



## Dulles Direct Newsletter October 2015

Welcome to the October edition of the Dulles Direct newsletter. The issue at the forefront of everyone's minds is of course the proposed power lines on Route 50. Last night, we completed what I think was a very successful public hearing process. We were able to fill the auditorium at Freedom High School with opponents of Dominion's proposal.

Many thanks to all of you who came, and especially to the No Towers on 50 leaders who worked hard to drive grassroots interest in this issue. The petition is still active for a few more months and you can comment directly to the SCC [here](#). You will need to scroll through the page for the case number, PUE-2015-00053 and click submit comments underneath the case description. I will still be providing updates about the County's efforts over the next few months. Overall, however we think that the hearings went well and the Hearing Examiner was extremely fair and very attentive to the community's concerns.

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At the end of September as my previous newsletter was going out, I had the pleasure of addressing second grade students at Liberty Elementary and third grade students at Cardinal Ridge Elementary as a part of their One to the World Initiative. I really enjoyed their questions and seeing how enthusiastic Loudoun learners are. The curriculum was about elections, and the students went on to devise their own campaigns. I had a chance earlier this week to attend a "meet and greet" at Liberty Elementary to see the students and they did a great job incorporating the things that Jeff Morse and I discussed with them!

I also had the honor of welcoming representatives of the Indian community to the Board Room for the presentation of a Resolution recognizing the Diwali holiday for 2015. Diwali begins on November 11th and is the biggest and most celebrated holiday in the Hindu calendar. This is the fourth year I have introduced this resolution and I'm proud that Loudoun was the first



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County in Virginia to recognize Diwali.



Earlier this month, I was pleased to recognize Johnny Spriggs, a new Eagle Scout from Troop 997 in Ashburn. As part of his Eagle requirements, Johnny led a food drive that collected 1,000 pounds of food for Mobile Hope, benefitting Loudoun's homeless and displaced children. Congratulations Johnny!



Chairman York and I also spoke at the Grand Opening of the Inova Ashburn Healthplex, a new ER and medical office complex located at Loudoun County Parkway and Barrister Street in Ashburn. Inova announced that Children's National Medical Center will be opening a pediatric medical specialist office at the Healthplex. The facility will have a full service ER open 24/7 with imaging capabilities. I'm excited that

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residents of Dulles North and Dulles South have so many new healthcare options opening this year.



One last reminder to verify your polling place for the upcoming election next week. The Electoral Board made changes to precincts within the Dulles District. If you have previously voted in the Little River (107), Freedom (112) and Carter (117) precincts, you may have a new voting location this year.

If you live in any of the affected precincts, you should have received a new Voter ID Card by mail from the General Registrar's office in Leesburg. If you have any question on where to vote, you can confirm your polling place by clicking [here](#) and entering your address.

It is also not too late to vote absentee! You can do so through Saturday at 5 pm at the Dulles South Multipurpose Center, 24950 Riding Center Drive in South Riding, through Saturday, October 31.

[Master Calendar](#)

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

### **Missing Bike and Pedestrian Segments Initiative**

In September, the Board received a briefing on the results and recommendations that came out of the Dulles Community Outreach Project. As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, one of the areas that residents identified as needing improvement was the connectivity for bicycles and pedestrians between our communities, to retail areas, to Metro and even to the W&OD trail. I worked to bring forward an item that directed County staff to compare the missing pedestrian and bicycle trails and links identified in the Dulles Community Outreach Project to a missing pedestrian and bicycle trails and links prioritization list that the Board had approved in January of this year. Our item also requested that staff bring the comparison to the Transportation and Land Use Committee for recommendations to be determined for any adjustments and prioritization to be included in the FY2017 budget planning session. This will help work to get some of these priority projects into the County's Capital Improvement Plan for funding.

I appreciate the Board's approval of this request and look forward to working with my colleagues to get some much needed trail connections into the pipeline for construction in the future.

### **Brambleton Business Campus**

As I shared with you last month, the Board considered an application from Brambleton to rezone approximately 54 acres from PD-GI (General Industrial ) to PD-IP (Industrial Park) in order to permit office and educational uses on a property currently zoned for industrial uses. The subject property is located at the future intersection of Loudoun County Parkway and Rt. 606.

Planning staff had identified some concerns with allowing office in an area planned for industrial uses near the airport. I was less concerned with this change



as the uses may be more compatible with the future residents of the already approved active adult development nearby and maintains the property as commercial. The Board voted to approve this requested change 9-0.

### **Brambleton Library**

The Finance Committee reviewed the request from Brambleton to accelerate a planned library in the Town Center that I told you about in last month's newsletter. The developer had proposed a lease agreement that would accelerate the opening of the library to 2017 from 2020.

While I support the opening of this library as soon as possible, I have concerns with the impact on our operating budget of moving up the roughly \$3 million annual operating costs by three fiscal years. The cost of the lease would also add substantially to our operating budget costs. The committee agreed and we decided to take up the issue during the FY2017 budget discussion that will begin in February. We should consider this request along with all the others from the Library system and other County agencies together so that we can be sure that it won't have an impact on the rest of the system.

### **Croson Lane Contract Awarded**

Hopefully all of you know that Metro will be coming to Loudoun County in 2019. The Board continues planning for access to both the Loudoun Gateway station (606) and the Ashburn station (772). We have kicked off the Rt. 606 widening project which will be completed in 2017 along with the completion of Loudoun County Parkway from Brambleton to 606 in the same timeframe. We are also completing the road network around the Ashburn station in the Moorefield area.

The Board has awarded the contract for construction of an extension of Croson Lane from Old Ryan Road to the future Moorefield Boulevard. This connection is seen as a priority link for connecting Belmont Ridge

Road and Claiborne Parkway to the Metro parking areas on the south side of the Greenway. The contract of approximately \$4.7 million was awarded to William A. Hazel, Inc. and gives procurement staff the go ahead to negotiate the final contract and issue a notice to proceed.

### **Claiborne Parkway Extension**

Back in 2012, the Board directed staff to study the road network in Eastern Loudoun and identify deficiencies, bottlenecks and missing links. One missing link identified was the segment of Claiborne Parkway from Ryan Road to Croson Lane. At The October 7 Business Meeting, the Board approved the final deed needed for right of way acquisition on the Claiborne Parkway project. At long last, we can begin preparing for construction, which would likely begin late spring and take about a year. The Adopted FY 2014 Capital Improvement Plan provided \$6,585,000 funding for the design and construction of this project.

## **DULLES DISTRICT UPDATES**

### **Whitman North and South Rezonings**

We have been dealing with the Whitman property rezonings at Braddock and Gum Spring for quite some time now. This month, the Board's Transportation and Land Use Committee (TLUC) reviewed the cases in more detail with the benefit of the most recent school enrollment numbers.

While Liberty (where this property would be zoned) isn't as over capacity as LCPS had projected, they are still over capacity with no relief on the horizon. The biggest issue with the new enrollment numbers is that Buffalo Trail and Mercer are significantly over the projected enrollment. Mercer's enrollment growth was nearly twice what was projected by LCPS.

I was in attendance at the TLUC meeting and participated, even though I am not a member of the

committee. We discussed the school enrollment numbers in detail and I remain concerned that the student generation of approved units in the area is outpacing projections. I was pleased that the Committee seemed to realize that one of my concerns was a legitimate issue as it relates to the way we project student growth. I have repeatedly expressed my concerns that by-right potential development is not calculated in enrollment projections unless it is active. Because by-right doesn't require board approval, it can develop quickly and not give LCPS time to react.

To address the enrollment concerns, at the meeting, the applicant agreed to delay all but the by-right number of units until summer of 2019 when the new schools will come online. This would keep the impacts to by-right levels (63 units) until we have increased school capacity to handle the added students. The remaining 175 units in the project would be occupied after summer of 2019.

The Committee voted to approve the project with this change on a 5-0 vote. I did not have a vote. I still want to make sure that the timetable for intersection improvements is not impacted by the changes that were agreed to. However, given the TLUC vote, it is apparent that this application has enough votes to pass the Board, and it remains supported by staff. The final decision will be in November.

### **Traffic Calming in Forest Manor**

As part of our negotiations with Forest Manor to get the needed right of way for the Claiborne Parkway project, the community expressed concern existing traffic safety concerns may be worsened by opening their community to the new roadway.

I worked with the community and our Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure to initiate some measures as we prepare for the road project that we believe will help. The Board approved the installation of "Watch for Children" signs in addition to



"\$200 Additional Fines for Speeding" signs in the neighborhood. We will also be monitoring for any changes in traffic patterns following the completion of the project in 2017 that may have an impact on the community.

### **Mooreview Parkway Construction**

I was informed in this month's Finance Committee meeting that the project to complete the missing portion of Mooreview Parkway from Moorefield Station Elementary to Old Ryan Road has taken some significant delays. According to staff, the main reason for the delay is the difficulty coordinating line relocations with Columbia Gas. There are major gas transmission lines running within the project limits and Columbia has been unresponsive and difficult to pin down on relocation costs. We are making progress with Columbia and they now expect to rebid the project this winter and complete it during summer of 2017.

### **East Gate Park & Ride/Park**

The Board accepted the recommendation of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Board and named the park portion of the new co-located park and park & ride facility as East Gate Park. The new park includes a large rectangle irrigated athletic field, parking, restrooms, trails and pavilion.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **November Public Hearing Date Change**

Due to the Veterans Day holiday, the Board of Supervisors Public Hearing has been moved to Thursday, November 12. The hearing will maintain the normal starting time of 6:00pm.

**Loudoun County Community Services Board  
Invites Public Input Regarding Mental Health,  
Substance Abuse, and Developmental Disability  
Services**

The Loudoun County Community Services Board invites the public to a Town Hall meeting regarding services critical to meeting the mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disability needs of our community. The meeting will take place on November 2, 2015, 5-7 pm, at the Ashburn Public Library, Meeting Room B, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn.

The Community Services Board is an advisory board appointed by the Board of Supervisors for the Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services. Due to Loudoun's dynamic growth and change, it is imperative to hear from the community about the priorities and concerns related to these services. The board is committed to ensuring that the challenges and opportunities facing Loudoun County in these areas are well represented as it advises the Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services.

For more information, contact the CSB at:  
[LCCSB@loudoun.gov](mailto:LCCSB@loudoun.gov).

### **FROGS Fundraiser**

Friends of the Gum Spring Library (FROGS) will be hosting a Fine Art Auction and Wine Tasting fundraiser on Saturday, November 7, 7:00 - 10:00 pm. The event will be held at the Gum Spring Library, 24600 Millstream Drive in Stone Ridge. More information is available by visiting [gumspringlibrary.blogspot.com](http://gumspringlibrary.blogspot.com).

### **Dulles South Station Quarterly Meeting**

The Sheriff's Office will hold their quarterly meeting at the Dulles South Station, located at 25215 Loudoun County Parkway in South Riding on Monday, November 9. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm.

Topics of discussion will be a review of quarterly crime statistics, holiday season crime prevention

techniques, and a discussion with the Game Warden on wildlife programs and hunting safety.

### **Very Special Arts Loudoun Presents Election 3000 BC**

Very Special Arts of Loudoun presents an original musical, Election 3000 BC, written by VSA actor alumni, Dalton Cashin. Zeus, King of the Greek Gods, is singing the "blues". What, or who, has caused this sudden change in character of the most powerful god? This family friendly musical comedy will have audiences cheering on Princess Athena as she attempts to stop the jealous goddess Hera, from overthrowing Mount Olympus! Who will win this election?

The musical will be performed on Friday, November 13 and Saturday, November 14 at 7:00 pm and on Sunday, November 15 at 3:00pm. All shows are at the Franklin Park Performing Arts Center in Purcellville. More information is available at [www.vsaloudoun.org](http://www.vsaloudoun.org).

### **Dulles South Food Pantry - Holiday Donations Needed**

With the upcoming holiday season, the Dulles South Food Pantry is in more need now than ever. Last week, the Pantry gave out over 80 back packs (weekend food for kids). They are now serving an average of 70 families at every distribution (over 300 people) and they anticipate 100 families for Thanksgiving meals.

The Dulles South Food Pantry is a multi-faith emergency food pantry. They provide nutritious food, personal supplies and other services to those in need in Dulles South and the surrounding area that come to them regardless of income, faith or other criteria. They are an all-volunteer organization focused both on feeding the hungry and promoting the self-sufficiency of those they serve. Donations to the Dulles South Food Pantry are tax deductible. The Dulles South Food Pantry needs canned chicken & tuna; soups and stews with protein; 2 or 5 lbs. bags of rice or rice mixes; pasta; boxed potatoes; breakfast cereal and

pancake mix; granola bars; fruit (in cans, plastic or dried); canned beans; pasta sauce (no glass please); seasoning packets; toothpaste; shampoo; and grocery store gift cards in any amount. They are also in need of monetary contributions and volunteers. They are able to accept food donations at Dulles South Multipurpose Center located at 24950 Riding Center Drive in South Riding, Virginia during business hours. The Dulles South Food Pantry is open to distribute food the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays of the month from 5 pm to 8 pm located at 24757 Evergreen Mill Road, Dulles VA 20166. For additional information please visit their website at [www.dsfp.org](http://www.dsfp.org).

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