

From the Office of Sharon Bulova
Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, VA 22035
703-324-2321

chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman



Bulova Byline

The Monthly Newsletter from Chairman Bulova

Want to know what's
going on in Fairfax
County?



Like me on Facebook to
stay connected!

Follow me on
twitter

In This Issue

[Tysons Transportation
Funding](#)

[Private Sector Energy
Task Force](#)

[Challenging EPA](#)

[495 Express Lanes](#)

[Workhouse Event](#)

[Hypothermia Information](#)

[Fairfax for Business](#)

Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

November 2012

Greetings,

Last week Fairfax County dodged a bullet when **Superstorm Hurricane Sandy** only grazed the Metropolitan Washington area, coming ashore instead to our north, along the Jersey shore. On Tuesday (Election day) I took a break from handing out sample ballots at voting precincts to welcome our Fairfax County Urban Search & Rescue Team (USAR, VATF-1) as they returned home from assisting flood victims in New York and New Jersey.

The team was initially deployed to the Fort Dix, New Jersey area, and then sent to Little Ferry and Moonachie to conduct search and rescue operations, partnering with the New Jersey Army National Guard units and the North Carolina Air National Guard. VATF-1 conducted water rescue operations using inflatable boats and going door-to-door, evacuating residents during the first several days after the storm. They continued to help residents by providing various types of humanitarian assistance throughout the deployment period.



*Welcoming VATF-1 home to
Fairfax County.*



VATF-1 on duty in the Helicopter.

In my Welcome Home remarks to members of the Team, I said this particular mission felt especially personal. Had the storm continued to veer in our direction, Fairfax County could very well be experiencing the kind of devastation our sister states are struggling to recover from.

When our USAR Team is called out (by FEMA), all costs are covered by the Department of Homeland Security. This includes the funds needed to backfill deployed individuals. Fairfax County benefits from the training, equipment and experience the program provides. Our USAR Team is an elite, specially trained corps mostly within the Fire & Rescue Department. More information on VATF-1 can be found at <http://www.vatf1.org/>.

Election Day was also something of a storm. I'm attempting to find out if our 80.5% turnout hit some kind of all-time high record. In the last presidential election the turnout was 78.7% (with 72,501 fewer registered voters than today). Lines and waits varied throughout the County. When I voted at the Villa precinct at about 8 a.m. my wait was only about 20 minutes. At other locations however, lines snaked around elementary school parking lots or through buildings, and it was not unusual for voters to have a wait closer to an hour or more. The last vote in Fairfax County was cast at 10:30 p.m. at the Skyline precinct in Bailey's Crossroads, which means voters in line by 7 p.m. had to wait three and a half hours before finally casting their ballots.



Monument Precinct voters in line at the Government Center.

While all together the day went well, I think it would be beneficial to examine what lessons we can learn to reduce long waits and make things run more smoothly. I plan to bring this up at our next Board Meeting and will suggest a bi-partisan commission to review and make recommendations regarding our election process.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate everyone who participated in the electoral process this year. I look forward to working with our newly elected, and re-elected, federal representatives. An effective partnership among levels of government is critical to our success. Thanks also to the voters of Fairfax County. 80.5% turnout is pretty exceptional - evidence of a highly engaged community.

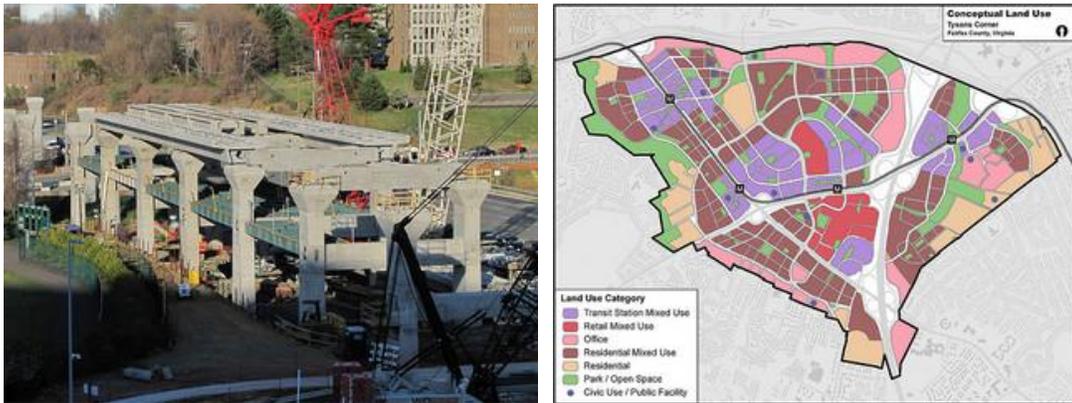
Sincerely,

Sharon Bulova

Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Tysons Update: Transportation Funding

On June 22, 2010, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopted a new Comprehensive Plan for the Tysons Corner Urban Center. The Plan created a vision for the County's downtown that is designed to take advantage of the four new Metrorail stations now nearing completion and expected to become operational in December 2013. It is anticipated that by 2050, Tysons will be transformed into a walkable, vibrant urban center, with over 100,000 residents and 200,000 jobs. Tysons will become a 24-hour place where people live, work and play.



Central to the effort to ensure Tysons becomes a success is adequate investment in infrastructure. The Fairfax County Planning Commission's Tysons Committee, after hearing from businesses, residents, and other affected Tysons stakeholders, recommended to the Board of Supervisors a Tysons Transportation Funding Plan. The plan identifies funding for critical transportation improvements over the next 40 years from a variety of sources, including local, state and federal, as well as the private sector. The plan includes funding mechanisms for four categories of projects: a grid of streets; neighborhood and access improvements; transit; and Tysons-wide road improvements. To fund a portion of the private sector share of Tysons-wide funding improvements, the plan recommends the creation of a Tysons-wide service district. On December 4, the Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing and vote on whether to create the Tysons-wide service district. If the Board votes to establish the service district, a rate will be set in early 2013.

As Tysons continues to grow, I hope we can continue making the type of progress that will propel Tysons towards becoming one of Virginia's great urban centers.

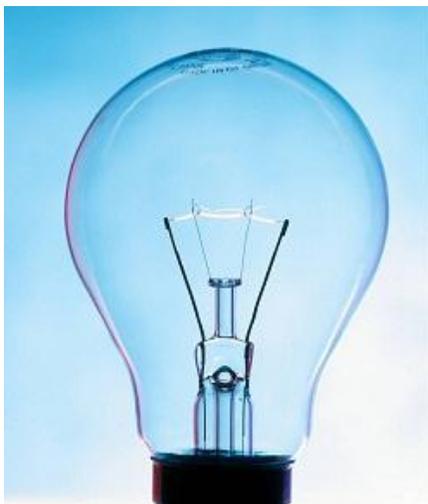
For more information on Tysons and the Transportation Funding Plan please visit: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/tysons.

Private Sector Energy Task Force

Last year, I initiated a Fairfax County Private Sector Energy Task Force which brought together leadership within the residential, environmental and business communities of Fairfax County. The mission of the Task Force was to: **identify opportunities to develop a transformational vision, supported by achievable strategies that will define the steps our community can take to position itself as a leader in the area of energy efficiency, sustainability and green technology.**

The Task Force included representatives from the corporate community, utilities serving Fairfax, the Federation of Citizens Association, the Fairfax County Public Schools, George Mason University and INOVA Health Systems. Work of the Task Force built on Fairfax County's existing [Environmental Agenda](#), including the [Cool County Initiative](#) championed by former Board Chairman Gerry Connolly.

On October 16 the Task Force presented their [final report and recommendations](#) to the Board of Supervisors. The primary recommendation made by the Task Force is the creation of an independent Public-Private Partnership, or **Energy Alliance**, that will support County and regional goals for increased energy efficiency, sustainability and innovation. The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce has already agreed to help with the development of the Energy Alliance during its "incubation" stage.



I would like, once again, to thank Leo Schefer and all members of the Energy Task Force for the time and thoughtful work they put into the report. As a result of their efforts, we have an outstanding blueprint that we can work from to position Fairfax County as a leader in energy efficiency. Kudos to our County staff for their excellent support of the Task Force, and in particular Clayton Medford and Mark Thomas from my office.

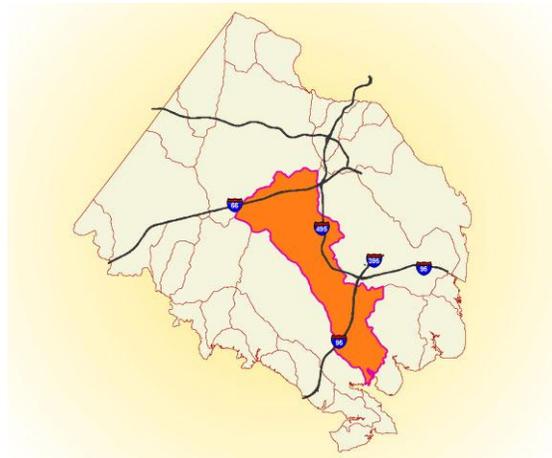
For more information on the Private Sector Energy Task Force or to see the [presentation](#), [recommendations](#), and [supporting information](#), visit the [Fairfax County Chairman's page](#).

Why is the County Challenging the EPA?

Over the past few months, my office has received a number of questions from constituents who are concerned about the proposed stormwater run-off regulations for the Accotink Creek watershed and the **lawsuit that Fairfax County filed jointly with the Virginia Department of Transportation against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**. I wanted to take this opportunity to clarify the purpose of the lawsuit and provide Byline

readers some background on the County's longstanding commitment to water quality and the environment.

First, the Board of Supervisors and the County are committed to maintaining and improving water quality in the Accotink Creek watershed and other tributaries throughout the County as well as downstream in the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay. Fairfax County has a strong and unwavering commitment to water quality and environmental stewardship, and we will continue these commitments in the future.



Lake Accotink, with a surface of about 70 acres, is located in the center of the Accotink Creek watershed shown above in orange

Q: What is a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)?

A TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can receive and still meet water quality standards. The conditions that require the establishment of a TMDL are set out in the Clean Water Act. Once a TMDL is established, it becomes the basis for pollution permitting and enforcement actions - including actions against private landowners as well as local and state governments. More information on TMDLs can be found on the [EPA's website](#).

Q: Why is the County Challenging the EPA on this?

The County disagrees with the methodology of EPA's proposed solution for Accotink Creek, not the need to improve the health of Accotink Creek. Litigation was our last resort and the County only filed suit after months of discussions starting in 2009 failed to address concerns with the proposed TMDL.

Q: What has the EPA proposed and why does the County object?

The proposed TMDL would regulate the flow of water in Accotink Creek. The County has several objections to the TMDL which we hope to resolve. This case is particularly important because it may set a precedent for other watersheds in the County which also feed into the Chesapeake.

From an engineering standpoint, the County believes the proposed TMDL limits on stormwater flow provide no reasonable assurance that the goals proposed by the EPA can be attained or that they will correct the underlying problem. A flow TMDL unnecessarily limits credit to projects that address water flow. We would not receive credit for strategies like stream bank stabilization and reconnecting streams to flood plains which we have implemented successfully already. It is unclear that reducing the flow without also incorporating other strategies will repair Accotink Creek, which is already eroded. **Instead, the County believes that a more comprehensive approach will provide the sustainable improvements needed to improve the habitat of our streams and lead to restoration of the Bay.**

Additionally, the County believes the EPA does not have the authority to regulate the *flow* of water - TMDLs regulate the discharge of pollutants and the *flow* of water is not a pollutant.

Q: What is the County doing about water quality?

The County has taken many steps to improve the health of our streams and rivers well before the EPA considered regulatory action and we plan to continue these programs while we seek a solution to the regulatory disagreement.



A Government Center stormwater restoration project. This kind of stream restoration project would not be eligible for any kind of credit under the proposed EDA TMDL.

In 2003, the County began a study to evaluate the health of all 30 of the county's watersheds. By surveying local bodies of water and working with the residents in the areas that drain into each stream or river, the County developed a [Watershed Management Plan](#) with project to protects and improve each watershed in the county. The County has allocated more than \$41 million just this year to staff and projects to improve local water quality and the health of streams and rivers in the county. Additionally, the value of one and a half cents on the tax rate is dedicated annually to stormwater and environmental protection.

The bottom line: The County does not want to be forced to spend tax-payer dollars in a way that does not address our clean water goals.

495 Express Lanes Opening



495 EXPRESS LANES TO OPEN AS EARLY AS NOV. 17

The long awaited 495 Express Lanes are set to open as early as November 17, just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday rush! The 495 Express Lanes are a public-private partnership between VDOT and Fluor-Transurban with the goal of providing relief from traffic congestion on I-495. On Oct. 31, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) announced that the project would be completed ahead of schedule and encouraged drivers to prepare for the changes in traffic patterns.



To use the Express Lanes, you must own an E-ZPass transponder, as there will be no toll booths or options to use cash to pay the toll. Vehicles containing three or more people can travel on the Express Lanes for free, but must have an E-ZPass Flex transponder to signal their HOV status.

For more information on the I-495 Express Lanes and E-ZPass, please go to <https://www.495expresslanes.com/>.

Black Friday at the Workhouse

Escape to Black Friday, November 23 Hot Cider and Cool Art

Are you dreading the crowded malls, the endless lines, and the panic caused by not finding the perfect gift? Avoid the holiday stress and Escape to Black Friday at [the Workhouse](#) with family and friends on November 23 from 9am-5pm. Enjoy hot cider, artist demos and workshops, while you explore the beautiful campus and start your holiday shopping. There will be exclusive holiday gifts in all price ranges, created by more than 100 Workhouse artists.

This all day event will serve as the opening reception for the 30 x 30: 30 Works in 30 Days, which will be on exhibit in the McGuireWoods Gallery from November 23 through December 30. Support your local artists and community while finding the perfect holiday gifts for family and friends!

Hand-made Ornaments by Ceramic Resident Artists will be for sale to support the Workhouse Ceramics Program this Holiday Season in the Gift Shop.

The Workhouse Arts Center is located at 9601 Ox Road Lorton, VA 22079. (800) 453-8179.

Hypothermia Prevention Information

The Hypothermia Prevention Program is a partnership between Fairfax County and various non-profits, faith communities and volunteers. Its success is a testament to the value of public/private partnerships in Fairfax County. The County's community partners include FACETS, New Hope Housing, the Friends of Falls Church Homeless Shelter, Volunteers of America, Chesapeake (VOAC) Bailey's Crossroads, and Reston Interfaith Embry Rucker Community Shelter.

The collaborative effort of various county agencies and our partners is preventing deaths from hypothermia, providing case management to hundreds of clients and moving homeless individuals into permanent housing directly from the Hypothermia Prevention Program.

FACETS' hypothermia prevention season begins on Nov. 25, 2012 and goes through March 16, 2013. For further information or to volunteer, please contact Jerriane Anthony at JAnthony@facetscares.org or 703.352.5090.

Volunteers of America, Chesapeake (VOAC) Bailey's Crossroads Hypothermia Program is operated under the agency and management of Bailey's Crossroads Community Shelter and operates from Dec. 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013. For further information, please contact Thornell Hancock at THancock@voaches.org or 703.820.7621.

Reston Interfaith at the Embry Rucker Community Shelter (ERCS) winter programs operate three separate (but similar) programs. They offer 12 overflow cots for nine men and three women beginning on Nov. 1, 2012 at their main shelter during the hours of 5 p.m. to 9 a.m. daily. Beginning Dec.1, 2012 they will open up floor space in the main shelter on a "no turn away" basis for anyone seeking shelter from the cold during the hours of 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. Also beginning Dec. 1, they serve 25 individuals on floor mats at their Hypothermia Program at the North County Government Building during those same hours daily. Each program is completely staffed by paid employees, and each is supported by nightly volunteers who provide meals and activities.

New Hope Housing operates the **Ventures in Community Hypothermia Outreach**

Program (VIC-HOP) and opens its doors on Dec. 1, 2012 at Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church, located at 8220 Russell Road, Alexandria. For further information, please contact Sherry Edelkamp at sedelkamp@yahoo.com or Tonya Golden at tgolden@newhopehousing.org or 703.799.0200.

Friends of Falls Church Homeless Shelter in partnership with **New Hope Housing** operates the Falls Church Winter Shelter from Dec. 1, 2012 to Mar. 31, 2013 providing a warm bed, meals, life skills classes and case management services to the guests. The shelter is located at 217 Gordon Road in the City of Falls Church. For further information, please contact Tonya Golden at tgolden@newhopehousing.org or 703.799.0200.

Fairfax County: A Great Place for Business



Fairfax County is quickly becoming one of the premier centers of commerce and technology in the United States, providing businesses the environment they need to grow and succeed. With a strategic location near our nation's capital and ten Fortune 500 Headquarters located within its borders, Fairfax County is attracting both U.S. and foreign-owned businesses. Here are some of the advantages that Fairfax has to offer:

- one of the world's largest clusters of technology firms, services and workers;
- proximity to the U.S. federal government-the world's largest consumer of technology goods and services;
- a state-of-the-art technology infrastructure;
- one of the largest office markets in the United States with affordable, flexible and attractive real estate options;
- access to a regional market of more than 5 million people;
- a competitive tax structure;
- access to venture capital and other funding sources;



The County's pro-business climate, highly skilled and well-educated workforce, and the enviable quality of life in the Washington region add to a unique and effective business advantage. Nearly two-thirds of county adults have at least a bachelor's degree and more than a quarter hold advanced degrees. Total technology jobs in the Washington, D.C. area number in the hundreds of thousands. It's no wonder that Fairfax County is a magnet for corporate headquarters, technology entrepreneurs and venture capitalists.

Tip for Business Owners: Utilize The [Fairfax County Economic Development Authority \(FCEDA\)](#). The FCEDA is a unique agency that exists within Fairfax to help promote businesses, while answering any questions new owners may have. With a staff composed to experienced professionals, the FCEDA services include: providing current and comprehensive marketing information, acting as a liaison with regulatory agencies and venture capital firms, and keeping businesses apprised of tax/zoning issues in the County.

[Forward this email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov by chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov | Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors | 12000 Government Center Pkwy | Suite 530 | Fairfax | VA | 22035