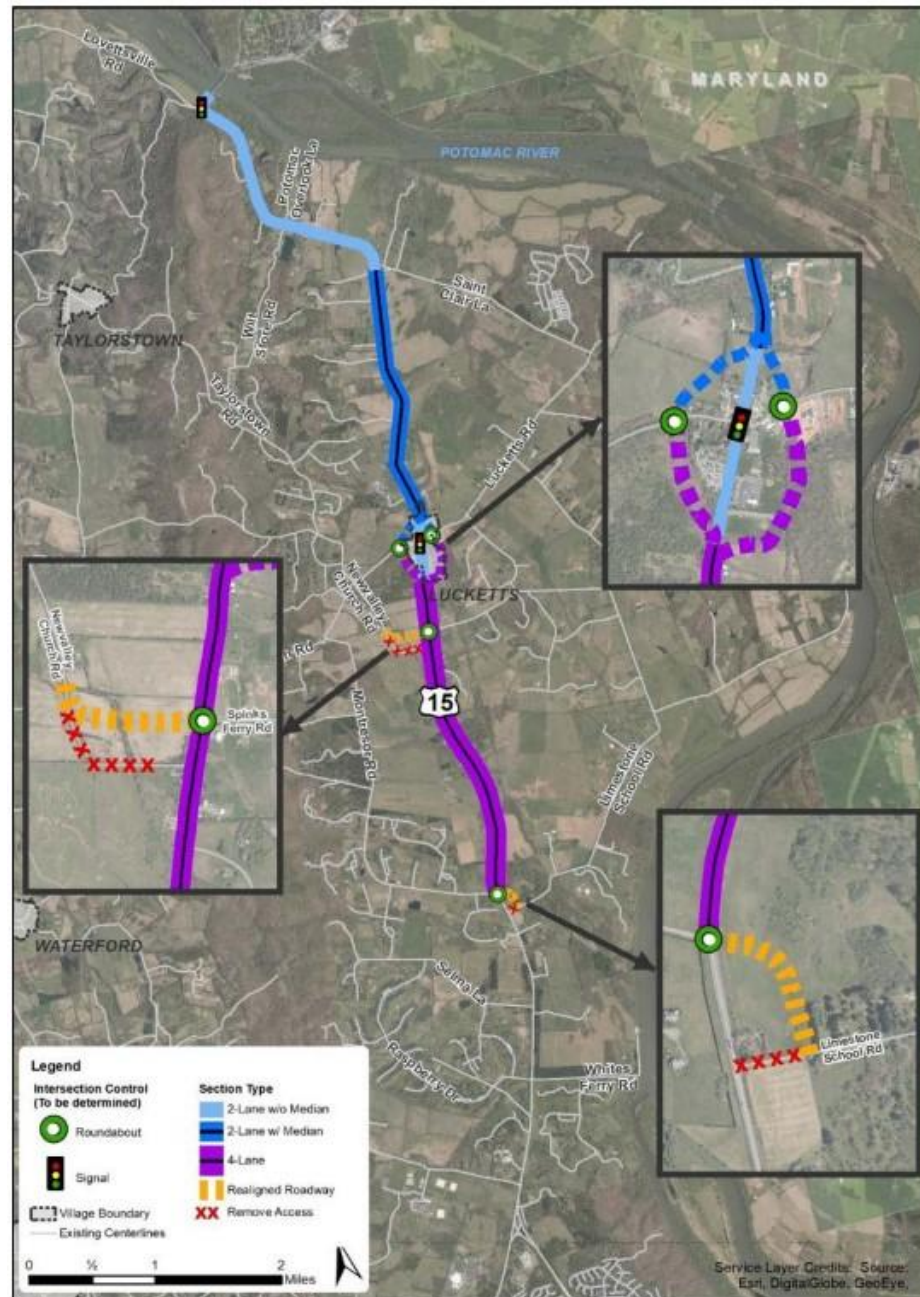
- Three-part TLUC Data Center Discussion Series on targeted revisions to policies and regulations concerning data center uses throughout Loudoun County
- April 2022 TLUC Feedback on Data Center Land Study Map
- May 2022 District by District Evaluation by TLUC
- June 2022 Finalize TLUC Recommendations on Revisions to Data Center Policies and Regulations

Investing in Transportation

Route 15 North: A public hearing is scheduled on Wednesday, May 11th at 6:00 pm about the amendment to the 2019 Countywide Transportation Plan to change the planned ultimate condition of US Route 15, between Montresor Road and the Maryland state line, to accommodate Concept B – Capacity and Safety Improvements. The following are the proposed amendments, which are depicted in the map below.

- **Widening:** Amend the ultimate condition of US Route 15 from Montresor Road north to Stumptown Road/Lucketts Road from a rural two-lane undivided Principal Arterial to a rural four-lane median divided Principal Arterial roadway.
- **Lucketts Bypass:** Amend the ultimate condition of the existing US Route 15 from a rural two-lane undivided Principal Arterial to a rural two-lane Major Collector roadway. This would become future US Route 15 Business through Lucketts on the existing US Route 15 alignment. Two potential alignments are contemplated for the proposed village bypass (eastern or western).
- **Median Divide:** Amend the ultimate condition of US Route 15 from Stumptown Road/Lucketts Road north to Saint Clair Lane from a rural two-lane undivided Principal Arterial to a rural two-lane median divided Principal Arterial roadway.

Advanced sign-up is available by calling (703) 777-0200 until noon the day of the public hearing. Public input may be provided in-person or electronically.



Community Information

Small Business Week 2022: Loudoun Economic Development's Celebration of Resiliency starts now until May 7th to congratulate our fastest growing small businesses and spotlight the resiliency of our small business community. Please visit [here](#) to learn

more about the fun and exciting free events, filled with food, music, and demonstrations, that our local co-working spaces have lined up for you!

Conservation Easement Seminar: You are cordially invited to attend a barbeque dinner and seminar at the Club Hall for the Lovettsville Game Protective Association at 16 South Berlin Turnpike in Lovettsville on Wednesday, May 4th at 6:00 pm. The topic of the seminar will be the value of preserving land through conservation easements, including the financial and tax benefits. Speakers will include attorneys, landowners, conservation buyers, appraisers, and representatives from various land preservation organizations.

A blue poster for the 'Homeward Bound' adoption event. At the top left, the title 'HOMEWARD BOUND' is in large white letters. To its right, the date and time 'Saturday, May 7 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.' are in white. Below the title, a grey box contains the text 'Fee-Waived Adoption Event'. Underneath that, the location 'Loudoun County Animal Shelter 42225 Adoption Dr. Leesburg' is listed in white. In the center, there are three vertical photos: a white rabbit, a brown and white dog, and a grey and white cat. At the bottom, the LCAS logo is on the left, the website 'loudoun.gov/animals' is in the center, and the Loudoun County Virginia logo is on the right.

HOMEWARD BOUND Saturday, May 7
12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Fee-Waived
Adoption Event

Loudoun County
Animal Shelter
42225 Adoption Dr.
Leesburg

 loudoun.gov/animals 

On Saturday, May 7th Loudoun County Animal Services (LCAS) will host a “**Homeward Bound**” free pet adoption event from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Adoption fees will be waived on all available cats, kittens, dogs, puppies, small pets and reptiles during the event, which will take place at 42225 Adoption Drive in Leesburg. (Please note: Kincaid Boulevard is closed from the direction of Battlefield Parkway. You must use Crosstrail Boulevard to access the facility.)

All dogs and cats adopted from LCAS are spayed or neutered, have age-appropriate vaccinations and receive a microchip registered to their adopter. In an effort to help as many pets as possible, LCAS will be receiving up to twenty dogs and cats from overcrowded shelters in the region and they will all be up for adoption in addition to the animals already being cared for in the Loudoun County Animal Shelter. Potential adopters can **view available pets online**. The standard adoption screening process will apply during the Homeward Bound event and most adoptions can be completed on the same day.

Operation Allies Welcome Amazon Wishlist: The relocation of Afghan families in crisis to the US and then into communities across the nation creates an opportunity for each of us to stand up and generously assist, and we are grateful for your support. This list has our most needed items on it and they ship directly to our warehouse. The items are for several different initiatives, with summer clothes and hygiene being the main category, but we have also been supporting classrooms, daycare, newborns, and education for all ages. We are also looking for arts and crafts supplies, as well as games and puzzles for all ages to keep people engaged.



LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

**What challenges are Loudoun women facing?
What changes do you want to see?
Come tell our team!**

This listening session will complement LCWAG's survey series to inform our programs and create a policy framework focused on women and girls.

Light refreshments will be served at this free event.

**Tuesday, May 24 @ 6 - 7:30 p.m.
Cascades Library, Meeting Room A**

QUESTIONS OR ACCOMMODATIONS NEEDED? EMAIL RESEARCH@LCWAG.ORG
LOUDOUN COALITION ON WOMEN AND GIRLS IS A 501C3 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.
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www.LCWAG.org



[LCWAG](https://www.instagram.com/LCWAG)



facebook.com/LCWAGorg

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](#).

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Virtual Seminars for Parents

- Current Drug Trends
- Internet Safety
- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Talking to Your Teen About Vaping

LOUDOUN
COUNTY
VIRGINIA

Mental Health,
Substance Abuse and
Developmental Services



Find dates and times at:
loudoun.gov/mhsadsprevention



AGE MY WAY: MAY 2022

Employment Workshops & Events for Older Adults

- How to Avoid Job Scams
- Older Workers & Smart Job Search Strategies
- Changing Careers at Any Age
- Career Trends for Mature Workers
- And More!

Register: loudoun.gov/wrcworkshops



Contact Us

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