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Introduction

At the beginning of the 2016-2019 term, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors defined five Strategic Initiatives as their key areas of focus:

- Community Needs/Quality of Life
- Comprehensive Planning
- Economic Development
- Growth Management
- Transportation

In addition to achieving significant progress on these Strategic Initiatives, the Board’s accomplishments during its term have included continued sound fiscal management, efforts to attract and retain high-quality employees, efficiency in government operations, public safety and effective service delivery for residents.
Community Needs and Quality of Life

This Board has been committed to meeting community needs by implementing innovative programs, developing collaborative partnerships, and building world-class facilities that improve the quality of life for all County residents.

Drug Court
In 2019, the Board voted unanimously to set up a Drug Court with the help of $373,000 from Loudoun County and $500,000 received from federal grant money. The establishment of a Drug Court significantly reduces recidivism for those who participate in the program.

Mental Health Docket
Loudoun’s Mental Health Docket was approved by the Virginia Supreme Court in May 2018 and began screening applicants for the program in mid-June. The Docket’s goal is to reduce recidivism and improve both individual clinical outcomes and public safety. The participating agencies hope to accomplish this by unifying mental health and criminal justice professionals to develop an individualized, comprehensive, community-based treatment plan, with Court supervision, for each participant.

Human Services Strategic Plan
Developed to create a healthy, thriving, safe, and inclusive Loudoun community, this plan focuses on closing critical service gaps for vulnerable members of our community. It is designed to improve health and wellness outcomes, optimize access for people seeking services, meet the needs of the growing community, and enhance the quality of services by strengthening the network of human service providers in Loudoun County.

Affordable Multi-Family Housing Loan Program
During its term, the Board developed significant initiatives to increase the supply and retention of affordable multi-family rental housing units in Loudoun County. In July 2017, the Board broadened the use of the Housing Trust Fund by amending the Trust Agreement, allowing the Trust funds to be used more expansively to finance affordable rental units and help advance projects that propose greater numbers of affordable units that otherwise would not have qualified.

The amendments to the trust agreement, in concert with ordinance changes, have enabled the development of a robust Multi-Family Housing Loan Program, which encourages private investment by providing gap financing to address unmet housing needs. During the Board’s term, five loans totaling $14 million have been approved for affordable housing developments within Loudoun County.
Blight Abatement
In October 2017, the Board voted to approve a new codified ordinance (Chapter 650) Blight Abatement. This ordinance provides a way -- when other County ordinances are not sufficient -- to address blighted, dilapidated, deteriorated, and vacant structures that negatively impact the community.

Mental Health First Aid Training
Mental Health First Aid is a public education program offered by the Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services that can help individuals understand mental illnesses, seek timely intervention, and save lives. Certified instructors teach two versions of the program: a general adult program and a program for adults who interact with youth. These two-day courses are offered free of charge to anyone in the Loudoun community. Mental Health First Aid teaches participants a five-step action plan (“ALGEE”) to support someone developing signs and symptoms of a mental illness or in an emotional crisis:

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm
- Listen non-judgmentally
- Give reassurance and information
- Encourage appropriate professional help
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies

Veterans Center
Loudoun County signed an agreement with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in November 2018 to provide office space in a county-owned facility to establish a new Veterans center in Leesburg. The Vet Center Community Access Center offers a broad range of free services for veterans, their family members, and active duty military personnel, including counseling provided by licensed clinicians who assist with all mental health needs, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, marriage/family therapy, military sexual trauma, substance abuse, anxiety, and depression, as well as socioeconomic and health issues.

Youth Net Initiative
In 2018, the County established a Youth Net Committee, comprising of more than 30 individuals representing government, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, philanthropy, businesses and youth. This collaborative initiative includes staff from County Administration; Family Services, Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services; Parks, Recreation, and
Community Services; Loudoun County Public Library; Loudoun County Sheriff’s Office; the Loudoun County Health Department; and the Juvenile Court Service Unit.

The Youth Net Committee’s goal is to create a more formalized and structured public-private approach to youth services in Loudoun. This coordinated, community-based effort is designed to help Loudoun’s young people become more engaged, resourceful and resilient. The committee has conducted a countywide survey of young people, their parents and individuals who interact with youth for suggestions on how to improve youth services and activities. A Youth Summit is currently being planned for September 2019, and a presentation of findings, concerns and recommendations is planned for the Board in Fall 2019.

New Libraries Opened

**Brambleton** – This $8.4 million, 40,000-square-foot library opened in December 2018. The first floor is dedicated to children, with playful, animal-shaped chairs, cozy nooks for interactive play and reading, computers for playing games, a Lego building table and a nursing and infant care room. Brambleton Library also offers a creative makerspace room, featuring 3D printers, silk screen printing, sewing machines, jewelry-making equipment, glass kiln, and coding robots, all available during library hours.

**Sterling** - The new library, located in the heart of Sterling, includes expanded space for library programs and community meetings, study rooms, reading and learning spaces for adults, teens and children and increased access to computers. Three times the size of the former Sterling Library, it also includes a makerspace where children, teens and adults can develop 21st century skills, including a recording studio and 3D printers. An enhanced library collection features books and other materials for ESOL and Spanish speakers. It is also the first County library to be open Friday and Saturday evenings.
Hal and Berni Hanson Regional Park Groundbreaking

The Hal and Berni Hanson Regional Park project includes the design and construction of a new 257-acre regional park located on Evergreen Mills Road in Arcola, between the Brambleton and Willowsford communities. The park will include 17 athletic fields with lighting, and over 75 acres of passive recreational space and infrastructure. Construction of the park is expected to be completed in spring 2022.

Dulles South Recreation Center Opening

In 2018, Phases II and III of the Dulles South Recreation Center were completed and opened. Phase II of the facility added 81,000 square feet of space, including recreation and fitness areas, a rock climbing wall, a competition pool, a leisure pool with vortex and other water features, meeting and party rooms, an exercise studio and gymnasium. Phase III provided an additional 17,000 square feet for the Dulles South Senior Center, featuring recreational and leisure program space, classrooms, a computer lab and game room, arts and crafts areas and a commercial kitchen.

Ashburn Senior Center Groundbreaking

The Board celebrated the start of construction for the Ashburn Senior Center in September 2019. The center will help the County meet the increasing need for recreational, educational and volunteer facilities for a fast-growing senior population. 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. Although initial plans for an Ashburn Senior Center date back to 2009, the project moved forward in 2017 when Toll Brothers dedicated a five-acre parcel of land for the facility. Construction is estimated to be completed in spring 2021 and the center should open to the public by fall 2021.

**Interconnected Open Space and Trails**
During the Board’s term, the development of an interconnected countywide system of parks and trails was initiated. This accessible network will bring substantial benefits to Loudoun County including raising property values, improving health and quality of life, and providing protection for natural areas and drinking water sources.

**Land Purchased for State Park**
In 2018 the Board purchased 280 acres near Harpers Ferry to contribute toward Loudoun’s first State Park. The new State Park will be approximately 880 acres, including hiking trails and other passive recreation opportunities.

**Broadband Strategic Plan**
On June 21, 2018, the Board adopted the Loudoun County Broadband Strategic Plan, designed to help the County expand and further improve broadband services for residents and businesses, specifically in underserved areas of Western Loudoun.
Economic Development

Viable economic development has been a priority during this Board’s term. Attention to Metrorail development, support for the rural economy, ample job opportunities, and ensuring a diversified commercial/industry base have been key components of successful economic development. During this Board's term, The Department of Economic Development (DED) has announced $17.6 billion dollars in investment, 16,972 jobs and more than 28 million square feet of new commercial space. Additionally, during that time the number of people employed in Loudoun grew by 10.5% and the average income of people employed in Loudoun grew by 7%. The percentage of the county's tax revenue from commercial increased from 26% in 2015 to 32% in 2018 (estimated to be over 34% in 2019). In 2007, only 19% of the total tax base was from commercial tax.

FY 2016 Highlights

- Gained widespread media attention for the Nighttime Economy Initiative, focused on attracting and growing Loudoun’s workforce by creating a vibrant nighttime economy.
- Instrumental in launching Virginia Agri-Women, a state chapter of a national organization for women involved in farm businesses.
- Brought $2.32 billion in business investment to Loudoun.

FY 2017 Highlights

- Brought $3.3 billion in business investment to Loudoun.
- 3,000 new jobs created, making Loudoun one of the US leaders in job growth.
- Home to the largest equine industry in Virginia.

FY 2018 Highlights

- More than $6.4 billion in business investments.
- The Board approved construction of the 5,000-seat Segra Field, home to the Loudoun United soccer team. This stadium will also be used for other sporting events, community activities, and concerts. The stadium opened in August 2019.

FY 2019 Highlights

- According to the Inc. 5000, which publishes annual lists of the fastest growing companies, Loudoun County is home to 29 of the nation’s fastest growing companies. Since 2010, 111 Loudoun-based companies have been named to the annual Inc. 5000 list, bringing home a combined 212 awards and ranking 10th on the list of fastest growing, privately owned U.S. businesses.
Twenty-one projects benefited from the Fast Track program, totaling just over 8 million square feet of development, $7 billion in investment, and 1,552 jobs.

In the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s 2019 farm census, Loudoun’s rural economy continues to lead the Commonwealth of Virginia in several key categories, including: acres of grapes; amount of hops grown; amount of honey collected and sold; number of alpacas and llamas; and farmers who are women, Latino, Hispanic, Asian, or have military service.

In June 2019, Loudoun’s unemployment rate (2.4%) is approximately one-third less than the national average (3.7%).

Comprehensive Planning and Growth Management

One of the most significant achievements of this Board’s term is the adoption of the Loudoun County 2019 Comprehensive Plan. The development of this Plan, initiated by the Board in April 2016, is the result of a collaborative, multiyear effort and public outreach initiative for Loudoun’s residents, elected and appointed officials, stakeholders, and County staff.

Of particular note, the Comprehensive Plan establishes the new Urban Policy Area, which envisions a denser and more metropolitan land-use pattern to support the expansion of Metrorail service into Loudoun County.

The 2019 Comprehensive Plan includes growth management policies, strategies, and actions that phase development, based on available and/or needed infrastructure capacity. One strategy of the Plan involves deferring increased development in certain geographical areas until capital and transportation infrastructure criteria are met.

The Comprehensive Plan is the vision for the next 20 years, it allows flexibility for phased development within individual projects as well as within policy areas in response to the market. The Urban Policy Area is where the highest densities of square footage are sought, and the plan establishes a baseline expectation of development intensity without capping what the market may support in the future. The Plan has also established policy guidance for three phases of development within the Transition Policy Area to ensure adequate infrastructure and services are available at each phase.
Conservation Easement Assistance Program
This program was launched in March 2019 to help protect historic, cultural and environmental resources. Qualified Loudoun County landowners can now apply for financial assistance to place their land under conservation easement. The program helps with the upfront costs of placing land under conservation easement, including the costs of stewardship, attorney services, land appraisal, survey fees, and processing and document fees. Funding for half of these costs or $15,000, whichever is less, is provided to land trusts working with landowners who qualify.

Public Safety

911 Center Operations
In 2019 the Board endorsed a plan to implement Universal Call Takers in the County’s 911 call center. This plan, which will be implemented during the next two years, will eliminate the transfer of 911 calls between County public safety agencies, leading to more expedient processing of emergency calls and efficient dispatch. The Universal Call Takers plan was the result of the Board’s effort to study the current operations of the 911 center, which began in 2016.

CAD2CAD Implementation
During the Board’s term, Loudoun County Fire and Rescue (LCFR) successfully integrated the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system with the Northern Virginia region. While multi-jurisdictional fire and rescue operations were common, they depended on manual phone calls because the CAD systems within dispatch centers were unable to exchange data. CAD2CAD was developed to allow for neighboring jurisdictions to dispatch the closest available in service unit to an emergency occurring in any jurisdiction. Loudoun County’s CAD system is now part of the region’s CAD2CAD interoperability system, which currently includes Fairfax County, Arlington County, the City of Alexandria and the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority.
Groundbreaking for new Animal Shelter

Groundbreaking for the County’s new Animal Services facility was held May 30, 2019. The 21,450-square foot facility includes an animal shelter, which will replace the existing shelter in Waterford.

It will serve as the headquarters of Department of Animal Services (LCAS) and will provide many of the same services as the current animal shelter: pet adoptions, animal welfare law enforcement, housing of stray, abandoned, or relinquished companion animals, dog license sales, volunteer opportunities, dispatch services, educational programs, pet retention counseling and a veterinary clinic for shelter pets. The estimated completion date is summer 2020.

Loudoun County Animal Services Release Rate

In 2018, the LCAS achieved a 93% live release rate; this measure indicates that 93% of the animals arriving at the shelter were placed through adoption, transfer or reunification with their owners. This marks three years in a row that LCAS has seen a live release rate over 90%.

Loudoun County Fire/Rescue Shift Commander

The Board expanded coverage for the shift commander position for Loudoun County Fire and Rescue (LCFR) as part of the FY 2019 budget. Implementing the shift commander position 24/7 has enhanced emergency response and community safety through a modern overhaul of the day-to-day operational command structure of LCFR.

Metrorail Preparation/Training Simulator

In 2017, in anticipation of Metrorail’s opening in Loudoun, the County opened a public safety training simulator utilizing retired Metrorail cars. The simulator, which is the first such facility in Northern Virginia, has been used to train County public safety personnel in preparation for Metro’s arrival. LCFR has also begun participating in the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Rail Operations Communications Center, deploying five staff members as liaisons.
Transportation

Funding and construction of transportation projects has been a main focus of this Board over the course of the 2016-2019 term. To leverage available resources, Loudoun County has successfully applied for and received several major grants that have significantly advanced the Board’s transportation initiatives.

Ashburn Village Boulevard and Route 7 Interchange

The interchange at Route 7 and Ashburn Village Boulevard has eliminated the traffic signal and helped ease traffic congestion along Route 7—one of Loudoun County’s top transportation priorities. The interchange project is part of a larger effort to transform Route 7 into a limited access road with no traffic signals between Countryside Boulevard in the Sterling/Potomac Falls area and East Market Street in Leesburg.

Belmont Ridge Road and Route 7 interchange

This project reconstructed and widened a nearly two-mile segment of Belmont Ridge Road from a two-lane road to a four-lane, median-divided roadway with shared use paths on both sides of the roadway. Other improvements include:

- A new bridge over the W&OD Trail, which improves the safety of bicyclists, pedestrians and equestrians who use the trail;
- A new parking lot for users of the W&OD Trail;
- Noise barriers for the Belmont Ridge and Belmont Forest communities; and
- Traffic signal modifications.
Claiborne Parkway Completion
This project included approximately 4,000 feet of a four-lane, median-divided roadway with a shared use path on one side of the road and a sidewalk on the other. Two traffic signals were also associated with the project. Completion of Claiborne Parkway allows motorists to travel directly to community facilities such as schools and INOVA Loudoun Hospital in Lansdowne. The new roadway also relieves traffic on Belmont Ridge Road and other area roadways and provides alternate access to the Dulles South area.

Evergreen Mills Road and Watson Road Safety Improvements
On July 19, 2018, the Board allocated $1.2 million to address safety and visibility issues at this intersection by implementing short-term improvements and countermeasures, such as:

- Tree trimming
- Traffic signal modifications
- Flashing warning beacons
- Pole-mounted speed display signs
- Reflective markings on guardrails and wider edge line pavement markings
- Variable message signs to alert drivers to speed and congestion issues

The safety audit also identified mid-term projects, which would take approximately 1-5 years to implement, and long-term projects, which would take approximately five or more years to implement. On March 5, 2019, the Board forwarded the mid-term projects to a future fiscal year of the Capital Improvement Program Budget for further discussion, evaluation, and prioritization. Mid-term projects may include:

- A left-turn lane near the Evergreen SportsPlex
- Mumble strips at roadway departure locations north of Fleetwood Road/Creighton Road
- A study of possible traffic signals or roundabouts at Evergreen Mills Road’s intersections with Crimson Place/Red Cedar Drive and Shreve Mill Road
- Design of law enforcement areas corridor-wide

The safety audit also identified the realignment of Watson Road with Reservoir Road as a safety improvement; a County project is currently underway to realign this intersection.
Gloucester Parkway
A new three-quarter-mile extension of Gloucester Parkway opened to traffic in 2016. This segment completes an important east-west link between Ashburn and the Route 28 corridor, adding capacity to help alleviate congestion on parallel roads and to better distribute traffic along Route 28. The entire Gloucester Parkway corridor is now almost six miles, beginning at Belmont Ridge Road to the west and connecting with Nokes Boulevard to carry traffic beyond Route 28 to the east.

Lexington Drive and Route 7 Traffic Signal Removal
On July 18, 2019, the Board approved closing the existing Lexington Drive entrance from Route 7 and decommissioning the traffic light; thus improving traffic flow along Route 7 in order to help further implement the County-planned limited access designation of Route 7 section west of Route 28.

Northstar Boulevard Extension from Shreveport Drive to Route 50
In March 2018, the Board announced the award of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant, a $25-million-dollar grant to complete Northstar Boulevard. The grant will be used for the extension of Northstar Boulevard from Shreveport Drive to Route 50, a missing link in the current road network in the county. The project completes a 14-mile north-south corridor of statewide significance connecting Route 7 to Route 50. The road segment will be designed as a controlled access, four-lane divided roadway located within a proposed six-lane right of way, and includes a ten-foot-wide, shared-use path, six-foot wide sidewalks and two new bridges.
Potomac River Crossing – Identification of Potential Alignment
On September 20, 2018, the Board voted to recognize Corridors D and E, as well as the areas between D and E, (D=Interchange of Route 7 and Route 28; E=Interchange of Route 7 and Loudoun County Parkway) as the preferred location for a future crossing. Development of a plan for regional coordination and collaboration with local, state, and federal jurisdictions to advance the concept of developing a future Potomac River Crossing is currently in process.

Route 15 Safety and Operations Improvements
The Board approved a design concept in 2019 to address traffic and safety issues along Route 15 north of Leesburg. The concept includes plans to widen the roadway to four lanes to Lucketts, build a bypass around Lucketts and add shoulders further north toward Maryland. A Board-directed Stakeholder Committee was formed and held seven meetings to discuss a vision for the study, improvement ideas, and provide feedback. Extensive public outreach was also conducted. Three rounds of public input encompassed a total of six public input sessions/open houses attended by a total of 588 citizens. Three online surveys generated approximately 3,679 unique responses.

Route 606 Widening Completion
This VDOT-administered project reconstructed the rural, two-lane road and widened it to four lanes with a median between Evergreen Mills and the Dulles Greenway, significantly improving access and capacity for commuters heading to areas such as Ashburn, Sterling and Herndon, as well as Dulles International Airport. The project also included:

- A new signalized intersection at Old Ox Road and Commerce Center Court
- Two new bridges, with improvements to the Horsepen Creek Dam
- More than five miles of shared-use path along Route 606 (Old Ox Road) for cyclists and pedestrians
- A new, signalized intersection at Loudoun County Parkway and Old Ox Road, as well as a new mile-long section of the Parkway to the south and about 800 feet to the north.
Russell Branch Parkway Between Ashburn Road and Ashburn Village Boulevard

The opening of this segment has increased connectivity between Ashburn Village Boulevard and Ashburn Road and serves as a parallel roadway for Route 7, helping to relieve traffic congestion in these areas. The project included design and construction of:

- Approximately 1,800 linear feet of a four-lane, median-divided roadway;
- Trail and sidewalk improvements;
- A crosswalk; and
- A traffic signal modification at the intersection of Russell Branch Parkway and Ashburn Village Boulevard.

Overall Transportation Funding

During the Board’s term, funding for transportation has been prioritized in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Funded through various sources, the Board has programmed over $1.2 billion on Transportation and Rail Projects in the current CIP.

TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL FUNDING
(Dollars in Thousands)

- FY 2024, $277,470
- FY 2023, $171,773
- FY 2022, $150,951
- FY 2021, $169,714
- FY 2020, $247,954
- FY 2019, $186,277
Adoption of a Technology Roadmap
This roadmap describes the shift of county information technology infrastructure from existing, aging on-premises facilities to commercial data centers within Loudoun County. The migration from on-site facilities to data centers results in a savings of about $13 million.

Advisory Bodies
In 2016 the Board approved an Ad-Hoc Committee on Advisory Boards, Committees and Commissions to facilitate the streamlining of the Advisory bodies. After thorough review and consideration, the Board dissolved four advisory bodies and directed all existing advisory bodies to update their existing by-laws to reflect attendance and quorum requirements. Since completion of the work of the Ad-Hoc Committee, the Board approved funding for technology to allow members of the public to view vacancies and apply online for Advisory bodies: www.loudoun.gov/advisory.

Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE)
In 2019 the Board adopted a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) ordinance, a loan program for owners of commercial property to finance renewable energy production and distribution facilities, and energy and water usage efficiency improvements for their properties. The C-PACE loans are provided by private lenders and backed by voluntary special assessments liens levied by the County against the borrower’s property. The C-PACE Loan runs with the property and if the original borrower sells or transfers the property, the successive owners of a property with a C-PACE loan continue to make payments on the loan until it is paid in full.

Employee Pay and Recruitment
The Board’s term included a significant focus on attracting and retaining a high-quality workforce to serve County citizens. The Board initiated an overhaul to the County’s classification and compensation system and revised the pay philosophy to be a lead competitor with other local governments in the region. To date, significant progress with employee pay has been achieved through annual budget processes, moving employees closer to market rate. The Board also made a policy decision to implement a step and grade system for uniformed public safety personnel over the coming years.

As part of the FY 2019 budget, the Board added a full-time recruiter position to the Department of Human Resources. This position is developing a formal recruitment program for the County to attract a high-quality, talented and diverse workforce to serve Loudoun citizens. The position is also assisting the County with filling critical “hard-to-recruit” vacancies.
**GeoHub**

During the Board’s term, the County launched the Loudoun GeoHub, a new, online resource that provides members of the public with easy access to the county’s location-based data. It features interactive mapping applications, informative dashboards and topical story maps.

One feature is **Loudoun County’s traffic map**, which consolidates real-time traffic-related data from the Loudoun County Sheriff’s Office Emergency Communications Center, ESRI, Google traffic and Waze through the county’s Geographic Information System.

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**Historic Cemeteries Map**

In 2019, Loudoun County developed **online tools designed to help preserve and protect historic cemeteries in the county**.

The county has identified more than 200 active and historic cemeteries and burial grounds in Loudoun and provided location and background information for each of them on an interactive map. In addition, a companion “Story Map” provides a method for residents to learn about the initiative and share information with the county about potentially unmapped graves, burial grounds and cemeteries. The Board commissioned the map, which was produced by the Office of Mapping and Geographic Information, in consultation with the Department of Planning and Zoning. The county created a database of active and inactive cemeteries that provides residents, researchers and developers with more knowledge of cemetery locations within the county, as well as documents the known histories of the sites.

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**Organizational Investments**

Loudoun County has invested in recruitment and training efforts, such as the LEAD Loudoun professional development program for managers, to differentiate the County as an employer of choice in the region.
Redesigned Website
The new design of loudoun.gov was informed by user data to ensure the website is geared to better meet the needs of Loudoun County residents and businesses by enabling users to more easily and quickly find the information they need. The website features responsive design that allows content to display optimally on any device. It also includes an open government portal, which serves as a single starting point for accessing the broad range of information, records and open data held by the County.

Virginia Values Veterans Certification
Because Loudoun has identified the recruitment of veterans as a key component of its workforce diversity and inclusion strategy, the County was certified as a Virginia Values Veterans (V3) organization in 2019. The V3 program was implemented in 2012 by the Commonwealth of Virginia to support veterans who reside in Virginia with finding career employment. The program offers training to employers on topics such as recruitment tools and resources, best practices for recruiting veterans, building a business case to hire veterans, and overcoming obstacles to hiring veterans. An example of success in recruiting veterans into the workforce is the Sheriff’s Office, where veterans have comprised approximately 20% of hires since 2015.
Revenue Growth
From FY 2017 to FY 2020, General Fund revenue has grown by $286 million, a 19% increase.
**Tax Rates & Property Values**

Over four adopted budgets, the Board lowered the tax rate by $0.09.

In comparison to neighboring jurisdictions, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors reduced the real property tax rate relative to the average homeowner’s equalized tax rate, while Fairfax County and Prince William County increased their real property tax rate relative to the average homeowner’s equalized tax rate.
In addition, between 2016 and 2019, the average homeowner’s tax bill in Loudoun County increased at a lower rate than Fairfax County and Prince William County. In that period, the average homeowner’s tax bill increased by $122 (2%) in Loudoun, while in Fairfax and Prince William the average increased by $534 (9%) and $437 (11%), respectively.

During the Board’s term, the assessed value of commercial properties assessed value has increased by $3.8 billion or 29%.
**Education Funding**

Funding for Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) increased over the Board’s four-year term:

- The Board increased total operating funding for LCPS by more than $292 million (30%) over its term.
- The annual General Fund transfer to LCPS was increased by $215 million over the Board’s term, representing a 33% increase.

- General Fund Transfer to LCPS on a “per pupil” basis increased by $1,795 over the four years of the Board’s term, which is a 21% increase.
The chart below depicts the total operating funds for LCPS compared to enrollment growth from FY 16 to FY 20.

### Public Safety Funding

The Board increased funding for Public Safety by more than $37 million, or 28%.

### Credit Rating

During the Board’s term, the County has maintained its AAA credit rating on General Obligation bonds from the three major credit rating agencies. The agencies have continually noted the Board’s strong fiscal management policies, in addition to the County’s strong economy and diversity of the tax base, as the reason for the strong credit rating. Maintaining the best possible credit rating for a local government allows favorable interest rates to be achieved for
County taxpayers in financial public capital projects such as schools, roads, transit, libraries and parks.

Other Initiatives and Accomplishments

Metrorail Funding
Loudoun County was a major partner in regional and state-wide discussions on providing dedicated funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) both before and during the 2018 General Assembly Session. Loudoun was a leader in discussions with the region on funding prior to the General Assembly, introducing a model that would leverage funding provided in cash for metro through the future use of service contracts. During the General Assembly Session, the County developed a set of principles that outlined the Board’s interests. These principles allowed the County to react quickly to amended legislation and communicate our concerns with members of the Loudoun Delegation, the business community and the region on different iterations of the metro funding bills. In addition, the County was able to provide tangible examples to legislators on how removing funding from the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority would affect the County’s CIP and future road projects through detailed analysis. Through the Board’s leadership, the County was able to clearly articulate impacts of the metro funding legislation and steer discussions that advocated for the County’s set of WMATA Funding principles.

Non-Profit Funding Partnerships
This Board continued to improve the County’s Non-Profit Grant Funding Program. Key improvements included:

- Direct funding relationships were established with six nonprofit organizations whose continued performance and services are vital to the health and social safety net within the County.
- The nonprofit grant program’s pre-existing four Areas of Need were modified to align with the most critical human service outcomes.
- Funding for the program was established at the programmatic level to give more flexibility to the program and to more closely reflect the changing needs of the community rather than a pre-determined level of service.
- A mini-grant program was established to provide funds for specific, innovative projects, or small and/or new organizations.
These changes increased the availability and reach of County funds in the community as well as streamlined the process of applications to ensure that staff and non-profit time and energy remains focused on serving the community.

**Conclusion**

The Board’s vision, adopted in November of 2016, states:

*By honoring its rich heritage as well as embracing the robust opportunities of a new day, Loudoun County maintains the high quality of life it has achieved, shapes a future that represents the best of both worlds, and creates a place where residents can live, work, learn, and play.*

During the current term, significant progress has been achieved toward realizing this vision and in improving County government’s organizational effectiveness.
Appendix 1 - Completed CIP Projects (As of July 2019)

The following General Government and School Capital Improvement Projects have been completed since January 2016, at a total Capital Project Funding amount of $790,675,694.

General Government ($413,732,191):
- Brambleton District Park – East
- Franklin Park Rectangular Field Lighting Phase II
- Mirror Ridge Group Residence
- Pleasant Valley Drive & Braddock Road Intersection
- Brockman Lane Emergency Gate
- Brambleton District Park – West
- Gloucester Parkway
- Russell Branch Parkway
- Sterling Boulevard Beautification
- Ashburn Volunteer Fire & Rescue Station
- Belmont Ridge Road at Truro Parish Drive Intersection
- Town of Middleburg Crosswalks
- Western Loudoun Sheriff Station
- Willisville Community Wastewater System
- The Woods Road
- Gloucester Parkway/Smith Switch Road/Ashby Ponds Boulevard Intersection
- Sterling Boulevard Sidewalk
- Tall Cedars Parkway and Poland Road Intersection
- Northstar and Ryan Road Intersection
- Fire and Rescue Training Prop Lots
- Sterling Area Sidewalks – Sugarland Road
- Sterling Area Sidewalks – Woodson Drive
- Sterling Library
- Stone Ridge Park and Ride Lot
- Athletic Field Improvements
- Edgar Tillett Memorial Park
- Lovettsville District Park Road Improvements
- Sterling Area Sidewalks – Greenthorn Avenue
- Bles Park Restrooms
- Croson Lane – Old Ryan Road to Route 772 Metro Station
- E.E. Lake Store
- Loudoun County Parkway and Center Street Intersection
- Lyndora Park Restrooms
- Tall Cedars Parkway – Pinebrook Road to Gum Spring Road
- Allder School Road
- Dulles South Multipurpose Center Phase II
- Dulles South Multipurpose Center Phase III
- Mooreview Parkway
• Northstar Boulevard and Belmont Ridge Road Traffic Signal
• Youth Shelter Renovation
• Route 606 Widening
• Edgewater Street & Poland Road Intersection
• Fire Station Altering Systems
• Ashburn Sheriff Station
• Waxpool Road Widening – Unbridled Way to Faulkner Parkway
• Belmont Ridge Road Improvements – Gloucester to Hay
• Claude Moore Recreation Center – Pool Seating Expansion
• Route 772 Connector Bridge and Moorefield Boulevard – Croson Lane to Metro Center Drive
• Claiborne Parkway
• Edgewater Street and Poland Road Intersection
• Route 7/659 Interchange and Widening to Gloucester Parkway
• 150 Enterprise Street/Sterling Community Center Project
• Claude Moore Park Restrooms
• Trailside Park Restrooms
• Kirkpatrick Fire and Rescue Station
• Crosstrail Boulevard Segment A-2
• Woodgrove Park Restrooms
• Riverside Parkway West
• Route 7/Ashburn Village Blvd. Interchange

Schools ($376,943,503):
• Broad Run High School Renovation
• Madison’s Trust Elementary School (ES-27)
• Potomac Falls High School Synthetic Turf
• Potomac Falls High School Modular Classrooms
• John Champe High School Modular Classrooms
• Nightwatch Road Improvements (Belmont Station Elementary School)
• Brambleton Middle School
• Loudoun County High School Naval JROTC Facility
• Land acquisition, HS-9
• ES Classroom Additions at Arcola, Creighton’s Corner, Legacy, Liberty, Pinebrook, and Rosa Lee Carter
• Goshen Post Elementary School
• Willard Middle School
• Academies of Loudoun
• Heritage High School Turf Replacement
- Dominion High School Turf Replacement
- Madison’s Trust and Creighton’s Corner Modular Classrooms

Appendix 2 – Completed Zoning Ordinance Amendments

Over the course of the 2016-2019 term, the Board has adopted 19 zoning ordinance amendments.

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<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Adoption Date / Status</th>
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<tr>
<td>ZOAM-2015-0006</td>
<td>RURAL USES &amp; HISTORIC STRUCTURES</td>
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<td>ACCESSORY USES FOR MANUFACTURING USES</td>
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