



# CHAIR PHYLLIS J. RANDALL NEWSLETTER



## Hello, Loudoun

Early in September, the Board broke ground on the Ashburn Senior Center located on Marblehead Drive next to Potomac Green Neighborhood Park in Ashburn. The 15,000-square-foot facility will include a small gymnasium, a large multipurpose room with pickleball courts, classrooms, a commercial kitchen, a fitness room, a game room, a computer lab and an arts-and-crafts room. Construction is estimated to be completed in spring 2021 and the center should open to the public by fall 2021. I am pleased it is moving forward to meet the needs of our fast-growing senior population.

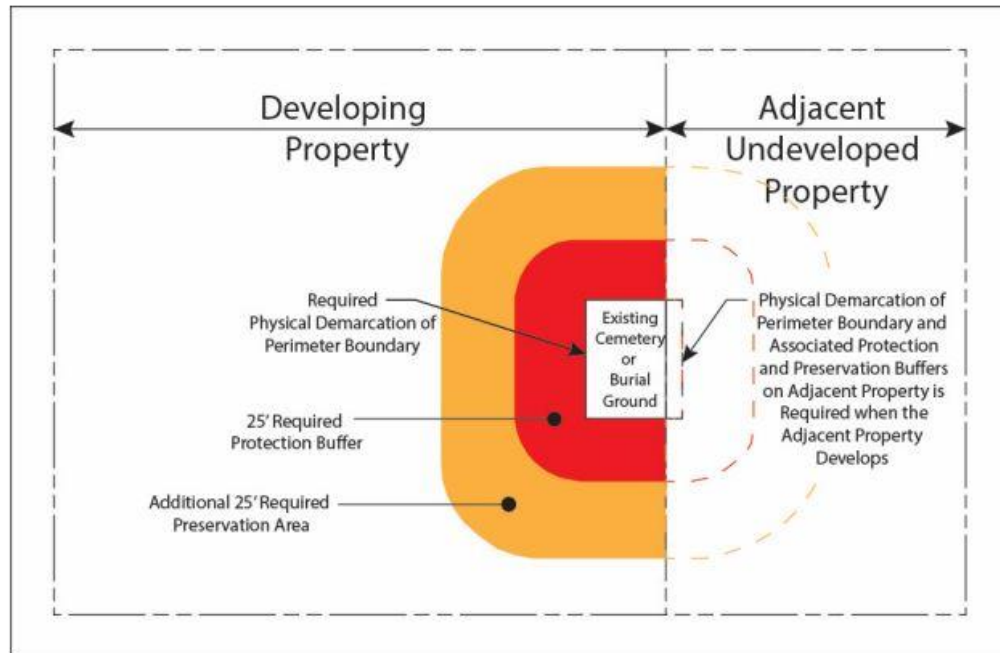


### Cemetery Buffer

At the September 9th Board public hearing, I moved to separate the cemetery buffer from the larger zoning ordinance amendment about setbacks, buffers, screening, and related landscaping. Staff will bring the cemetery, burial ground, and grave buffer standards to the October 17th Board business meeting for further consideration. My understanding from staff is that the second 25 foot preservation area (see picture below) would include foliage and grading only. The item proposed structures (parking and buildings) for the second 25 feet so I did not support it. I believe there are enough valid concerns and emotions from the public to merit additional review. We need to work on this item with an abundance of caution and respect.

The Heritage Commission (HC) prefers a non-modifiable, 50-foot buffer for cemeteries, burial grounds, and graves (please see picture below). The HC also supports prior draft text that would have required a modifiable, 50-foot buffer that comprises a 25-foot protection buffer plus a 25-foot preservation buffer.

### HC Cemetery Buffer Recommendation

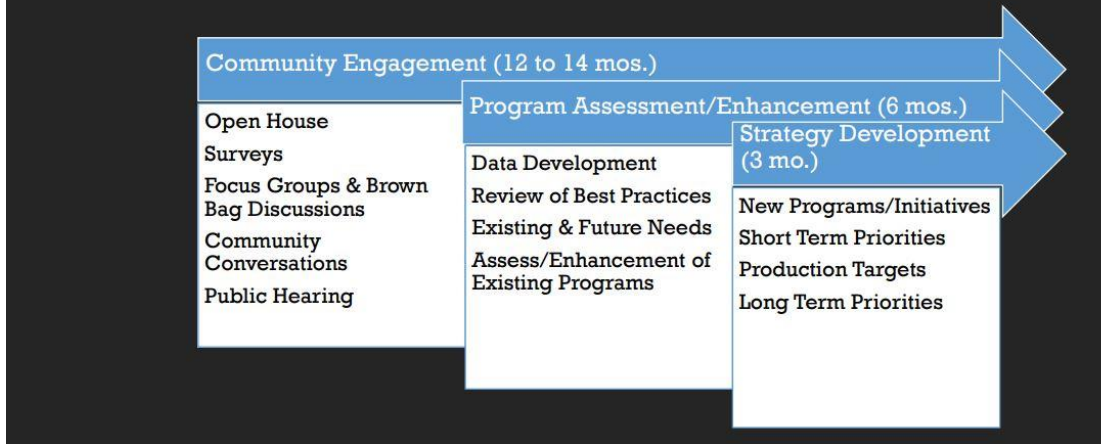


### Unmet Housing Strategic Plan

At the September 19th Board meeting, the Board approved the Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan process which is expected to take 12 to 14 months to accomplish (see timeline below). During the Loudoun 2019 Comprehensive Plan review, I made the motion to develop this plan prior to the approval of any zoning map amendments requesting higher densities planned in the urban policy area outside the metro tax district, suburban policy area, and the transition policy area. Unmet housing needs is not just affordable housing; it is a continuum of housing or a variety of housing types, sizes, and prices (both rental and homeownership) necessary to meet the County's current and anticipated needs. Best practices and examples of successful programs implemented elsewhere will be investigated to provide a broad array of options for the Board to consider.

There will be community engagement throughout the process to help solve this complex issue. Staff is planning to hold an open house kickoff in late October to provide information about existing housing programs and data. A webpage for the Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan where data, links to background studies and plans, staff reports, meeting and event calendar, and survey links will be available. I will let you know when it is online.

# Plan Components & Timeline



## Zoning Ordinance Overhaul

At the September 19th Board meeting, we endorsed the Zoning Ordinance Overhaul Project Plan and agreed to proceed with the deliverables, tasks, and schedule as outlined in the staff report. The Zoning Ordinance is the primary implementation tool for the Loudoun 2019 Comprehensive Plan. The Zoning Ordinance needs to be revised to maintain consistency between the new comprehensive plan's vision and regulatory planning documents. There has not been a comprehensive update of the ordinance since January 2003; therefore, the overhaul project will include updating the content and structure of the Zoning Ordinance based on modern best practices in land use regulation.

The core work on the Zoning Ordinance Overhaul is expected to require approximately 24 months to complete (please see schedule). The public will be engaged to get ideas on a finite number of options and take feedback on the proposed updates to the Zoning Ordinance. Outreach tools for community groups will include, but are not limited to: focus groups, discussion items at applicable advisory bodies and community group meetings, informational materials, e-notification or mail inserts, website postings, an online survey, and special events.

## Milestones\*

- Sept 2019 Consultant selection, Project Plan
- Oct 2019 Project kickoff, Web tools
- Early 2020 Round 1 community input
- July 2020 ROIA
- Mid 2020 90-day referral review
- Late 2020 Round 2 community input
- Mid 2021 Planning Commission
- Late 2021 Board of Supervisors

\*Quarterly status reports to the Board will occur throughout the project

### Proposed Red Flag Law Policy Statement

At the September 19th Board meeting, I requested that we support state legislation that outlines the procedure, notification requirements, and evaluation processes for determining an emergency severe threat order of protection, and upon such order, 1) removes firearms under the possession of the respondent to a responsible custodian, local law enforcement or federally licensed firearms dealer; 2) provides penalties associated with purchasing, possessing or transporting a firearm by a respondent until the order expires or is dissolved by the court; and, 3) provides penalties for anyone transferring a firearm to a person known to be served with a warrant.

The Board majority, on a 6 to 3 vote, decided to defer adding support for any red flag law in its legislative program for Richmond, which is a guide to the Board's priorities and policy statements for the Virginia General Assembly Session, until the Virginia Crime Commission releases their report on November 18th.

I requested that the Board support the item in the legislative program prior to November 18th because this is a nonpartisan initiative and our statement is limited to emergency severe threat order of protection. The courts allow the person to give their weapon to a person of their choosing. I want to send a message that Loudoun County supports doing something when someone is so desperate that they are trying to take their own life or would think of hurting somebody else.

Thank you and I hope everyone enjoys the fall festivals in October.

Best Regards,

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## **Investing in Transportation**

### **Town of Hillsboro's Traffic Calming Project**

VDOT has made its decision on the Maintenance of Traffic plan based on the Town and VDOT's NOVA and Staunton District traffic experts' data-driven analyses recommendations. The new plan accommodates the concentrated morning rush hour commute by allowing one lane eastbound-only opened from 4 am through the morning peak. More than 17,000 daily trips come through Hillsboro with the morning rush the heaviest time. The new plan provides these commuters with one-lane access eastbound on Route 9, as well as clearly defined regional and local detours. The plan also accommodates weekend westbound traffic with one lane open starting Fridays at 3 pm to facilitate access by customers and tourists to the businesses in the Town as well as the many area businesses west of the Town. The Town will host a number of public Information sessions in the weeks ahead, the first of which will be on Tuesday, October 8th, from 5 to 8 pm at Hillsboro's Old Stone School. The meetings will provide information on the project and gather input from the public on the implementation of the Maintenance of Traffic plan.

### **Belmont Ridge Road Widening at Dulles Greenway**

VDOT is widening about a half-mile of Belmont Ridge Road (Route 659) from two to four lanes at the Dulles Greenway (Route 267) to reduce congestion and improve safety and operations. When work is complete, drivers on Belmont Ridge Road will have two lanes in each direction at the Dulles Greenway interchange, with two-foot shoulders on both sides. On the bridge, the widening will be done entirely within the existing deck. The \$7.5 million project, financed with federal and state funding, is scheduled for completion in fall 2020. .

## **Voice for a Cause** **Walk 4 Mountains**

Walk 4 Mountains is a 10 mile breast cancer walk from Lovettsville to Hillsboro on October 12th from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Its mission is to raise money to help women going through breast cancer. The money made at the event will be divided between two local groups; Loudoun Breast Health Network and Step Sisters. These organizations support those in the thick of treatment right here in Loudoun County. They help pay bills, take care of children, yard work, house cleaning, rides to chemotherapy - things that do not take care of themselves when you are sick. Register [here](#) for the walk. There will be a 3D Mammovan open to ladies 40 years old or older with no physician's order. Ladies under 40 must have a physician's order. To schedule your appointment call 703-523-1560. You do not have to walk to get the mammogram.



### **Loudoun Breast Health Network (LBHN)**

The Loudoun Breast Health Network's mission is to assist Loudoun County residents diagnosed with breast cancer through outreach and support. LBHN's programs are designed to provide financial and emotional assistance to clients and their families. Check out all the [events](#) LBHN has for Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

## **Community Events and Information**

### **Voter Registration Deadline and Absentee Voting for November Election**

The deadline to register to vote in the November election is October 15th. In-person absentee voting will be available at:

- Loudoun County Office of Elections and Voter Registration, 750 Miller Drive SE, Suite C in Leesburg.
  - Through October 25th, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.
  - October 28th through November 1st, Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 8:00 pm,
  - Saturday, October 26th and Saturday, November 2nd, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.
- Senior Center at Cascades, 21060 Whitfield Place in Sterling.
  - October 28th through November 1st, Monday through Friday, 4:00 to 8:00 pm.
  - Saturday, October 26th and Saturday, November 2nd, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

- Dulles South Recreation & Community Center, 24950 Riding Center Drive in South Riding
  - October 28th through November 1st, Monday through Friday, 4:00 to 8:00 pm.
  - Saturday, October 26th, and Saturday, November 2nd, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The deadline for voters to apply to have an absentee ballot mailed to them is 5:00 pm, Tuesday, October 29th. The last day to vote an absentee ballot in person is Saturday, November 2nd.

**Census Jobs Recruitment Sessions:** Hundreds of U.S. census enumerator positions are needed in local Loudoun neighborhoods from early spring through the summer of 2020. These positions will be part-time and flexible and have a starting pay of \$25 per hour. Paid training for U.S. census enumerators is also provided. Attend one of the information sessions at the Loudoun Workforce Resource Center located at the Shenandoah Building, 102 Heritage Way NE in Leesburg, throughout October to meet with U.S. Census Bureau staff and get employment application assistance. Three sessions will be held daily in October on the 4th, 11th, 16th, 25th, and 31st. Business casual dress is recommended for these events. To register for a session, visit [here](#).

**Job Fair:** Thursday, October 10th from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at the Eastern Loudoun Family Services Center, 21641 Ridgetop Circle in Sterling. The Loudoun Job Fair will feature local employers with full-time, part-time and seasonal job openings in Loudoun County. In addition to the Loudoun County government, employers attending include: Amazon Warehouse, Daymon Interactions, MyEyeDr., Rhythmic Technologies, Inc., Sight & Sound Systems, Swarovski, Swissport, Target and the U.S. Census Bureau. Those planning to attend are encouraged to pre-register [here](#).



MEET • DISCOVER • LEARN

Highlighting  
Full-time,  
Part-time,  
& Seasonal  
Positions

## Loudoun Job Fair

- Meet employers with job openings in Loudoun County
- Discover new career opportunities
- Learn about local resources, including commuter services, family services, and more!

*Plus, résumé critiques from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.*

**Thursday, October 10, 2019**

**4:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

Eastern Loudoun Family Services Center  
21641 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling, VA 20166

Register online:

[loudounjobfair.eventbrite.com](http://loudounjobfair.eventbrite.com)

Contamos con intérpretes en Español

**Ashburn Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department (AVFRD) 5K:** Saturday, October 19 at 4:30 pm. There will be fun for the entire family including great music from the band Paper Airplanes. Parking, the finish line, and after party will be held at House 6 Brewery, 44427 Atwater Drive in Ashburn. Runners will park at House 6 Brewery and be shuttled to the start line at Station 6 beginning at 3:00 pm. Packet pick up and late registration will be at the =PR= Ashburn Store on Friday, October 18th from 5-7:30 pm. Packet pick up and on-site registration will also be available at Station 6 (the starting line) starting at 2:00 pm on Saturday, October 19th. Awards will be given to the top 3 overall male and female finishers. There will also be an award given for the top Loudoun County Fire / Rescue Company race team.

**Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department  
Presents**



# **AVFRD FIRE 5K**

**RUN WITH US,  
SO WE CAN RUN FOR YOU  
Station 6 to House 6**

**Saturday  
OCT  
19**

Our inaugural race starts at 430pm, at Station 6, Ashburn Road  
Ends at House 6 Brewing Co, Atwater Drive  
Shuttle service available

Early Bird Pricing \$30/\$35/\$40  
Fun Run for the Kids  
After party with LIVE music, food trucks and more

For more information and details, please visit us at  
[www.ashburnfirerescue.org/5k](http://www.ashburnfirerescue.org/5k)

Loudoun County, VA, 1 Harrison St., S.E., 5th Floor,  
P.O. Box 7000, Leesburg, VA 20177

[About our service provider](#)

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