

**Bulova Byline
Chairman's Monthly Report
June 2009**

When Rahm Emanuel, President Obama's Chief of Staff, used the phrase "**You never want a serious crisis to go to waste,**" I thought the quote was original. In fact, the sentiment was used 500 years ago by Machiavelli, and probably earlier if you dig back far enough in history. Whenever it was first used, it has been good advice in difficult times, and this is the case today.

- On April 27th the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a Budget for FY 2010 that held the line on taxes, maintained funding for our schools, and continued critical investments in public safety, human services and environmental programs. We did so after an intensive Community Engagement process that invited discussion both before and after a budget was advertised. I think our Board struck a responsible balance and I thank those of you who accepted the opportunity to become educated about our fiscal situation and weighed in on your priorities and suggestions.

The Dialogue will continue as we prepare for FY 2011. Fairfax County is not out of the fiscal woods and continues to be impacted by unprecedented economic turmoil. Please watch my monthly Bylines and the County's website for information about Budget Community Dialogue sessions this fall and winter. You can also find information about work the Board of Supervisors is doing to identify "Smart Savings," reorganizational opportunities and new "best practices" to respond to the challenge of not wasting the crisis.

Later this month, I will lead our Board on a two-day retreat to review overarching issues affecting our County and to consider our direction during the next few years. This will be the first retreat our Board has held in five years and I think it demonstrates our concern and commitment to the overall health and well being of our community.

- Fairfax County is uniquely poised to emerge more quickly than other parts of the country from this downturn through a number of **major economic development opportunities**. See inside this issue of the *Byline* for the latest on Rail to Dulles and the Transformation of Tysons Corner. A number of other redevelopment projects and opportunities are also on the horizon throughout the County, e.g. the Mosaic at Merrifield, Springfield Mall, the former Lorton Prison/Laurel Hill Re-use plans, and BRAC related redevelopment and revitalization in the Ft. Belvoir/EPG area.

- Our County is benefiting significantly from **Federal Stimulus Funding** from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. See inside for information regarding funding opportunities for transportation, public works infrastructure, education, public safety, human services (homelessness prevention, workforce training, etc.) and energy development.

- And lastly, make sure you take time this summer to enjoy the beautiful things we live here for. All summer long, free concerts are being held at parks throughout the County. And don't miss the farmers markets that are selling local fruits and vegetables and providing a wonderful sense of community. Sully District goes back to the future with outdoor drive-in Movie Nights, and you can find horses and 4-H competitions at Frying Pan Farm Park in Herndon. Our Fairfax County libraries offer a wealth of programs and activities in addition to making books and reference materials available for readers. We are a great County with a great quality of life. Take time to smell the roses and appreciate what we have!



Sharon Bulova
Chairman
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors



If you need help but are not sure where to find it, Fairfax County has two programs designed to help residents access the services available in our community. By dialing 2-1-1 on your telephone, you can speak with a trained professional who will listen to your situation and suggest sources of help. 2-1-1 has information drawn from a large database of health and human services organizations, ranging from non-profits to federal, state and local government agencies. 2-1-1 is available from 8 a.m. to midnight seven days a week and acts as a source of information during an emergency situation.

Fairfax County's Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) program is another excellent resource that works in tandem with 2-1-1 to connect residents with the services they need. CSP provides information, referrals, linkage and advocacy to human services in both the public and private sectors. CSP partners with county agencies and community organizations to provide basic needs services, financial assistance, healthcare services and referrals to other programs. When you call CSP at 703-222-0880 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays, a professional social worker will listen to your situation and provide you with the information or referrals you need. CSP is committed to working with residents to help them access all the services they need.

GREATER WASHINGTON 2050

Greater Washington 2050 is a new regional initiative to improve the quality of life for Washington area residents in the next 50 years by fostering stronger regional awareness, leadership and action. Led by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) and a coalition of public, business, civic and environmental stakeholders, Greater Washington 2050 will build on what many people now believe is an opportunity for convergence on big issues of growth, transportation and the environment, in part owing to concerns about the impacts of climate change and energy availability and cost. Via a regionally adopted compact that will formalize the coordination of smart planning among our cities, towns and counties in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Northern Virginia, Greater Washington 2050 will shape agreement on broad regional goals, identify actions large and small that can help achieve goals, measure progress, and promote stronger civic engagement.

As Chair of the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition, my goal is to ensure that today's residents participate in shaping the region for future generations. We all know that the individual jurisdictions across our region have unique personalities and needs. Last month, the coalition presented a report of the comprehensive regional survey of area residents it commissioned. We asked residents about their connection to the region. We asked them to rate the region and how they seek out information. We asked about their most important long-term issues. We asked them to grade the region on top concerns. And we asked for their long-term hopes for the region in the future.

View the entire public opinion survey results and learn more about the Greater

Washington 2050 initiative at:

<http://www.mwcog.org/gw2050/home.html>.

The survey reveals a public that is engaged and appreciative of our region's core strengths, while indicating where they want the most emphasis by the region's leaders over the coming decades:

“The public in metropolitan Washington is engaged and connected. Residents appreciate the region as vibrant, diverse, and interesting. There is a sense that some people are being left out of the region's success, and several key shortcomings of the region seem related to poor planning. The public supports more regional solutions to problems. While traffic is a leading irritant, it is not where the public would place the most effort over the long term.

“The public has a clear set of long-term priorities for the future, led by quality schools and safe neighborhoods. First among these priorities is producing good quality schools. There are enormous differences from jurisdiction to jurisdiction within the region about how residents rate the performance of their public schools today. But even in high-performing school districts, most residents want to increase the attention their schools receive.

“The second leading priority for the long term is producing safe streets and neighborhoods. On safety as well as education there are strong differences in performance among jurisdictions, but near total consensus that public safety is a high priority.

“Rounding out the public's most intense priorities are good jobs for everyone who wants one, better access to health care, more help for people who are in need, fostering a cleaner environment, making housing more affordable, and better planning for growth and development.”

RAIL TO DULLES & TRANSFORMATION OF TYSONS

Construction is underway for the extension of Metrorail to the Dulles International Airport. Metrorail service from Falls Church to Wiehle Avenue in Reston will be available as early as August 2013, with stations, including four in Tysons Corner, open for revenue-generating service in November or December 2013.

With the arrival of rail imminent, the County will seize upon the opportunity to create a planned, transit-oriented, green, walkable, multi-use urban community. Last fall, the Tysons Land Use Task Force presented the Board with a report that included its recommendations for a future vision and area wide recommendations for development in Tysons. The Planning Commission is revising draft “Straw Man” plan text for the County’s Comprehensive Plan that guides land use decisions in the County.



In the meantime, the Board has directed staff and the Planning Commission to develop screening

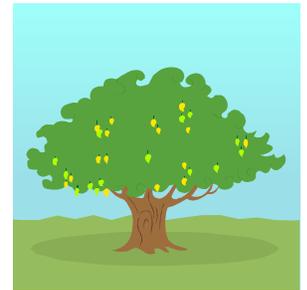
criteria that will facilitate the evaluation and selection of applications for “demonstration” projects. This will allow for one or more landing sites immediately surrounding a Metro station, whose owners are “ready to go,” to be redeveloped as a demonstration of the transformation of Tysons. Selection criteria should be finalized by the end of August, at which point landowners will have

the opportunity to submit their sites for consideration.

Additionally, it is essential that Metrorail passengers have quick and convenient access to and from locations within Tysons that are beyond walking distance from the Metrorail stations, as well as a quick and convenient way to travel within Tysons Corner without a vehicle. The County is working to ensure that an interconnected Tysons transit system that is free, frequent, and visible, is fully realized. Transit services that will be complementary to Metro should be introduced and operational when Metrorail service begins in 2013.

TREE CITY USA

At our annual Earth Day-Arbor Day celebration at Northern Virginia Community College, Fairfax County was recognized as a Tree City USA for the 26th



year in a row by the National Arbor Day Foundation. To qualify as a Tree City, a jurisdiction has to dedicate resources, develop plans and craft ordinances for tree management. The Board of Supervisors recognizes the value of trees, both for the environmental benefits and for the improved quality-of-life we enjoy thanks to greener surroundings. The Board has set a 30-year tree canopy goal of 45% cover by 2037, and Earth Day-Arbor Day was an excellent opportunity to reaffirm these commitments. For more information about tree preservation in Fairfax County, visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/environmental/trees.htm>.

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Recently Completed Projects



- *Route 50 Pedestrian Bridge* – On May 20, I was extremely pleased to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony for the much-needed pedestrian bridge over Route 50. In addition to greatly increasing pedestrian safety at this busy area, the bridge will provide access to a future Seven Corners Transit Center.
- *Route 236 at Beauregard St* – A second left turn lane was added from east-bound Route 236 onto north-bound Beauregard Street.
- *Columbia Pike Walkway* – A concrete sidewalk was installed along the south side of Columbia Pike from the Government Center to Downing Street. Additional phases of this walkway are in design.
- *Route 7 at Magarity Road* – An additional through and right lane were added. The existing lane was converted to a through-only. A missing sidewalk segment along the service road was added and maintenance was performed on the retaining wall.

CELEBRATE FAIRFAX! FESTIVAL

Join Northern Virginia's largest music and entertainment festival on **June 5-7, 2009**, at the Fairfax County Government Center. The annual festival is presented by Celebrate Fairfax, Inc., a nonprofit corporation created by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in 1984.

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival hosts more than 400 exhibitors, food vendors, crafters, and interactive exhibits and activities.

Thousands of attendees enjoy live concerts on five stages, an interactive SciTech Center, Exxon Mobil Children's Avenue, Inova's Train Ride to Good Health, a petting zoo, karaoke contest, carnival rides and delicious festival foods.

Highlights of the festival are the nightly fireworks, presented by SAIC, and top national headline performers. like Blues Traveler and Phil Vassar, brought by Bud Light. More than 60 other performances can be enjoyed throughout the festival and are free with daily general admission. Tickets may be purchased online and printed from home. For more information about the festival, visit www.celebratefairfax.com, or contact the Celebrate Fairfax, Inc. office at 703-324-FAIR (3247).



Please come and join us as we celebrate Fairfax County!

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE (BRAC)



Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) is the name given to the process that the U.S. Department of Defense uses to reorganize its military installations to adapt to changing circumstances. Approximately 13,000 Department of Defense (DOD) jobs will be added to Fairfax County at Fort Belvoir and the Engineer Proving Ground (EPG) and 6,400 to the City of Alexandria by September 2011. Jobs among outside contractors will also experience growth as a result of these transfers.

Most of the jobs coming to Fort Belvoir, including DOD civilians and embedded contractors, are already located elsewhere in the Washington capital region. The shift will be in the type of transportation trips that are generated as a result of employees' commutes.

As a result, Fairfax County is working closely with DOD and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), Arlington County, and city of Alexandria staff, to address BRAC-related transportation impacts. Greater traffic is anticipated along the I-95 and Richmond Highway (Route 1) corridors; Telegraph Road; Fairfax County Parkway; the I-95/Fairfax County Parkway interchange; and on secondary roads throughout the Springfield and Fort Belvoir areas.

DOD currently has relatively little funding for transportation improvements. The

estimated costs of unfunded BRAC related transportation projects vary from \$458 million to \$1.6 billion, depending on the alternatives selected and the existing analysis available. One very significant project moving forward however is the extension of the Fairfax County Parkway from Rolling Road to Fullerton Road.

When the first two phases of this four-phase project are complete in late 2010, motorists will have a direct route to I-95 through the Engineer Proving Ground in Springfield. VDOT is providing funding for the project, acquiring the necessary right-of-way, and will maintain the road once complete. The [Federal Highway Administration](#) is administering the final design and construction. The United States Army is providing the right-of-way through the Engineer Proving Ground. The final phases of the project, which entail the extension of Boudinot Drive at Fairfax County Parkway and the building of a loop ramp, as well as the relocation of Hooes Road and Rolling Road with improvements to the Franconia-Springfield Parkway interchange and the Fairfax County Parkway, have received federal stimulus monies.

The significant increase in jobs at and around Fort Belvoir will affect housing, transportation and public services, as well as create opportunities for new jobs, goods and services in large areas of the county in the Springfield, Lee, and Mount Vernon Districts. With extensive public involvement, Fairfax County is amending its Comprehensive Plan that guides how land is used in the county in order to capitalize on the revitalization and economic development opportunities that these changes present. For more information on the amendment nominations under consideration, visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/apr/brac/>.

SUMMER IN THE PARKS

Farmers Markets

Spring and summer are great seasons to take advantage of fresh produce, home-baked goods and eating locally. Every year farmers markets spring up throughout Fairfax County with an abundance of offerings, such as fresh-cut flowers, pasture-raised meats, cheeses, pastas and ice cream. All farmers and producers come no further than 125 miles from Fairfax County. Taking advantage of locally grown produce has never been so easy!

The markets opened this year on May 2 and end on November 12. For more information contact Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-0128 or visit:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farm-mkt.htm>.

Free Summer Entertainment in the Parks!

Every summer, residents of Fairfax County have the opportunity to enjoy great FREE entertainment at one of our many local parks. The Fairfax County Park Authority, in partnership with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and with generous contributions from local businesses and corporations, presents a summer-long calendar of shows, concerts and movies for you and your family. It's a great opportunity to meet and greet your neighbors, have a picnic and enjoy regional entertainers throughout the season. For more information visit:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/>.

CHANGES IN LIBRARY HOURS & FEES



For your information, the Fairfax County Public Library will reduce its hours, increase fines and establish new fees as a result of a county decrease in revenues and a 15% cut to the library's fiscal year 2010 budget. Changes will take effect July 1, 2009.

All library branches will close earlier Monday through Thursday; regional branches will be open 1- 5 p.m. on Sunday. The new schedule follows:

Monday – Wednesday	(all library branches)	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Thursday, Friday	(all library branches)	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday	(all library branches)	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday	(regional* branches only)	1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

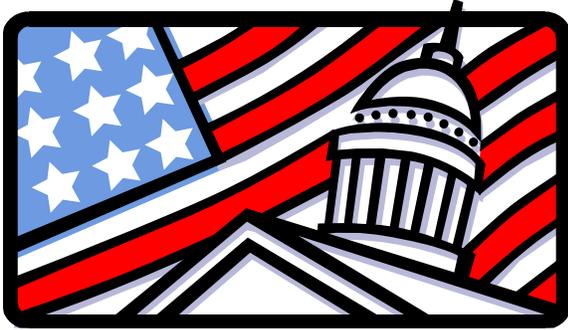
**regional branches include Centreville, Chantilly, City of Fairfax, George Mason, Pohick, Reston, Sherwood and Tysons-Pimmit.*

The Library Board has also approved the following fines and established new fees; the new fees and fines will go into effect beginning July 1:

- The daily charge for overdue materials will be 30 cents for both adult's and children's materials;
- A charge of \$1 will be assessed to customers who do not have their library cards with them, but would like to check out materials, place holds or conduct other transactions;
- A guest pass will be required (\$2) for visitors, non-library cardholders or those who do not have their library cards with them to use the public computers;

The budget cuts have also required the library to eliminate more than 300 part-time positions, realign library staff and reduce expenditures on the collection in FY 2010 by \$1 million. For more information, visit: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library.

UPDATE ON FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDS



Here is a snapshot of the funds that Fairfax County has applied for under the Federal Stimulus Bill. The County has applied for funds for transportation projects, energy efficiency, housing programs, employment training, and public safety. When applying for these funds the County sought to fund projects that were critical to the County, would spur job growth, were ready to accept the funds, and would spur market transformation. Here are some of the larger projects that are representative of the full list. The full list will be available to the public on line later this month.

- \$60 million for the completion of the Fairfax County Parkway EPG segment.
- \$9,642,800 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), Funding for implementing energy efficiency and conservation strategies to reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and to improve energy efficiency. Some of the projects this will fund are:
 - Desktop Power Management software will power off PCs during non-working hours.
 - Provide energy conservation education and outreach and subsidize (with partial rebates) energy audits and

energy efficiency corrective actions on existing single family homes and townhouses.

- Perform energy audits of County buildings and retro-commission buildings to significantly reduce energy consumption
- \$2,462,398 Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program: This program is for communities to provide financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or to help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized.
- \$1.4 million Workforce Investment Act: Workforce Investment Act is a work-first approach to employment and training for adults, youth and dislocated workers.
- \$422,947 Office for Women applied for funding for three positions to support Domestic Violence Service. One position will work primarily with those families staying in Artemis House (the Domestic Violence shelter) in order to reduce homelessness after shelter stay as well as to increase economic capacity with these families. Two positions will staff the hotline.
- \$3,827,645 COPS Hiring and Recovery Program this funding would hire new officers or restore positions in the police department.
- \$2,294,177 Public Housing Capital Fund Program this funding will be used to update and renovate existing County owned and operated affordable housing.