

Dear Leesburg Resident,

Thank you to all who attended the March on January 16th to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It was the largest we have seen in 25 years. I want to thank the members of the "I Have A Dream Committee" and everyone who participated.

Congratulations to the residents and businesses in the Town of Leesburg for being recognized in the newly released research study by Wallethub as the [2017 Best Place to Raise a Family in Virginia](#). Leesburg ranked #2 in the Wallethub analysis that compared 82 communities statewide.

### **Budget**

During February and March, the Board of Supervisors deliberates and adopts the Loudoun County [FY 2018 budget](#). I've listed the public hearing and Board work session dates for your information. I hope you will attend one of the public hearings to voice your opinions.

At the January 11th Board meeting, the Board of Supervisors directed the County Administrator, Tim Hemstreet, to prepare the proposed FY 2018 budget at the estimated equalized real property tax rate. Mr. Hemstreet presented his proposed FY 2018 budget Wednesday, February 15th to the Board of Supervisors (please see the Your Tax Dollar at Work graphic below). The estimated equalized real property tax rate is \$1.135, the advertised rate is \$1.140 and the current tax rate is \$1.145. The homeowners' equalized tax rate is \$1.140. This rate would fund all needs and the LCPS budget in full.

Budget Public Hearings:

- Tuesday, February 28, 6:00 pm, County Government Center, 1 Harrison Street, SE, Leesburg
- Thursday, March 2, 3:00 pm, County Government Center
- Saturday, March 4, 9:00 am, Loudoun County Public Schools Administration Building, 21000 Education Court, Ashburn

You can watch the Board work sessions listed below on the County [webcast](#).

#### Budget Work Sessions:

Monday, March 6, 6:00 pm-10:00 pm  
 Thursday, March 9, 6:00 pm-10:00 pm  
 Monday, March 13, 6:00 pm-10:00 pm  
 Thursday, March 16, 6:00 pm-10:00 pm  
 Monday, March 20, 6:00 pm-10:00 pm  
 Wednesday, March 22, 6:00 pm-10:00 pm

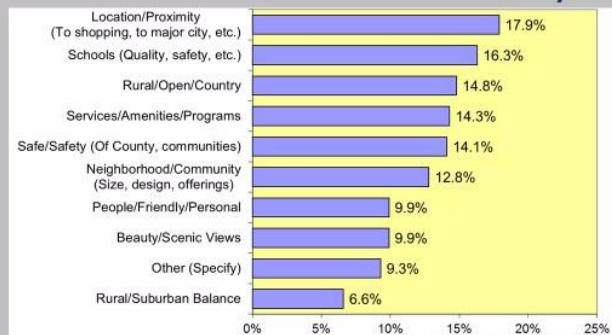


#### Resident Survey

The results of the Loudoun County 2016 [survey of residents](#) were presented on February 7th. The purpose of the survey is to gather residents' opinions on County services, trends and key issues. The three most frequently mentioned benefits were location, including the proximity to DC, Loudoun County Public Schools and rural/open space/country. Growth and traffic were the two most frequently mentioned concerns. Overall, residents are very satisfied with county services and give high marks for Loudoun's quality of life. I want to thank the University of

Virginia and staff for conducting an informative and statistically significant study of residents' needs and concerns.

### What Single\* Thing Do You Like Best About Loudoun County?

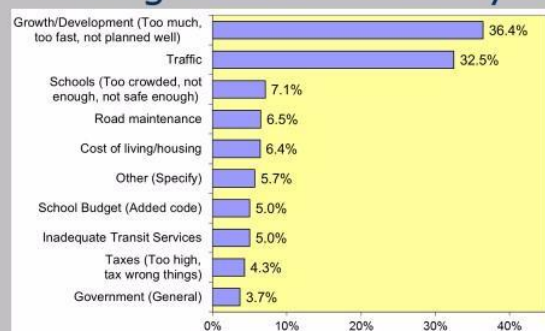


Center for Survey Research  
University of Virginia

\*Up to 2 responses allowed.  
Weighted data, top 10 responses only.  
All other responses total to 12.8%

7

### The Single\* Biggest Problem Facing Loudoun County?



Center for Survey Research  
University of Virginia

\*Up to 2 responses allowed.  
Weighted data, top 10 responses only.  
All other responses total to 13.9%

8

### Transportation

There will be a public information meeting on Thursday, March 2nd from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the auditorium of the Leesburg Elementary School (323 Plaza Street NE) about the design and construction of the grade separated interchanges at Route 15 at Edwards Ferry and Fort Evans Roads. Please visit [VDOT's website](#) for a project overview and estimated timeline and costs.

The construction of Crosstrail Boulevard between Claudia Drive and Sycolin Road is on schedule. The design of the Crosstrail Boulevard extension between Kincaid Boulevard and Russell Branch Parkway may require the use of eminent domain. On January 3rd, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to diligently continue activities to acquire the right-of-way and easements needed to construct that segment of Crosstrail Boulevard by March 1st. If needed, the item will be forwarded to the April 2017 Board Public Hearing to initiate the eminent domain process to acquire properties.

I'd like to give an update on the Route 15 North improvements between Battlefield Parkway and potentially Lucketts or Point of Rocks. I attended a community meeting on January 30th. Citizens said there are three main issues that need to be addressed along this corridor: congestion, safety, and access for nearby residents and businesses who have to use Route 15. Roundabouts were discussed as a potential solution at the intersection of Route 15 business and the Route 15 bypass, Whites Ferry Road, Montresor Road, Spinks Ferry Road, Limestone School Road and Stumptown Road. Citizens suggested rumble strips in the middle of the road to prevent head-on collisions and grasspave, a permeable material, along the shoulders to reduce runoff and allow drivers to evade oncoming traffic. The County's consultant is planning to present the study to Board of Supervisors on April 4th and then convene a stakeholders group to review different plans.

### **Bus Routes**

Loudoun County is seeking public input about new or modified bus routes and transit services through an [online survey](#). You can also e-mail Paul Mounier at [transitcomments@loudoun.gov](mailto:transitcomments@loudoun.gov) to suggest a new route by March 1st. Survey responses are due March 31st.

### **Silver Line**

I attended a staff presentation on the Financial Obligations of Loudoun Metrorail at the Transportation and Land Use Committee meeting on Friday, February 17th. As you may have heard, the cost of paying for metro has increased substantially. Please find the [staff presentation and report](#). I've asked for updated and accurate projections so we know what we are dealing with regarding Loudoun's obligation. I also asked how the WMATA (Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority) compact defines a dedicated funding source to make sure our interpretation meets federal and state requirements. Staff will come back to the Board of Supervisors in April with updated projections and more information.

Please feel free to contact me or my Chief Legislative Aide with any issues or feedback. I look forward to meeting you at the budget public hearings.

Warm Regards,



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## Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

It is both an honor and a challenge to be elected Mayor of Leesburg. I come ready, willing and able to accept the challenges Leesburg faces having experience as an elected official, an educator and a mother. I was the Leesburg Supervisor on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, Leesburg Vice Mayor, and President of the Loudoun Education Association. I spent my career in education, as a special education teacher, which allowed me to develop the skills necessary to effectively communicate, educate and advocate for those who could not do so for themselves. My husband and I raised two fantastic sons (one lives in Leesburg and one lives in Reston) and we now have one grandson. As an active Leesburg resident for over 38 years, I am not only your Mayor but your neighbor.

As your Mayor, I will continue to make Leesburg a great place to call home, do business and visit. I want our downtown to be a vibrant and an exciting place attracting residents of the

town and the county as well as others who come to experience our culture, history and events. I want to empower people to participate and communicate to ensure Leesburg's government is transparent, resident friendly and open. To this end, I will have an open door policy so that I may be more effective as Mayor. I invite honest feedback from the community and will continue to attend forums to interact with and support residents, community leaders and businesses.

I am committed to being your full-time Mayor but I need your input, support and guidance. I invite you to participate by contacting me at [KBurk@leesburgva.gov](mailto:KBurk@leesburgva.gov), or 703-777-2420



## Business of the Month

**Studio**  
**TWENTY8**  
**FIFTY7**

Jewell (left) and Janice have opened their very cool boutique, [Studio Twenty8 Fifty7](#), in Crescent Place just south of Leesburg's historic downtown. Studio Twenty8 Fifty7 offers posh fashion and fabulous home decor. Jewell and Janice are upbeat and helpful and have the friendliest staff and customers.

Please come to the "Welcome Your Home into Spring" event on Saturday, March 4 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm to shop for new spring fashions and accessories. The studio is open Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and by appointment on Monday at 450 Madison Trade Plaza SE in Leesburg.

## Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, the Board of Supervisors recognized African Americans who have substantially and significantly contributed to the educational, economic, social, and spiritual well being of Loudoun County. Chief Gregory Brown (pictured) was appointed as Leesburg's first African American police chief October 2016. Others who were recognized include Captain Vanessa Grigsby, Mary Randolph, Alicia Cohen, Ronald Campbell and Gertrude Evans.



## Youth Connection





**Loudoun Youth Leadership Program:** Applications are being accepted for a week-long leadership program designed to introduce teens to leadership concepts and expose them to local business, government and community leaders. It is open to all high school students, public or private, who live in Loudoun County. The program is offered July 10-14 and July 31-August 4. Tuition is \$450 per student and financial aid is available to qualifying students.

**Summer Job Fair:** Loudoun County Department of Parks & Recreation will hold a summer job fair Thursday, March 9, from 10 am to 2 pm at 20145 Ashbrook Place, Suite 170 in Ashburn. Seasonal job opportunities include summer camp supervisor, summer camp leader, adaptive recreation summer camp leader (working with special needs), summer maintenance worker, lifeguard and sports facility supervisor. Interested applicants should visit [www.loudoun.gov/jobs](http://www.loudoun.gov/jobs) to review position requirements and submit an online application prior to the job fair. Applicants should bring a hard copy of their application(s) to the fair. Interviews will be conducted on site. For more information, call 703-777-0343 or email [prcs@loudoun.gov](mailto:prcs@loudoun.gov).

## Events & Info



**Chocolates Galore and More:** Friday, February 24, 7:00 pm to 11 pm at the Lansdowne Resort and Spa, 44050 Woodridge Parkway, Leesburg. The evening will feature tastings of hors d'oeuvres and desserts from the area's most talented chefs and bakers. There will also be a silent auction, sparkling wine, music and dancing. Proceeds from this event directly fund the YMCA's Caring for Community scholarship program and enable the YMCA to serve the needs of local families. Admission is \$50 per person.

NoVA Housing Expo: Saturday, March 18, 10 am to 3 pm at Loudoun County's Dominion High School, 21326 Augusta Drive, Sterling. This free event will showcase homeownership and rental opportunities in Northern Virginia. Browse dozens of exhibits featuring apartment rentals, government assistance programs, home-buying opportunities and professionals, mortgage information and assistance and much more!

Stream Buffer Planting Project: The Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District, in partnership with the Loudoun County government, is accepting applications for a riparian buffer planting project through Wednesday, March 15. Riparian buffers are vegetation zones located along a stream or other water body. Private residential, industrial, commercial, and homeowner association (HOA) landowners in Loudoun are eligible to apply. The program is designed for non-agricultural land.

Pennington Garage and Courts Expansion: For those wanting more information on the Pennington Garage construction and courts expansion please visit <https://www.loudoun.gov/courts-expansion>.



Leesburg's First Friday: Stroll around historic downtown Leesburg on the First Friday of each month (except January) to enjoy numerous live music performances throughout the town, art exhibits, wine tastings, lectures, and so much more! Over 45 specialty shops, art galleries, antique shops and restaurants are open until 9 pm or later, many offering free refreshments and/or special sales. Mark your calendar for the next First Friday event on March 3rd.

STAY CONNECTED:



Leesburg District, 1 Harrison St, S.E., 5th Floor,  
PO Box 70000, Leesburg, VA 20177

About our service provider

Sent by [kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov](mailto:kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov) in collaboration with





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