



Early voting began on September 23rd in Loudoun. In Leesburg, offices on the November 8th general election ballot will include the 10th Congressional District seat, Loudoun County School Board member, Mayor, and Town Council. Three County government bond questions will also be on the ballot. Please see more information about dates and deadlines in the Community Information article below. Thank you!

Data Center Discussion

At the September 20th Board business meeting, we discussed the recommendations from the three-part Transportation and Land Use Committee [data center discussion series](#). The Department of Economic Development completed a Data Center Land Study that identified appropriate places for data center development with a particular focus on data center uses in the Route 7 Corridor, the Suburban Mixed Use Place Type, the Route 28 Tax District, and all parcels where data centers are a by-right use. The Board made the following motions to revise the policies and regulations concerning data center uses throughout the County.

The Board moved forward with the following Comprehensive Plan Amendments (main motion):

1. Revise the limits of the Suburban Mixed Use, Suburban Neighborhood, and Suburban Compact Neighborhood Place Types, where data centers are not envisioned, to ensure existing data center development is not affected by creation of a zoning district precluding data centers in these Place Types; and
2. Remove the Urban Employment Place Type and expand the Urban Transit Center Place Type, where data centers are not envisioned, to include the vacated Urban Employment Center Place Type.

The Board further moved to forward the following revisions to the Zoning Ordinance (second motion):

1. Upon adoption of a Comprehensive Plan Amendment to revise the limits of the Suburban Mixed Use, Suburban Neighborhood, and Suburban Compact Neighborhood Place Types, create a zoning district in the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite or as part of a separate Zoning Ordinance Amendment that precludes data centers in the Suburban Mixed Use, Suburban Neighborhood, and Suburban Compact Neighborhood Place Types.

2. Include use-specific standards in the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite that address high quality building design, proximity to existing or planned residential uses, and environmental sustainability that would apply to all zoning districts that allow data centers, except the Planned Development-Town Center (PD-TC) Zoning District.
3. Include use-specific standards in the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite that further address high-quality building design that would apply to data centers in the Planned Development-Town Center (PD-TC) Zoning District.

I did not support the main motion or the first part of the second motion because the data center industry is a significant economic partner and has requested regulatory predictability and certainty. This industry will contribute an estimated \$575 million in FY 2022 General Fund revenues, equating to 31% of the FY 2022 General Fund budget. Data center revenue helps fund our schools, social services, affordable housing, transportation, fire and rescue, and many other County priorities. Without this industry, the real property tax would have needed to be \$1.430 per \$100 of assessed value compared to the FY 2022 adopted rate of \$0.895 per \$100 of assessed value.

I supported the rest of the second motion because design and noise are the biggest complaints we hear about data centers. The industry is making many improvements and is committed to meeting environmental sustainability goals. I appreciate our continued collaborative partnership with the Data Center Coalition to address impacts and mitigate uncertainty as much as possible.

Route 7 West Bypass Widening

Thank-you to everyone who came out earlier in the month for the community meeting on the Route 7 West Bypass Widening project and thank-you to Mayor Kelly Burk for co-hosting the meeting and for helping me go door-to-door on the west side of town with 500 flyers advertising this meeting. The widening of the Route 7 West Bypass will add an additional lane in each direction between the Dulles Greenway and Clark's Gap at Route 9. This is a County/VDOT project, not a Town of Leesburg project. The purpose of the project, which has been split into phases and segments, is to eliminate the backup on the eastbound bypass, especially in the morning, and on the westbound Greenway and the westbound bypass in the evening. Eliminating rush hour backups should make it easier for Leesburg commuters to get onto the bypass and easier for them to get home, if they use the Greenway or the bypass for their commutes. It will, of course, also help all those who use the Leesburg end of the Greenway and the bypass, regardless of where they live.

The first question we had answered by County staff was whether any Leesburg resident's house would need to be taken for this project. The answer is "No." No one's house will be taken. However, parts of the project could require the purchase of HOA common property. Even though houses will not be taken, residents, who live close to the bypass, expressed concerns about the increased noise from traffic on additional lanes. To address the possibility of increased noise, County staff are proposing that sound walls be built along the project to protect residents from additional noise. Several years ago, when we held a meeting similar to the one we held this month, the request I heard most often from our residents was for sound walls. That message was relayed by our communities to County staff and I was relieved to see how seriously County staff took those requests. Because

the project has not yet been designed (the County and VDOT are currently in the planning process), the exact locations of those sound walls are not set in stone; however, the proposed locations are recommended by County staff based on the work of a consultant who has worked on other VDOT projects that required sound walls. The installation of authorized sound walls will occur as part of the project, meaning authorized sound walls will be installed as the lanes are constructed, not after the project is done. Remember, even though County staff and I are advocating for sound walls, the final decision on where sound walls go will be made as part of the final design. There is always a possibility that the federal government and VDOT may dictate a different approach to sound walls than we are advocating at the County level. However, I am optimistic that the County position will prevail.

The County does not yet have sufficient construction funds for this project - the County has applied in the past, and will most likely continue to apply, for federal funds. Federal funds come with a requirement that noise levels be one of the environmental impacts that must be addressed. Because the formal design process is not yet underway and because there is no substantial funding, construction is unlikely to begin according to a previously proposed schedule. At this point, it looks like it will most likely be 4-5 years before construction can begin. The current schedule has construction beginning in FY 2027 and lasting 3 years (we are currently in FY 2023). A description of the Leesburg part of the project can be found in the County's Capital Improvement Program [here](#) (Go to p. 10-49).

As County staff gathers more information, I will publish it in future newsletters.

Planning and Zoning Work Plan

At the September 20th Board business meeting, we discussed [Board-initiated zoning ordinance amendments and community planning initiatives](#) currently assigned to the Department of Planning and Zoning. We maintained the current priority list and reinstated work on developing a Purchase of Development Rights program.

The Zoning Ordinance Rewrite is the most comprehensive initiative and is projected to be completed in July 2023. The project has been divided into two parts. Part one addresses Chapters 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, most of Chapter 7, and Appendices B and C. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on part one August 30th and referred it to a series of work sessions throughout the fall. Part two will cover the remaining chapters and appendices. The date of the second Planning Commission public hearing is anticipated for early December 2022.

Solicitation

A firm located in California may be sending out a solicitation that resembles a government mailing as the heading on the notice reads "Recorded Deed Notice." In this mailing, the recipient is offered the opportunity to purchase a property profile at a cost ranging from \$107 to \$200. This "profile" includes the following information: assessed value of the property, real property taxes paid, legal description of the property, a map of the property, tax delinquencies, deed recordation information, value of the sales transaction or home

purchase, square footage of the structure, the name of the property owner and provides a copy of the deed.

This information is all public information available to Loudoun residents from the Clerk of the Circuit Court, the County Treasurer, the Commissioner of Revenue or the Mapping Office. In most cases, this information can be found through the Loudoun County website or by contacting these respective offices to request information and/or obtain copies for a nominal fee.

I would hate to see any resident pay \$100 or more for public information that they can likely acquire for free. In addition to being able to obtain this information from various local government agencies, purchasers receive most of this information from their respective settlement agents during the real estate settlement process when they buy a house.

Warm Regards,

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Business of the Month

Battery Warehouse

When shopping in Battery Warehouse at 320 E Market Street in Leesburg, consumers may be overwhelmed with the choices, but owner Oleg Tatchin can probably pinpoint what's needed after a few questions. Battery Warehouse carries every kind of battery imaginable for automotive, motorcycle, heavy equipment, marine & RV's, wheelchair, golf carts, lawn & garden, gel cells/AGM, video/digital camera, computer, cordless/cellphones, watch/calculator, solar panels, NEBO

flashlights, true utility knives, battery accessories and more! Stop by to be dazzled by the selection.



Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

Town Annexation: The Leesburg Town Council has approved a plan to bring the Compass Creek property into the Town limits. At the council's September 13th meeting, council members voted unanimously to authorize Town staff to move forward with the annexation of the remaining 402.8317-acre portion of Compass Creek that is not currently in the Town limits. This includes more than 323 acres of land owned by Microsoft Corporation and the land that currently contains the Walmart and AtHome stores. The Town received a Letter of Interest for all the businesses impacted, which stated they would be willing to come into the Town.

Annual Report: The Town of Leesburg's Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report is now available to view on the Town's website. It is intended to give residents and shareholders an overview of the Town's accomplishments and financial performance throughout the preceding year. The year's 14-page report includes a recap of the Fiscal Year 2022 budget as well as improvements to the Town's emergency management and Information Technology Department. Other featured stories include the adoption of the Legacy Leesburg Town Plan, the 100th anniversary of the opening of Thomas Balch Library, and the Town's participation in the Main Street program. For more details, visit [here](#).

Loudoun History Awards: The Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission seeks nominations for the 30th annual Loudoun History Awards. The awards honor individuals who have made a significant contribution to preserving Loudoun's past through collection

of county documents and memorabilia, preservation of historic landmarks, visual arts, writing, or long-term involvement in local history organizations. This year's event will include both the 2022 awardees as well as the two 2021 awardees:

- Michael R. Napper
- Family and Friends of the Mount Sinai Cemetery

Letters of nomination should include a statement elaborating the nominee's accomplishments. Newspaper articles, program announcements, publications, or other supporting information that provides evidence of the nominee's accomplishments may be included. Contact information for the nominee and nominator must accompany the nomination. Send nominations to:

Alexandra S. Gressitt, Library Director
Thomas Balch Library
208 West Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176

Deadline for nominations is Monday, October 3rd. The awards ceremony will be held at the Thomas Balch Library on Sunday, November 6th at 2 pm. For more information, contact Alexandra Gressitt at 703-737-7195 or [e-mail](#).

Call to Artists: The Leesburg Commission on Public Art (COPA) and Friends of Leesburg Public Art (FOLPA) are seeking design submissions for an art mural on the exterior wall of the Town shop, located at 1393 Russell Branch Parkway, in Leesburg. The mural will cover an exterior wall measuring 28.5' in width between 2' pillars at each end. The height is approximately 18' at the center point sloping down from right to left. The theme for the mural should be relevant to the types of services provided by the Town Public Works Department. The call is open to all artists and artist teams in the Washington, D.C. metro region.



Community Information

November General Election: Loudoun County election officials remind voters of important dates and deadlines for the upcoming general election on Tuesday, November 8th.

- Friday, September 23: First day of [early voting](#) at the Office of Elections and Voter Registration, 750 Miller Dr. SE, Suite C, Leesburg, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm, Monday -Friday.
 - Monday, October 17: Last day to [register to vote](#).
 - Monday, October 24: In-person early voting expands to additional locations.
 - Friday, October 28: Last day [to request a ballot by mail](#).
 - Saturday, November 5: Last day for early voting.
 - Tuesday, November 8: Election Day; In-person voting, 6:00 am – 7:00 pm.
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[Mental Health Education & Substance Abuse Prevention Programs:](#) All programs are free, but registration is required for most, and seats are limited. The schedule of upcoming classes for October is as follows:

[Adverse Childhood Experiences Training:](#) The Adverse Childhood Experiences training is a one-hour educational program that aims to raise awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences, or ACEs. ACEs are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood. ACEs are linked to chronic health problems, mental illness and substance use problems in adulthood. The training teaches that ACE prevention is a key to improving a community's well-being. The virtual training presentation lasts about one hour. Discussion and a question-and-answer session will follow the presentation. The next class will be held October 19th, 6:00 – 7:30 pm. For details about the training and to register, visit [here](#).

[Mental Health First Aid:](#) Teaches people how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. The training also teaches the skills that someone needs to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis. The trainings are usually held over a two-day period, with the class lasting for about three hours each day. The next training of Adult Mental Health First Aid will be held October 12 & 13, 9:00 am – 1:30 pm each day. The in-person training will be at the Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services office at 906 Trailview Blvd. SE, Leesburg. For details about the training and to register, visit [here](#).

[Opioid Overdose Reversal:](#) REVIVE! is the opioid overdose and naloxone education program for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The training is free and anyone who uses opioids or knows someone who is using opioids is encouraged to attend a training. Loudoun County offers two versions of the program - Rapid REVIVE! and Virtual REVIVE!

- Rapid REVIVE! is a shortened format that allows individuals to complete the training in six minutes. After watching a short video and then providing their contact information, participants receive free naloxone nasal spray. They may choose to receive naloxone by mail or arrange pickup. Rapid REVIVE! is available anytime. No registration is required. Visit [here](#) to start the training.
- Virtual REVIVE! is a one-hour scheduled training session that requires registration. Participants who complete the training are also eligible to

receive free naloxone nasal spray. They may choose to receive naloxone by mail or arrange pickup. The next scheduled training will be held October 7th, 12:00 -1:00 pm. REVIVE! trainings can also be scheduled upon request. For details about the training and to register, visit [here](#).

Suicide Prevention Training: The Question Persuade Refer program offers training to help people recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to refer someone for professional help. The suicide prevention training teaches three simple steps that anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide; question, persuade and refer. The virtual training presentation lasts about one hour. Discussion and practice opportunities will follow the presentation. The October class will be held October 20th, 7:00 – 8:30 pm. For details about the training and to register, visit [here](#).



**HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATIONS WILL BE
ACCEPTED OCTOBER 3, 2022 TO OCTOBER 31, 2022.**

Applicant qualifications are based on the four categories listed in the image below. A full description of these requirements are available at: loudounhabitat.org/homeownership.



- 1.) **Pick up an application.** Applications are available October 3-31, 2022:
 - Online: loudounhabitat.org/homeownership
 - In Person: Loudoun Habitat for Humanity office 700 Fieldstone Dr., Suite 128, Leesburg VA 20176
- 2.) **Complete the Homebuyer Information Online Course.** Learn about Habitat for Humanity and the Habitat homebuyer process.

**The Homebuyer Information Course is available from October 3
through October 31, 2022.**

- Set up your course account at: loudounhabitat.org/homeownership
- Submit the certificate for course completion with the application.

- 3.) **Submit a complete application.** A complete application includes:
 - the application fully filled out,
 - all required documentation, and
 - a Homebuyer information Online Course certificate for each applicant.

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Loudoun Job Fair

Highlighting career opportunities for people with disabilities

- Meet with local employers with full-time, part-time and seasonal job openings.
- Industries represented include: healthcare, hospitality, landscaping, leisure, nonprofits, retail, security, staffing, trades, public safety, and warehouse/transportation.
- Attend free educational workshops and explore the expo for programs and resources available from disability service providers.

Saturday, October 15, 2022

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Dulles South Recreation & Community Center
24950 Riding Center Drive, South Riding, VA 20152

Register now to view participating employers and to receive event updates and reminders: loudoun.gov/loudounjobfair

Prepare for the Fair!



Attend a preparatory workshop:

"Ready, Set, Go to the Job Fair"

"Let's Chat Disability Disclosure"

Register at loudoun.gov/wrcworkshops



**Dress professionally
and bring multiple
copies of your
resume.**

Get your free copy of "Turn a Job Fair Into a Job Offer"

Contact us at 703-777-0150 or wrc@loudoun.gov



Loudoun Workforce Resource Center
705 E Market Street, Suite E, Leesburg
Autozone Shopping Center
703-777-0150 | 711 (VA Relay)
loudoun.gov/wrc | wrc@loudoun.gov



If you require a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability or need language assistance in order to participate in the Loudoun Job Fair or related events, please contact Sahar Behboudifar at 571-285-3282/TTY-711 or sahar.behboudifar@loudoun.gov. Three business days notice is requested.

Leesburg District | 1 Harrison St, S.E., 5th Floor, Leesburg, VA 20175

Sent by kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov powered by

