

Dear Leesburg Resident,

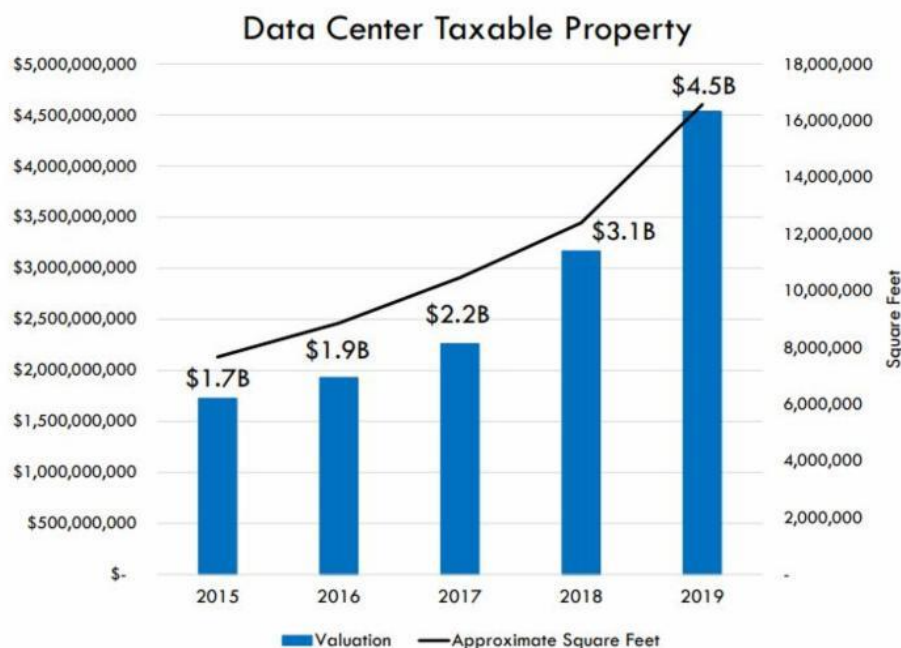
[Loudoun led Virginia](#) in business growth every year from 2016 to 2018 according to SmartAsset, a New York-based financial technology company. The number of businesses has risen by 13.9 percent in the last two years.

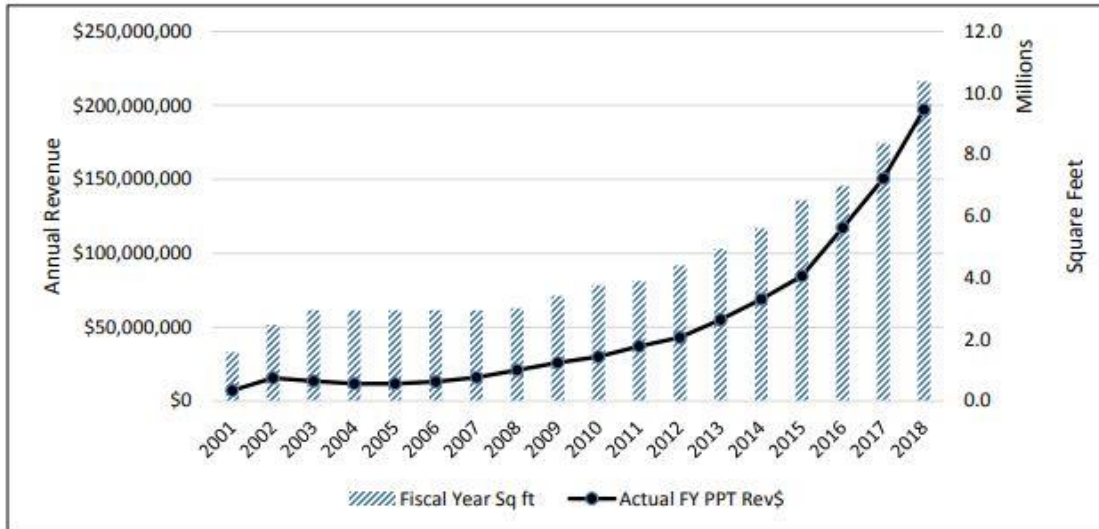
[Budget](#)

At the [County Administrator's budget presentation](#) on February 13th, I thanked my colleagues for working together on a budget that lowers the tax rate while fully funding the schools and other County priorities, like adding needed staff to Child Protective Services. We were able to accomplish these goals this year because of the increase in revenues from the County's business sectors, particularly data centers. Our data centers produce a major percentage of our revenue. At the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, Board of Supervisors Vice-Chair Ralph Buona illustrated the beneficial impact of Loudoun's data centers on homeowners' real estate tax bills. Without the taxes paid to the County by data centers, the owner of a \$500,000 home would have to pay \$2,000 more a year.

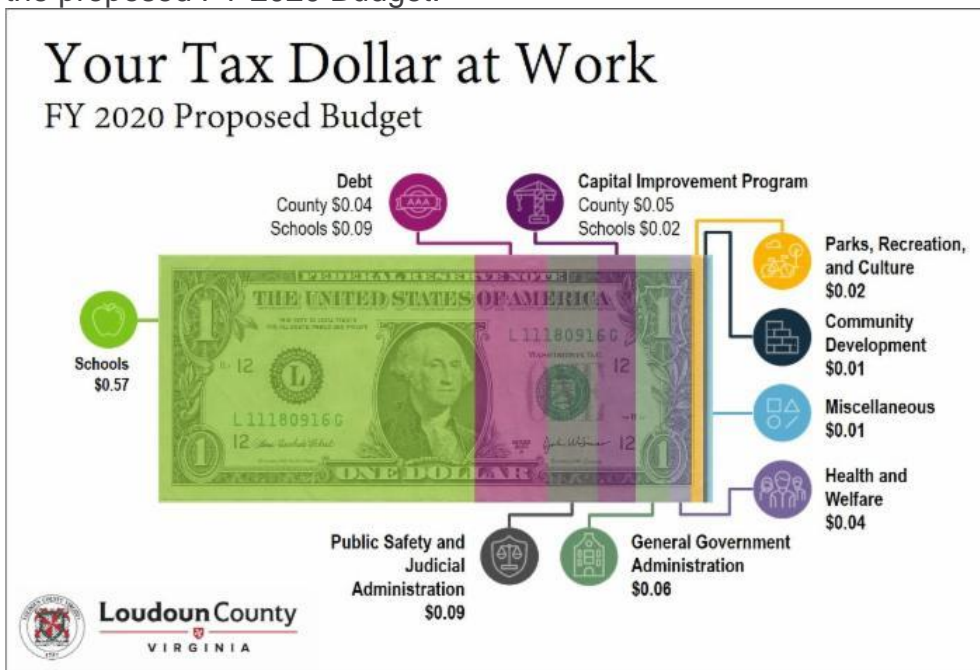
The County's Department of Economic Development has increased the commercial portion of Loudoun's tax base from 19 percent to 34 percent, largely due to data center growth. The County expects to receive over \$300 million in 2019 from the tax on computer equipment. Most of that will come from the computers housed in data centers. In addition, the County receives hundreds of millions of dollars of tax revenues from the real property taxes on data center land and buildings and from sales tax involving data center equipment.

Annual revenue from the business tangible personal property tax (BPPT) on computer equipment in data centers is a large and rapidly growing source of General Fund revenue. The two graphs below show the expansion of data center building space between 2001 and 2019, with a nearly 50% projected increase between 2018 and 2019. Current revenue projections assume that approximately 9.5 million square feet of new data center space will be added in the County during the nine-year period of 2018 to 2025. This exceeds the 7.3 million square feet added in the previous nine years. Four million square feet of new space are under active building permits as of November 2018. However, the projection assumes that the volume of new space added will taper off (but still be substantial) beginning in 2020. Overall, the average annual rate of growth of this revenue source is about 10 percent through 2026, with the annual rate exceeding 10 percent in the early years and falling below 10 percent in the later years.





Below is a graphic that shows where tax dollars are used in the County under the proposed FY 2020 Budget.



You may see the term "equalized tax rate" and wonder what it means. It is the real property tax rate at which the average homeowner will pay the same tax this year as she or he paid last year. In times of rising assessments, the equalized tax rate (\$1.045) will be lower than the current tax rate (\$1.085) so that the tax bill stays the same. (The fact that the average homeowner's tax bill will remain the same, does not mean every taxpayer's tax bill will be the same. Some homeowners will see their tax bills decrease, others will see

their tax bills increase). At the proposed equalized rate of \$1.045, the schools can be fully funded.

I am very happy that the school system will expand computer science programs in elementary schools, and want to see computer science immersion in every elementary school. At Meadowland, Moorefield Station, and Round Hill Elementary Schools, every student spends at least 30 minutes every day learning computer coding. While there are not specific plans to expand that level of immersion to every school, Dr. Williams did not rule it out eventually.

A modified schedule for the FY 2020 budget process was approved to shorten budget deliberations at the February 21st Board business meeting. Budget work sessions under this schedule are tentatively scheduled for:

Monday, March 4, 6:00 pm
Monday, March 11, 6:00 pm
Monday, March 18, 6:00 pm

The planned FY 2020 budget adoption will be April 2nd at the regularly scheduled Board business meeting.

Loudoun 2040

As the process of revising the comprehensive plan called Loudoun 2040 continues, an updated schedule, including the tentative date for plan adoption, was announced. The Planning Commissioners received the **fiscal impact analysis and travel demand model** on February 7th and their recommendation will be presented to the Board at the March 21st business meeting. Two Board public hearings are planned on Wednesday, April 24th at 6:00 pm and Saturday, April 27th at 9:00 am in the Board Room of the Government Center. Below is the list of work sessions and the tentative Board adoption on Tuesday, July 2nd.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORK SESSIONS & PUBLIC HEARINGS

Regarding Loudoun 2040 Plan

Work Sessions

Wednesday, April 3, 2019, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Monday, May 20, 2019, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, May 29, 2019, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, June 5, 2019, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, June 19, 2019, 6 p.m.

All meetings held at the
Government Center,
1 Harrison St. SE,
Leesburg, VA 20175

Public Hearings

Wednesday, April 24, 2019, 6 p.m.
Saturday, April 27, 2019, 9 a.m.

Business Meeting

(Tentative Adoption of Plan)
Tuesday, July 2, 2019, 5 p.m.

There will be no limit on the number of speakers at the April 24th and April 27th public hearings, but residents can only speak once. Please sign up in advance by calling the Clerk at 703-777-0200 in early April. The time limit for each member of the public to speak will probably be 2 to 2 1/2 minutes.

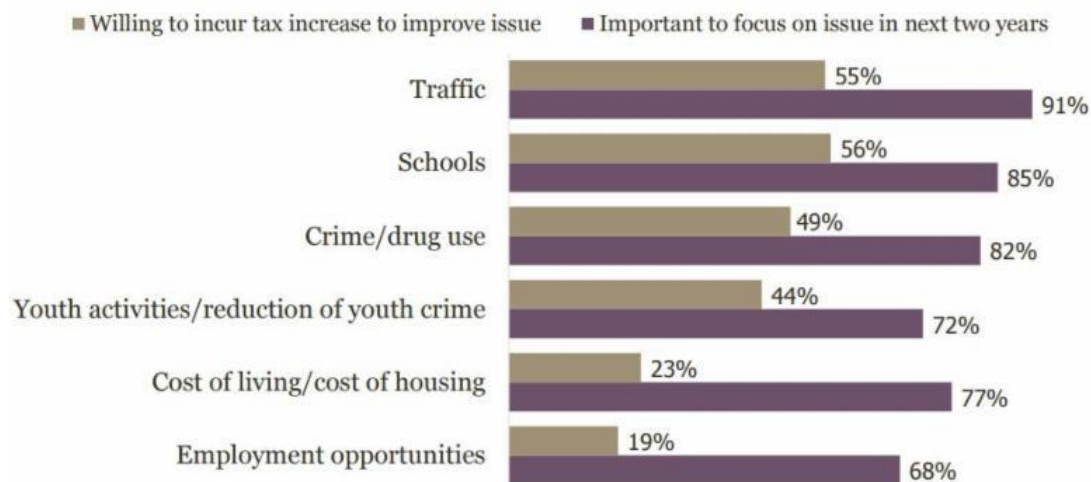
Residents can also speak about Loudoun 2040 at the Board business meetings on the 1st Tuesday and 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm. The 6:30 pm public input session is limited to 60 minutes total. At the second business meeting of the month, an additional public input session is included at the beginning of the agenda at 5:00 pm, which is limited to 8 speakers who must sign up in advance by calling the Clerk.

The revision of the comprehensive plan has been more than two years in the making, starting with the Envision Loudoun process that involved input from thousands of community members, followed by the deliberations of a Stakeholders Committee and the Planning Commission. I hope you will speak at one of the Board public hearings in this last phase of the process.

[Resident Survey](#)

Loudoun County periodically conducts surveys of residents every two years to (1) understand the community's satisfaction with county services; (2) collect demographic information; and (3) obtain opinions on key issues important to the community. Results from the survey are used by County staff to assess the performance of the organization, make service improvements, and gather data relevant to current topics. I asked if the survey is sent in Spanish and English and was informed it is rare to receive Spanish responses because most of these residents also speak English. Results were not broken out by policy area: suburban, transition and rural. A breakdown by geographic area was requested the next time the County conducts a survey of residents. Below is a chart showing the importance of issues and residents' willingness to pay to improve the issue. Traffic, schools and crime/drug use rated the highest in both categories.

Importance of Issues and Willingness to Pay



Silver District West

At the February 21st Board business meeting, the Silver District West application was considered to develop a 158-acre, mixed-use urban community located south and west of the Dulles Greenway at Loudoun County Parkway. Silver District West is proposed as a transit-oriented development between the future Loudoun Gateway and Ashburn Metro Stations. The proposal includes 3,706 residences (381 townhouses and 3,325 multi-family units) and up to a million square feet of non-residential uses, including an elementary school and a linear Broad Run Stream Valley park. I have the following concerns with the most recent set of proffers:

1. The applicant's use of the term "notwithstanding" makes it challenging to interpret and enforce proffers. Using the word "notwithstanding" in a paragraph that follows a proffer may mean the applicant does not have to do it.
2. The close proximity of proposed new residential units to the new 65 Ldn noise contour lines of the Dulles Airport Overlay District. The term "Ldn" is based on day/night aircraft noise decibel levels. Noise contour lines around airports show where homes, schools and businesses will experience the most aircraft noise. If your home is within or near the 65 Ldn, you will hear a lot of noise all day long and often through the night. If you're in the 60 Ldn, you will still hear a lot of noise, but it won't be as loud. The most recent study conducted by Dulles Airport and the FAA shows that the 60 Ldn noise impact areas have expanded. Why should we in Leesburg care whether people living near Dulles Airport have to deal with irritating noise? Because, when enough people complain about airport noise, they put pressure on Congress and the FAA and the airports to restrict flights, which can cause airports to cut local jobs. Restrictions can drive local businesses out of business. Restricting flights can also result in the loss of major carriers to other airports where housing is not as close to the high aircraft noise areas. In the illustration below, the thick red line is the new 65 Ldn and the thin red line is the new 60 Ldn.
3. The delay of transportation improvements until after a certain number of units are completed. I've seen so many applications where the roads do not get built because the developer stops building before arriving at the number of units that trigger construction of the roads.
4. The lack of school proffers issue was raised by a colleague on the Board. The developer is proffering a small elementary school site. The County would still have to build the school. The developer is not proffering a middle school site or a high school site, meaning that, if the families occupying the 3,706 new homes have children, those children will be added to the school populations of the existing middle and high schools.



The application was forwarded to the March 21st Board business meeting to give the staff and applicant more time to address key issues and complete the proffer statement. The Dulles Airport noise contour study will be presented to the Board at our March 5th business meeting.

Discharge of Firearms

As you may remember, over the summer, 8 homes and the area around a tree stand were hit by gunfire originating at nearby properties where the neighbors were shooting off rounds, presumably during target practice. At the Transportation and Land Use Committee (TLUC) on February 25th, I voted for the following:

1. I voted to extend the 100 yard protective zone to regularly inhabited buildings. It currently does not protect homes that predate the County's occupancy permit records. This passed TLUC unanimously. We wanted to make sure all homes are included.
2. I voted to increase the safety zone along roads from 50 yards to 100 yards. This failed on a 2-3 vote.
3. I voted to expand the area in which shooting is prohibited to include more of the Suburban Policy Area. This failed on a 2-3 vote.
4. I made a motion to prohibit shooting east of Route 15 (managed hunts would still be allowed). The motion would have protected the Willowsford community, where the first homes were hit this summer, as

well as the other major subdivisions east of Route 15. This motion died for lack of a second.

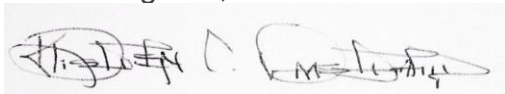
5. I voted to move forward with more work on requiring effective backstops and berms on properties where individuals are shooting. This motion passed 4-0-1.
6. I voted to prohibit hunting with firearms within 100 yards of a public park or school. This was supported by the game wardens, but it failed on a 2-3 vote.

I've received e-mails and phone calls, even from lifetime NRA members who are afraid to go on their own property because they hear gun shots around them. Because people are recklessly shooting in their yards, their neighbors are feeling increasingly unsafe on their own properties. We have been lucky so far that no one has been injured or killed.

Battlefield Parkway and Route 7 Interchange

I want to thank all my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors for agreeing to provide an additional \$8.7 million for the completion of the Battlefield-Route 7 interchange. Along with the action taken by the Leesburg Town Council to transfer over \$5 million to the project, the Board's action should keep the project on schedule. This is a great example of how the Town and County have worked together for the benefit of Town and County residents.

Warm Regards,



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Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

It's budget season. On Tuesday, February 12th, Town Manager Kaj Dentler presented his proposed budget for FY 2020 (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020). A copy of the proposed budget document is available on the Town [website](#). The big headline for the budget is the proposal to add several new full-time positions, including an Emergency Management Director, 3 Patrol Officers, a Special Investigations Detective, a Police Youth Services Coordinator, and an IT Systems Administrator. I encourage you to take a look at the budget and give us your feedback. What is important to you? Over the next month, the Council will hold a series of public hearings and work sessions on the budget and the tax rate, with the goal of adopting the budget on March 26th.

Saturday, March 2nd, is the annual [Spring Bling Fine Arts & Craft Show](#) at Ida Lee Park Recreation Center, from 9 am to 4 pm. Spring Bling is a juried craft fair, with over 70 high-quality vendors offering fine art, jewelry, candles, home décor, and more. Admission and parking is free.

The 7th annual Leesburg Career Expo is on Sunday, March 10th, at Tuscarora High School, from 1 pm to 4 pm (please see flyer in the Events section). This free event is aimed at high school and college students and recent graduates. Over 60 employers will be there, looking to fill full-time entry level positions, full- and part-time summer positions, and internships. Many will be hiring on the spot. Job seekers should be dressed for interviews and bring copies of their resumes. Pre-registration is encourage to avoid the long registration lines on the day of the event. Visit the [website](#) for details.

Nominations are now open for the 18th annual Leesburg Business Awards. Deadline is March 20th and the awards will be presented on May 8th. There are seven award categories, and I'm sure you know at least one great Leesburg business that deserves to be recognized. Visit the [website](#) for more information or to submit a nomination online.



Ability's scholarship programs.

Business of the Month **Ability Fitness Center**

In April 2018, Ability Fitness Center opened in the Williamson Cottage on The Arc of Loudoun campus in Leesburg. Wayne and Helen at Ability Fitness Center (pictured left) showed me how to use the exercise equipment donated by One Hundred Women Strong. Ability Fitness Center is geared towards those with disabilities and those who need physical therapy. Ability Fitness Center's goals are to help each client have an improved quality of life and optimal physical and emotional health; have maximum functional independence; improve flexibility, muscle strength, balance, posture, and bone density; and prevent complications related to more sedentary lifestyles for wheelchair bound clients. Ability Fitness partners with Shenandoah University's physical therapy students and gladly accepts donations for

Events & Info



Tuition assistance for nursing students: 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. Criteria for selection include all of the following:

- Residence or employment in Loudoun County
- Enrollment in or acceptance by an accredited school of nursing (acceptance letter required)
- Completion of one semester (nine credits) of nursing school or 30 undergraduate college credits

- Academic performance. Students must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average or its equivalent (transcript required).

Students may be awarded only two consecutive Ladies Board scholarships. Since the scholarship program's inception in 1959, The Ladies Board has offered almost 1,200 scholarships totaling over \$1,770,000. In 2018, \$110,500 was awarded to 51 students, including a \$1,000 scholarship for forensic nurse training. Scholarships ranged from \$1,000 to \$2,700. Applications and additional information are available [online](#) or by calling 703-777-6357. Applications are also available in Leesburg at The Gift Shop at Inova Loudoun Hospital, 44045 Riverside Parkway; Inova Loudoun Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 235 Old Waterford Road, NW, and Twice Is Nice thrift shop, 305 E. Market Street. The deadline for applications is Tuesday, April 9th.

March 2019 Screenings Schedule: Inova Loudoun Hospital Mobile Health Services will be providing countywide blood pressure checks and safe sitter classes at a variety of locations during the month of March. For further information call the Mobile Health hotline at 703-858-8818 or visit the [website](#).

- Blood Pressure Check, Wednesday, March 6th, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Leesburg Senior Center, 102 North St. North West in Leesburg.
- Safe Sitter Class, Saturday, March 9th, 8 am to 3:30 pm, 44045 Riverside Parkway in Leesburg.

Ride Free on Loudoun County Transit to Metro Stations: Beginning Monday, March 4th and continuing through March 30th, passengers will ride free on Loudoun County Transit buses that provide connections to the Wiehle-Reston East and West Falls Church Metrorail stations. The free rides will be available on all Loudoun Transit routes that serve Metrorail stations. Bus schedules can be found [online](#).

Career Expo: Sunday, March 9th, 1:00 to 4:00 pm, at Tuscarora High School, 801 North King Street in Leesburg.



Leesburg

the hometown of the 21st century

Tuscarora High School
801 N. King Street, Leesburg



SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2019

1:00PM-4:00PM

CAREER EXPO

Are you a student or recent graduate looking for a job or internship?

MEET EMPLOYERS - GATHER INFORMATION - APPLY FOR JOBS

Pre-Register or find more info at www.leesburgva.gov/careerexpo

Farmers Invited to March 8th Forum: The Forum for Sustaining Agriculture will showcase new and exciting ways to enhance farm business profitability. The forum will also focus on conserving farmland and natural resources, and developing new

approaches to rural prosperity. Formerly known as the Forum for Rural Innovation, this event will be held Friday, March 8th from 8 am to 4 pm at the Clarion Inn in Winchester. This year's speakers include working farmers, educators, agents from 4-H and Future Farmers of America, and the Smithsonian Institution. The registration fee (\$45 for adults; \$20 for students) includes breakfast and lunch featuring delicious, locally sourced food. The deadline to [register](#) is Wednesday, March 6th.

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 5th.



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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