

# Bulova Byline

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman) (703) 324-2321 [chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov)



*Inside this Month's Issue:*

Dulles Rail Phase 2.....3

Homelessness Partner Update.....4

GIS Invaluable Tool.....5

Tysons Urban Design.....5

Water Ordinance.....6

Civil War Events.....6

Volunteers Needed.....7

Prescription Drug Discount Cards.....7

Holiday Event Roundup...8

Save the Date!.....8

On Tuesday, Dec. 13, our Board will be sworn in for a **new four year term**. This is the first time anyone can remember that all 10 members of the Board of Supervisors have been re-elected. I see this as a **strong vote of confidence** in the current leadership, both in guiding Fairfax County through the Great Recession and through the current recovery. I am committed to continuing our efforts toward fostering a strong sense of community in Fairfax County and maintaining the solid fiscal stewardship needed to protect the quality of life our residents value.

In four years I hope to look back with satisfaction at the progress we will have made toward achieving ambitious goals:

- We will keep education as **our highest priority**. Our Board, working collaboratively with the School Board, will identify opportunities to deliver services to our constituents, children and families in ways that are holistic, supportive, cost-effective and efficient. We will continue to make the investment needed to keep the Fairfax County Public Schools system as one of the finest in the nation.
- We will continue to identify **creative, multimodal solutions to traffic congestion** in our most traveled corridors like I-66, Route 1, the Beltway, and I-95/395.
- We will ensure the timely completion of **Phase 1 of Rail to Dulles, and will begin construction of Phase II**. This new Metrorail line will serve the Tysons, Reston and Herndon areas. To maximize the opportunities Metro presents, we will also be implementing new bus service to efficiently connect the Silver Line and the HOT Lanes to other areas of Fairfax County.
- We will work to develop new industry sectors including **translational medicine** and we will bolster our efforts to enhance economic development in other areas such as the **hospitality sector and sustainability related jobs**. In particular I am excited about establishing a **new conference center** in Fairfax County that will attract local and national events and boost the hospitality and tourism sectors.

- We will continue to foster the **business-friendly culture** in Fairfax County that has resulted in our being able to secure every major corporate relocation in the U.S. in the last 3 years.
- Using the successful model of my **Private Sector Energy Task Force** I will bring together the stakeholders needed to ensure growth and development occur in ways that meet our transportation and environmental goals. **Workforce housing** is a need identified by Fairfax County businesses as critical to their continued success. It is also critical to reducing congestion, protecting the environment, and improving the quality of life of our workforce. During these next four years, we will continue to work with private sector stakeholders and advocates to make sure housing is available that is affordable for Fairfax County residents and workers.
- Future growth and development in Fairfax County lies in **revitalization and redevelopment** of our older commercial and industrial areas. Our goal is to manage that growth in ways that will provide “smart” **transit-oriented mixed-use communities** where residents and workers can easily walk to recreation, shopping and employment. Four years from now we will have new communities in place where this lifestyle choice is available for our residents. This “smart growth” also protects our older stable neighborhoods by guiding growth to the places that can best support it.

Communication is my thing and this Byline is one of my vehicles for doing so. You can be sure that I will continue to keep you up-to-date on these and other initiatives that are happening or being considered. I am always interested in receiving your thoughts and feedback.

This Board begins our four year term as we are saying goodbye to County Executive Tony Griffin. On behalf of all of my colleagues, our workforce, and our Fairfax County community I want to say **thank you for a job very, very well done**. Tony has steered our County through difficult and complicated times and has done so in a quiet and unassuming way. Happily, one of his greatest strengths has been to groom and develop leadership within our workforce. Tony leaves us with a culture and with talented leadership that will serve us well when he moves on.

I hope you and your family enjoys the holidays. Have a wonderful new year!

Sincerely,

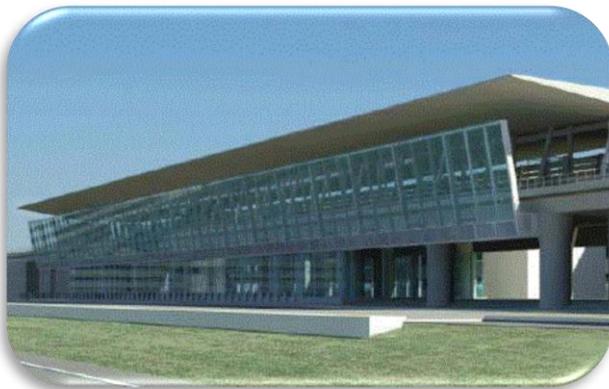


Sharon Bulova – Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

## Dulles Rail Agreement Moves Critical Project Forward

On Tuesday our Board approved a strategy for funding Phase II of the Silver Line. The funding partners for Phase II of the Dulles Corridor Rail Project agreed to the terms of this strategy last month and our Board believes it protects Fairfax County taxpayers and toll road users by bringing down the cost by almost \$1 billion.

The revised financing agreement represents the culmination of months of negotiations between Fairfax County, Loudoun County, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, and the U.S. Department of Transportation. Although implementing this strategy will require hard work and patience, I am confident that it will protect our constituents and ensure this critical transportation project is completed.

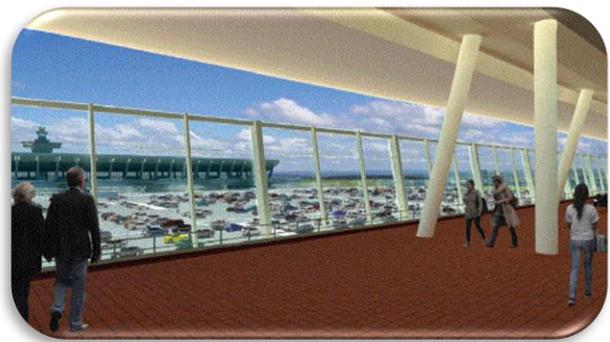


*A mock-up of the aboveground station opposite main terminal, adjacent to the North parking garage.*

The \$1 billion in savings will come from the building of an **above-ground, climate controlled station at Dulles International Airport**, reducing the size of the rail yard at the airport, reducing the size of the canopies at all stations in line with the Phase I design, and utilizing steel over concrete construction.

The funding partners also agreed to seek out **additional funding sources** for key project elements. Fairfax County will look to form public-private partnerships and utilize low

interest federal loans to build the Route 28 station and two parking garages, one at the Herndon-Monroe station and one at the Route 28 station. Loudoun County will use a similar strategy to fund the parking garage at the Route 606 station and the two parking facilities at the Route 772 station.



*View of the airport from future station.*

If we or Loudoun are unable to find adequate additional funding, the shortfall will be paid for using the existing funding formula (16.1 percent from Fairfax County, 4.8 percent from Loudoun County, 4.1 percent from MWAA, and the remaining 75 percent from the Dulles Toll Road revenue). **The Commonwealth is contributing \$150 million** specifically to help keep tolls low.

The strategy establishes a **Coordinating Committee** to implement the plan and to continue working to find cost savings in the project. Other potential savings could include value engineering, the donation of property, a reduction in the number of power substations, and a reduction in the number of rail cars purchased.

The Coordinating Committee will be made up of MWAA CEO Jack Potter, Virginia Secretary of Transportation Sean Connaughton, Fairfax County Executive Tony Griffin, Loudoun County Administrator Tim Hemstreet, and WMATA General Manager Richard Sarles (and their successors or designees).

## Partner Update



### Real People ~ Real Results

During September, **18 families and 28 single adults who were homeless moved into permanent housing** from emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. [>> more](#)

---

### Hypothermia Prevention Sites Gearing Up for 2011-2012 Winter Season

"As we approach the winter months and prepare to meet the needs of our most vulnerable residents in the Fairfax-Falls Church community, it is of utmost importance that we are all safe from the elements that can cause hypothermia and even death," said Chairman Michael O'Reilly, Governing Board of the Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness. [>> more](#)

---

### HUD Continuum of Care Grant Applications Submitted

On Oct. 28, the annual Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance grant applications were submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). If successful, the applications will secure over \$5.9 million in HUD resources to operate 26 CoC programs for one year throughout calendar year 2012. [>> more](#)

---

### Jeans Day Event Raises Funds to Help Put a Zip on Homelessness

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness in partnership with the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce gave new meaning to the term "casual Friday" when it sponsored Jeans Day 2011 on Oct. 21. [>> more](#)

## GIS Technology Provides Invaluable Tool for Fairfax County

In November, Fairfax County showed off its latest and greatest technology as part of the annual GIS Day (**which we made GIS Week!**). The County GIS and Mapping Services Branch took their wares on a tour of the County, showing how computer-based mapping is used to solve problems in a variety of areas.

**All Fairfax County departments utilize GIS and Mapping** in their own issue areas to help analyze complex information, make better informed business decisions, provide better customer service, and achieve business process efficiencies. For example, GIS and Mapping were **indispensible tools, for staff and for the citizens' group, when new supervisor districts were drawn this year.**

One use of GIS I find particularly interesting is the [Virtual Fairfax](#) online tool. Last summer we launched Virtual Fairfax, a 3D tour of the county accessible through our website. This is a really cool tool that allows residents, visitors and anyone who might be curious about the features of Fairfax County that make it unique to tour the County virtually. Virtual Fairfax includes **thousands of 3D buildings** in Tysons Corner, Reston and Herndon, terrain and the latest aerial imagery of the County, and tours of historic sites and commercial areas.

The images of buildings are **photorealistic**, and virtual tourists can fly around the County with a click of the mouse. Jump instantly from a 3D rendering of serene Mt. Vernon over to Tysons Corner to get a good glimpse at the diversity of the features that make Fairfax County such an interesting place.



If you're trying to familiarize yourself with the area, try a tour! The **Historic Sites Tour** starts in Mt. Vernon, flies you over to Gunston Hall then Sully Historic Site. Or try a tour of the **Dulles Corridor**.

You can also **edit maps** in Virtual Fairfax. Markup and save maps with lines, shapes and text, create links to or snapshots of a specific location, or add your own building models to the Fairfax County landscape. A Virtual Fairfax photo group has been [created on the county's Flickr site](#) if you want to share your buildings publicly.

## Comment on Draft Tysons Urban Design Guidelines

County staff has posted draft **Tysons Urban Design Guidelines** online and are seeking public involvement in the process. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/tysons/design/> to view the guidelines and to send in your comments and suggestions. The draft guidelines will be used by all those involved in the redevelopment of Tysons – developers, community members, County staff – to create a **functional and aesthetically pleasing Tysons Corner**. Critical pieces of a successful Tysons are included in the guidelines, such as **walkable streets, sufficient paths for cyclists and pedestrians, and sustainability design and construction elements**. The Board of Supervisors plans to adopt final guidelines **early next year** following the public outreach process.



## Board Approves Ordinance to Address Water Rate Issue

On Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance that will **lower water bills** for Fairfax County customers of water systems of neighboring jurisdictions and establish the Fairfax Water Authority as the sole water provider for new developments and redeveloping areas. The vote followed a public hearing where Supervisors heard from **residents, developers and businesses** affected by the ordinance.

The ordinance was the culmination of a series of actions taken by the Board of Supervisors to correct the water rate disparity. In October, our Board adopted a report by the Consumer Protection Committee (CPC) that recommended action to **make sure Fairfax County residents are treated fairly by their water service providers.**

The dispute over the cost of water for County residents served by the City of Falls Church has been going on for many years. For more than 20 years Falls Church had been overcharging County residents while transferring the “profits” of the water service to its general fund (**totaling \$58 million**).

Most Fairfax County residents receive their water from Fairfax Water. Several smaller providers operate in the County that serve the City of Falls Church, the Town of Vienna and the City of Fairfax. In some places their service areas overlap into the county.

The CPC report **recommended setting a limit on the rates** charged to our residents and making the Fairfax Water Authority the exclusive provider for new water customers in Fairfax County (in new developments and redevelopments).

The Consumer Protection Commission’s report on the Falls Church dispute can be found here: [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/doc/cpc\\_water\\_rpt\\_adopted\\_9\\_20\\_2011\\_final.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/doc/cpc_water_rpt_adopted_9_20_2011_final.pdf)



## Civil War Events, Commemorations Happening in December

We’ve got another exciting month of Civil War events coming up. Here are just a couple I want to highlight:

### Peace Service to Commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Dranesville

Dec. 18, 7pm  
 Dranesville Church of the Brethren  
 11500 Leesburg Pike  
 Herndon, VA  
 Phone: (703) 430-7872  
 Admission: FREE

Click here for a complete list of events happening in and around Fairfax County

*Dranesville Church of the Brethren will conduct a special candlelight peace service to commemorate the loss of life in the Battle of Dranesville. At the beginning of the service*

*candles are burning for each soldier that lost their life in the battle. As each deceased soldier's name is read aloud the candle is put out to honor their sacrifice.*

### Civil War Christmas at Brentsville

Dec. 17, 3pm-9pm  
 Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre  
 12229 Bristow Road, Bristow, VA  
 (703) 365-7895

Admission: \$5 per person  
*During the winter of 1861, Prince William County was home to nearly 70,000 soldiers who spent Christmas here instead of in their homes. Step back 150 years to see how soldiers and civilians celebrated Christmas time during the Civil War.*

## Volunteers Needed to Help Low Income Families File Taxes

Looking for a unique way to volunteer your time? Why not **help someone with their taxes**? The **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program** has begun recruiting for the 2012 tax season, creating a great opportunity for you to make a real difference in the lives of Northern Virginia families.

For only **3 to 6 hours of your time each week** during tax season (January to April), you will help prepare tax returns for residents, or you can be a greeter, offer IT support, be a language interpreter, or help coordinate the on-site activities.

The program offers flexible hours at convenient

locations around the area, **and we offer free training** for the Tax Wise and Tax Law software.

Last year, volunteers donated approximately **16,580 hours of their time** and helped low-income families in Northern Virginia receive over \$8 million in federal tax refunds. Over \$1.7 million was awarded back to those families who qualified for the Child Tax Credit. In total, volunteers helped more than 4,300 families prepare their taxes last year.

Get more information on volunteering and the VITA program by [www.nvacash.org](http://www.nvacash.org) or contact James Do at 571-749-7838; TTY 711 or Thea Frisby 703-533-5702; TTY 711. [Or register online.](#)

## Free Prescription Drug Discount Cards Available to All Residents

Over the last year our staff has been working to initiate a no cost prescription drug discount card program for all Fairfax County residents. We are able to offer this card **at no cost to taxpayers or card users**, because the discounts are provided through a partnership with ProAct, Inc. a pharmacy benefits management company and participating pharmacies across the county.



The card can **reduce the cost of a prescription by up to 45 percent**, depending on the drug and amount bought. It is intended to help the more than 144,000 county residents-or 13.5 percent of the county's population-who don't have health

insurance. It can also help insured residents anytime they must pay full price for a prescription if their plan doesn't cover a specific drug. Discounts are available for some pet medicines too.

The card can be used **at most of the 148 pharmacies in the county**. To use the card, just present it at the pharmacy. No enrollment or registration is needed, and one card can be used for the entire family.

Cards will be mailed to households in areas that have the highest concentration of residents without health insurance, a limited supply of cards will be stationed at pharmacies across the county and all residents can download the cards at [www.FairfaxRxDiscountCard.com](http://www.FairfaxRxDiscountCard.com) or by calling 1-877-776-2285.

## ***Holiday Event Roundup***

It's that time again! All over Fairfax County, great family holiday events are happening. I've listed a small portion of all that Fairfax County has to offer its residents for holiday entertainment. Please check out [Visit Fairfax](#) to see more.

### **The Bull Run Festival of Lights and Winter Wonderland Holiday Village**

**Now through Jan 8, Bull Run Regional Park**

7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville, VA

Monday - Thursday: 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Fridays – Sundays, and

Holidays: 5:30 to 10 p.m.

Phone: (703) 631-0550

Admission varies



The Bull Run Festival of Lights and Winter Wonderland Holiday Village will be lighting up the night with its holiday extravaganza including a 2.5-mile drive-through light show culminating at the holiday village that includes food, carnival rides, vendors, free hayride, animated Christmas tree, pictures with Santa and a brand new section with music animated to dancing trees!

### **Christmas at Mount Vernon**



**Now through Jan 6, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens**

3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon, VA

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

(703) 780-2000

Admission: Christmas at Mount Vernon is included in general admission: \$15 for adults, \$7 for youth (6-11), and free for children five and younger.

Christmas at Mount Vernon has been named as one of the "12 Places to Catch the Holiday Spirit" by AAA! Mount Vernon is decking the halls for a special daytime program November 25 - January 6. Holiday visitors will enjoy themed decorations (including 12 Christmas trees), a gingerbread replica of the Mansion created by former White House pastry chef Roland Mesnier, chocolate making demonstrations, and a rare opportunity to tour the third floor of the Mansion. In 1787, George Washington paid 18 shillings to bring a camel to Mount Vernon for his guests' enjoyment. During Christmas at Mount Vernon, visitors can meet Aladdin the camel.

### **Save the Date!**

I will be holding my annual New Year Reception in the Government Center Forum on January 11, 2012.

Please come and enjoy light refreshments and help ring in 2012! Formal invitation to follow.

