



The Springfield District Report

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Springfield District
Supervisor



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Welcome to the *Springfield District Report!*

We want to keep you informed about what is happening in our District and on County issues that may be of interest to you but we must stay within a limited budget. In order to do this in a cost efficient manner, we have taken to publishing the *Springfield District Report* on the Web and also distributing through e-mail . We will try to keep this updated for your convenience. Please tell your friends and neighbors about our newsletter so we can get word to as many people as possible.

We encourage you to call our office and give us news items that may be of interest to others in your neighborhoods. We will try and put these in our newsletter whenever possible.

Most of all, we would like to hear from you about the *Springfield District Report* and whether it is helpful to you and informative. We welcome your input.

Dear Springfield Resident,

We have been exceedingly busy in our new Springfield District since the redistricting. As many of you know, we moved to the house behind the Post Office on Bauer Drive, until the remodeling at the West Springfield Government Center is complete. We are quite comfortable in our little house and welcome your visit.

And, for those of you who do not know it, we have a new office in the big Government Center in order to better reach those of you in the Western part of our District (see the article on page 5 for particulars). As always, our goal is to serve you and to be accessible to you when you need us.

Along with District issues, I have been involved in a number of projects involving the entire County, the most pressing of which is the "sales tax referendum." As many of you know, I have proposed a referendum to ask if our citizens are willing to support a one cent increase in the sales tax for schools and transportation. My proposal is

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limited to a ten year sunset when the tax would revert back to its original amount. It requires the school and transportation projects be advertised as part of the referendum so our citizens would know what they are financing with the money from the tax.

My proposal also has a “pay as you go” element which would save the taxpayers one billion dollars in interest over the ten year period and allow the construction of roads and schools under local supervision rather than rely on the State or others.

Many things have happened since I made my initial proposal. It was a major issue in the Governors’ race, it has become a State wide issue, the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce is supporting only the road portion of the increase in sales tax, a Regional Transportation Authority has entered the picture and it seems dozens of bills are now being submitted to members of the General Assembly to consider an increase of the sales tax.

I have always believed we should take matters of this magnitude to the people to decide what they would support. We all know the shortage of road and transportation money is in the billions of dollars and we have no hope of funding many of our vitally needed local projects without some help — the same with schools. With 18,000 children in trailers, and a Capital Improvement Program limited because of our bonding capabilities in the County, there is little hope of getting any new schools and renovations we need without help from somewhere. Many States have used sales tax money to improve roads and schools. We need to give the choice to our people and a referendum is the way to seek their advice.

Another problem I have been very concerned about is the recently enacted bill (H 2606) which establishes a Regional Transportation Authority that could take away the impact of the sales tax money for local use. Under this resolution, our money from the increased sales tax for transportation would go to this Authority to decide how our money would be spent and not necessarily on our local projects but rather on “regional” projects outside of our County.

I HAVE A GREAT PROBLEM WITH THIS CONCEPT and I hope you will respond by [contacting](#) your General Assembly members to voice your opinion on how this Authority will control your tax money should the referendum pass. It needs to stay under local control where we can build our own roads and schools with a minimum of disruption from layers of bureaucracy that will add years to the process.

If you believe as strongly as I do about the sales tax referendum, I hope you will take time to contact members of the General Assembly to let them know your views. Remember, I proposed a ten year sunset on the tax, a “pay as you go” plan to save one billion dollars, a split of one-half cent to transportation and one-half cent to education (bricks and mortar only) and the right to manage our local transportation projects, not through a Regional Transportation Authority. All projects should be listed on the referendum!

Remember, a one cent sales tax amounts to an increase of about \$136.00 per year for the average family whereas an increase in local income tax of 1% equates to an increase of about \$500.00 per year. You need to decide on the issue if the General Assembly will allow us the referendum.

We have other important issues to discuss such as the upcoming County budget, the road projects in our District, the economy and the traffic problems you are encountering. We will keep you updated on those important issues as we have news on them.

Again, we appreciate your taking the time to read our newsletter and we welcome your response.

Sincerely,



Commission News



Economic Advisory Commission

Initiated the establishment of The Economic Advisory Commission (EAC) in 1990 when our County was in the throes of one of the worst recessions in its history. The purpose of the Commission is to advise the Board of Supervisors of the economic conditions of the area as well as throughout the country. This information is important when planning County budgets, Capital Improvements and land use. We are very fortunate to have as an advisor, Dr. Stephen Fuller of George Mason University's Institute for Public Policy, who gives us an economic indicator on a regular basis.

The September, 2001, meeting focused primarily on the proposed one-cent sales tax increase. Guest speakers included Ho Chang of the Fairfax County Department of Transportation and Daniel Domenech, Superintendent of the Fairfax County Public School System. Each speaker provided an overview of the specific transportation and school capital projects to be supported by the sales tax referendum. The EAC members subsequently voted to have Chair Elaine McConnell introduce a motion before the Board of Supervisors urging them to strongly support the sales tax referendum. Note: Chair McConnell subsequently carried through with the EAC direction with the Supervisors voting 9-0 to support the referendum.

At the October meeting Mr. Bill Shelton, Director, Virginia Hous-

ing and Community Development, provided an update on the Virginia Post Attack Economic Task Force, a task force established by Governor Gilmore subsequent to and directly the result of September 11, 2001. Mr. Shelton explained the specific responsibilities of the Task Force included:

—assessing the level and nature of impacts on the Commonwealth's economy, businesses and workforce.

—developing and implementing a long-term economic response strategy.

—coordinating the provision of federal, state and private funding.

—providing technical assistance to affected businesses and communities.

—serving as a catalyst for public and private partnerships to promote economic growth.

The November meeting featured two speakers, Dr. Stephen Fuller and Mr. Edward Long, the Chief Financial Officer for Fairfax County. Dr. Fuller provided an overview of the County's current economic performance and the forecast for the next several years. Mr. Long provided the County's financial forecast for FY2002 and FY2003.

During the discussion after the presentations the following was noted. Of the ten largest metropolitan areas in the United States, only Houston, Texas and the Washington, DC region are growing at greater than 2% per year. In addi-

tion, the Washington, DC metropolitan area will enjoy its best year ever in the building industry. Finally, it was noted there have been 67 consecutive months of job growth in Fairfax County with a total of 80,000 new jobs being created in 2001.

The EAC is currently in the initial stages of planning a half-day seminar with key industry leaders in the areas of aviation, defense/intelligence, tourism and health care. The goal is to improve the cross feed of information and to help focus on how best to recover economically in the shortest possible amount of time.

The next EAC meeting will be held on January 16, 2002 at 8:00 A.M. in Room 232, Fairfax County Government Center. Mr. Mario Schiavo, Coordinator of Benefits and Staffing for Fairfax County Public School's Budget Office, will discuss Superintendent Domenech's proposed budget for the upcoming school year. Please contact Supervisor McConnell's Chief-of-Staff, Norm Byers, at (703) 451-8873 for additional information.

Interested in becoming more active in your community?

Become the Springfield District Representative to a Board, Authority, or Commission!

For more information on how to become a representative, go to the Springfield District [website](#).

News You Can Use

A r e Y o u P r e p a r e d?

Since September 11 we are acutely aware that a disaster or emergency can strike anywhere, quickly and without warning. It can force you to evacuate your neighborhood or confine you to your home. What would you do if basic services – water, gas, electricity or telephones – were cut off? Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone right away. Therefore, it is best to have a plan in place ahead of time. Planning for any emergency requires considering all likely scenarios that could result when things that you rely on daily are disrupted or lost for a considerable amount of time.

To help you better prepare for a disaster or emergency, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission has [information](#) available on packing an emergency preparedness kit, making plans for pets and staying informed during an emergency. This past fall, Fairfax County Government held a number of community forums providing an opportunity for citizens to hear from and ask questions of county officials on emergency preparedness issues. Panelists included members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, public safety, health care, transportation and public works officials.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, also provides information about disaster awareness and preparedness. The “Family Disaster Plan” is the core message of FEMA’s Community and Family Preparedness Program. For information on the Family Disaster Plan, go to FEMA’s [website](#) or call 1-(800)480-2520.

The American Red Cross has long known the best way to avoid disaster is to prepare for the unexpected. In response to the fear generated by the September 11 terrorist attack, the Red Cross is reaching out to communities in new ways to teach preparedness. Across the nation, chapters are handing out pamphlets and inviting communities, businesses and special groups to a new presentation called “Preparing for the Unexpected.” The one and a half-hour presentation teaches families and employees safety steps to take during any disaster – whether it’s a flood or another terrorist

attack. For families and communities, preparation means developing an emergency response plan, creating a disaster supplies kit, learning basic first aid and talking to employers and schools about their emergency response plans. Find your local [Red Cross Chapter](#) and information on emergency preparedness on their [website](#).

I now serve on the Governor’s Hazmat Commission which addresses many of the problems experienced in the reaction to the September 11 terrorist attack and will keep you updated on the State’s Disaster Plan.



Let it Snow!



Where do I call for snow removal and information on road conditions in Northern Virginia?

Call (703) 383-VDOT. Dispatchers are available to take your call 24 hours a day! For road conditions call 1-800-367-ROAD. TTY users can call 1-800-432-1843. Visit VDOT's [website](#) for more specific information, including frequently asked questions, snow facts, and information on what to expect when the forecast calls for snow and ice.

The roads within my development have not been accepted into the VDOT maintenance system yet. Who do I contact to request snow removal?

Visit the Springfield District [website](#) for a complete listing of developments by name and the name and phone number of who to contact for snow removal.



News From Around The District

South County Area Plan Review (APR) Begins in March

The Area Plan Review (APR) process is designed to allow citizens to discuss nominations to change the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan. Supervisor McConnell appoints citizens of the Springfield District to sit on a Task Force, and the members meet to vote on recommendations to the Planning Commission. The Task Force looks at the land use of nominated sites and also considers transportation access.

Nominations to change the Comprehensive Plan in the South County cycle will be accepted December 3, 2001 through February 1, 2002. Nominated appointees are reviewed during this time as well. Appointees will be selected in early March, and meetings will start mid March.

The public can review the nominations and staff reports, attend Task Force meetings, and speak before the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors at public hearings. To familiarize yourself further with the process, you may access the Department of Planning and Zoning [web page](#). The web page also leads you to the Comprehensive Plan page which has a link to the "Citizen's Guide to the 2002 South County Cycle Area Plan Review (APR)."

Route 123 Widening

One of our top priorities in our District is to see Rt. 123 completed to the bridge over the Occoquan. We have worked very closely with Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) on this road and have assisted them in every way we can. I recently attended the meeting in which VDOT awarded the contract to A&W Contracting Co. to widen Rt. 123 to four lanes from Burke Lake Road to just south of Lee Chapel Road. Heavy construction activity will begin this Spring with a project completion date of 18 to 24 months. We are working with VDOT to get the next section started!

Springfield District Satellite Office Opens in Government Center

A satellite office for the Springfield District opened officially on Tuesday, October 9, 2001. Supervisor McConnell established the office to better serve Springfield District constituents in the Fairfax Center Area; prior to the June 2001 reapportionment, Fairfax Center resided in the Sully District. Administrative Aides Marlae Schnare and Nancy McDonnell staff the new office located in the Government Center next to Tax Administration.

Marlae Schnare, former executive for a national trade association, brings several years experience in working with constituent issues and in public relations. Contact Marlae Schnare by [e-mail](#) or phone (703) 324-2500. Nancy McDonnell, formerly a Sully District resident, has been long involved in local government work, having served as an intern for Supervisor Michael Frey. Also, as a former financial consultant for a lending institution, she is a professional in discerning issues that need attention and facilitating solutions. Contact Nancy McDonnell by [e-mail](#) or phone (703) 324-2500.

As always, Supervisor McConnell encourages and welcomes residents to contact her office any time they have questions or need assistance in any way.

Fairfax County Government Center Office:
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FAX: (703) 324-3149
Office hours: 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

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In the Subject line of the e-mail, please type "Subscribe." In the body of the e-mail, please include your name, address, and phone number (optional). The *Springfield District Report* is distributed electronically in January, April, July, and October.

Calendar of Events

The following list of activities is a sample of events taking place in the Springfield District from January through March, 2002. It is not meant to be all-inclusive. If you are sponsoring an event and would like to see it listed in our community calendar, please call Supervisor McConnell's Administrative Aide, Marlae Schnare, at (703) 324-2500 or send her an [e-mail](#). Events for the April 2002 Springfield District Report should be submitted no later than March 25, 2002.

Springfield District Libraries

Kings Park Library, Pohick Library, Fairfax County Government Access Services

To find out what events are taking place at your local library, access the library [calendar of events](#).

Board of Supervisors Meeting Dates (January through March, 2002)

January 7, 28

February 11, 25

March 4, 18

The [Weekly Agenda](#) contains information on the agenda of the Board of Supervisors, the Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals, official actions of the Board of Supervisors and important upcoming events.

Fairfax County Parks

To find out what's happening at your local parks, access the Fairfax County Park [web page](#).

The Net (Springfield District Teen Center)

Highlights for January and February include a pizza party, field trip to see "Shear Madness" at the Kennedy Center, and a basketball clinic. For more information call Brandy Mullen at (703) 324-5713 or access the [web page](#).

Public Hearings

See Page 7 for more details.

Attention Homeowner Associations!

In order to better serve you, our office is in the process of collecting updated information for homeowners associations.

Please e-mail or call us with any changes in association name, address, phone number and e-mail address of the current contact. For homeowner associations served by a management firm, please provide their name, the contact person and phone number as well.

Send information to Supervisor McConnell's Administrative Aide, Nancy McDonnell by [e-mail](#) or call her at (703) 324-2500. Thank-You!

Land Use

Community Meetings and Public Hearings

The following community meetings have been scheduled before the Springfield-Fairfax Center Area Land Use Committee at the times indicated. The subsequent Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors Hearing dates follow the application summary.

DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. PLEASE CONTACT SUPERVISOR MCCONNELL'S OFFICE AT (703) 324-2500 TO CONFIRM.

January 15, 2002, 7:00 P.M. – TRW, Inc.

Where: Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 4 & 5

TRW, Inc. submitted an application to permit the conversion of approximately 338,900 square feet of undeveloped office space to residential space and to allow the construction of 146 market rate single family attached units and nineteen affordable dwelling units on 38.1791 acres of its campus located in Fair Lakes (Tax Map parcel 55-1 ((1)) 3). Fairfax County Planning and Zoning Department Contact: Tracy Swagler, (703) 324-1273
PC Hearing* - 1/23/02, 8:15 P.M.

BOS Hearing** - 1/28/02, 3:30 P.M.

January 15, 8:30 P.M. – Sprint PCS

Where: Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 4 & 5

Sprint PCS submitted an application to construct a telecommunications facility, consisting of a 125-foot tall monopole, panel antennas, and equipment cabinets at 11334 Lee Highway, Springfield District (Tax Map parcel 56-2 ((1)) 37A). Fairfax County Planning and Zoning Department Contact: Dave Jillson, (703) 324-1249
PC Hearing* - 1/24/02, 8:15 P.M.

BOS Hearing** - Not applicable

January 22, 7:00 P.M. – Geshner Jewish Day School

Where: Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 4 & 5

The Geshner Jewish Day School of Northern Virginia submitted an application to construct a facility on a 27.8 acre parcel located at 4700 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax, Virginia (Tax Map parcel 56-4-03-0001). The Applicant is requesting approval to construct a school to serve 540 students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade. Fairfax County Planning and Zoning Department Contact: Tracy Swagler, (703) 324-1273

PC Hearing* - 2/13/02, 8:15 P.M.

BOS Hearing** - 2/25/02, 4:30 P.M.

January 22, 7:30 P.M. – Centex Homes

Where: Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 4 & 5

Centex Homes submitted rezoning applications (RZ 2001-SP-041, RZ 2001-SP-042, RZ 2001-SP-043) for parcels it proposes to develop in the Dix-Cen-Gato area. The rezoning applications include approximately 67.4 acres of land north of Route 29, south of Post Forest Drive, on both sides of Legato Road, generally southwest of the Government Center (Tax Map parcel 56-1 ((1)), ((2)), ((3)), ((4)), ((5)), ((6)), ((9)), ((11))). RZ 41 proposes to rezone 64.73 acres from R-1 and R-2 to PDH-12; RZ 42 proposes to rezone 1.37 acres from R-1 to R-12; and RZ 43 proposes to rezone 1.3 acres from R-2 to R-5. The application proposes to consolidate the existing parcels in this area.

Fairfax County Planning and Zoning Department Contact: William Mayland, (703) 324-1360

PC Hearing* - 2/20/02, 8:15 P.M. (tentative)

BOS Hearing** - Not yet scheduled

*Planning Commission Hearing

**Board of Supervisors Hearing