

Dear Leesburg Resident,

As many of you know, the Board of Supervisors has been revising the Loudoun County Comprehensive Plan, our land use and transportation plan. Between the Stakeholder Committee meetings, Planning Commission meetings, and the Board of Supervisors' work so far, the meeting Wednesday, May 29th was the 100th public meeting on the new Comprehensive Plan. The first public work session on the plan was November 7, 2016.

Thank you to everyone who came out and participated in this process. I want to thank the residents who put a lot of effort into suggesting alternatives to the high-growth plan that came out of the Planning Commission. I am mindful of the fact Loudoun County has born more than its fair share of residential growth in the last 10 to 20 years and it has not resulted in more workforce or affordable housing. This is our dilemma. I wish we had more time to review the plan but per state code our deadline for taking action is Friday, June 21st.

Towns and JLMA

On June 4th, County staff met with representatives from the Coalition of Loudoun Towns (COLT) to discuss additional revisions to the Loudoun County 2019 Comprehensive Plan. Discussion topics included general policies regarding Joint Land Management Areas (JLMAs) and policies specific to each of the Towns. The Town of Leesburg requested that their section be moved to the beginning of the towns section to reflect Leesburg's position as the County seat, the largest town in the County, and it being a longstanding activity center and destination within Loudoun County. The other town representatives concurred with this request. The Board unanimously approved the recommended revisions including extending the

Small Area Plan boundaries to include the Leesburg JLMA to accept capital facilities and transportation proffers. Most of the remaining development potential in the Leesburg JLMA is planned for commercial and employment uses.

At the June 5th Board work session, a motion was made by Vice Chairman Buona to change the preferred utility provider in the Leesburg JLMA from the Town of Leesburg to Loudoun Water (the "Central System"). This was done without consultation with the Town Council or the public. I made the following substitute motion to allow for consultation and collaboration with the Town, "Before any change is made to the policy outlined in the Revised General Plan as to service areas and preferred utility providers in the JLMA, the County shall work with the Town to fully analyze the Town's and others' present and future capacity and past and planned investments in utility infrastructure." This substitute motion failed, and the main motion passed with a vote of 5-2-2 (Umstattd and Saines opposed/Randall and Higgins abstained).

Having Loudoun Water as the first option for public utilities in the JLMA is detrimental to the Town and undermines decades of financial planning by the Town. Over the last several decades, with County encouragement, the Town has invested millions of dollars in a utility (water and sewer) infrastructure designed to handle growth inside the Town and inside the JLMA that surrounds the Town to the east and south. Most recently, the Town spent \$9 million on utility infrastructure designed to handle the development of the Compass Creek commercial center south of Battlefield Parkway and west of Leesburg Executive Airport. This investment and other past investments were made based on the decades-long County and Town comprehensive plans that state the Town of Leesburg has the right of first refusal to provide utilities inside the JLMA. The motion passed by the Board would turn that assumption on its head and replace Town of Leesburg water and sewer service with Loudoun Water service as the preferred option.

As an add-on to the utility provider motion, Vice Chairman Buona made a motion to change the County/Town annexation agreement/corporate boundary line adjustment guidelines to state, "There shall be a presumption that land in the JLMA which can be served by the Central System (Loudoun Water) shall remain in the County and not be brought into the corporate boundaries of any Town." This motion passed 5-3-1 (Umstattd, Saines, Randall opposed/Higgins abstained). I did not support the motion because it has been the decades-long intent of the County and of the Town that any property located within the JLMA should, in the future, be incorporated into the Town by annexation or corporate boundary line adjustments pursuant to

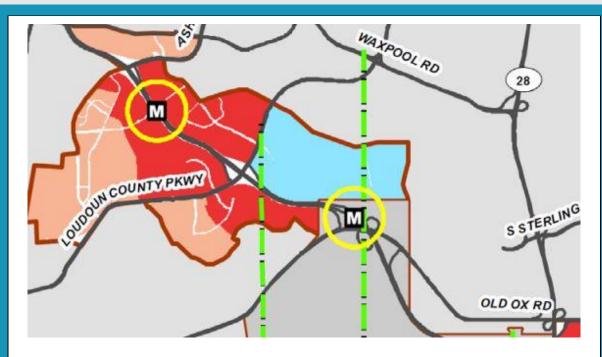
the Code of Virginia when the Town commits to and demonstrates the capacity to provide sewer and water service. This again could be detrimental to the Town's economic development.

Urban Policy Area

I would like to see the Urban Policy Area (UPA) around the metro stations developed to its full potential. At the UPA work session on May 1st, I moved that the Urban Policy Areas vision be amended to include the language "The Urban Policy Areas will be the target area for much of Loudoun's future growth through 2040." The motion was amended to read "The Urban Policy Areas will be the target area for much of Loudoun's future growth in the immediate future."

I've heard from a lot of citizens that their intent during the initial Envision Loudoun process, and then during our public hearing process, was to preserve the open space in the Transition Policy Area and the Rural Policy Area by focusing growth in the urban area around the metro stations. This comes with challenges, as it does anywhere. It is a vision statement that puts a priority from an economic development perspective in this policy area to attract growth. I also proposed a motion that the vision language be amended to state, "UPA communities are envisioned to support a range of residential options for all income levels."

At the May 1st, Board work session, the Board directed staff to propose options for the current Urban Employment Area of the UPA that is in the vicinity of the Loudoun Gateway Metrorail Station (see light blue section in map below), in consultation with the Department of Economic Development and in consideration of the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWAA) proposed 65 Ldn noise contours. The Board voted to keep the Urban Employment Area place type as recommended by the Planning Commission because this land bay is under the airport runways and is a good fit for by-right data center use. I believe you cannot have mixed residential/retail uses here, because most of this land bay is within the extremely noisy 65 Ldn Dulles International Airport noise contour lines.



Suburban Policy Area

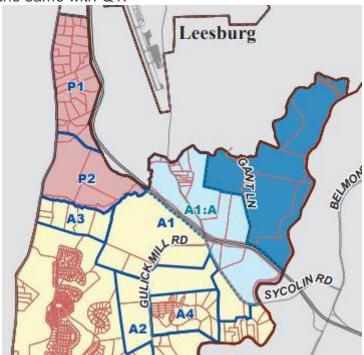
At the May 8th work session, Chair Randall moved that the Board prioritize the zoning ordinance and a review of all policies and regulations to develop an Unmet Housing Need Strategic Plan consistent with the adopted Loudoun 2019 Comprehensive Plan. Such plan should include but is not limited to down-payment assistance programs, utilization of housing trust funds, and home purchase programs. The plan should be developed prior to the approval of any zoning map amendments requesting higher densities planned in the Urban Policy Area outside the metro tax district, Suburban Policy Area, and the Transition Policy Area.

At the June 1st Board work session, the Board approved a new place type within the Suburban Policy Area called Suburban Commercial. The intent of the place type is to provide an area for a mix of commercial, office and entertainment uses without a residential component and without flex industrial and data center uses. It will limit where residential could be located and concentrate commercial uses in targeted areas. Suburban Commercial developments provide opportunities for larger format retail commercial establishments and smaller commercial establishments within a "main street" style environment. Generally, these areas will be located next to major roads or existing residential neighborhoods.

Transition Policy Area

I supported the staff recommendation to allow light industrial with by-right data centers north of the Greenway/Sycolin Road demarcation line (see A1:A

land bay pictured in light blue in the map below). I did not support truncating Loudoun's Rural Policy Area (RPA) by moving the now-rural P1, P2, and Q1 land bays into the higher density Transition Policy Area (TPA) categories. I would have liked to see all 3 of these land bays remain low-density in the rural area. I made a motion to keep P1 and P2 in the RPA and supported a motion to do the same with Q1.



Allowing more housing in the rural area of Leesburg at P1 and P2 would not answer Loudoun's housing cost problem. There is no guarantee of affordable housing in that area, and that area is not suburban. This area would likely see the development of yet more high-cost housing. I think this is the beginning of the assault on the RPA. The conversion of P1 and P2 just south of the Town of Leesburg, as approved by a majority of the Board, will allow a 4,500% density increase from 60 homes to about 2,717 homes. Those homes will generate about 27,000 additional vehicle trips a day onto roads already overburdened with traffic.

Leesburg Mayor Kelly Burk sent a letter authorized by the Town Council asking the Board of Supervisors to defer a decision on the rural areas near Leesburg airport or land bays P1 and P2. Mayor Burk said this would give the Town and the County additional time to consider the potential impacts of the planning designation on those two land bays which are of great concern for the Council.

At the May 29th Board work session, P1 was changed on a 6 to 3 vote to Transition Compact Neighborhood and P2 was changed on a 7 to 2 vote to Transition Small Lot Neighborhood. I could not support either motion. Q1 was the only land bay that stayed in the Rural Policy Area. Below is a description of these land bays and the change in density that was approved.

- Land bay P1: zoned AR-1 (10 acres per residential unit/house) and voted to be changed to 3 to 5 units per acre or Transition Compact Neighborhood. This changes the density from the currently allowed 30 homes to up to 1,525 homes. It is located east of Evergreen Mills Road just south of Heritage High School.
- Land bay P2: zoned AR-1 and voted to be changed to 4 units per acre or Transition Small Lot Neighborhood. This changes the density from 30 homes to approximately 1,192 homes. It is located off Evergreen Mills Road between Shreve Mill Road and Hogeland Mill Road.
- Land Bay Q1: zoned A-3 and voted to be kept in the Rural Policy Area. There is no change in density in this land bay. It is located off Evergreen Mills Road and Red Hill Road, a gravel road.

Old C.S. Monroe Technology Center Site

On May 30th, LCPS held a community meeting about the C.S. Monroe School's conversion to an alternative school with adult education classes (please see site plan below). LCPS staff presented the changes planned for the new alternative and adult education programs to be housed at the new building coming to the old Monroe site, including the relocation of the nursing program out of the Academies and back to the old Monroe site when the new school opens. A Leesburg Planning Commission public hearing is projected in the summer of 2019 and a Town Council public hearing will follow within 60 days of the Planning Commission action. The planned opening of the C.S. Monroe School is in the fall of 2021.





Identification of Cemeteries

In April 2018, I co-sponsored a Board Member Initiative to create an interactive database of Loudoun County cemeteries to help preserve and protect them. The burial grounds of enslaved African Americans are at particular risk during the development process because many are unmarked. The county has identified more than 200 active and historic cemeteries and burial grounds in Loudoun and provided location and background information for each of them on an interactive map that was presented to the Board on June 4th. There is also a companion story detailing the purpose of the project and a "Contact Us" section to make the County's mapping staff aware of an unidentified cemetery. The interactive map can be found on the County's website.

Courthouse Project

The Loudoun County Heritage Commission presented its extensive research on the history of the Loudoun County Courthouse grounds to the Board at the June 4th business meeting. The report includes a 78-page historic narrative of the county courthouse and the role it played in the history of racial justice and equality--much of it original research. The Board voted to publish the historic narrative on the County website. I also requested that hard copies be disseminated at all the public libraries in the County.

The Board forwarded the Heritage Commission's other recommendations to a future Finance, Government Operations and Economic Development

Committee meeting to discuss them in greater detail. The recommendations are:

- Allocating funds and directing staff to pursue National Historic Landmark status for the courthouse;
- Naming the old or new courthouse after prominent African American attorney Charles Hamilton Houston;
- Creating an interpretive "Path Toward Freedom" walk on the courthouse grounds; and
- Implementing a professionally facilitated community process to design and place memorials along the interpretive walk honoring "Loudoun County's path to freedom and justice."

Walmart in Leesburg

The new Walmart opened on May 29th at 19360 Compass Creek Parkway, about four miles from the old Edwards Ferry Road location. The County is providing resources, available in English and Spanish, to raise awareness about the change and to help residents identify their options for shopping and transportation. Please visit this **website** for alternatives to the new Walmart that are walkable or accessible by public transit. The County is also reminding residents not to cross Route 15 by foot and to use the Leesburg Safe-T-Ride, a free shuttle providing continuous service between locations on the east and west sides of Route 15. The Safe-T-Ride operates seven days a week: Monday through Friday, 7:00 am to 7:00 pm; and Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.

At the June 4th business meeting, the Board adopted a resolution expressing heartfelt condolences to the Virginia Beach community in the wake of last week's mass shooting at the City of Virginia Beach municipal building. The resolution states that Loudoun "stands ready to provide assistance to the City of Virginia Beach and stands in solidarity with the victims' families, our local government colleagues and our fellow citizens during this difficult time." My deepest sympathy to the families who lost their loved ones. Anyone interested in providing support to the Virginia Beach community through financial donations or donations of time, can find more information about the support effort at the Love for VB website. Thank you.

Warm Regards,

Kristen C. Umstattd

THE MELLEN

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Mayor Kelly Burk's Corner

Congratulations to the Class of 2019 from Loudoun County, Heritage, and Tuscarora High Schools! Loudoun County High School will hold its graduation ceremony on Monday, June 10th, at 8 am on the front lawn of the school (weather permitting). Dry Mill Road will be closed to traffic during the ceremony, so drivers, please plan accordingly. Heritage High School's graduation will be on Monday, June 10th, at 7:30 pm and Tuscarora High School's graduation will be on Tuesday, June 11th, at 8 am. No road closures for those two, but there will be increased traffic at the schools. Please note that Tuscarora High School is also a polling location for the primary election on June 11th.

Acoustic on the Green Concerts: Starts, Saturday, June 8th and every Saturday at 7:00 pm throughout the summer. Come downtown to hear the best local and regional artists perform on the Town Green. On June 8th, Emma Rowley will kick off the series. Check out the entire line up at www.acousticonthegreen.com.

Movies Under the Stars Are Back! Our free outdoor movie series will back on the Loudoun County Courthouse lawn this year. On the 3rd Friday of June, July and August, join us for a kid-friendly movie under the stars. This year's movies are Trolls (June 21st), Grease (July 19th), and Instant Family (August 16th). Movies begin at dusk.

4th of July Parade & Celebration: Leesburg's Independence Day festivities on Thursday, July 4th, will begin with the annual parade through downtown. The parade will step off from

Ida Lee Park at 10 am sharp and proceed down King Street, through downtown, and end at Fairfax Street. There's still time to enter the parade! There's no entry fee. Application form is available on the website or from the front desk at Ida Lee Park Recreation

Center. Downtown streets will close in preparation for the parade at 9:30 am. Join us at Ida Lee Park for a concert by The Free, an upscale party band that blends modern style and rootsy charm, at 6:30 pm. Gates open at 6 pm. The region's largest fireworks show will light up the sky above Ida Lee around 9:30 pm. Check the Town's Facebook page for updates on the fireworks in case of rain. More information is on the website.

Car Show Rescheduled! For the second year in a row, the Leesburg Classic Car Show was cancelled due to rain. The new date is Saturday, September 14th. Load-in begins around 2 pm and the show will open at 5 pm. Sponsored by LCPS Monroe Advanced Technical Academy, this event raises money for the Auto Service Technology and Graphic Communications programs.

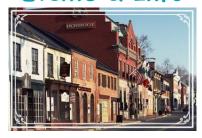
Have a concern, idea, or issue with Town services? I will be holding Mayor Office Hours at the Conveyance Marketing Group offices (213 Loudoun Street SW) on Wednesday, June 12th, from 1 pm to 3 pm. If you can't make it in person, I'll also be taking phone calls at 703-431-1665.

Business of the Month <u>Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern</u> Fauguier Counties



Our Mission is to build local endowment by fostering a community of grantmakers, promoting strategic local leadership, and investing in partnerships for the benefit of the community of Loudoun and Northern Fauquier. The Community Foundation for Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties is a broad and flexible vehicle for charitable giving and community investment. Grants support local needs from the culture, nature, human services, and education spectrum. During Give Choose 2019 on May 7th, your generosity helped 92 local charities raise more than \$327,000!

Events & Info



Youth Net Initiative Survey: Loudoun County is asking young people, their parents and individuals who interact with youth for suggestions on how to improve youth services and activities by taking part in a brief survey. The survey results will help the county as it works to develop high quality, inclusive activities for Loudoun's youth. In addition to conducting the survey, the Youth Net Committee plans to hold a Youth Summit in 2019, followed by a presentation of findings, concerns and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors in the fall of 2019. The survey will be active through June 30th.

Trainings on Reversing Opioid Overdoses: Loudoun County is hosting training sessions on how to recognize and respond to an opioid overdose. The free one-hour Revive! sessions will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the offices of the Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services (MHSADS) at 906 Trailview Boulevard in Leesburg. Upcoming sessions are Thursday, June 27th and Thursday, July 25th. Pre-registration is first come, first served. Those interested in attending may register online.

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 June 7th and July 5th.



About our service provider Sent by kristen.umstattd@loudoun.gov in collaboration with

