

Dear Leesburg Resident,

Welcome to the Leesburg District year in review. I hope everyone has a healthy and happy 2017. This year, I plan to send a monthly newsletter that includes a section from Mayor Kelly Burk.

In 2017, I will continue to vote for full funding of the Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) operating budget. As a mom, whose daughter recently graduated from LCPS, I have seen what years of funding cuts and overcrowding have done to our schools and teacher pay. I support the School Board's request for \$7.48 million from the County fund balance to fund 34 school buses, textbooks and digital learning and synthetic turf field at Heritage High School. Appropriating these requests with unassigned fund balance will allow LCPS to catch up on crucial items that our kids need.

As you know, new residential developments cost our taxpayers more in services than those developments pay in taxes, whereas commercial development pays more in taxes than it consumes in services. Residential rezonings use up land that could be used for tax-saving commercial development. For those reasons, I have voted against a series of residential rezonings: Lexington 7 (113 residential units), Goose Creek Village North (310 residential units) and Addison McDonald (39 residential units). I have also voted to restrict residential development under Dulles International Airport's flight paths. The placement of residential development near an airport leads to negative impacts for the residents, because of airport noise. And this leads to pressure on airports to curtail flights, reducing jobs and economic investment in our community.

I have also consistently voted with the residents on issues that generated strong opinions and passions. I voted against the Kirkpatrick West Commercial Center

application to increase the square footage of a Harris Teeter and permit a gas station because the residents voiced their strong opposition. On the Catesby Farm application, I voted against the minor special exception for an event center in respect to the residents and community who felt this use was incompatible with their rural community. I will always support the Transition and Rural Policy Area of Loudoun County.

On August 10, Mayor Butler sent a letter on behalf of the Leesburg Town Council requesting that the Board revisit the 4th level of the parking garage at the Pennington Lot. Given staff's feasibility analysis and the potential cost savings of \$2 to \$2.5 million if the Pennington Lot is built at 3 levels, rather than 4, and given the concerns expressed by residents, I support only building the 3 levels and saving the County money. The Board of Supervisors voted to award the contract for the construction of the Pennington Lot Parking Garage at 4 levels. I voted against the motion in order to support the residents and Town but I truly value the professionalism and integrity of County staff. There will be a public information meeting on the Pennington Parking Garage on Thursday, February 16 in the Government Center Board Room. The purpose of the meeting is to present a summary of the project and the construction activity.

On December 8, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) approved the Standard Project Agreement (SPA) with the Town of Leesburg for the construction of the Route 7/Battlefield Parkway Interchange. County staff did an excellent job putting together talking points and made sure Chair Randall, the Town team and Delegate Minchew had them in hand before the meeting. The SPA was approved unanimously. I am grateful for all the support this project has had from all the County Board members. The Authority awarded \$20 million towards the construction for FY2017. This brings the total funding to \$33 million. We will need to ask the Authority for the final amount of \$25 million in FY2018. The Route 7/Battlefield Parkway Interchange will improve safety and traffic and allow Route 7 to become a limited access freeway through the Town of Leesburg corporate limits. Last year, Town residents and businesses spoke to NVTA and this effort helped secure the funding and made an enormous impact. We may need your assistance again to secure the final amount in 2017.

The Route 15 North Project study will be complete in spring 2017. The purpose of the study is to relieve congestion by providing context sensitive improvements and an aesthetically pleasing design. The study has been coordinated with the Town and VDOT and will be presented to the Board for approval in the Capital Improvement Plan. Key improvements are the Route 15/North King Street and Raspberry Drive/Whites Ferry Road intersections. Given the number of tragic accidents on Route 15, it is imperative that a solution be found and implemented. I will provide an update when the recommendations are presented in the spring.

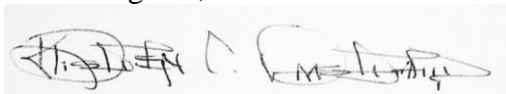
In response to requests made by veterans, including members of the VFW and American Legion in Leesburg last year, Supervisor Meyer and I asked the Board to reduce the personal property tax rate for permanently disabled veterans. We moved to lower the rate to \$0.01 per \$100 of assessed value on one motor vehicle owned and regularly used by a qualifying permanently disabled veteran. The lower tax rate will be considered by the Board in this budget cycle and has received strong endorsements from every Board member. At the request of our veterans, I have also asked that the County's part-time Veterans Affairs Coordinator position become full-time to help link veterans with both County government services and services provided by our VFW, American Legion, and other veterans' groups. Requests made by our VFW and American Legion members were well received by the Board and I want to thank our veterans and the rest of the Board for supporting our men and women in uniform.

In 2017, I will continue to serve on the Loudoun County Transportation and Land Use Committee, Annexation Area Development Policy Committee and the Family Services Board. I've recently been appointed to serve as the Board's representative to the Potomac Watershed Roundtable.

Thank you for participating in the Envision Loudoun Listening and Learning workshops in-person and online. Envision Loudoun will result in a community vision for Loudoun County's new comprehensive plan which guides land use and development. Approximately, 1,200 residents participated in the first round of engagement. A second round of public outreach is tentatively scheduled July 2017. I will post the information once it becomes available.

Please feel free to contact me or my Chief Legislative Aide with any issues or feedback. I enjoy meeting the residents of Loudoun County.

Warm Regards,



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Job Opportunities

The Loudoun Workforce Resource Center is hosting a "Meet the Employer" event featuring representatives from the Loudoun County government's Department of Human Resources Thursday, January 19, at the Rust Library at 380 Old Waterford Road, NW in Leesburg from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. The Loudoun County government is hiring more than 60 positions in multiple departments. Detailed descriptions of current job openings may be found online at www.loudoun.gov/jobs. Job seekers are asked to register for the event by calling May Durkovic at 703-777-0688.



The Workforce Resource Center is located at 102 Heritage Way, N.E. in Leesburg also offers a number of career readiness workshops to prepare job seekers for the event. Walk-in resume critiques are available Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. A Mock Interview Workshop is scheduled Tuesday, January 17, from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Anyone interested in attending the workshop may register online at www.loudoun.gov/wrcworkshops.

Crossroads Jobs, Inc., a private non-profit located in downtown Leesburg, has placed 200 applicants since 2012. Job seekers attend an orientation and workshops to help prepare them for interviews as well as resume preparation. All services are provided free of charge to the job seeker. Job counselors prescreen job seekers, and connect them to employers in Loudoun County. The next orientation will be held Monday, January 23, at Loudoun Hunger Relief from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Find out more at www.crossroadsjobs.org or by calling 703-771- 4112.

MLK March and Celebration

The 25th annual Martin Luther King march and celebration will be Monday, January 16, 10:00 am at the Loudoun County Courthouse lawn. The theme of this year's celebration is *Community Power for Change and Courage to Create a Just World*. Keynote speaker is Blake D. Morant, Dean and the Robert Kramer Research Professor of Law at the George Washington University Law School.



Please visit the [MLK March Leesburg Facebook page](#) for the event schedule.

STAY CONNECTED:



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