



UPDATE: Sterling District Projects and Initiatives

July 30, 2020

Dear Sterling,

I wanted to update constituents on several projects of importance to the Sterling District. If you have questions about any of the items below, please do not hesitate to contact me at Koran.Saines@loudoun.gov.

Winchester Wall (Route 7 Wall) Painting

We all have complained over the years about the appearance of the wall on Route 7 near Sterling Blvd. that protects homes on Winchester Drive from cars on Route 7. There have been suggestions of a mural. We checked with the Virginia Department of Transportation but they denied a mural, stating they considered it a potential distraction for drivers. They did say we could repaint the wall, though.

The "Winchester Wall" had not been painted for many years and become an eye sore. I passed a Board Member Initiative ("BMI") in February to direct County staff to look

into options for painting it. In the lead up to staff issuing their final report, I asked each resident on Winchester Drive which option they prefer for implementing the BMI.

In June, staff issued their report and the Board of Supervisors approved implementing Option 1, which Winchester residents overwhelmingly preferred (the reason I asked them is they are the ones who live and breathe this every day—they have to see the wall each time they step outside their home). This will paint the wall on both sides matte green, take down all the trees next to the wall and plant new, grown trees to replace them.

Right now, the project is in the design phase, pending identifying funding for the rest of the project and approval from the Virginia Department of Transportation, so we can update the wall with a new finish, painting, and trees.

[Read the Full Staff Report](#)

Sanitation Districts

A major issue in Sterling and other areas in Loudoun is the cost and quality of sanitation services. I passed a BMI in May of 2019 to direct staff to study creating the option for "Sanitation Districts" ("SD's") in Loudoun County to give residents a chance to pool together to get a group rate for trash collection while also holding vendors accountable through contractual standards enforced by the County. These would be voluntary, citizen-driven and would only be created if residents of an area request and vote for creating a sanitation district through a petition process.

Staff recently reported back on their study. They confirmed we can have SD's but identified a troubling provision in Virginia law which requires five-year notice to sanitation companies prior to implementation. This is unacceptable and unfair. Currently, homeowners individually and HOA's can cancel sanitation contracts with 60- or 90-days' notice. Residents pooling together under a SD should have the same right. I will work with the County's legislative liaison and our state legislators to get the state

legislature to remove this unfair, onerous restriction to allow Loudoun to implement SD's in a timely manner.

If people don't want SD's they can continue with their current trash collection arrangement but people should have the opportunity to create a SD if they are unhappy with the quality and/or cost of their current vendor.

[Read the Full Staff Report](#)

Sterling Community Center

The Sterling Community Center broke ground this spring. This project will add 2,000 square feet to the existing facility, improve the center's entrances, expand the gym, create an outdoor amphitheater and new patio, as well as expand the recreation area for teens. This will provide Sterling residents with a first-class facility that will serve as a hub of our community.

The construction contract was awarded to Forrester Construction on November 26, 2019 and the notice to proceed was issued on January 24, 2020. In the past three months, work included the installation of the geothermal system, underpinning of the existing building, site utility work, foundation installation, structural steel installation and slab rough-in of MEP. In the next quarter, the Phase I site work will be completed, foundations, slab on grade and masonry wall work will continue, the parking lot of Phase I will be installed and the MEP rough-in will commence.

The project is scheduled to be completed in 2022 and I will work to ensure there are no delays in the project.

Sterling Fire & Rescue Station

This quarter, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and possible impacts to the bond market, the bidding of the Sterling Fire and Rescue Station replacement was put on hold. In addition, the design team completed the 100% design drawings and specifications, submitted the site plan for approval, and are preparing the project documents for bid over the summer. In the next quarter, DTCI and Procurement will receive bids, review the bidders, and make a recommendation to award the construction contract.

I will keep in contact with County staff to make sure that when a contractor is selected that it gets done on time and correctly. When completed, this will provide Sterling with a modern facility for our fire and rescue personnel.

Sidewalk & Trail Program

At our July 21 meeting the Board forwarded 12 projects recommended for the Sidewalk & Trail program to the Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Improvement Program budget deliberation for programming. The Sidewalk & Trail program identifies “missing links” in Loudoun’s sidewalks and trails system.

Half of the 12 projects will be in Sterling. They are the following:

- 0.56 miles of sidewalk on the north side of Sterling Boulevard from Shaw Road to the W&OD Trail;
- 0.15 miles of sidewalk on the north side of East Maple Avenue from Enterprise Street to South Sterling Boulevard;
- 0.35 miles of sidewalk on the south side of Church Road from Magnolia Road to Existing Sidewalk west of West Holly Avenue;
- 0.32 miles of sidewalk on the west side of Blossom Drive from Victoria Station Drive to Magnolia Road;

- 0.35 miles on the south side of Potomac View Road from Cascades Parkway to First Baptist Church Driveway (whether this will be a sidewalk or shared use path is to be determined); and
- 1.2 miles of sidewalk on both sides of Davis Drive from South Sterling Boulevard to Church Road.

[Read the Full Item](#)

Intersection Improvement Program

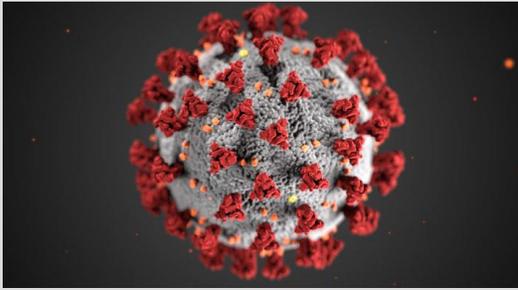
At our July 21 meeting the Board forwarded 10 projects recommended for the Intersection Improvement program to the Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Improvement Program budget for deliberations and programming. This will bring traffic lights to intersections where there currently is a high safety risk absent lights.

3 of the 10 intersections are in Sterling. Those intersections are:

- Sterling Boulevard/Glenn Drive;
- Sugarland Road and Church Road/East Frederick Drive; and
- Sterling Boulevard/West Laurel Avenue

[Read the Full Item](#)

Stay Informed!



The county continues to encourage everyone in the community to take steps to limit the spread of COVID-19, which include:

- Wear a mask/face covering ([see requirements](#))
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer only if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Avoid non-essential travel.

LOUDOUN COUNTY



VIRGINIA

Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19

- To receive email updates on COVID-19, visit loudoun.gov/coronavirus.
- Text **LCCOVID19** to **888777** to receive text alerts from Loudoun County about COVID-19.
- Envíe un mensaje de texto con **LCCOVIDESP** al **888777** para actualizaciones diaras relacionadas con el coronavirus (COVID-19) en el condado de Loudoun.

Residents with questions about COVID-19 may call the Loudoun County Health Department's information line, 703-737-8300, or email health@loudoun.gov.

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

Sterling District Supervisor

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

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