



**Summer of 2016 Quarterly Newsletter**

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Photos taken by Jessica Monte Photography

Dear Blue Ridge District friends, neighbors and residents,

Welcome to the third quarter edition of my newsletter. It has been a busy and enjoyable summer with a lot of activity in the Blue Ridge District.

### Useful Links:

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I hope you'll find my quarterly update helpful and informative. To start, here's a short list of recent and significant achievements:

- The Phase 2 portion of the Purcellville Northern Collector Road Study was suspended until after the Rt 7/Rt 690 interchange is operational at which point only scenario 5 alignment will be considered for further consideration.
- AT&T withdrew its application on Shorthill mountain.
- Board of Supervisors passed new codified noise ordinance to be enforced by Sheriff's office beginning Sept. 1.
- County successful in minimizing powerlines along Rt 50. Alternative 6 recommended by Dominion and SCC.
- Temporary traffic and safety improvements installed at Belmont Ridge Road and Northstar Blvd.
- Fleetwood Road paving - anticipated completion August 16th.
- Segment of Loudoun County Parkway (Evergreen Rd. to Creighton Rd.) opening early - August 22.

### Buffington Kids Corner

Hey kids,

It's time to get ready for the start of the 2016-2017 school year! I hope you are enjoying a fun and safe summer. The first day of school is just a few weeks away with Loudoun County Public Schools starting on August 29th. I wanted to personally wish you all the best in the coming school year.



I ask community members to please use care and consideration when traveling throughout our diverse district as children and buses will be around in the early morning hours and again multiple times each day. Safety First! Again - have a great new school year everybody!

### Purcellville Northern Collector Road Study Phase 2

As you may recall, the PNCR has been on the Countywide Transportation Plan (CTP) for years. The previous Board of Supervisors initiated a need and alignment study which resulted in several alignments being recommended for further

consideration. Of these alignments, one (Scenario 3) would have cut directly through the Wright Farm community. My review of the study resulted in my belief that:

- The PNCR is not currently needed, but may be at some point in the future.
- The Rt 7/Rt 690 Interchange needs to be accelerated.
- The Rt 7/Rt 287 Interchange needs to be improved.

Based upon my review and input from the community and Purcellville Town Council, I sought action at the Board of Supervisor (BOS) level to accomplish all of the above. That said, I'm happy to report that:

- On June 7, 2016, the BOS's unanimously approved a motion regarding the PNCR to:
  - Delay further consideration of the PNCR until after the Rt 7/Rt 690 Interchange is operational.
  - Update the CTP to reflect only Scenario 5 which does not cut through the Wright Farm community (see below).
  - Remove all but Scenario 5 and the no-build alternative from future consideration by the BOS's.
- On April 5, 2016, the BOS's adopted the FY 2017 Appropriations Resolution and Capital Improvement Plan which:
  - Accelerated funding for the Rt 7/Rt 690 Interchange.
  - Provided new funding for future improvements to the Rt 7/Rt 287 Interchange.

Please note that some refer to the section of roadway located west of Rt 611 as the PNCR; however, that section of road is the existing "Mayfair Crown Drive" and future "Fields Farm Road" - not the PNCR.

### Short Hill Mountain AT&T application



The Board of Supervisors took action to overrule the Planning Commission's approval of AT&T's Commission Permit (CMPT-2016-0001, AT&T Short Hill) at the June 23, 2016 business meeting on the basis of AT&T withdrawing its application. I commend the applicant for making this decision as I believe it is in the best interest of the County and the preservation of Short Hill.

I thank the residents of Western Loudoun for their numerous hours of involvement in this process. We all deeply appreciate your activism and turnout at community events and board meetings to ensure your voices were heard! This was a big win towards my goal of ensuring the future of western Loudoun's rural, historic and scenic culture for generations to come.

### New Codified Noise Ordinance Passed

On July 13, the Board passed an Amendment to the Codified Ordinances of Loudoun County that will once again allow the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office to enforce a county Noise Ordinance which has long been unenforceable. The Sheriff's Office will begin to enforce these changes on September 1, 2016. Please click [here](#) to review the amended regulations.

The general prohibition states that no person shall permit, operate or cause any source of sound or sound generation that is audible and discernible in any other person's residential dwelling with the doors and windows to that other person's residential dwelling closed. This noise ordinance applies to individuals, not commercial businesses.

Exemptions include the lawful discharge of firearms, agricultural operations, approved parades or fireworks, school or youth athletic and activities, and bells or chimes from a place of worship.

The zoning ordinance noise standards that apply to commercial businesses ([Revised 1993 Zoning Ordinance](#)) was forwarded to the September 22 Board Business Meeting for action. Public input is at 5:00 and 6:30 pm and advanced sign-up is available until noon the day of the Business Meeting. Contact the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors at 703-777-0204 to sign-up to speak.

### First Loudoun County State Park

On June 14, 2016, 604 acres of the 900-acre Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship land preserve, donated by the Robert and Dee Leggett Foundation to the Old Dominion Land Conservancy, were acquired by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.



I'm very excited about this future state park in northwestern Loudoun County as it will help preserve the rural, historic and scenic character of western Loudoun while helping to boost our rural economy and improve residential quality of life for generations to come! Read more [here](#).

### Route 50 Powerlines - County Alternative 6

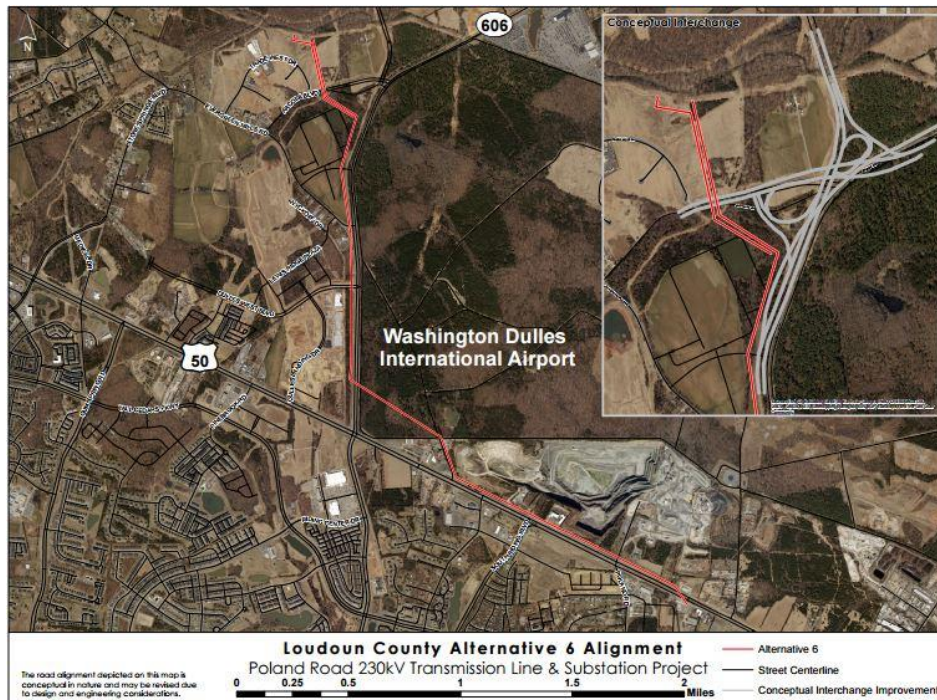
Route 50 is an important and highly traveled gateway to Loudoun County and I am happy to report that the original proposed alignments for powerlines along the route are no longer under consideration.

After much hard work and effort by the County and the community, Dominion has agreed to County Alternative 6 which will ensure the least negative impact to Route 50.

In July, the parties signed an amended stipulation that eliminates Dominion's originally proposed alignments along Route 50 and adopts County Alternative 6 as



the only route. Once the Hearing Examiner issues its report, the issue will go to the State Corporation Commission for final approval.



County Alternative 6

## Broadband Update

I wanted to let you know about a new state law (HB-912) that went into effect on July 1st which allows broadband providers to install the fiber and other infrastructure needed for high-speed internet along gravel roads. I believe this bill will help move us in the right direction towards improved broadband access in western Loudoun. I would like to thank my friend Delegate Randy Minchew for his work to ensure passage of this legislation!

I would also like to bring your attention to a state survey that will help identify areas in need of internet service. Please click [here](#) to complete this Broadband Survey if you have not already done so and feel free to share it with your friends and neighbors. The more information we are able to collect, the faster we will be able to move forward with broadband access.

Improving Broadband coverage throughout western Loudoun is one of my top priorities as Broadband is no longer a cool convenience, but a critical necessity. I will keep you updated as we continue to make progress towards improving Broadband and cellular coverage in western Loudoun.

## Transportation Updates

*\*Newest updates are italicized*

**Allder School Road** - This project designs and paves Allder School Road (Route 711) from Woodgrove Road (Route 719) to Hillsboro Road (Route 690). In this quarter, land acquisition was completed and the right-of-way is clear for construction which will begin September, 2016. *Utility negotiation and relocation work in progress.*

**Belmont Ridge Road:** This project will widen Belmont Ridge Road from two to four lanes. See below for details on each section:

- **Broadlands Blvd to Truro Parish Dr.** - The construction is underway by Brookfield Homes. *Traffic switched to new, future northbound lanes on May 4, 2016. Excavation in progress for southbound lanes. Project will be completed in August, 2016.*
- **Truro Parish Dr. to Northstar Blvd** - This section includes installation of a traffic signal at the Belmont Ridge Road/Croson Lane intersection which should be installed by mid-December, 2016. *DTCI has begun meeting with property owners to discuss right-of-way acquisition. Construction plan and plats have been provided to NOVA Parks for review.*
- **Bridge Over the Greenway** - VDOT staff provided analysis for restriping the bridge to accommodate four lanes as an alternative to constructing the bridge per the CTP with pedestrian accommodations and a sound wall. *Project kick-off meeting held June 29, 2016; design to be prepared by VDOT.*

**Claiborne Parkway** - This project constructs Claiborne Parkway as a four lane median divided road between Ryan Road and Croson Lane. In this quarter, the Preliminary Engineering Study was received from Columbia Gas and was reviewed. Assuming no delays with Columbia Gas' relocation work, a late Winter 2017/early Spring 2017 construction start is planned for the road. Completion planned for Summer 2018, weather permitting.

**Fleetwood Road Paving** - This projects paves Fleetwood Road between Route 50 and Evergreen Mills Road. *In order to accelerate project completion and ensure worker safety, access during the closure is limited to residents within the closure area and emergency responders. Through traffic is being detoured via Route 50, Stone Springs Boulevard (Route 659) and Evergreen Mills Road back to Fleetwood.*  
**Anticipated opening: August 16, 2016.**

**Forest Mills Road Bridge over Crooked Run** - This project replaces the Forest Mills Road Bridge over Crooked Run. The bridge will be replaced by a new single-lane structure. Safety will be improved with the addition of railings. Utility relocation is underway. *Advertisement for construction on schedule for September 13, 2016.*

**Loudoun County Parkway Widening** - This project reconstructs and widens the existing two-lane road to four lanes between Evergreen Mills Road and the Dulles Greenway. VDOT and the design/build team are finalizing the revised project

schedule, which has the following tentative milestone completions: one lane of Loudoun County Parkway onto Route 606 scheduled to open in September 2017, two lanes open by December 2017; two lanes of Route 606 between the Greenway and Commerce Center Court open in December 2017; the remainder completed by August 2018.

**Loudoun County Parkway (Evergreen Ridge Road to Creighton Road)** - This segment of the project is being completed by Toll Brothers. *I have been working with them to expedite the completion of the road and I am excited to announce the anticipated opening: August 22nd. Many thanks for*

**Northstar Boulevard (Route 50 to Shreveport)** - This project constructs the missing link between Rt. 50 and Shreveport Blvd. The preliminary scope of work is complete. Discussions are underway with Board members, County staff and the developer of Brambleton regarding alignment. VDOT Standard Project Administration Agreement was executed on March 1, 2016. *County is moving forward with preliminary engineering of this project.*

**Route 7/Route 690 Interchange** - This project constructs an interchange at the intersection of Rt. 7 and Rt. 690. County staff and Dewberry will meet with VDOT to discuss the issue of clearance with the height of the existing bridge over Route 7. As it stands now, if the bridge is widened it may have to be replaced. *County reviewing scoping document from Dewberry. Design phase initiated.*

**Route 7/Williams Gap Road Turn Lane** - This project improves traffic operations and safety at the intersection of Route 7 and Williams Gap Road. The Board of Supervisors endorsed the design of this project at their July 5, 2016 business meeting. Right of way acquisition to begin Fall 2016 and construction to begin Spring 2018. Anticipated construction completion Summer 2018.

**Route 9/Route 287 Roundabout** - This projects would construct a roundabout at the intersection of Rt. 9 and Rt. 287. The preliminary project design is funded using VDOT pre-scoping funds. Survey work is completed, but the geometrics of the area are requiring further analysis of the roundabout option. The project was submitted as a candidate for HB-2 funding, but was not recommended by VDOT staff. VDOT and County staff met on March 17, 2016 to discuss design alternatives; additional analysis was requested to finalize the report. *County to provide direction to VDOT on preferred alternative.*

**Route 50/Middleburg Traffic Calming** - This project will implement traffic calming, pedestrian access and safety improvements along Route 50 in the Town of Middleburg. The project will include new pedestrian lighting and will replace and upgrade over 2,000 feet of water main. Construction continues. VDOT coordinating with business owners to minimize impacts. *Planned completion of this project is October 2016.*

**Woodgrove High School/Fields Farm Park Road** - This project provides for the design and construction of a two-lane road connecting Woodgrove High School to

Route 690 through the County owned Fields Farm property. LCPS staff requested to increase the scope of the project to design and construct the second entrance into Woodgrove High School rather than terminate the road improvements at the LCPS lease line. This addition to the project scope has delayed design completion from Summer 2016 to Spring 2017.

For more detailed information on these or other projects in the county, please see the county's transportation update [webpage](#).

Click [here](#) for the slideshow presentation from my June 27th **Brambleton Area Transportation** Community meeting.



## Capital Project Updates

**Hal and Bernie Hanson Park** - This project provides for the design and construction of a regional park on Evergreen Mills Road in the Dulles planning subarea. The park will include active and passive recreational amenities to include up to 17 athletic fields, recreational trails, park offices, a nature center, picnic pavilions, maintenance shops, and associated infrastructure such as parking and restrooms. In this quarter, on April 21, 2016, the Board approved the contract award for facility design to Lose & Associates. A design kick-off meeting was held on May 3, 2016 to initiate the project.

**Animal Services Facility** - This project provides for the design and construction of a 25,000 square foot animal services facility to replace the existing County Animal Services Facility in Waterford. In this quarter, on May 19, 2016, the Board of Supervisors approved the contract award for facility design to Animal Arts Design Studios. A scoping meeting was held on June 3, 2016 with the Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure (DTCI) and Animal Services staff to initiate the design process.

**Dulles Rail, Silver Line Extension** - In this quarter, Capital Rail Constructors (CRC) initiated construction operations in Loudoun County, including clearing and grubbing for both the Loudoun Gateway (Route 606) and the Ashburn Station (Route 772). Maintenance of traffic plans have been implemented on the Greenway in preparation for the widening at the Ashburn Station. During this quarter, a schedule of regular weekly construction coordination meetings was established and will carry through until completion.



**Metro Parking Structures** - This project provides funding to construct commuter parking garages at the Loudoun Gateway and Ashburn stations along the Metro silver line. In this quarter, the Board voted at its May 19, 2016 business meeting to terminate negotiations with Nexus Properties to deliver the Ashburn South and Loudoun Gateway commuter parking garages. The County is now pursuing a self-perform option through design-build procurement. Construction completion of the parking garages is anticipated in Summer 2019.

**Round Hill Developmental Services Group Residence** - This project designs and constructs a 3,400 square foot four to five bed, barrier free group residence on a County-owned parcel in Round Hill. Due to a need to re-evaluate the HVAC and electrical components of the residence design to bring the project within budget, design completion has been delayed from Spring 2016 to Summer 2016.

If you are interested in other capital improvement projects that are not listed above, please see the county's most recent [CIP quarterly report](#) or the [CIP interactive map](#).

### Changes Coming to Loudoun County Bus Service August 1

Loudoun County Transit will implement several service changes beginning Monday, August 1, 2016. The modifications include changes to fares, routes and schedule formats.

#### Fares:

- Reduction of fares on Routes 72, 83 and 84 on the local bus system from \$2.00 to \$1.00
- One free transfer between local Loudoun County bus routes
- An increase from \$8.00 to \$9.00 per trip on all bus service to and from Rosslyn, the Pentagon, Crystal City, and Washington D.C.

#### Routes:

Some sections of local bus routes are being eliminated while other bus routes are being extended or modified. The bus routes affected include:

- Route 62 - Ashburn Connector
- Route 72 - Wiehle Express
- Route 84 - Atlantic Connector
- Route 85 - Dulles South Connector
- Route 87X
- Route 89X - Telos Park & Ride - Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station
- Safe-T-Ride

Details on the route changes are online [here](#).

#### Schedule Formats:

Changes to the schedules include renaming and reformatting of timetables for Metro Connection services to make the schedules more user friendly. The changes were

developed through an extensive public process that included direction from the Board of Supervisors and input from the public. Loudoun Transit conducted a metric analysis of its service to help evaluate the overall system performance and to analyze the performance of individual routes.

More detailed information about the changes can be found online [here](#).

## Resolutions in the Blue Ridge District



### **Resolution of Commendation for the Loudoun Valley STEM Club:**

Loudoun Valley High School's first STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) club recently created an inexpensive, solar-powered emergency alert system that was named one of the top prize winners in the Samsung Solve For Tomorrow contest.

Their project, which uses radio frequencies, was selected out of over 4,100 contestants from all over the country. The group's hard work won \$120,000 in technology for their school.

The team was led by José Rodriguez and Erin Wissler. Members of the team include Gwen Eging, Morgan Freiberg, Summer Harvey, Riley Herr, Carter Hunt, Jackson Kennedy, Sean Lohr, Blake Messegee, Malcolm Miller, Ethan Rodriguez, Riley Schnee, and Graeson Smith. I commend the Loudoun Valley students for their award winning work and efforts to keep our community safe.

### **Resolution of Commendation for Eagle Scout**

**Carlos Fernandes II:** Carlos Fernandes II, a member of Troop 711, Goose Creek District, became a Boy Scout in 2008. Carlos completed the steps to be awarded the rank of Eagle Scout on December 19th, 2015. For his Eagle service project, Carlos organized a service project to design, build, and install a guard rail for Tree of Life Ministries' storage loft. The guard rails constructed made it easier and safer for workers and volunteers accessing the loft space.



*If you know of a resident in the Blue Ridge District that has made a significant achievement in our community, please contact my office so they can be considered for a Resolution of Commendation.*

## Mark Your Calendar: Upcoming Community Events

**78th Annual Ladies Board Rummage Sale:** Named 2015 and 2016 Best Annual Charity Event in Northern Virginia by Virginia Living Magazine, the Ladies Board Rummage Sale is known as the largest sale in the mid-Atlantic region. It is the ultimate in bargain hunting and attracts a loyal, growing fan base each year. The rummage sale will take place on Oct. 15-16 at Morven Park - 41793 Tutt Lane, Leesburg. See more information, please visit their [website](#) or [facebook](#).

**Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter Golf Event:** All golfers are invited to an 18-hole scramble tournament on Friday, September 2nd at the 1757 Golf Club in Ashburn. The goal of this event is to raise awareness and funds for the many programs and resources offered by LAWS to those in need of our services. The cost is \$125/player. If you are not proficient at swinging the club and want to learn, come to the Sip and Swing portion of the event from 5:30 to 8:00 pm for only \$50/person.

**Parks, Recreation and Community Services 50th Anniversary:** A 50th Anniversary Kickoff Celebration Saturday, August 13, 2016, from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. will be held at Franklin Park, 17501 Franklin Park Drive, Purcellville. Everyone is invited to enjoy performances by The Plunge, The Immortals, Witches Brew and Jessica Endara, WINC 92.5 FM live broadcast, fabulous food, children's activities, giant inflatables, giveaways, and FIREWORKS! Click [here](#) for more information.

**Sprout on the Green Charity Golf Tournament:** This premier 4-person scramble tournament will take place on August 22nd and will feature a hearty lunch, 18-holes along the scenic Potomac River with complimentary beverage cart, and a fabulous dinner with silent auction award ceremony. Non-golfers and families are welcome to attend for dinner! Please visit their [website](#) for more information or to register for the event.

**Sprout Gallop Gala:** This premier "barn black tie" event features a live auction, dinner and dancing on the bucolic Sprout Center farm in Virginia's horse country. This event will take place on Saturday, September 17th starting at 5:30 pm at 40685 John Mosby Highway, Aldie.

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All my best,



Tony

Blue Ridge District Supervisor

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