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In this edition:

[Golf Facility Not Appropriate for Burke Lake Park:](#) Last month I became aware of an unsolicited proposal to upgrade the driving range and clubhouse at Burke Lake Park. After reviewing the plans with the Park Authority and listening to the golf, cross county and neighboring communities, we have decided the proposal is not appropriate for Burke Lake Park. Please see below for details on next steps.

[Public Meeting Notice - Bicycle Improvements Proposed for Shiplott Boulevard and Burke Road:](#) This Thursday the county's Department of Transportation will be hosting a meeting at my office to discuss potential bicycle improvement projects on Shiplott Boulevard and Burke Road. Full details are below, I hope to see you there.

[FY2016 Budget Town Hall Meeting:](#) Please save the date for my annual budget town hall meeting where county staff along with County Executive Ed Long will present their draft budget. I will also give my initial thoughts on the budget. Full details below.

[Golf Facility Not Appropriate for Burke Lake Park](#)

Last month I became aware of an unsolicited proposal to upgrade the driving range and clubhouse at Burke Lake Park. I met with the Park Authority to obtain additional details on the proposal and communicated my concerns as well as those I had received from the community. The Park Authority shared many of these concerns. I also asked that the

plans be posted on the park website and informed the community of the proposal via a previous [Herrity Report](#).

Last week I was invited to participate in a meeting with a few homeowner associations at the Pohick Library where I heard the concerns raised by the golf, cross country and neighboring communities as well as some park users. At the meeting I promised to meet with the Park Authority to address the concerns and discuss the future of the proposal.

I am pleased to report that both the Park Authority and I agree that it is clear we will not be able to reach an agreement on the unsolicited proposal that will address our concerns and the Park Authority has informed the project's proposer that they will not be moving forward with the proposal.

The Park Authority will now return to moving forward on the original plans to renovate and expand the existing driving range and golf clubhouse with money from the 2008 and 2012 Park bond. Draft concept plans will be released at some point in the summer and I will let you know when those are available. There will be a public process that I will keep you informed of as it proceeds.

I would like to thank everyone who contacted my office regarding this proposal. I was impressed with the depth of community support for one of the parks I have used since I was in grade school. Both the Park Authority and I would like to use the energy created around this effort to create a "Friends of Burke Lake" group as some of our other parks have. If you are interested in this please let me know.

I believe public-private partnerships are a critical part of the past and future success of our County government and that the private sector can do many things better than government; but they need to strike the right balance. This one did not and I believe we have reached the correct decision.

Public Meeting Notice: Bicycle Improvements Proposed for Shiplett Boulevard and Burke Road

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) invites residents to an upcoming community meeting to discuss potential bicycle improvement projects on Shiplett Boulevard and Burke Road. The projects' limits include the entire length of Shiplett Blvd from Burke Lake Road to Old Keene Mill Road as well as the section of Burke Road from Burke Lake Road to Rolling Road. Both projects entail the addition of bicycle accommodations (solely via road striping/painting/signing) within the existing width of the roadway. The work would be completed in coordination with and is dependent on the Virginia Department of Transportation's summer repaving schedule. FCDOT requests the surrounding communities' input on each of the projects.

I have also asked VDOT to consider paving the shoulder of Old Keene Mill Road in conjunction with the remaining paving work to be completed this summer to provide for bike access to this corridor.

The meeting is set for:

Thursday, February 26 at 7 p.m.
West Springfield Government Center (Police Station) Community Room
6140 Rolling Road, Springfield

If you cannot attend the meeting, please contact the FCDOT Project Manager, Vanessa Aguayo at 703-877-5600 or my office at 703-451-8873 for additional information.

FY2016 Budget Town Hall Meeting

Please save the date for my annual Budget Town Hall Meeting co-hosted by the Springfield District Council on March 18th at 7pm at the West Springfield Government Center. Both County Executive Ed Long and County CFO Susan Datta will be there with a short presentation on the budget followed by my comments, and then a questions and answers session. The West Springfield Government Center is located at 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, 22152.

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