



Supervisor

**Caleb A. Kershner**

Catoctin District



**Loudoun County**  
VIRGINIA



## Speak At Our Budget Public Hearing Tomorrow

Dear Catoctin Residents,

**IMPORTANT CORRECTION:** The public hearing will happen **tomorrow, Saturday, February 27, at 9:00 AM**. My previous email accidentally said it was in *September*. I wanted to correct that ASAP.

Here is the email again, with that date corrected throughout:

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing about Loudoun County's FY 2022 budget on **Saturday, February 27, at 9:00 AM**. I strongly encourage you to sign up to speak at that hearing, so you can tell the Board what you think about the County's tax rate and budget plans.

You can sign up in advance, so call **(703) 777-0204** today and sign up as a speaker for the budget public hearing.

### Public Hearing Details

- **When:** Saturday, February 27, at 9:00 AM
- **Where:** The Board Room in the Loudoun County Government Center, at 1 Harrison Street SE, Leesburg, VA 20176
- **How:** Call (703) 777-0204 and sign up to speak

**Lower Tax Rates, But Your Bill Will Go Up**

Tim Hemstreet has proposed a \$1.005 tax rate for our FY 2022 budget. The good news is that's three cents lower than the current tax rate. Unfortunately, it would still increase your actual tax bill.

The reason is that residential property values have continued to grow, while commercial property values have actually declined. That makes intuitive sense; people still need homes, but during this pandemic, many businesses have switched their employees to remote work, so the demand for commercial space has dropped off.

Loudoun sets one tax rate for all real property based on its market value. So commercial properties will pay less because their assessed value has gone down. Residential properties won't be so lucky. Even at the proposed \$1.005 per \$100 of assessed value, the average homeowner in Loudoun will pay **\$175 more** than they did last year. However, depending on the home values in your neighborhood some homeowners could pay significantly more in taxes.

## LCPS Spending

One major issue for the FY 2022 budget is our payment to LCPS. Our public schools are a crucial part of Loudoun life. They are also the single largest item on the County's budget. But after seeing LCPS's student enrollment drop after 2020, I'm concerned that their enrollment won't return as quickly as they have been predicting. And I have questions about LCPS's budget during this period of distance learning, especially their transportation and fuel costs.

Right now, LCPS is asking Loudoun for \$951 million. That's a **10% increase** from their FY 2021 budget. This public hearing is your chance to tell us how you think we should respond to that request.

## Budget Resources

You can see the latest information about Loudoun's FY 2022 budget on the County's [budget webpage](#), including:

- A full copy of the [operational budget](#) and the [Capital Improvement Projects \(CIP\) budget](#).
- Tim Hemstreet's presentations on the [operational](#) and [CIP](#) budgets.
- A [summary of the proposed budget and tax rate](#), including predictions about Loudoun's economy and our likely budget needs for the year.

## Special Budget Work Sessions

The Board will also hold a number of special work sessions as we make our way through this budget process. Here's when those meetings will take place, and a tentative list of topics that we're likely to cover at each one:

### **Monday, March 1, at 6:00 PM**

- Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) Request
- Resource Requests - Support to Board Strategic Initiatives:
  - Drug Court Expansion
  - Body-Worn Cameras
  - Collective Bargaining
  - Other Requests (Environmental Commission Support, Trail Crew, YAS Expansion, Communications Team)

### **Thursday, March 4, at 6:00 PM**

- Resource Requests:
  - Sheriff's Office
  - Fire and Rescue
  - Commonwealth's Attorney
  - Community Corrections
  - Parks, Recreation and Community Services
  - Human Resources
  - Finance and Budget

### **Monday, March 8, at 6:00 PM**

- Resource Requests:
  - Clerk of the Circuit Court
  - Commissioner of the Revenue
  - Treasurer
  - County Administration
  - Transportation and Capital Infrastructure
  - Planning and Zoning
  - Building and Development

### **Thursday, March 11, at 6:00 PM**

- Resource Requests:
  - Health

- Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services
- Family Services
- Information Technology
- General Services

**Monday, March 15, at 6:00 PM**

- Capital Improvement Program (as recommended by the FGOEDC)
- Other Capital Funds

**Thursday, March 18, at 6:00 PM**

- Miscellaneous
  - Non-Departmental
  - Employee Pay
  - Regional Organizations/Non-Profits
  - NOVA EDA
  - Other Funds (if needed)
- Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) Budget Request
- Wrap Up

Sincerely,

***Supervisor Caleb A. Kershner***

*Catoctin District Supervisor  
Loudoun County Board of Supervisors  
Loudoun County, Virginia*

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