



Supervisor

Caleb A. Kershner

Catoctin District



Loudoun County
VIRGINIA



Happy New Year To The Catoctin District!

Dear Catoctin residents,

Happy New Year to each and every one of you! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. My family and I got to spend some quiet time together for the last few days of December, which was a wonderful chance to look back on our year and appreciate the memories.

But it's also good to be back in session and taking care of the county's business. The Board of Supervisors and the School Board were all sworn in this past Saturday. My kids even got to help with my own swearing-in. We said a fond farewell to outgoing Supervisor Tony Buffington, and welcomed in Supervisor Laura TeKrony as the representative for the Little River District.

I'm looking forward to a great year ahead of us for Loudoun County, and to a great new term serving the Catoctin District.



Image Credit: Photo of me being sworn in as Catoclin District Supervisor, with some help from my delightful family / Loudoun County Govt



Speaking of county business, we have some important items and meetings coming up this week.

Tomorrow, the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC) will hold its public hearing about a proposed increase to the Greenway tolls. Then on Wednesday, the Board of Supervisors will hold its monthly public hearing, where we will discuss (among other things) the Village at Clear Springs rezoning application and the Philomont Firehouse application. And finally, I wanted to check in with you about the PJM power lines situation.

Here's what you should know about each of these items.

Greenway Toll Hearing - Jan 9

The Virginia SCC is holding its hearing on the Greenway tolls tomorrow, **Tuesday, January 9**, from **6:00 - 10:00 PM**. The Greenway's owners want to increase the maximum toll level over a five-year period. Specifically, they want to charge a maximum toll for most drivers of \$8.10 during peak hours, up from the current \$5.80, and \$6.40 during off-peak hours, up from the current \$5.25. They also want the SCC to approve a streamlined process for considering and approving future increases.

This is a terrible idea. I flatly oppose it. The whole Board [opposes it](#). We are all tired of watching these toll rates climb higher and higher. This SCC hearing is a chance for us, and for you, to tell the SCC that they should deny this request.

The hearing will be [held in person](#) at Freedom-South Riding High School auditorium, 25450 Riding Center Drive, Chantilly, VA. I will be speaking at the hearing, and if you would like to come speak as well, I would love to see you there. To sign up to speak, just come 15 minutes before the meeting and register with the SCC's bailiff. Speakers will each get 5 minutes to make their comments.

If you aren't able to attend, the SCC is also accepting written comments from the public about this proposal. You can do that using the SCC's online form [here](#).

[Read More](#)

Board Public Hearing - Jan 10

The Board is holding its next monthly public hearing on **Wednesday, January 10**, starting at **6:00 PM**. Two important items on the agenda are the Village at Clear Springs rezoning application and the Philomont Firehouse application. You can find all of the documents for that public hearing [here](#), including detailed staff reports on those two applications, and you can attend the meeting in person or [watch it online](#).

The Village at Clear Springs rezoning application and the Philomont Firehouse application both closely affect the Catoclin District. I encourage residents from these communities to come to the meeting and give their comments. I've heard from some of you already, and am looking forward to hearing everyone's views that get shared at the hearing itself.

To speak publicly about any item on the public hearing's agenda, you can sign up in advance by calling 703-777-0200 before the deadline, which is noon on January 10. If you miss that signup deadline, you can [still come to speak on a first-come, first-served basis](#). To do that, you can go in person 30 minutes early and ask the clerk to speak, or you can call 703-880-8534 to give your comments by phone.

[Read Philomont Firehouse Item](#)

[Read Village at Clear Springs Item](#)

[Read the Other Items](#)

PJM Transmission Line Proposal

Last, but assuredly not least, I am still working on the PJM transmission power line situation. This was the unpleasant surprise proposal that would [run high-voltage power lines through the heart of Western Loudoun](#). Only the SCC can approve or deny this proposal; it's not something the Board has the legal authority to prevent.

I urged PJM's board [not to pursue this proposal](#), for so many obvious reasons. My office and I have been continuing to monitor this closely, and we'll have more details on this in my next newsletter.

Sincerely,

Supervisor Caleb A. Kershner

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