



Dear Leesburg Resident,

Mayor Kelly Burk, Chair Phyllis Randall and I will be hosting a town hall meeting on Saturday, April 7th (please note the date change) from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm in the Leesburg Town Council Chambers, 25 West Market Street. We would love to see you there and we will try our best to answer your questions on Town and County issues.

TOWN HALL MEETING



April 7th from 10:30am to 12pm
Town Council Chambers at Town Hall
25 W. Market Street, Leesburg

Leesburg Mayor Kelly Burk, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis Randall and Leesburg District Supervisor Kristen Umstattd will be hosting a Town Hall meeting to hear from residents about issues of concern and give updates on the County and Town of Leesburg.

Budget and School Funding

The County's current real estate tax rate is \$1.125/ \$100 of assessed value. At the last [budget work session on March 21st](#), I could not support a motion to set the real estate tax rate at \$1.085, because the \$14.9 million cut to the school budget will be too severe. I moved that the Board of Supervisors provide an additional \$8.2 million to the FY 2019 Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) budget, but this motion failed on a 3-6 vote. The Board majority voted to support a tax rate of \$1.085, leaving a \$14.9 million between what the schools had requested and what they will get. According to the Loudoun Education Association, the Board of Supervisor's proposed transfer per pupil for FY 2019 is 10.1% lower than the contribution for FY 2009, adjusted for inflation.

County Transfer	FY09	FY19	% Change
County Transfer Per Pupil, adjusted for inflation in FY19	\$9,202	\$8,277	-10.1%

Graphic from Loudoun Education Association

Our schools are continually facing more challenging situations, like the increased need for mental health counseling across every demographic. Students are asking for more guidance counselors because there are just not enough to meet students' needs, due to cuts made in previous years. With everything that we are asking of our children, we owe it to them to provide more funding, not less, to educate and support them.

During the budget work sessions, I asked for the costs of the computer science immersion program currently offered at 3 elementary schools:

- Student Tech Devices (3 schools) \$453,811 (one time cost)
- Student Lego Equipment (3 schools) \$16,176 (one time cost)
- Minecraft Edu Licenses (3 schools) \$12,717 (one time cost)
- Code to the Future Contract (3 schools for 3 years) \$300,000 (\$100,000 per year for three years). The Code to the Future contract includes curriculum, professional development, and coaching for the three schools.

As I mentioned in my February newsletter, I would like computer coding and robotics expanded to all the elementary schools.

According to the Loudoun County Department of Economic Development, there are over 120,000 cyber job openings in our region and tech companies cannot find employees with the requisite coding and other tech skills. These are the skills that we need to train our students to master. For our students, it's never too early to learn to code. While coding can be self-taught, so can every subject. Because we don't expect our students to fully teach themselves math, science, reading, writing and history, we shouldn't expect them to teach themselves critical technology skills. That said, if we, as parents, want to start training our children outside the classroom, it is possible to do this. Two college students I know and respect have reported that they have had to mostly self-teach in their respective STEM fields. An Electrical Engineering & Computer Science major, who has taught herself Java, Python, JavaScript,

Go, SQL, CSS, HTML, and jQuery, recommends the website [codecademy](https://www.codecademy.com/) and Jon Duckett's books.

The final vote on the budget and real estate tax rate will be Tuesday, April 3rd. Since the 6:30 pm public input session will be after a vote is taken, the best way to reach the Board is to e-mail at bos@loudoun.gov. Thank you.

DC United Sports Complex

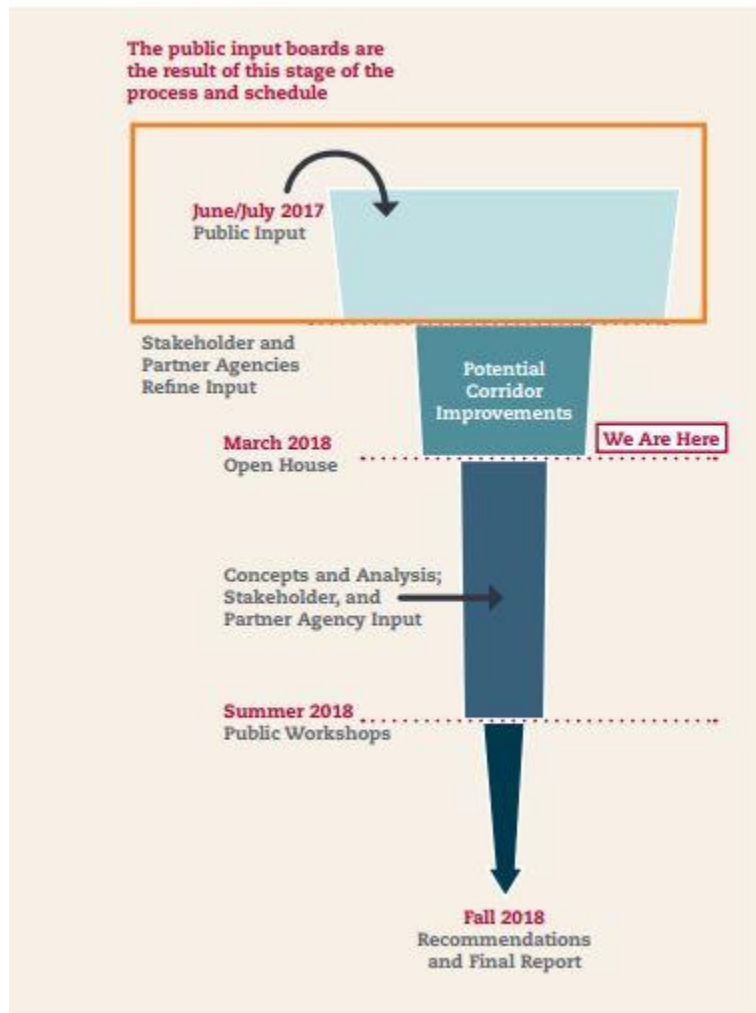
The Board of Supervisors started the legislative process to rezone Bolen Park and the Leesburg Park and Ride Lot to allow for a soccer stadium and associated facilities ([Zoning Map Amendment \(ZMAP\) and Comprehensive Plan Amendment \(CPAM\)](#)). The County is the applicant and there will be a Planning Commission and Board public hearing. I did not support this item given the traffic concerns from the Kincaid Forest neighborhood and those who commute on Sycolin Road. I also remain concerned about the use of taxpayer dollars to initially fund this complex. There will be an opportunity to address the transportation issues in more depth during the land use process. As requested by the Leesburg Town Council, the Board accelerated the construction of Crosstrail Boulevard from Kincaid Boulevard to Russell Branch Parkway in the Capital Improvement Program to FY 2019 (which starts July 1, 2018) in order to accommodate traffic for the new stadium and reduce the future risk of cut-through traffic in the Kincaid Forest subdivision. I will keep you informed about the dates of the public hearings.

Transportation

Route 15 CPAM: The Board of Supervisors approved CPAM-2017-0002, Countywide Transportation Plan Amendment to revise the segment of US Route 15 from a rural two-lane local access undivided rural arterial roadway to a four-lane median-divided facility between North King Street (US Route 15 Business) to Montresor Road (VA Route 661), south of Lucketts. I appreciate all the citizens who have come out on multiple sides of this issue. The four goals that have been consistently raised by citizens are safety, congestion relief, access and context sensitive design. There are no specific designs for this corridor and we will be asking communities for their needs when it comes to access and design preferences. In the end, with the help of citizens, I am hopeful that the Route 15 North project will be one of the most attractive projects in the County.

Route 15 Safety and Operational Study (Whites Ferry Road to Maryland State Line):

A total of 247 people attended an open house (68 on March 9th at Leesburg's Ida Lee Park; and 179 on March 10th in Lucketts). An online survey ran through March 26th. Both forms of outreach collected public comments on initial concepts that are being considered for the Route 15 corridor between Whites Ferry Road to the Maryland State line. The results will be compiled by mid-April and workshops are planned in the summer of 2018.



The County requested that the Town of Leesburg indicate a preferred option for improving the intersection of Route 15 with North King Street (Route 15 Business) and participate in funding of the portion of Route 15 improvements within the Town limits. At the Town Council Meeting on March 15th, the Leesburg Town Council approved supporting the option of modifying the intersection of the Route 15 Bypass and North King Street to a signalized "T" intersection and elected not to participate in funding for the portion of the Route 15 Bypass improvements located within the Town limits.

Polling Place Changes

On March 22nd, the Board voted to change the following 3 precincts in the Leesburg District. The changes are required because some of the existing polling places have been withdrawn by the institutions that had generously allowed their use in the past. The County Board of Elections also wanted to provide polling places that would be closer to a majority of voters. These changes go into effect for the June 12th primary election. All affected voters will be notified of the changes via mail.

1. Dry Mill Precinct will move from the C.S. Monroe Technology Center to Loudoun County High School. The C.S. Monroe Technology Center will be closed for extensive renovations upon the opening of the Academies of Loudoun, which means that it can no longer be used as a polling location.
2. Brandon Park Precinct will move from Loudoun County High School to Douglass Community Center. Moving the Brandon Park precinct, currently at Loudoun County High School, will enable the voters in this precinct to vote closer to home.
3. Greenway Precinct will move from Leesburg Community Church to the J.L. Simpson Middle School. The Leesburg Community Church notified the Office of Elections and Voter Registration that it no longer wished to be used as a polling location, effective this year.

Graydon Manor Special Exception (SPEX-2017-0014)

The Board public hearing for the Graydon Manor Kennel application is scheduled for Wednesday, April 11th at 6:00 pm in the Board room at 1 Harrison Street, SE, in downtown Leesburg. The applicant is requesting a Special Exception (SPEX) to permit a kennel serving a maximum of 150 dogs and 60 cats on a 0.70-acre portion of the larger Graydon Manor property directly west of the Town of Leesburg, across the Route 7 Bypass from the Foxridge and Park View Estates neighborhoods. The proposed 30,000-square-foot kennel facility would adjoin an animal hospital that is proposed to be developed by-right. The kennel features an approximately 32,000 square foot outdoor play area. You can call (703) 777-0200 to sign-up in advance to speak until noon the day of the public hearing. The staff report is posted in the Board of Supervisors [documents](#). County staff, responding to community concerns about noise from barking dogs, have recommended that the dogs' outdoor exercise area be moved from the east side of the building to the west side, so that the Foxridge and Park View neighbors would have the additional buffer of the building between them and the dogs.



At the March 22nd Board meeting, we presented a resolution of appreciation for Chief W. Keith Brower, Jr. for his 44 years of service in Loudoun County's Fire & Rescue Department. Over the years, Chief Brower has focused much of his efforts on community outreach and prevention programs aimed at keeping Loudoun County's residents safe. If there is one piece of advice the Chief has stressed more than most, it is: don't toss cigarettes or matches into the trash, deck planters, or mulch. Thank you to Chief Brower for serving the citizens of Loudoun County! And thank-you to all our residents for doing your part for fire safety!



Warm Regards,

Kristen C. Umstattd
Leesburg District
Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov
703-777-0203

Valerie Suzdak
Chief Legislative Aide
Supervisor Kristen Umstattd, Leesburg District
valerie.suzdak@loudoun.gov



Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

It looks as though spring has finally arrived. I'd like to give a shout out to the Town staff who worked before, during, and after the snow storm last week. They did a great job treating the streets in advance and then clearing the streets once the snow began to fall. Following the January 2016 blizzard, we made significant changes to our snow response plan and this storm was the first time we've put that plan into action. Job well done!

April is shaping up to be a busy month in Leesburg, and I encourage you to get involved. First, April is the 15th annual "Keep Leesburg Beautiful Month." Last year, volunteers collected over 2,000 pounds of litter along Town roadways, stream beds and other public areas. With your help, we can collect even more this year! Find out how you can participate [here](#).

Second, the annual National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation, sponsored by the Wyland Foundation and Toyota, runs from April 1 to April 30. I urge all Leesburg residents to take a pledge to conserve water by going to www.mywaterpledge.com. Leesburg ranked 19th last year for percentage of residents who made a pledge - I know we can do better this year! When you sign up, you are eligible to win great prizes, including \$5,000 towards your utility bills.

Finally, the [28th Annual Leesburg Flower & Garden Festival](#) will take over downtown Leesburg on Saturday and Sunday, April 21 & 22. The Flower & Garden Festival is one of Leesburg's signature events, marking the "unofficial start to spring." In addition to the landscape design displays and plant vendors, there will be great live music, hands-on fun for children, yummy food, and a beer garden featuring regional brews. You don't want to miss this event!

The last segment of Battlefield Parkway, from South King Street to Evergreen Mill Road will open to traffic on Monday, April 9th (weather permitting)! Battlefield Parkway was constructed in more than 10 sections, over 30 years, and is finally completed. Following the opening of Battlefield Parkway, a portion of Masons Lane will be closed for about two weeks for reconstruction. Be sure to follow the detour signs.

I'd like to close with offering my congratulations to Chief Keith Brower on his retirement from the Loudoun County Department of Fire and Rescue after nearly 45 years of service. Chief Brower has served Loudoun County and Leesburg well and he will be missed.



Business of the Month **Loudoun Hunger Relief**

Loudoun Hunger Relief (LHR) is a nonprofit food pantry whose mission is to help those in need by providing fresh groceries for the whole family. This past year, LHR served more than 11,000 individuals (almost half are children)

through 73,000 visits and distributed over 1.2 million pounds of food. LHR is open 6 days a week and is located at 750 Miller Drive, Suite A-1 in Leesburg. When you visit, LHR supplies enough food to prepare three nutritionally-balanced meals for three days for every family member. Families may visit twice a month. Volunteers are needed to donate food, money or time. Visit the [website](#) for the list of items needed and to make an online donation.

Events & Info



Relay for Life of Loudoun County: Saturday, June 9th from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm at the Village at Leesburg, 1602 Village Market Boulevard Southeast. The kickoff will honor everyone who has been affected by cancer and contributed to the success of this year's Relay season. There will also be a survivor/caregiver walk, luminaria ceremony, and closing ceremony to take action and help lead the fight for a world free from cancer.



28th Annual Leesburg Flower and Garden Show: Saturday, April 21st 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Sunday, April 22nd 10:00 am to 5:00 pm in the heart of downtown Leesburg. The Flower and Garden Festival has become an annual rite of spring for Loudoun County and it's not hard to see why. The festival boasts 150 vendors which include landscapers, gardening suppliers, plant sellers, outdoor living furniture, and more. There is also live music entertainment, activities for the kids, and delicious food. A suggested donation of \$3.00 will help offset the cost of the festival. Visit the [festival website](#) for directions, map and parking information.

Hire Loudoun: Loudoun residents are invited to attend the second annual "Hire Loudoun" career fair on Wednesday, April 4th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Washington Dulles Airport Marriott, 45020 Aviation Drive in Dulles. More than 50 companies are expected to participate, ranging from large I.T. businesses to public schools and government to hospitality and retail companies. These Loudoun-based employers have full-time, part-time or intern positions to fill. There is no charge to attend, but residents are asked to [register online](#). This event is being cohosted by Loudoun Economic Development, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, and Purpose WorX.

Nursing Scholarships: The Ladies Board of Inova Loudoun Hospital is accepting applications for nursing school tuition assistance. Scholarships are available to eligible students in various programs of study, including degrees at the associate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels. The Ladies Board has awarded 1,141 scholarships totaling almost \$1,660,000. Last year's 53 scholarships ranged from \$1,000 to \$2,750 and totaled \$110,250. Applications, criteria for selection and additional information are available [online](#) or at the Gift Shop at Inova Loudoun Hospital, the office at Loudoun Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Leesburg and the Twice Is Nice Thrift Shop in Leesburg. The deadline for applications is Tuesday, April 10th.

Free Dental Clinic: Saturday, May 5th from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Douglass Community Center in Leesburg. By appointment only. Pre-registration is required.



HOPE
FOR TOMORROW



Free Dental Clinic

Offered & Hosted by
Hope For Tomorrow & Loudoun County

Saturday, May 5, 2018 | 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Douglass Community Center, Leesburg, Va.

Services provided include:
Cleanings - Extractions - Fillings & Others
MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER

Pre-registration is required.

Appointments are limited.

Appointments are on a first come, first served basis.

If interested, submit an online form at

www.loudoun.gov/DentalClinic

for more information on how to pre-register.



The Arc of Loudoun at Paxton Campus 50th Anniversary Gala: Saturday, April 21st at 6:00 pm at the Lansdowne Resort and Spa in Leesburg. The inspiring evening features five-course dinner with wine, special performance by Carnegie Hall and Kennedy Center's Carlos Ibay, appearances by A Place to Be performers, guest emcee Leon Harris of NBC News 4 at 4, Sherwood R. Simons Award presentation, live and silent auctions, and dancing. General admission is \$200 and preferred seats are \$375. Sponsorships are available from \$1,500 - \$50,000. Visit the website for more information or call 703.777.1939 x112.



Leesburg's First Friday: Stroll around historic downtown Leesburg on the First Friday of each month 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 April 6th.



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 in collaboration with



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