



Chair Phyllis J. Randall

Newsletter



Hello Loudoun:

I hope everyone has been staying safe and cool for these past couple of weeks, as this summer has brought some *very* hot days to Loudoun! Just a few things to keep in mind: remember to look at the weather forecast beforehand if you are planning on doing any sort of outdoor activity, and of course don't forget to drink plenty of water. You can find out more information about how to beat-the-heat by visiting the Loudoun webpage on how to stay cool [HERE](#).

Fourth of July Parade in Leesburg



Red, White and Blue!

This year for the Fourth of July, I attended the Leesburg Independence Day Parade. It was great to see so many people come out to celebrate all the things that make our nation such a wonderful place to live, grow and thrive. I want to thank every Loudoun resident who came out to the parade to celebrate, and I hope everyone had a fun and safe July Fourth holiday!



Congratulations to Loudoun Valley Alum Jordan Miller!

Heading to the NBA

Jordan Miller is as kind as he is talented. As a high school student, Jordan was an exceptional athlete and even broke his school's career point record, scoring 1722 points throughout his time at Loudoun Valley. Jordan went on to play basketball at George Mason University, and later the University of Miami, where he recently graduated with a degree in communication studies and a minor in sport administration. And just this past June, Jordan was drafted by the Los Angeles Clippers to play in the NBA this upcoming season.





It was my pleasure to present Jordan with a resolution from the BOS celebrating his many accomplishments. Congratulations also goes out to his parents and extended family who have been an important part of his village in his hometown of Middleburg.

Board Business

Loudoun Board Authorizes Community Development Authority for Rivana Public Infrastructure

On July 18, 2023, the Loudoun Board of Supervisors authorized the creation of the Rivana at Innovation Station Community Development Authority (CDA).

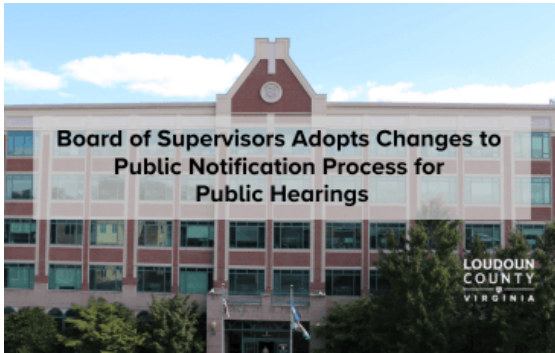


The CDA is a mechanism that allows for an investment in public infrastructure for the development without impacting the county's bond rating and fiscal health.

Rivana at Innovation Station is a 79-acre site northwest of Innovation Station, a stop along Metrorail's Silver Line, which was approved during the May 16, 2023, Board meeting for up to 2,719 multifamily units and 3,297,000 square feet of office, retail and civic space. Rivana's owners, DWC Holdings LLC, petitioned for the CDA to help provide the public infrastructure, facilities and services for the development.

A CDA is intended to help finance public infrastructure and service costs for large-scale projects that would be difficult to finance otherwise. The county can authorize the CDA to issue debt using special revenues without obligating the "full faith and credit" of the county. Revenue for the Rivana CDA's public infrastructure costs will come primarily from sharing of real property tax revenues generated by the future development within the CDA.

Find out more about this project on the Loudoun County website by clicking [HERE](#)



Loudoun County Updates Public Notification Process for Public Hearings

At its July 5, 2023, meeting, the Loudoun Board of Supervisors approved an update to its Rules of Order, which changes the notice requirements related to approval of land use applications and amendments to county ordinances.

State Code Changes

The changes in the state code require that notice of ordinance amendments or land use applications be published no more than 14 days before the intended passage or adoption of such items. As a practical matter, this means the Board of Supervisors must either take a final vote on agenda items for ordinances and land use applications immediately following the required public hearing or advertise the item for another public hearing at which time action may be taken. Advertisement of such public hearing items must be published no more than 14 days prior to the planned vote in two consecutive weeks.

To comply with the updated state code, Loudoun County will advertise ordinance amendments or land use applications no more than 14 days before the intended passage or adoption of such items in a local newspaper of record.

Additionally, all of the Board of Supervisors public meetings and meeting documents are posted on the county's website at least three days prior to a meeting in accordance with Virginia law. The Board's meeting schedule is posted at loudoun.gov/calendar and the Board's meeting documents are posted at loudoun.gov/bosdocuments.

Changes Governing Conduct on Metro

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors has adopted a new section of the county's codified ordinances that governs behavior on Metrorail trains as well as in Metrorail stations and facilities in the county. The Board unanimously approved the new ordinance at its July 12, 2023, public hearing.

Most prohibited conduct will be considered an "unclassified" misdemeanor, which is punishable by a fine of up to 50 dollars for the first offense, and up to 100 dollars for subsequent offenses. Examples of these offenses include fare evasion, smoking, spitting, littering, walking with bare feet and marking or drawing on a rail car.

Offenses that pose a more serious threat to public safety are Class 1 misdemeanors, which are punishable by up to twelve months in jail and/or a fine of up to \$2,500. These offenses include carrying flammable liquids, opening a door or window on a rail car without justifiable reason, interfering with the operation of an escalator or elevator, being

on a track, tunnel, catwalk or any other part of the railcar system and riding on top of, on the side of, or between two rail cars.

The Board's action came at the request of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) in support of its efforts to have uniform regulations across the Metrorail system. WMATA's Silver Line Metrorail service began operating in Loudoun County in November 2022 and includes three stations: Dulles Airport, Loudoun Gateway and Ashburn.

The new ordinance will be primarily enforced by the Metro Transit Police Department. The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office also will enforce the new ordinance as calls for service dictate.

Text of the adopted ordinance is included in the July 12, 2023 staff report. The newly approved county ordinance will be posted online in the coming weeks at loudoun.gov/ordinances.

August Recess

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors will be on recess for the month of August. The Board of Supervisors meeting schedule is always available on the Loudoun County BOS webpage, and the dates and times of upcoming BOS meetings can be found HERE.

Opposing Toll Increases



Loudoun County to Oppose Greenway Toll Increase Proposal

Loudoun County continues to oppose toll rate increases that have once again been proposed by the operators of the Dulles Greenway. Toll Road Investors Partnership II (TRIP II) has filed an application with the State Corporation Commission (SCC), which is the entity that considers such requests.

TRIP II has requested a toll increase of 22% for off-peak hours and a 40% increase during peak morning and afternoon hours, which the corporation claims is necessary to meet its debt obligation. Data show, however, that use of the Greenway is down because of its already high toll rate. Traffic on the Greenway decreased substantially during the COVID-19 pandemic and has not returned to pre-COVID levels.

To promote use of the Greenway by more motorists, Loudoun County has consistently supported changing the Greenway's toll structure to distance-based tolling while also lowering toll rates. The Greenway operator has the ability to implement both changes now.

In addition, Loudoun County has opposed any legislation that would potentially permit automatic toll rate increases each year of an unknown amount and an extension of the Greenway's operator's license for an unlimited period of time, which is not good for Loudoun residents. The county's opposition to automatic toll rate increase legislation and continued support of the SCC review process is intended to protect Loudoun residents who may choose to use the Greenway from arbitrary toll rate increases. Automatic toll rate increase legislation was previously defeated by the Virginia State Senate twice on bipartisan votes.

Loudoun County Health Department is Now Locally Administered

The Loudoun County Health Department is now under the administration of the county government, completing a process formally initiated by Loudoun County in 2020 with its fall Legislative Report, to serve Loudoun residents better and improve several operational efficiencies. Under an agreement between Loudoun County and the Virginia Department of Health, the department has transitioned from state to local administration, effective July 1, 2023.

Approximately fifty former state employees of the Loudoun County Health Department have transitioned to county employment, joining other county employees who were already employed in the department, with all reporting up to the County Administrator and the Board of Supervisors.

The benefits of local control of the Health Department include greater administrative efficiencies and the ability to better align resources with community needs and goals. Local administration provides the county with greater control over budget and programmatic choices, allowing the county to better manage responsive programming for Loudoun's residents and businesses and to set priorities for the department in alignment with the Board of Supervisors' vision and strategy.

Local administration also allows the county to better address the disparities in salaries and benefits that occurred between state and county employees performing the same or similar work in the Health Department. In addition, local administration will eliminate the need for duplicate systems in the areas of technology and human resources, for example.

The local administration of the Health Department is something the county has been working toward for several years and I am pleased to see this come to fruition. I look forward to the increased efficiencies and the elimination of any disparity between state and county employees.

More information about the services provided by the Loudoun County Health Department is online at loudoun.gov/health.

Loudoun Awarded Federal Grant for Low-Emission, Compressed Natural Gas Buses



The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has awarded Loudoun County \$13.8 million to purchase 37 compressed natural gas buses, construct a fueling station and update its maintenance facility. The purchase of buses for Loudoun County Transit, the county's bus system, is a key step in the county's efforts to achieve the goals of the Loudoun County Energy Strategy, which include reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in transportation and leading by example in county government operations.

The new buses will replace the current buses in the county's fixed-route, local bus service, which are nearing the end of their useful life. These buses provide vital transportation services to many low-income residents who depend on public transportation in order to work, go to school, medical appointments, grocery shopping and accomplish many other activities of daily life.

Officials estimate that the new buses will lead to an annual reduction of 447.55 metric tons of greenhouse gases, which, in terms of emissions benefits, equates to:

- 98 gasoline vehicles taken off the road.
- 180 tons of waste recycled.
- 3.1 acres of US forest preserved.
- 7,459 trees planted.

The new buses and fueling station are expected to be operational by the end of 2024.

The grant awarded to Loudoun County is through the FTA's Low- and No-Emission (Low-No) Vehicle Program, which is designed to put cleaner buses on the road by supporting the transition of the nation's transit fleet to the lowest polluting and most energy-efficient transit vehicles. The program makes funding available to help transit agencies buy or lease American-built low- or zero-emission vehicles, including buses and vans and make facility and station upgrades to accommodate low- or zero-emission vehicles.

Loudoun County's grant application was one of 130 selected by the FTA for funding out of a total of 475 eligible projects. In all, the FTA awarded \$1.69 billion in Fiscal Year 2023 funding for projects in 46 states and territories.

More information about Loudoun County's efforts to increase energy sustainability, as well as other environmental initiatives, is online at loudoun.gov/environment.

[Contact Us](#)

Sincerely,

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