



New Gum Spring Road and Rt. 50 Intersection Opening Wednesday, May 21

There are big changes coming to Gum Spring Road – both short term and long term. Last week I hosted a meeting with County staff, VDOT, and the developers responsible for construction to explain the changes. I know that many were not able to attend that meeting, so this email is intended to be a synopsis. The complete presentation is available at my website, www.loudoun.gov/dulles. As always, please feel free to contact me via email with any questions or comments – matt.letourneau@loudoun.gov.

First, a little background – the realignment of Gum Spring Road between Tall Cedars and Route 50 has been planned for well over a decade. Ultimately, the next phase of changes beyond those beginning this week will take Gum Spring Road over Route 50 to the future Arcola Boulevard, providing a direct connection to Route 606 and Loudoun County Parkway. (That project was identified for funding in the FY15 budget recently passed by the Board of Supervisors—though funding will not be available for several years.) For now, I will focus on the changes surrounding the Gum Spring Road and Route 50 intersection that are set to begin this week.

First, there are two name changes about to take place. The road previously marked as “West Spine Road”—the one that you use heading northbound if you are going east on 50, will be renamed “Gum Spring Road.” Gum Spring Road as it exists today will be renamed “Gateway Village Place.”

The intersection of the “new” Gum Spring Road and Route 50 is set to open on Wednesday, May 21. At that time, the existing portion of Gum Spring Road/Gateway Village Place will be closed just north of the intersection with Tall Cedars Parkway. This will close permanently with a cul-de-sac to be constructed.

Drivers seeking to access the Gum Spring Village Center must do so initially only from Route 50. In the short term, Southpoint Drive is being extended across Gateway Village Place, which

will provide access from Millstream right next to the library. In the longer term, Southpoint Drive will extend across all the way to the new Gum Spring Road.

Drivers heading both north and south will now be using the “new” Gum Spring Road. For northbound traffic, there will be two left and two right turn lanes. Vehicles continuing north to the Ashburn area will need to take a left at 50, and then a right on Gum Spring at the Emergency Center.

Around September, the northern stretch of Gum Spring Road will also close between 50 and a location south of the old fire station. This road will become an internal road as part of the HCA StoneSprings Hospital campus. All northbound traffic will be routed to Stone Springs Blvd, which is being constructed on the north side of 50. Stone Springs Blvd will meet up with the existing Gum Spring Road. The Board of Supervisors has initiated an engineering analysis of the Gum Spring/Evergreen Mills Road intersection, but any changes made there are not related to the Stone Springs Blvd extension.

Southbound traffic on Gum Spring Road from the north will now either turn right on 50, to access Stone Springs Blvd, or left to access Gum Spring Road. You will still be able to travel straight across, but it will not connect beyond Gum Spring Village Center. Southbound traffic coming from the east will now have two left turn lanes onto Gum Spring Road, which should help with the long delays we currently experience.

The section of Tall Cedars Parkway between Gum Spring Road and Millstream Drive will also close for 60-90 days to allow for a reconstruction of the Tall Cedars and Gum Spring intersection, to fix elevation issues, and install turn lanes. There will be a detour route established during this time using Greenstone Drive to Stone Springs Boulevard. The detour will be specifically for local traffic wishing to travel westbound in order to access Gum Spring Library, the Village Center, and the schools. Through traffic will still be able to continue on Gum Spring Road to Route 50 and points east, west and north.

During the first three weeks of construction, Gum Spring Road will be reduced to one lane southbound in the vicinity of Tall Cedars Parkway. I believe that this may end up being the most disruptive part of the changes, so expect some delays here.

Following the completion of this intersection, work will begin on a new right turn lane for Providence Ridge. The work will be completed by the same developer doing the Tall Cedars Parkway work.

Finally, in anticipation of greater volumes on Stone Springs Blvd following the configuration change, Van Metre companies has decided to accelerate their proffer to construct a turn signal at the Millstream/Stone Springs intersection. They would like to have that signal operational by September.

The Loudoun County Sheriff’s Office is well aware of these changes and will be conducting extra patrols when the detour starts on Wednesday. There are concerns in particular about some potential increased volume on Greenstone, so drivers should be vigilant and drive slowly.

I understand that these changes are complicated, and there may be some inconvenience during construction. I have attached a map that might help demonstrate the changes that will be made and you can view the presentation from last week's meeting [here](#). As always, I'm happy to answer questions and address concerns.

