



Dear Leesburg Resident,

I hope everyone has a healthy and happy New Year!

**Shutdown Assistance**

While the federal government shutdown has ended, the Loudoun County **Transit Fare Relief Program**, which temporarily waives transit fares for federal government employees, who are not receiving paychecks and who present identification when boarding a bus, will continue through the end of the afternoon bus service, Friday, February 1st. For more helpful resources, please visit the County **website** that has been developed for federal government workers affected by the shutdown.

Thank you to Leesburg Mayor Kelly Burk and Leesburg altruist Sara for helping deliver a car-load of canned food and gift and gas cards to Dulles Airport for the still-unpaid TSA, FAA, and U.S. Customs officers. Thanks to Dennis Hazel with Airport Management for personally helping us unload the car.



### Budget

The final budget season of our four year term is starting. The School Board operating and capital budget presentation will be Monday, February 11th at 6:00 pm in the LCPS Administration Building, 21000 Education Court in Ashburn. The County Administrator's budget presentation is Wednesday, February 13th at 5:00 pm prior to the 6:00 pm Board public hearing. The dates of the budget public hearings are Wednesday, February 27th at 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm in the Board Room of the Government Center at 1 Harrison Street, SE in Leesburg and Saturday, March 2nd at 9:00 am at the LCPS Administration Building, 21000 Education Court in Ashburn.

At the January 2nd Board meeting, the Board majority instructed staff to prepare the FY 2020 proposed budget at the estimated equalized real property tax rate (\$1.05) and provide options that would increase the tax rate by two cents above (\$1.07) and decrease the tax rate by two cents below (\$1.03) the estimated equalized real property tax rate. As the real property tax rate increases by one cent, the average homeowner's tax bill increases by approximately \$49. The current real property tax rate is \$1.085 per \$100 of assessed value.

No gap exists between the County transfer recommended by the Superintendent and the County transfer (based on the equalized tax rate of \$1.05) reflected in the fiscal guidance provided by the Board to the County Administrator. Please visit the LCPS [budget website](#) to view the Superintendent's proposed budget presentation on January 8th.

Scenarios	Fiscal Guidance from BOS to Co. Administrator December 11, 2018	County Transfer Increase per Guidance	Supt Proposed County Transfer Increase	(Gap)
1 (Equalized Rate)	@\$1.05 (66% of real estate tax revenue)	\$76.3	\$76.3	\$0.0
2 (Equalized <i>plus 2¢</i> )	@\$1.07 (66% of real estate tax revenue)	\$87.6	\$76.3	\$11.3
3 (Equalized <i>minus 2¢</i> )	@\$1.03 (66% of real estate tax revenue)	\$64.9	\$76.3	(\$11.4)

The Superintendent is requesting a proposed increase of \$94.6 million or 7.9% in the FY 2020 LCPS operating budget over FY 2019. Why does the chart show the Superintendent requesting a county transfer increase of \$76.3 million, while the text below the chart says he is also requesting a proposed increase of \$94.6 million? Why the difference in these two numbers? The reason the numbers are different is that the Superintendent is asking for the rest of the increase to come from other sources, mostly from the state.

A portion of this increase is for teacher salaries and benefits to attract and retain excellent teachers. Challenges are anticipated in Virginia and nationally relating to filling anticipated teacher vacancies with high performing teachers in the coming years. Our teachers go above and beyond in our schools helping students before and after school on the curriculum and offering to lead clubs and after school activities that enhance our students' education and well-being. Our teachers provide more than just instruction to our children, many of these benefits are under the radar, but have lasting impacts on our children's future. Currently, LCPS ranks #1 of 5 in Northern Virginia school divisions in terms of starting salaries for teachers, but we are ranked #4 of 5 in Northern Virginia school divisions in terms of salaries for mid-career teachers with a Master's degree. A step increase for mid-career teachers will help retain teachers at the time of their careers when they are most likely to leave teaching.

Last year, I visited one of the three elementary schools that offered computer coding and robotics. Afterwards, I contacted school administration, expressing my hope that we would expand this curriculum into every elementary school. I was thrilled this year to see that the Superintendent has proposed to do just that. His goal is to deliver computer science instruction by core teachers, so that it reaches every student. Also, he is proposing that five middle schools integrate computer science and computational thinking across content areas. I support this initiative to keep our students competitive in the job market.

I am also pleased to see full day kindergarten will be maintained at 100% in the Superintendent's proposed operating budget. I encourage residents to speak to the Board at

one of our budget public hearings. To sign up to speak in advance, please call 703-777-0200.

### Loudoun 2040

One of the biggest decisions we will have this year is approving a new comprehensive plan for land use and transportation called Loudoun 2040. You may have heard of this in its public participation phase, when it was known as "Envision Loudoun." You will also see it called variously the "Comprehensive Plan" or the "General Plan." It's all pretty much the same thing. The Planning Commissioners are waiting on the fiscal impact and travel demand analysis which is expected to be presented at their February 7th work session. A recommendation from the Planning Commission will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at the March 21st Board business meeting.

Below is the build-out summary from the 2001 Revised General Plan as it exists today. At the Board's [Transportation and Land Use Committee](#) on January 15th, these numbers were discussed as the baseline to model different scenarios that would add or deduct residential units. It is important to note that the remaining units in the table, 48,339, include units in the metro, or urban policy area, and the pipeline of already approved development.

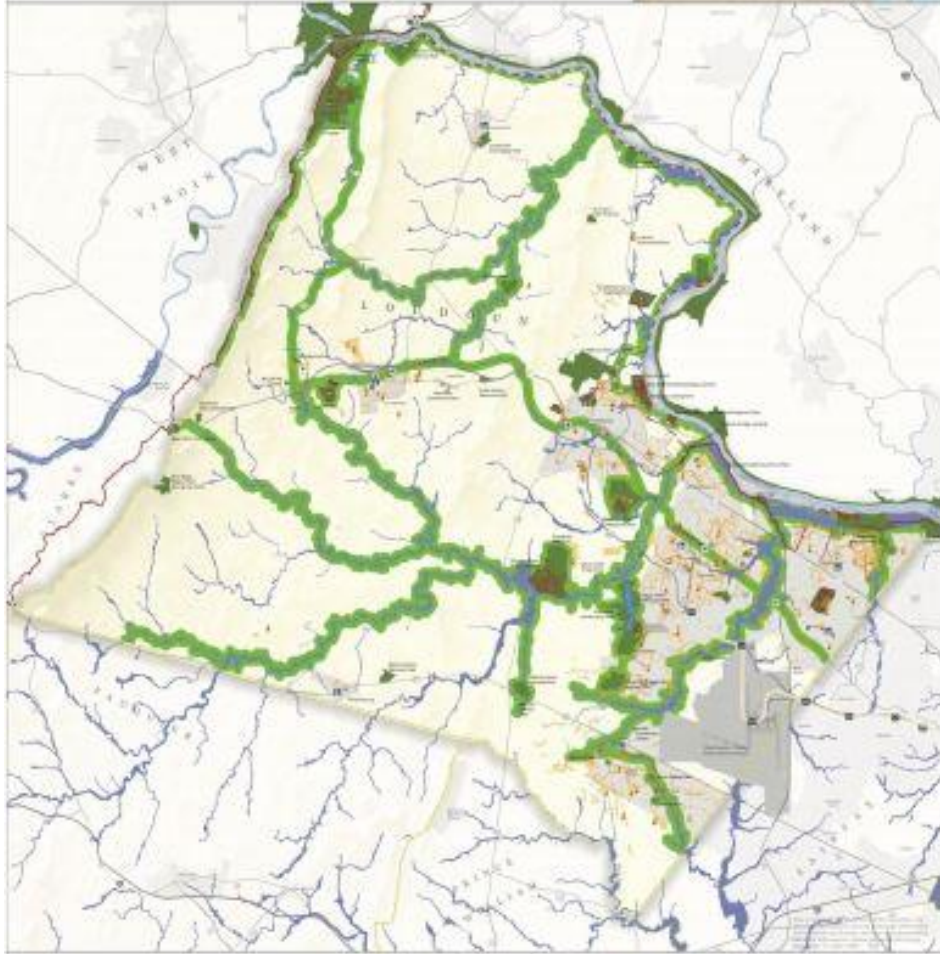
Total Housing Units at Build-Out as of July 1, 2017			
Policy Area	Existing/Permitted Units	Remaining Units	Total Units (Build-Out)
Suburban	88,502	25,588	114,090
Transition	6,296	5,086	11,382
Rural	14,505	11,896	26,401
JLMA	5,091	1,980	7,071
Towns/Dulles International Airport	20,389	3,789	24,178
County Total	134,783	48,339	183,122

### Emerald Ribbons

On January 17th, the Board unanimously approved an initiative to create a Countywide linear parks and trails system called Emerald Ribbons. I am very pleased to be a part of a Board that is so enthusiastic about this initiative and appreciate the hard work that has been done on this by citizens and the Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition. Our data centers will help provide the significant revenue needed to acquire land for this environmental protection initiative. Thank you to our data centers who are getting more involved in the community. We will need to rely on them and other corporate citizens for much of the funding.



# Loudoun County Emerald Ribbons



## Sycolin Road Widening Project

Beginning on Monday, January 21st, the final phase of the Sycolin Road improvements will begin. The project includes widening and upgrading Sycolin Road from two to four lanes, from south of Tolbert Lane to the southern Town limits. Construction is estimated to take 18 months to complete. Work will begin with entrance improvements at the Leesburg Tech Park construction site. During this initial work, concrete barriers will be put in place to redirect traffic, as needed. Following this initial work, new southbound lanes will be constructed to the west of the existing roadway. Once the southbound lanes are completed, traffic will be shifted onto the newly built roadway and the northbound lanes will be rebuilt. This project has been a cooperative effort between the Town, the County, the region and the state, with the County contributing almost \$2.8 million, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority contributing over \$3 million, and VDOT investing over \$10 million.

### Human Services Strategic Plan

Loudoun County is partnering with local nonprofit organizations to develop a five-year human services strategic plan for the County, which will provide a roadmap for implementing improved, coordinated systems of care that meet human service needs. A public input meeting is scheduled on Friday, February 8th from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm at Healthworks, 163 Fort Evans Road, NE in Leesburg. Members of the public, particularly those who have received assistance from the County's human services departments or nonprofit groups-such as food, healthcare, therapy, childcare, housing assistance or other services, are invited to attend this 90-minute public forum. Anyone with questions may call 703-779-3505, ext. 2 or email [info@CommunityFoundationLF.org](mailto:info@CommunityFoundationLF.org).

### Boards and Committees

In 2019, I will serve on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board with Supervisor Ron Meyer. In addition, I will continue to serve on the Potomac Watershed Roundtable, the Clean Air Partners Board with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the Annexation Area Development Policy Committee, the Family Services Board, the Transportation & Land Use Committee, and the Virginia Association of Counties Transportation Steering Committee.

With very cold temperatures in the forecast, Loudoun County is planning to operate a warming station for adults ages 18 and older on Thursday, January 31st from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at 16450 Meadowview Court in Leesburg. In addition to providing a warm place to go, a lunchtime meal will be served and community resources will be available. Thank you and stay warm!

Warm Regards,



Kristen C. Umstattd  
Leesburg District  
Loudoun County Board of Supervisors  
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## **What Does the County Do for Leesburg?**

From time to time, Leesburg residents and the Mayor and Town Council members will ask what the County does for the Town and its residents. This is a justifiable question. Here is a sampling of what the County provides to the Town and its residents. For a more complete list, please email me at [kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov](mailto:kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov) and we'll email you a copy of the more detailed 6-page memo. In addition to providing all public school funding, all public library funding, all senior center funding, all family services, veterans

services, along with contributing to road projects and providing all bus service inside the Town (except for the Safe-T-Ride), the County does the following:

- Capital Project Assistance. Between FY 2019 and FY2021, the County is scheduled to provide \$13.8 million for these Town projects: \$1.8 million for the Tuscarora Creek Trail; \$6 million for the Evergreen Mills Road widening project; \$4 million for Veterans Park, upriver from Balls Bluff National Battlefield; \$2 million for computer aided dispatch upgrades at the Leesburg Police Department headquarters.
- Zoning Enforcement. Since 2014, County zoning enforcement staff have addressed 67 Town-based complaints.
- Public Health. Since April 2017, the County Health Department has provided for the removal and abatement of unhealthy, noxious, dangerous and hazardous substances and conditions inside the Town.
- Economic Development. The County's Department of Economic Development has supported the Leesburg-based Mason Enterprise Center and Small Business Development Center with contributions of \$381,728 (\$190,864 in both FY 2018 and FY 2019). The County's Economic Development Authority has given the Mason Enterprise Center a grant of \$39,000 to upgrade its IT infrastructure.
- School Safety. The County pays between \$500,000 and \$600,000 a year to cover 70% of the costs of stationing Leesburg police officers inside Heritage High School, Loudoun County High School, Tuscarora High School, Harper Park Middle School, J.L. Simpson Middle School, and Smarts Mill Middle School.
- Public Safety. County staff supports and maintains licensing of the radios used by the Leesburg Police Department. County dispatchers handle the initial 9-1-1 calls from inside the Town and transfer in-Town calls to either Fire & Rescue or the Leesburg Police Department.
- Landfill Fee Waiver. The County grants the Town fee waivers for use of the County landfill. Over the FY 2019-2020 biennium, the Town has waivers in the aggregate of \$244,100.
- Animal Control. On average, every year, Loudoun County Animal Services responds to 424 calls from within the Town limits.
- Building and Environmental Inspections. The County's Department of Building and Development currently reviews all architectural building plans inside the Town and provides inspections during construction to ensure building code compliance. The County also reviews all grading plans and inspects all construction sites inside the Town to ensure that builders are in compliance with environmental regulations involving erosion and sediment control.
- Tax Assessment and Collection. Beginning in FY 2019, the County Treasurer began billing and collecting the Town's real estate taxes. Beginning in FY 2020, which starts July 1, 2019, the County Treasurer will bill and collect personal property taxes on behalf of the Town.
- Affordable Dwelling Unit Program. The County administers the Affordable Dwelling Unit program within the Town limits. Currently there are 24 ADUs

available for purchase in the Town. No ADU rental units are currently available.



## Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

Happy New Year! 2019 is off to a great start here in Leesburg.

**Council News:** On January 1st, newly-elected Council Member Neil Steinberg officially took his seat on the Town Council. He will be the Council liaison to the Airport Commission, the Technology & Communications Commission, and the Tree Commission. As a long-time small business owner in downtown Leesburg, Neil brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the Council. I'd also like to congratulate Marty Martinez on his election as Vice Mayor. Marty is the longest-serving member of the Council. He was first elected in 2002 and has served on Council for more than 16 years. Marty will serve as Vice Mayor for the next two years.

**State of the Town Address:** On Wednesday, February 13th, I will be giving my annual "State of the Town" address, at 6:30 pm in the Council Chamber at Town Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you can't attend, you can watch on Comcast Channel 67 or FiOS Channel 35. In addition, you can stream it live from the Town's [website](#). The video will be archived and available for on-demand viewing.

**China King's 30th Anniversary:** Please join me on Friday, February 15th at 11:30 am at China King Restaurant on South King Street in downtown Leesburg to help them celebrate their 30th anniversary. They are holding an open house, with refreshments and a cake cutting at noon.

**Loudoun 2040 Town Hall Meeting:** On Wednesday, February 20th from 6 to 8 pm, I will be hosting a town hall meeting at the Loudoun Museum, 16 Loudoun St SW, where the Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition will present the draft comprehensive plan. Join your neighbors to hear a detailed analysis of the plan and voice your opinions.



**Dedication of Lassiter Way:** On Saturday, February 23rd, we will be renaming the alley along the side of the Town Hall Parking Garage "Lassiter Way SW" in honor of Mr. Nelson Lassiter, who owned Robinson's Barber Shop on Loudoun Street for more than 50 years.

**Winter Weather Reminders:** When snow is in the forecast, please remove vehicles, trash cans, and other items from the roadway to give the snow plows as much space as possible to push snow. Also, remember that property owners and tenants are responsible for clearing the public sidewalks adjoining their property within 24 hours of a snowfall. If you notice an area that hasn't been cleared (particularly around commercial properties), please report it by filling out this [online form](#) so staff can follow up. For more information about the Town's snow removal policies, visit the Town [website](#).



## **Business of the Month** **ChefScape**

ChefScape is a membership based business incubator for all kinds of food and beverage entrepreneurs, small and large. It offers a culinary classroom and event space for members and the public to utilize for culinary classes, parties and other private events.

On January 19th, ChefScape had a very successful opening night at the Village at Leesburg, 1602

Village Market Blvd, where we saw Leesburg's nationally loved caterer, John Feist. John has catered for Presidents George H.W. Bush and Gerald Ford, as well as Queen Elizabeth II and Elizabeth Taylor, among others. He gave us a tour of ChefScape's kitchens and classrooms. His current passion is to teach kids and their parents about nutrition. John can be reached [here](#).

## **Events & Info**



**Information Sessions on Affordable Dwelling Unit (ADU) Process:** Sessions are held on the 4th Thursday of each month, from 3 to 5 pm in the Lansdowne Room of

the Shenandoah Building at 102 Heritage Way NE in Leesburg. Space is limited and no walk-ins will be admitted, please register by calling 703-737-8043. Attending this session will not place you on the ADU waitlist. Loudoun County's ADU program provides newly constructed, affordable rental and for-sale housing for income-eligible citizens who live and work in the county as the first priority.

**Sign Up to Get a Weekly Box Of Delicious Farm-Fresh Groceries!**

Did you know you can "subscribe" to get a weekly box of fresh food directly from a Loudoun farm? The Community-Supported Agriculture program gives you a bountiful box of seasonal fruits/veggies, meats, eggs and/or dairy. Some CSAs even offer specialties like fresh-cut flowers, herbs, or honey. Just imagine the mouthwatering flavor of juicy tomatoes or strawberries that were picked the same day you eat them! Loudoun has at least 18 CSAs, and you can choose one that lets you pick up your box from the farm, or one that delivers to a community location near you. Find details [here](#).

**My Bloody Valentine:** February 15th and 16th at Paxton Manor, 601 Catoctin Circle, NE in Leesburg. My Bloody Valentine is for all those looking to do something unique this Valentine's Day. It is a self-guided tour through 32-rooms of love-wrecked horrors. Purchase the 7:00 pm, 8:00 pm, or 9:00 pm hour and join us any time within the hour you purchased. You must be inside the gates by 10:00 pm to go through the attractions. All proceeds benefit [The Arc of Loudoun](#).

**Low Cost Rabies Clinic:** Saturday, February 23rd from 12:00 to 3:00 pm at the Sterling Community Center, 120 Enterprise Street in Sterling. The clinic is open to the public and does not have a residency requirement.

# Low-Cost Rabies Clinic

*Keep your pet and family safe!*

**Sterling Community Center  
120 Enterprise Street, Sterling, VA**

**Saturday, Feb. 23  
12 p.m.–3 p.m.**

Walk-in rabies vaccine  
clinic for cats and dogs  
and dog licenses.

Minimum age: 12 weeks  
Dogs must be leashed  
and cats in carriers.

Cash or check only.  
Dogs – \$20  
Cats – \$10



*Full details at [www.loudoun.gov/animals](http://www.loudoun.gov/animals)*

Loudoun County Animal Services  
39820 Charles Town Pike  
Waterford, VA 20197  
(703) 777-0406



**YMCA Chocolates Galore:** Friday, March 1st at 6:30 pm to 11:00 pm at the Lansdowne Resort and Spa in Leesburg. Buy tickets and find out about sponsorship opportunities [here](#). This fundraiser for the YMCA Loudoun County is one of the finest culinary and social event of the winter season. The [YMCA](#)

[Loudoun County](#) offers after school programs at many elementary schools in Leesburg.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

THE SOCIAL EVENT OF THE WINTER SEASON

32<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL

# CHOCOLATES GALORE & MORE

Lansdowne Resort and Spa • Premier Partner

Friday, March 1, 2019, 6:30PM  
Lansdowne Resort and Spa  
Leesburg, Virginia



A delicious evening benefiting  
children in after school and summer  
programs at YMCA Loudoun County

**SPONSORSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES**



[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 February 1st.



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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