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|  <p><b>From the Office of Sharon Bulova</b><br/><b>Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors</b></p> <p>12000 Government Center Parkway<br/>Fairfax, VA 22035<br/>703-324-2321</p> | <p>chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov<br/>www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman</p> |  |
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## Special Byline Update

Good afternoon,

I thought I'd send along a quick mid-month update for my Byline subscribers. It's a busy month!

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### Public Hearing on the I-95 Waste-to-Energy Facility

At our Board meeting next Tuesday (Feb. 22), we will hold a formal public hearing on the proposal to purchase the I-95 Waste-to-Energy Facility, also known as the Lorton incinerator. The hearing will take place at 4:30pm as part of our regular Board meeting. To sign up to speak at the hearing and learn about that process, please [click here](#).

County staff has been in negotiations with Covanta, the current owner and operator of the incinerator, to determine the nature of our partnership going into the future. Our 20-year contract with Covanta has come to an end, and the County-financed debt used to build the facility has been paid off.

We currently have the option of buying the facility from Covanta (using revenue bonds which I will explain later), extending the contract with Covanta to process trash from Fairfax County residents based on an agreed upon rate and amount of trash, or allow the market to decide the rate. We must decide by April 4 whether or not to purchase the facility, according to the terms of our original contract.

If we decide to purchase the facility, the County will issue revenue bonds which will be paid off using revenue generated by the collection of tipping fees, the fees paid by trash

haulers for processing of trash. The debt will not be paid using money from the general fund and therefore will not compete with other County priorities such as schools, parks, public safety or libraries. The debt will also not be backed by the full faith and credit of the County and therefore will not affect our ability to borrow in the future.

The decision to purchase the facility or extend the contract is a complicated one, and will only be decided after the process is complete. That process has included three town hall meetings in addition to Tuesday's public hearing. We will make a decision based on what we believe is best for County taxpayers both in the short and long term.

Throughout this process I am keeping an open mind and considering all the options before us. Your input is critical as the Board considers this issue.

County staff has recommended the Board vote to purchase the facility from Covanta. To learn more about the proposal and to view the presentation prepared by County staff, [click here](#).

**What:** Public Hearing before Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on the proposal to purchase the Lorton incinerator

**Where:** Board Auditorium at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035

**When:** February 22, 4:30pm

**How to Participate:** [Sign up here](#)

## **I-66 HOV Ramps Opening to All Traffic during Off-Peak Hours Beginning Feb. 28**

At long last, the HOV ramps on I-66 at Monument Drive and Stringfellow Road will open to all traffic during off-peak hours and on weekends beginning at 10am Monday, February 28. While opening the ramps will not solve all the traffic problems on I-66, it will immediately ease congestion along that route as well as US-50, the Fairfax County Parkway, and Route 28.

Opening these ramps during off-peak hours will also give motorists another way to avoid the construction happening as VDOT adds a new interchange where the Fairfax County Parkway and the Fair Lakes Parkway intersect.

At a June 2010 Board meeting I directed county transportation staff to dislodge the initiative, which had been stalled pending the compilation and submission to the Federal Highway Administration of an Interchange Modification Report assessing the impact of the change. The project began in 2007, but only came to fruition after county staff got involved last summer.

Our transportation staff worked diligently with staff at the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration on this project so that our commuters can take advantage of ramps that would have otherwise continued to sit unused. I commend the Fairfax County Department of Transportation for their efforts.

## **African American History Month - New Video on Oak Hill**

February is African American History Month and a new video (linked below) examines African American history at historic Oak Hill. We celebrated our annual Saving of Oak Hill in Annandale on October 16<sup>th</sup>, and this year's program focused on the African American presence and history in the Oak Hill/Annandale area. The video was created to share more broadly the information discovered from research of the area and suggests how individuals and families can find help in tracing their roots.

**New Video:** [African American History at Oak Hill](#)

Sharon Bulova  
Chairman  
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors