



Weekly Newsflash

MAY 24, 2023

NEXT WEEK: Sterling District Townhall Meeting - June 1st

STERLING RESIDENTS:

Next Thursday, my office will host an in-person townhall meeting to:

- Connect and engage with residents,
- Provide updates on projects in the Sterling District,
- Address common concerns in our area,
- Provide updates on general County initiatives and programs,
- Review County services, systems, and processes, and
- Discuss other topics of interest to the community.



Be sure to save the date and spread the word to your friends and neighbors.

Event Details

Thursday, June 1, 2023
6:00 - 7:30 pm
Claude Moore Recreation & Community Center, Multipurpose Room
46105 Loudoun Park Ln, Sterling, VA 20164

As we prepare for the townhall meeting, I encourage residents to submit questions, concerns, and any other topics of interest that you wish to discuss to my office in advance. This will allow my team to gather the necessary information or staff members to make for a productive and informative meeting.

Please direct submissions to my Legislative Aide, Tianni Ivey at Tianni.Ivey@loudoun.gov, with the subject line "Sterling District Townhall".

TONIGHT: Board of Supervisors Chair Randall to Deliver State of the County Address May 24

The graphic features the Loudoun County Virginia logo at the top. Below it is the name "Chair Phyllis J. Randall" in a cursive font. The main title "STATE of The COUNTY ADDRESS" is prominently displayed in a bold, sans-serif font. Underneath the title, the date and time "Wednesday, May 24, 2023 | 6:00 P.M." are listed. Two sections follow: "Watch on TV:" with bullet points for "Comcast Government Channel 23" and "Verizon FIOS Channel 40"; and "Watch Online:" with bullet points for "loudoun.gov/meetings" and "facebook.com/LoudounCountyVa".

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis J. Randall is scheduled to deliver her annual State of the County address Wednesday, May 24, 2023.

The program will begin at 6:00 p.m. Chair Randall will deliver the address from the Board Room at the Loudoun County Government Center, 1 Harrison Street SE in Leesburg.

Members of the public are invited to watch the address online and on television. There are several options available:

- Watch Online
 - Live on the [Loudoun County government Facebook page](#).
 - Streaming live on the Loudoun County Government website at loudoun.gov/meetings.
- Watch on Television
 - Comcast channel 23.
 - Verizon FiOS channel 40.

The text of the address will be available at loudoun.gov/chair following the address.

Disability Services Board Calls for FAIME Award Nominations

The Loudoun County Disability Services Board sponsors an awards program that honors businesses and organizations that display a strong commitment toward the full inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace. Nominations are open for the 2023 Full Accessibility and Inclusion: Moving toward Equity (FAIME) Awards, which honor businesses and organizations that go above and beyond to recruit, hire, train and promote people with disabilities and that have an inclusive workplace and business model.



Eligibility Requirements for Award Nominees

- Businesses and organizations must demonstrate a commitment to hiring people with disabilities, to providing accommodations in the workplace and to offering people with disabilities professional development opportunities so they can grow their skills.
- Nominees may be for-profit or nonprofit businesses and organizations, but may not be government agencies, nonprofits or businesses whose mission is to provide services to people with disabilities.
- Businesses and organizations may nominate themselves.

Nominations should be submitted through [this online form](#). The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, June 23, 2023.

Winners will be notified in July 2023 and an awards reception will be scheduled in October 2023, which is National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

For more information, email Loudoun County Accessibility Manager Sahar Behboudifar, call 571-258-3282 (TTY 711) or visit loudoun.gov/FAIMEAwards.

Three Things to Know about the LIV Golf Tournament in Loudoun



The LIV Golf League will kick off the seventh tournament of its inaugural season this week at the Trump National Golf Club in Loudoun County. The LIV Golf DC tournament is expected to attract thousands of spectators to the Sterling and Lowes Island areas of the county May 26-28, 2023.

In anticipation of the event, here are three things Loudoun County residents should know:

1. Know What to Do if You Are Planning to Attend

- Everything residents need to know about attending is posted on the league's website at livgolf.com/events/dc.
- Loudoun County Government has no role in organizing the LIV Golf tournament. Anyone who is interested in attending should visit the league's website to purchase tickets and to learn more about security protocols at the event as well as the rules for spectators to follow.

2. Know the Parking Availability

- There will be no general parking at the tournament site (20391 Lowes Island Boulevard) or in the surrounding neighborhood. All parking for the event will be off site and visitors will ride shuttle buses to the golf course.
- If you plan to attend, be sure to follow all parking instructions from the event organizers, which are posted [on the league's website](#).
- Anyone who plans to attend should park at the Dulles Town Center (21100 Dulles Town Circle, Sterling), where parking for the tournament will be free. Shuttle buses will be provided from the parking lot to the tournament site.
- Shuttles will be provided from the rideshare drop-off/pick-up and bicycle lot located at the Lowes Island Community Center (47620 Saulty Drive, Sterling).

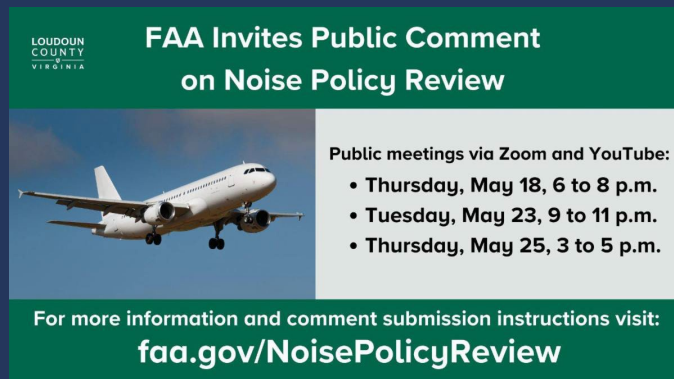
3. Anticipate Increased Traffic in the Area

- Residents of the neighborhoods around the golf course should be aware of the potential for increased road congestion in the area due to event-related traffic, including shuttle buses.
- Law enforcement will be monitoring traffic around the event venue, particularly along Algonkian Parkway and Lowes Island Boulevard. Vehicular traffic to some neighborhood roads near the intersection of Lowes Island Boulevard and Colonel Young Way will be restricted to residents only, who have been issued a special credential.
- The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office routinely publishes alerts regarding road closures and other traffic-related incidents via Alert Loudoun. Anyone may sign up for the "Loudoun Traffic and Road Closures" category of Alert Loudoun to receive text and email updates by visiting loudoun.gov/alert.

The tournament is scheduled to wrap up the evening of Sunday, May 28. More information about the LIV Golf League is online at livgolf.com.

Federal Aviation Administration Noise Policy Review Public Comment

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has scheduled virtual public comment meetings about aircraft noise, as the agency conducts its Noise Policy Review. The FAA is engaging with the public and other stakeholders through meaningful opportunities in order to learn more about aviation noise, hear from the FAA, and provide input for the agency's consideration.



The graphic features the Loudoun County Virginia logo in the top left corner. The main title is "FAA Invites Public Comment on Noise Policy Review". Below the title is a photograph of a white commercial airplane in flight against a blue sky. To the right of the photo, it lists public meetings via Zoom and YouTube: Thursday, May 18, 6 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday, May 23, 9 to 11 p.m.; and Thursday, May 25, 3 to 5 p.m. At the bottom, it provides the website faa.gov/NoisePolicyReview for more information and comment submission instructions.

Next Meeting

Thursday, May 25th, 2023
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

- [Attend Through Zoom](#)
 - Password: 561270
- [YouTube Live Stream](#)
- Call [1-888-924-3239](tel:1-888-924-3239)
 - Enter Webinar ID: 160 041 7838
 - Password: 561270

The Noise Policy Review is evidence-based, thorough, and collaborative. The FAA is considering findings from ongoing [noise research](#), including the [Neighborhood Environmental Survey](#) which provided an updated [dose-response curve](#), and other research related to health impacts, speech interference, [sleep disturbance](#), and economic impacts. The FAA is examining the distribution of environmental risks, tradeoffs, and resulting impacts across communities.

As part of the review, we are:

- Looking at current use of [DNL or Day-Night Average Sound Level](#) as the primary noise metric for assessing cumulative aircraft noise exposure.
- Reviewing whether to continue to use the DNL 65 dB level as the metric and threshold for determining significant noise impacts in environmental reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act or the definition of the limit of residential land use compatibility.
- Considering if and how alternative noise metrics may be used in lieu of or in addition to DNL to better inform agency decisions and improve FAA's disclosure of noise impacts.

The latest database of public comments about the FAA's noise policy review [can be found here](#). It will be updated throughout 2023.

Updated Draft Zoning Ordinance Now Available

New Draft of Proposed Zoning Ordinance is Online



LOUDOUN
COUNTY
VIRGINIA

loudoun.gov/zoningordinancerewrite

The Planning Commission is scheduled to forward a final recommended text to the Board of Supervisors this summer.

The Loudoun County Planning Commission has reached another significant milestone in the ongoing Zoning Ordinance Rewrite project. A new draft of the proposed ordinance was published on May 19, 2023. The updated text incorporates the commission's work to date and results in the first complete draft ordinance in more than a year,

that is inclusive of all draft chapters.

The May 19, 2023, draft ordinance includes 12 chapters that have been refined by the Planning Commission since its August 30, 2022, and January 24, 2023 public hearings.

The Planning Commission has directed edits to all chapters of the ordinance, some of which simply restructure the components of the ordinance and simplify the language. The complete text of all chapters are posted on the county's website at loudoun.gov/ZoningOrdinanceRewrite.

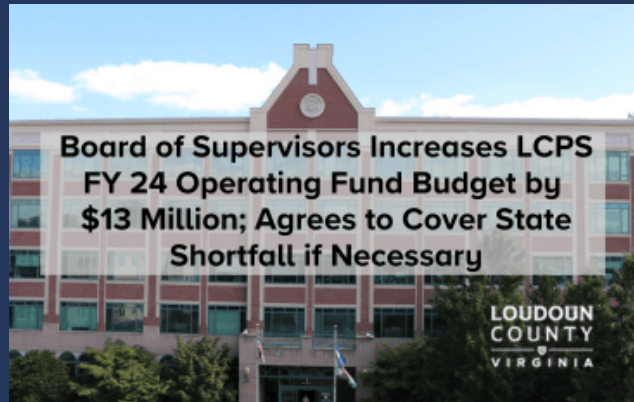
An update to the Zoning Ordinance is necessary following the adoption of the [Loudoun County 2019 Comprehensive Plan](#). The plan includes land use and transportation policies that provide a flexible framework for future development throughout the county. The Zoning Ordinance includes the regulations that implement the vision within the Comprehensive Plan.

The Planning Commission is currently anticipated to forward a recommended ordinance to the Board of Supervisors for consideration this summer. The Board of Supervisors will seek additional input on the draft ordinance from members of the public. The Board may consider additional revisions to the draft ordinance before ultimately adopting a new Zoning Ordinance, which could occur by the end of 2023. The adopted ordinance will replace the current ordinance, which is known as the [Revised 1993 Zoning Ordinance](#).

[Learn More](#)

Loudoun to Cover Virginia's School Funding Shortfall

During its May 16, 2023, business meeting, the Board of Supervisors increased the Loudoun County Public Schools' (LCPS) FY 2024 Operating Fund budget by \$13 million and acknowledged the potential to cover a state shortfall in Loudoun's public school funding with its own year-end fund balance. The action leaves



open the possibility that the state could still resolve some or all of the shortfall. In addition, the Board authorized LCPS' re-appropriation of its own year-end balance of \$3.3 million in FY 2024 to administer collective bargaining that the School Board approved in March.

Statewide, Virginia public school systems this year received less money from the state than was anticipated after a Virginia Department of Education calculation error that was not addressed in a subsequent budget bill. For Loudoun, that resulted in a \$13 million gap in the FY 2024 budget.

As part of the approval, the Board permitted some flexibility for how the funds will be appropriated, depending on whether the state makes up the shortfall, makes up part of the shortfall or leaves the entire shortfall in place:

- If not resolved, the Board will provide up to \$13 million of FY 2023 year-end fund balance to LCPS.
- If the state provides a portion of the \$13 million state revenue shortfall, the Board will accept it in the FY 2024 LCPS Operating Fund and provide the remaining shortfall to LCPS using FY 2023 year-end fund balance.
- If the state covers the entire \$13 million shortfall, the Board will not need to appropriate any of its own year-end fund balance.

More information about the county budget is online at loudoun.gov/budget.

**Free Small Business Resources from the
Launch Loudoun Small Business Summit**



Resources and materials from the [Launch Loudoun Small Business Summit](#) are now available online! These roadmaps can help entrepreneurs get started or scale their business or concept.

[Download these free resources today!](#)

The Loudoun County Department of Economic Development recently introduced "Launch Loudoun", a new program that provides experiences and services for Loudoun entrepreneurs through the entire lifecycle of their small businesses. Current and future business owners can find value in Launch Loudoun programming, including large-scale events, targeted programs, partner advisory services, and personalized one-on-one networking with industry specialists.

The first event of the signature program was the Small Business Summit, an educational conference dedicated to connecting and providing resources for small businesses from all industries who are looking to start or scale their current concept or plan. It provided entrepreneurs practical support and networking opportunities through workshops that are facilitated by local experts and include topics such as finance and sales and marketing.

The Small Business Summit headlined Launch Loudoun's new portfolio of events that will be held throughout the year to cover the core focus areas of entrepreneurial business growth including finance, legal, human resources/workforce, sales/marketing, and ownership/leadership.

Loudoun Wins National Achievement Awards for Innovation

Loudoun County has been recognized with four 2023 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo).

The awards honor innovative, effective county government programs. Loudoun's award-winning programs are:



Hal & Berni Hanson Regional Park, Category: Parks and Recreation

The opening of the [Hal & Berni Hanson Regional Park](#) in September 2022 was the culmination of a years-long, multi-departmental effort on the part of Loudoun County to transform 257 acres of land into a state-of-the-art park designed for all ages and activity levels. The public played a pivotal role in helping to shape the park's features, which include a tournament-level disc golf course, the first-ever field in Loudoun specifically designed to be a dedicated cricket field, and two stadiums at the park designed as venues to hold regional and statewide tournaments.

Loudoun Farm Exchange, Category: Community and Economic Development

The [Department of Economic Development](#) created the [Loudoun Farm Exchange](#) to fill a gap in the supply chain among rural producers in the county. While Loudoun offers a robust network of rural products and services, no centralized system to connect them existed, resulting in a lack of knowledge, and therefore, money leaving the county unnecessarily. The Loudoun Farm Exchange was designed to offer both in person networking events, as well as a 24/7 digital option that allows the rural producers to connect in real time, discovering local resources, suppliers and service providers and creating connections within the Loudoun farming community.

Pre-K Skill Builders, Category: Children and Youth

The Loudoun County Pre-K Skill Builders is a self-paced program offered by [Loudoun County Public Library](#). The program is designed to strengthen preschoolers' school readiness skills, which research has shown to be

underdeveloped as a result of pandemic challenges. In the program, children and caregivers explore activities specifically chosen to focus on key areas: early literacy and math concepts, fine and gross motor skills, and social-emotional awareness.

Summer Camp Application Program, Category: Information Technology

The [Department of Family Services](#) provides annual financial assistance for eligible children to attend local summer camps through an application process. After years of paper-based applications, the department decided to look for ways technology could be leveraged to make the application process easier for families, and to reduce manual data entry for departmental staff. By utilizing cloud applications within the Microsoft 365 system, the department was able to fully digitize the application process. This allowed for a streamlined review process, greater internal collaboration and guaranteed that key stakeholders had visibility into the process from beginning to end. The department was able to accomplish all of this while utilizing a no-cost solution.

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

County Sells Bonds at Favorable Interest Rates



Loudoun County has sold \$189.7 million of general obligation (GO) bonds at a favorable interest rate of 3.20%. The sale generated \$27.6 million of premium, which was used to reduce the par amount of the bonds. Six bidders submitted offers for the county's bonds. Morgan Stanley & Co., LLC offered the bid with the lowest interest

rate, which the county accepted. In the weeks leading up to the bond sale, the municipal market held steady allowing the county to receive a favorable rate.

Proceeds from the GO bond sale will be used to finance the following county and school capital projects:

County Projects

- Parks & Recreation
 - Ashburn Recreation and Community Center
 - Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park Phase II
- Public Safety
 - Lovettsville Fire Station Replacement
- Transportation
 - Braddock Road – Royal Hunter to Gum Spring Road
 - Farmwell Road Intersection Improvements
 - Intersection Improvement Program
 - Route 50/Trailhead Drive Roundabout
 - Route 7 and Route 690 Interchange
 - Route 7 Improvements – Route 9 and Dulles Greenway
 - Route 9/Route 287 Roundabout
 - Sterling Boulevard/W&OD Trail Overpass

Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) Projects

- Elementary School Dulles South (ES-32)
- LCPS Capital Facility Renewals and Alterations
- School Security Improvements
- Valley Service Center Replacement
- Watson Mountain Middle School (formerly MS-14 Dulles North)

Additionally, the county has sold, through the Economic Development Authority (EDA), \$37.2 million of public facility revenue bonds, with a true interest cost of 3.24%. The county received \$4.7 million of premium which was used to downsize the par amount of the bonds. Eight bidders submitted offers for the bonds. Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc. offered the bid with the lowest interest rate, which the county accepted.

Proceeds from the EDA bond sale will be used to finance the following county and school capital projects:

County Projects

- General Government
 - Renovations to the Loudoun County Government Center
 - General Government Office Building – Phase I

- Mental Health, Substance Abuse & Developmental Services
 - Eastern Loudoun Group Residence
- Public Safety
 - Courts Complex Phase IV
 - Juvenile Detention Center
- Transportation
 - Phase 2 of the Dulles Metrorail Project (Silver Line Extension)

Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) Projects

- School Bus Replacement

More information about Loudoun County finances may be found at loudoun.gov/BondRatings.

REMINDER: Loudoun Tourism Grant Application for Fiscal Year 2024 Due May 31st

Loudoun County's annual Tourism Grant competitive process is underway with the posting of the Fiscal Year 2024 (FY 2024) grant application at loudoun.gov/tourismgrant. The grant program is designed to support local tourism initiatives and events that drive tourists to Loudoun County.



LOUDOUN TOURISM GRANTS

Attention nonprofits, municipalities & businesses:

Grants are available to support tourism, marketing and hospitality-related projects that will attract regional and national visitors to Loudoun County.



**Find details:
loudoun.gov/TourismGrant**

Nonprofits, municipalities and businesses located in Loudoun County are invited to apply for up to \$25,000 in funding for tourism, marketing and hospitality-related projects that attract regional and national visitors to Loudoun County.

Loudoun County's Tourism Grants are designed to support initiatives that bring more visitors to Loudoun County, increase overnight stays in Loudoun hotels, and enhance the overall attractiveness and marketability of Loudoun County as a destination. These may include new or existing attractions, events, programs or marketing campaigns.

Funding from the program is to be spent solely on initiatives that increase tourism or qualifying tourism promotions consistent with state code and the Board of Supervisors' Restricted Transient Occupancy Tax funding policy.

Any organization interested in submitting a request for funds must complete the grant application online. Applications must be submitted by 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 31, 2023. Additional information about the process, as well as a link to the online application form, may be found at loudoun.gov/tourismgrant.

Questions about the process may be directed to Darrell Simpson in the Department of Finance and Procurement by [email](#) or by phone at 571-258-3482.

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

Sterling District Supervisor
Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
[703-777-0204](tel:703-777-0204)

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