

### Dulles Direct Newsletter November 2015

Welcome to the November edition of the Dulles Direct newsletter. Since this is Thanksgiving week, I want to start by wishing you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels this holiday season. While I know we have our share of frustrations (like traffic congestion!), overall we have much to be thankful for in Loudoun County. In observance of the holiday, County Government Offices will close at noon on Wednesday, November 25 and reopen for normal hours on Monday, November 30.

I personally also have much to be thankful for this year. Earlier this month, over 71% of voters in the Dulles District voted for my reelection, which will allow me the honor of representing you on the Board of Supervisors for another four years. By far the most enjoyable part of the campaign was meeting so many constituents, whether it was at your door or at an event. It was especially nice to meet many people in person that have contacted me over the past four years!

I am incredibly thankful to my family for their patience and understanding during the election season, which is always a stressful time. I am enjoying catching up with my kids, watching some football on the weekends and settling back into focusing exclusively on Board business.

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I will be serving with five new members of the Board of Supervisors, so there will certainly be some differences. I will take some time to reflect more on those changes next month, when the current Board's term expires. In the meantime, I can assure you that my approach will not change-I will continue to write these newsletters, hold quarterly Town Hall meetings, make Facebook updates and respond to emails as fast as I can. I received a lot of positive feedback during the campaign about our communication, so that will certainly continue.

Over the past month I have spent a lot of time working on the FY15 close out, the upcoming FY2017 budget cycle, and several land use cases. On the budget side, the school system's capital budgeting needs have once again risen to the forefront given the fact that student enrollment has exceeded projections. As always, in this newsletter I am not going to shy away from some topics that might be less than pleasant-but information that you need to know.

On a more positive note, earlier this month, I was pleased to recognize Freedom High School's Odyssey of the Mind Team that placed at the World Competition.

Congratulations to coaches Bill and Judy Munley and the students for this great accomplishment.





Matthew F. Letourneau
Dulles District Supervisor
Loudoun County Board of
Supervisors

Chairman
Finance/Government
Services and Operations
Committee

Chairman
Economic Development
Committee

Chairman
Rt. 28 Transportation
Improvement
District Commission

Representative

Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments
Board of Directors

Member
Northern Virginia
Transportation Authority's
Planning Coordination and
Advisory Committee

#### **Contact Me**

### **Mailing Address:**

1 Harrison Street, S.E., 5th Floor P.O. Box 7000 Leesburg, VA 20177-7000 Congratulations also go out to Stone Hill's First Lego League Team "7 Petabytes" on placing second at the regional competition. They will now move on to the state championship next month at James Madison University. I met with the team in late October to hear about their project on reducing and recycling food waste. Best of luck next month!



Last, but certainly not least, I was very excited to participate in the opening events for StoneSprings Hospital Center. After several years of waiting, Dulles South finally has its own full service hospital for care without travelling to Leesburg, Reston or Fair Oaks. I look forward to the service, value and partnership this new facility will provide to the residents of Dulles South and beyond. There will be a ceremonial ribbon cutting with the Governor on December 2nd and the hospital will officially open on December 7th.

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#### **Quick Links**

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Supervisor Letourneau's
Website

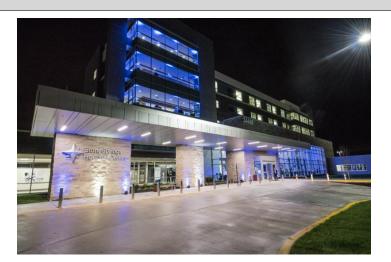
<u>Loudoun County</u> Government Website

VDOT 511 Traffic Information

Loudoun County Traffic Incident Map

> Sign Up for Alert Loudoun

Loudoun Express
Request (LEx)
Citizen Request System



Loudoun County Government Master Calendar

#### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

### **Brambleton Library**

Good news for Dulles North. Last month, the Finance Committee considered a proposal by the Brambleton developer to accelerate their proffer to build a library in Brambleton Town Center from 2021 to 2017. As chair of the Finance Committee, I recommended that we not accept that proposal and send it to the FY2017 budget deliberations because it would have required the County to commit significant financial resources to open the library during what is shaping up to be a very difficult budget year. The Committee ultimately agreed with my recommendation 5-0.

However, the Committee's rejection led Brambleton to come back with a better deal for the County. Under the new scenario, the library would still open in 2017, but all capital lease payments would be deferred until FY2018, and most staffing costs would be pushed until FY2018 as well. The overall deal contained advantageous terms for the County and would save us money in the long run by requiring us to take on less debt to complete the project. Therefore, I changed my position and recommended approval of the new agreement when it came to the entire Board of

Supervisors. The Board approved it unanimously, meaning that citizens should expect a new library in Brambleton Town Center late in 2017. This library will serve Dulles North and also improve circulation availability at Gum Spring Library, since many residents from this area currently utilize that library.

# Whitman North and South Rezonings Approved With Changes

I have been writing about Van Metre's plans for the Whitman properties at Braddock and Gum Spring for over a year now, and at long last this item has been resolved.

As a quick recap, these applications were filed separately on each side of Braddock on the east side of the Gum Spring intersection. The south side of Braddock is in the Transition Policy Area, which allows a lower density of residential development. On that parcel, Van Metre proposed to rezone from transitional residential to commercial to allow a 35,000 square foot retail center with grocery store tenant, convenience store with gas pumps, and child care center.

The north side of Braddock is, by the County's Comprehensive Plan, the Suburban Policy Area. The Suburban Policy Area calls for more dense development-basically the type of development that you see in South Riding and Stone Ridge. Van Metre proposed to rezone this parcel to build 238 total units (143 townhomes and 95 single family).

The total combined proffer package from Van Metre ultimately was \$4.8 million. The very first time that Van Metre discussed this project with me, I made it clear that the intersection at Gum Spring and Braddock had to be improved. The centerpiece of the proffer

package is a \$4 million upgrade to the intersection that will change the alignment to allow right turns on red for westbound Braddock traffic, and add turn lanes to improve traffic flow. After much back and forth, VDOT signed off on the applicant's plan and the County accepted a traffic study showing an improvement in the operating condition even with the new homes.

I had relatively few concerns about the project on the south side. The parcel next to this one is owned by the Catholic Diocese of Arlington and is slated to be developed as Pope Paul VI High School (more on that in a future newsletter), so this area is going to be developed and having some commercial/retail next door makes some sense and could serve the growing population to the west and south.

My concerns have always been with the residential components to the north. However, as I've discussed at length before, the County's ability to prevent development at this density is limited. We are governed by the Comprehensive Plan-which this application was consistent with-and by precedent, of which there is plenty. While it is easy to say that those don't matter, the reality is that they do. The Board's denial of an application in these circumstances may feel good for a time, but the fact is that the applicant would certainly appeal the Board's decision to the Circuit Court, and the County's case would be very weak.

County staff recommended approval of the application, and the Planning Commission voted to recommend it on a 9-0 vote (both of which would make the applicant's case in a legal proceeding even stronger). So, the best I could try to do here was to mitigate the impacts.

The compromise that was reached was that the applicant will only be allowed to build 63 homeswhich is the by-right density, allowable without County approval-until the summer of 2019, when they may begin pulling occupancy permits for additional units. The reason I pushed for that date is that 1) most of the planned road network improvements will be either done (the Braddock/PV roundabout, Route 606 widening, Loudoun County Parkway extension, Tall Cedars Parkway extension) or just about done (Northstar Boulevard extension to Brambleton, Arcola Boulevard from Gum Spring Road to 606); and 2) the current Capital Improvement Plan has two new schools funded to be opened by the fall of 2019-a middle school and an elementary school.

Staff and the County Attorney's Office felt that this was a significant concession on the part of the developer and quite frankly about as good as I could do given the circumstances. The Board approved both applications 9-0 at the November business meeting.

Make no mistake-I'm not especially happy about this project, but I will be pleased to see the intersection improvements at Braddock and Gum Spring. The big picture is that there are only a few parcels left that fit this criteria in Dulles South. There's a lengthy discussion about another one below. The real fight is over those parcels on the south side of Braddock and west of Northstar, as well as the Comprehensive Plan itself which is due to be re-written during the next Board's term. The parcels to the south are in the Transition Policy Area, which means that unlike Whitman North, the County has never planned for dense development on them. I have opposed Transition Policy Area rezonings-like Elk Lick Preservenumerous times. I don't know yet where the new

Board will come down, but when this issue comes back up, you can expect to hear from me about it.

# **Board to Consider Poland Hill Rezoning Application**

One of the other few remaining parcels that could be developed in the Suburban Policy Area is on Poland Road south of Tall Cedars Parkway. This property is currently subject to a rezoning application called Poland Hill. The property encompasses a total of 53 acres and is bordered by East Gate, Ridings at Blue Springs, Tall Cedar Estates, and South Village. The current zoning is R-1, which allows one residential unit per acre.

Poland Hill is an unusual application in that the Polachek family and the Poland families are handling the rezoning themselves instead of a developer. They have been farming the land for decades, but are getting older and are unable to continue. Development has occurred all around them.

My request to the families when they first met with me a few years ago is that they avoid the same type of residential development that we already see so much of-single family homes and townhouses. Initially, the project was proposed at 143 units of market rate residential, which was not something that excited me much.

Since that time, there have been many revisions, and the current proposal is for a total of 219 units, of which 153-all on the west side of Poland Road-will be age restricted, and 66 (close to the number allowed byright) will be market rate. In addition, the anchor for the age restricted portion will be a 100-bed Sunrise Assisted Living facility. The mix of the age restricted units is: 29 single family detached, 46 townhomes, and 78 multi-story condos.

The Planning Commission reviewed the proposal at a Public Hearing on November 17th and following lengthy discussion, voted to recommend approval 8-0-

1 noting that the applicant has taken steps to address some concerns over the operation of the assisted living facility and impacts on neighboring properties. They are also including planted buffers along the parcel boundaries to lessen the view of the new structures. As part of the application process, the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission received letters of support for the application from the South Riding Proprietary, Ridings at Blue Springs Homeowners Association, South Village Homeowners Association, Tall Cedars Estates Homeowners Association. Each of these groups have been working with the families on the rezoning and had input into specific details of the project.

I am pleased that the primary focus of this application is age-restricted housing, which minimizes the impacts to our already overcrowded schools. The concept that has been shared with me is that the age restricted community would share services with the Assisted Living facility, and potentially allow senior citizens to transition between types of housing in the same setting. Between StoneSprings Hospital, Health South Rehabilitation Hospital, the Adler Center for Caring, and the Waltonwood project, Dulles South has established a strong health care/senior focused cluster, for which there is great demand in the region.

If you want more information on the proposal you can visit the Loudoun Online Land Application Database (LOLA) at

http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?NID=3362, click on searchable list, then search for ZMAP-2014-0003 under the application number field. All of the documents related to the application are listed there with the ability to leave comments. The Board of Supervisors will hold a Public Hearing on the proposal on December 9th at 6:00 pm at Loudoun County Government Center. To speak at the public hearing, you can call County Administration at 703-777-0200, or sign up in person when you arrive.

# **Community Corner Commercial Changes Approved**

Minor changes were approved this month for the already approved Community Corner Commercial project. This project is located at the southeast corner of the future Tall Cedars missing link and Gum Spring Road intersection. The existing project was approved in 2007 and included commercial pad sites consisting of two office/retail buildings, two banks with drive thru facilities, a pharmacy, and a restaurant with drive thru.

The newly approved changes will allow the inclusion of gas pumps as an accessory use to a convenience store (which was already approved) on the site. The modifications included additional buffers alongside Gum Spring Road, including an elevated landscaped berm. The rest of the approved commercial site was not impacted by this change.

# Old Arcola School Public Private Partnership Proposed

In September 2014 the Board voted to develop a solicitation under the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act (PPEA) for the Old Arcola Elementary School building and site on Gum Spring Road. The solicitation was to include preferences for: preservation of the building; retention, improvement, or expansion of the athletic field(s); and other creative uses that will benefit the community.

I have made it clear that I do not support County dollars going toward rehabilitating and reopening the facility as a different use. The County hired a consultant to do an analysis which found that it would cost \$5-\$6 million to renovate the facility and bring it into code compliance. For that cost, a new facility could be built.

The County received three responses to that solicitation and the Board approved moving forward to a more detailed stage of discussions with the Windy

Hill Foundation as the only proposal that met all aspects of the solicitation and was considered a "qualifying project" under the Act.

The Windy Hill proposal would renovate the existing building and expand it to provide a total of 50 family apartment units. A certain number of units would be designed for intellectually and physically disabled individuals and priority would be given to those that live or work within 10 miles of the building. The intention would be to serve as workforce housing for lower income individuals. Their proposal also includes the addition of two new athletic fields on the property to be operated by the County's Parks and Recreation Department.

The Board's decision in no way obligates us to approve the proposal-it just allows us to continue to learn more about it. I remain open to other uses on the site by the County or a private entity as needed, which may or may not include the existing facility.

#### **Greenway Appeal to Move Forward**

At the November 4 Business Meeting the Board approved my motion to spend \$95,000 from our litigation contingency fund on outside counsel to appeal the State Corporation Commission's recent Greenway ruling. Although I'm certain our County Attorney is fully capable to appeal the ruling on his own, outside counsel will be able to assist with the additional workload that will result from this appeal and give us the best possible chance of success. Given how much work it was to get us to this point, I believe we owe it to our citizens to pursue this case to a conclusion, even if we're fighting an uphill battle.

#### **Kirkpatrick West Commercial Center**

Last week, the Planning Commission reviewed (but has not yet acted upon) a request for changes to the approved Kirkpatrick West Commercial Center. Originally approved in 2005 as part of the Kirkpatrick West development, it is located at the southeast corner of Braddock Road and Northstar Boulevard and

includes 105,000 square feet of retail uses including an anchor site (grocery store), two pad sites and a child care. The new proposal looks to add 24,000 square feet of commercial uses and seeks approval for three restaurants with drive through and an automotive service use (gas pumps). It is important to note that an 81,000 square foot store, 5,000 square feet of additional retail and two pad sites have already been approved and thus could be built today without any Board action.

Though this development is in the Blue Ridge District, it impacts residents of Dulles as well. Several residents have reached out with concerns over the increased level of commercial development on the site and the impacts on traffic in the area.

The centerpiece of this project is a new Harris Teeter. Representatives from the developer have indicated that this will be a larger Harris Teeter store than what currently exists in the County, and will be designed to compete better with Wegman's, with additional features like more prepared foods and places to eat in the store.

The Planning Commission has forwarded the application to a future work session to allow time for the applicant to work with staff on some of the concerns expressed by residents before making a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. We will likely not see this at the Board level until January.

### **DULLES DISTRICT UPDATES**

#### **Bull Run Post Office Road Re-Opened**

Bull Run Post Office Road is now open to traffic! All flagging operations should be completed next week. Closing the road during the duration of the paving project saved time and money. If the road had remained opened, it would have taken approximately 90 days instead of the 52 - eight days less than the original 60 day estimate - it took while it was closed.

The cost savings was originally estimated to be approximately \$152,000.

While the road was closed, traffic was diverted through the Cedar Crest neighborhood. I appreciate their residents' willingness to put up with the additional cars cutting through their neighborhood during this project.

#### **Mercer Middle School Overcrowding Concerns**

Superintendent Eric Williams has released his newest proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for consideration by the School Board. There are several new proposals not included in the currently approved CIP or accounted for within the County's Financial Guidelines. In fact, it appears that Dr. William's proposal may exceed the entire County Capital budget, which is very disturbing. I will discuss this more in depth as the School Board completes their review and the Board of Supervisors takes this up during the budget.

However, more immediately, the School Board has requested that the Board of Supervisors utilize our FY2015 fund balance to purchase 8 portable classrooms at a cost of \$1.5 million. The classrooms would be placed at John Champe High School, but would be utilized by Mercer Middle School students who would be bused to Champe. I was told that there is not enough space at Mercer, and that the Mercer core (cafeteria, gym, hallways) are not large enough to accommodate more than the current enrollment.

This proposal came to the Finance Committee as part of a larger package from the School Board requesting over \$11 million from the County. The County has \$40.4 million in fund balance, but over \$20 million is already allocated, leaving approximately \$20 million. At present, County budget staff are projecting a shortfall of nearly \$90 million in next year's budget. While that number is very preliminary, it is cause for concern, and it means that the Board

should retain as much as possible for use in next year's budget.

As Finance Committee chairman, **I removed** this request from the Committee's recommendation to the full Board of Supervisors, which will be discussed on December 2. I did so for several reasons, which I will discuss below.

First, by way of context, there is no question that the crowding crisis School Board Representative Jeff Morse and I discussed last year is even worse than projected. A short time ago, LCPS released new student enrollment projections. In 2019, the previous projection showed Mercer over-capacity by 686 students, and the new projection is now showing Mercer over 1,000 students over capacity. The next new middle school is currently budgeted to open in 2019, so it is clear that we must take action. Accelerating the next middle school will be difficult-it is not simply a matter of a higher tax rate, the challenge relates to the amount of debt capacity the County has the ability to take on in a given year.

Nevertheless, as the budget process unfolds, I will be working closely with staff to see if there is any way for us to accelerate the new Middle School to deal with this crowding.

In the meantime, while I acknowledge that the modular classroom solution proposed by LCPS may be ultimately what is needed this year, I am not ready to grant it yet for the following reasons:

1) I believe that sending students away from their home school in an "annex" situation for a crowding issue should be an absolute last resort-when there are no other options available. I think that is particularly true when the students in question are middle schoolers and are being sent to a high school. After a discussion with School Board Representative Jeff Morse and with LCPS staff, I do not believe that other options have been explored.

- 2) Specifically, I asked LCPS to examine whether attendance boundaries between Mercer and Lunsford could be adjusted. While Mercer is projected to be over 1,000 students over enrollment by 2019, Lunsford is projected to be just 119 over enrollment. When Cardinal Ridge Elementary School opened, it created a situation where Liberty Elementary School is now split as a feeder between Mercer and Lunsford, and Cardinal Ridge Elementary School is split as well. My question for LCPS is: could these schools be realigned so that Liberty and Cardinal Ridge flow entirely to Lunsford and Pinebrook flows to Mercer? I do not know what the impact would be or exactly how many students would be impacted, but I think both Boards need to understand this before agreeing to bus Mercer students to Champe.
- I have been raising serious concerns about the way that LCPS calculates enrollment projections for several years now-but nothing has changed. It is obvious to me-and several of my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors-that new townhouses are producing more children than LCPS is projecting. I have expressed this publicly and privately numerous times. In addition, LCPS projections do not include any students from by-right development unless the development is already underway. While I understand it is difficult to predict which by-right properties will develop and when, it still means that the School Board is getting an incomplete picture on their student enrollments. My recommendation is for there to be multiple scenarios run so that all of us can see what could happen and be ready for it. The good news is that Jeff Morse agrees with my concerns and has also asked for changes. I hope the rest of the School Board takes this seriously. We cannot and should not be seeing wild fluctuations in the Capital budgeting requests from the School Board every year like we are currently seeing. The County budgets over a 6 year period, and stability is a hallmark of our budgeting process. These types of yearly deviations from the plan by the School Board are the sign that something is wrong with their process---there should not be these kinds of surprises from year to year. Tweaks are

expected, but not repeated rapid acceleration of schools.

4) I will also note that a new middle school is opening in Brambleton next year. The current attendance boundary for Mercer extends far to the north-almost into Leesburg, and while I have no say in the process, I would expect that some of the students could be moved to the new middle school to relieve some pressure at Mercer. I would like to see the results of that realignment and how it impacts Mercer.

As you can probably tell, I am frustrated by this request because I don't think enough thought went into it-and there has been absolutely zero public discussion about it until it came to my Committee, which should not be the case for a decision of this significance.

Jeff and I have agreed that more analysis needs to be done on this topic, which can be handled as part of the FY2017 budget process, and we will be addressing this matter jointly from here on out. It could very well be that when all is said and done, the portable classrooms at Champe remain the only way to handle the crowding situation. But I do not feel comfortable supporting that option unless I know that is the case.

Of course, the ultimate culprit here is that the pace of development continues to be faster than the pace of infrastructure. I completely understand that, and it is why I'm reluctant to approve more development in areas where we're seeing these kinds of strains on infrastructure. In this case, all the growth is being driven by projects that were approved before my time on the Board, and by by-right development which requires no approvals. As I discussed in the Whitman article, at least in Dulles South we are coming to a close in terms of the number of parcels that can be developed within the Suburban Policy Area. As I said, the real fight is over the transition area-which is exactly where we are already seeing these problems.

### **Blasting at Elk Lick Preserve**

Several residents have contacted me about ongoing blasting on the Elk Lick Preserve property located opposite of Lands End Drive on Braddock Road. This property is being developed by-right after they didn't receive support for additional units by the Board earlier this year. (You may remember that for a while they had a sign up indicating that aren't big fans of mine because I didn't want them to build more in the Transition Policy Area). I have shared each concern that I receive with the Fire Marshal's Office and they have ensured that all requirements are being met.

I'm going to be covering this topic in a separate email because there are a lot of questions, but for now I'll share that blasting is a highly regulated industry in the County. However, we are advised that it is entirely possible to feel vibrations and hear noise given the geography of the County, and that such vibrations and noise do not necessarily cause any damage and have been experienced numerous times by other homes during the development of Dulles South neighborhoods.

However, if at any time you discover damage and/or fly rock on your property I would request that you call 703-737-8600 and ask to speak with an on duty fire marshal. If it is after hours, you will be sent to a phone tree that will allow you an option to speak with an on duty fire marshal. Press that selection and the emergency communications center will take your name and phone number and the on duty fire marshal will call you back and set a time to come see your damage that same day/evening/night.

You can find more information on blasting complaints at <a href="http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=2792">http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=2792</a> and I will be providing more information on blasting as a more general topic in a future email.

## The "Big Give" at Dulles South Fire Rescue Station #19

On Wednesday, November 4, personnel from Dulles South Fire Rescue Station 19 were visited by a group

that came to say 'Thank You' for their service. The group, called the "Dulles South Big Give" Committee, chooses one organization to thank each year. This year they selected Fire and Rescue and specifically the staff at the Dulles South Fire and Rescue Station 19.

While Chief Menzenwerth and staff of Station 19 were expecting some small amount of food and cards, they were not expecting so many people or for them to provide the crews with \$280 in Giant grocery cards. The cards were distributed to the four shifts and the group from the Dulles South community was treated to a tour of the station.

The event entitled the "Big Give" started a few years ago with a few families getting together to give back to the communities that serve and take care of us. The event was so well received that it has grown enough to be organized geographically. Activities of the group range from preparing packages for soldiers, preparing suitcases for the homeless, caroling at the senior center, mass shopping for families in need, etc.

Thank you to this group for recognizing our first responders!



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### Loudoun Symphony "Home for the Holidays"

The Loudoun Symphony will be presenting "Home for the Holidays" on Saturday, December 5, 7:30pm at The Community Church in Ashburn. More information on the event and tickets may be found at www.loudounsymphony.org.

### Public Meeting on Extension of Northstar Boulevard Set for December 15

Loudoun County will hold a public information meeting on the extension of Northstar Boulevard Tuesday, December 15, 2015, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Arcola Elementary School, 41740 Tall Cedars Parkway in Stone Ridge. Staff from the Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure (DTCI) will provide information and hear comments about the project. The preliminary design for the roadway construction project will be presented.

The project involves construction of a new section of a four-lane, median-divided minor arterial roadway, running north to south between Route 50 and Tall Cedars Parkway. This segment will be approximately 3,300 feet in length, with associated turn lanes at the intersections of Route 50, Marrwood Drive, and Tall Cedars Parkway, and ten-foot wide shared use paths on both the east and west sides of the proposed road.

The proposed project conceptual plans, a preliminary project schedule, property impact information, and right of way policies will be available for review at the meeting and also at DTCI, 801 Sycolin Road S.E., Suite 310, Leesburg, VA, 20175.

Comments may also be submitted by December 30, 2015, to Greg Barnes of DTCI by mail to DTCI, 801 Sycolin Road S.E., Suite 310, Leesburg, VA, 20175 or by email to <a href="mailto:DTCI@loudoun.gov">DTCI@loudoun.gov</a>. Please reference "Northstar Blvd. - Route 50 to Tall Cedars Parkway" in the subject line.

For questions about the project, contact DTCI at 703-777-0396 or by email at <a href="DTCI@loudoun.gov">DTCI@loudoun.gov</a>. More information also is available through the county's Capital Projects Status Report Interactive Map by searching for "Northstar Boulevard" under the Active Projects tab at <a href="www.loudoun.gov/underconstruction">www.loudoun.gov/underconstruction</a>.

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

As we head into the holiday season, please keep those less fortunate in mind. 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 selfsufficiency 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.

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