The

## **Braddock Beacon**

# James R. Walkinshaw Braddock District Supervisor



Volume 14 | Issue 9 09.02.2022

Dear Neighbor,

This year, I've had the honor of serving as the Vice Chair of the Virginia Railway Express Operations Board. VRE serves a vital role for thousands of commuters across our region and this month we've launched a new initiative to thank our existing riders and encourage new riders to try the system. Throughout September, VRE will be **entirely fare free!** 

Fare-free rides in September will be systemwide. In October they will be limited to travel between the six VRE stations most impacted by the Blue Line station closures – Backlick Road on the Manassas Line, Franconia-Springfield on the Fredericksburg Line, and Alexandria, Crystal City, L'Enfant, and Union Station on both lines.



#### **Oak Hill Open House**

On September 17, from noon-4:00 p.m., <a href="https://example.com/historic Oak Hill">historic Oak Hill</a> will be reopening for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. This annual event continued virtually during the pandemic, but an in-person open house has not occurred since 2019. Parking will be offsite at the Nancy Sprague Technology Center, 4414 Holborn Avenue, Annandale. A free shuttle bus service will provide visitors with convenient transportation. Limited handicapped accessible parking is available at the site, located at the side entrance at 4716 Wakefield Chapel Road.

In 2004, Oak Hill was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In the same year, the Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, and Seville Homes agreed to a historic and conservation easement to preserve the privately-owned Oak Hill home and property. As part of the agreement, the community is invited to visit the property each year to learn about its place in County history. Outdoor interpretative programs help educate visitors about the life and times at Oak Hill, including the enslaved people who worked at the property and historic incidents from the Civil War.

This Open House is made possible by the efforts of the Fairfax County Park Foundation, the Fairfax County Park Authority, Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

#### Suicide Prevention Month and the 2022 Out of the Darkness Walk

This month is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in Fairfax County. Nearly 58% of communities in Virginia do not have sufficient mental health services to serve their residents, and suicide has become the second highest cause of death in people ages 10 to 34 in our country. Not only is that a tragic statistic, but it is also a call to action for those of us in a position of trust who are responsible for making certain those services are equitably provided to the residents of Fairfax County.

As we observe this Suicide Prevention Month, I hope you will join me and Sully District Supervisor Kathy Smith on <u>our Out of the Darkness Walk team</u> to prevent suicide at the Veterans Amphitheater in the City of Fairfax on Saturday, October 1 at noon. Join our team as we join the City of Fairfax and other regional partners in raising awareness and funds for the American Suicide Prevention Foundation. I look forward to seeing you next month!

Yours in service,

Supervisor James Walkinshaw

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## Walkinshaw in the Community



Supervisor Walkinshaw joined several National Night Out events across the Braddock District on August 2.



Supervisor Walkinshaw joined the Burke Centre Farmers Market for National Farmers Market Week on August 13.



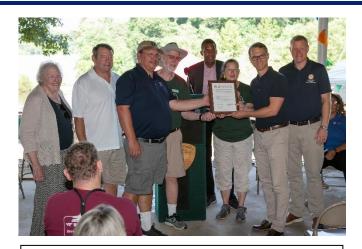
Supervisor Walkinshaw participated in the 2022 Shop with the Sheriff event with Sheriff Kincaid and her deputies on August 15.



Supervisor Walkinshaw hosted the final Arts in the Parks Braddock Summer Entertainment Series Events on August 20.



Supervisor Walkinshaw met with FCPS Superintendent Dr. Michelle Reid on August 25.



Supervisor Walkinshaw celebrated the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lake Accotink Park on August 27 (see page 13 for more).

#### In August, Supervisor Walkinshaw also:

- Hosted the Braddock Nights Concert Series on August 5 and 12
- Hosted the Arts in the Parks Children's Series on August 6 and 13
- Interviewed with the Korea Times to discuss Lake Accotink on August 11
- Attended a Community Meeting for the Danbury Forest Stream Restoration on August 17
- Joined a Braddock District Community Conversation with Dr. Michelle Reid at Woodson High School on August 24
- Attended the Graduation Ceremony of the 81<sup>st</sup> Session of the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy on August 25
- Participated in the Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Reserve ribbon cutting on August 25

## **Community News**

#### **GMU 2022-23 Center for the Arts Performances**



Mason's Center for the Arts hosts a variety of performances delighting the entire family. Enjoy performances from Broadway's Kristin Chenoweth, the Virginia Opera, and the 5 Browns to extraordinarily talented musicians such as Robert McDuffie. Learn more about the **Center for the Arts' 2022/23 season**.

#### George Mason University Observatory Open

Learn more about the stars, our solar system, galaxies, and celestial events at the George Mason University Observatory on the Fairfax Campus. Free public tours of the observatory are conducted on alternating Tuesday evenings during the academic year. Scientific talks are approximately 30 minutes long. The information presented is appropriate for ages 5 years and older. Learn more at the **College of Science's Website**.



#### **Inova Fair Oaks Hospital Virtual Town Hall**

Inova Fair Oaks Hospital's leaders invite you to an interactive virtual town hall on Thursday, September 8 from 5:00–6:00 p.m. to learn more about the latest at Inova hospital and in the community's health. During this time, we also want to hear what matters most to you! Inova encourages you to share questions you have for their team in advance.



Raj Chand, MD
President



Deborah C. Fulbrook, EDM, MHS, BSN, NEA-BC Chief Nursing Officer



Eugene Christian, MD, CPE Chief Medical Officer



QUESTIONS? CONTACT US: RSVP@TRICIAPEDIA.COM

<u>Click here</u> to RSVP and submit your questions for the town hall on Thursday, September 8.

#### **Braddock District Council**

The Braddock District Council is back in action, and they need you!

After a pandemic-accentuated pause, the Braddock District Council of Community Associations (BDC) is active again and new leadership has been elected. BDC looks forward to engaging with all community associations in the Braddock magisterial district. To that end, they have created a <a href="mailto:newwebsite">new website</a> and <a href="mailto:Facebook page">Facebook page</a>.

The new leadership can be reached at <a href="mailto:chair@braddockdistrictcouncil.org">chair@braddockdistrictcouncil.org</a>, <a href="mailto:treasurer@braddockdistrictcouncil.org">treasurer@braddockdistrictcouncil.org</a>, and <a href="mailto:webmaster@braddockdistrictcouncil.org">webmaster@braddockdistrictcouncil.org</a>. The BDC still needs a new Secretary. The job is pretty simple and straightforward, but until a new volunteer steps forwards, the Vice-Chair will be pulling double duty!

All community organizations are encouraged to join. Dues are based on the size of the organization. See website for details. Please send dues to:

Braddock District Council c/o Braddock District Supervisor's office attn: Sally Kidalov 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke VA 22015

The BDC looks forward to a great turnout as we hear from Supervisor Walkinshaw at the September 21, 2022 meeting at 7:00 pm in Braddock Hall (9002 Burke Lake Rd, 22015). Please contact Sally Kidalov at <a href="mailto:sally.kidalov@fairfaxcounty.gov">sally.kidalov@fairfaxcounty.gov</a> with any questions related to the meeting.

#### **Federal COVID At-Home Testing Program Suspended**

As of Friday, September 2, the federal program offering free at-home COVID-19 tests is suspended.

Pharmacies and healthcare providers will continue to offer testing, and retailers will continue to offer them for purchase. Anyone with a PPO or HMO health insurance plan is eligible for reimbursement for up to eight at-home tests each month for each person covered by their insurance plan. Information on how to get reimbursed is <a href="here">here</a>. Additionally, the Fairfax County Health Department continues to provide PCR tests, at no cost to participants, in collaboration with Curative, the mobile testing van, six days a week. An up-to-date weekly schedule for the van is here. Read the full blog post regarding COVID-19 Testing.

## **COVID-19 Vaccine Update — Omicron Resistant Bivalent Booster**

Following the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meeting yesterday, the CDC now recommends a single dose of the new COVID-19 bivalent booster at least two months following a completed primary series or previous booster vaccination. The bivalent vaccines, also known as "updated boosters," target the Omicron's BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants, as well as the original COVID-19 strain. The updated Pfizer booster is for people ages 12 and over and the Moderna version for people 18 and older.

The Fairfax County Health Department has already placed an order for this vaccine, and we anticipate that it will be available for administration shortly after the Labor Day holiday.

Additionally, the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine has been approved and is now available for adolescents ages 12-17.

Read more on the County's **Emergency Blog**.

#### Grants of up to \$10,000 Available to Support Veteran Employment



Join "Virginia Talent Resource: Virginia Values Veterans," an in-depth look into the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program, a Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Veterans Services program committed to educating Virginia employers on how to recruit, hire, train, and retain veterans on September 8 from 12:00—1:00 p.m.

#### **Voting Information and Events**



## \* VIRGINIA \* DEPARTMENT of ELECTIONS

#### Registration

Registering to vote is easy. The deadline to register is October 17. Residents are welcome to come to the Braddock District office to complete a voter registration form in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, or Korean. Residents may also complete their voter registration online at the **Department of Elections Registration website**. Additionally, all branches of the Fairfax County Public Library will be hosting the League of Women Voters from 1:00–4:30 p.m. to register Fairfax County residents to vote on National Voter Registration Day (September 20).

#### **Early Voting**

This month, voters will begin to participate in 2022 midterm elections. In-person and mail-in early voting begins on September 23 and will continue through November 5, the Saturday before election day on November 8. For those voting by mail, please remember to mail your ballot at least one week before the date of the election. If you decide to vote early in-person, please be advised that the following locations in and near the Braddock District are open to voters on the following dates and times:

#### September 23-November 5 at the Government Center

Weekdays 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday (Only September 24, October 29, and November 5) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Sunday (Only October 30) 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Location	Address
Fairfax County Government Center	12000 Government Center Pkwy
	Conference Rooms 2/3, Fairfax 22035

#### October 27-November 5 at Satellite Locations

Weekdays 1:00-7:00 p.m.

Saturday (Only October 29 and November 5) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sunday (Only October 30) 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Location	Address
Burke Centre Library	5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke 22015
West Springfield Governmental Center	6140 Rolling Road, Springfield 22152
Mason Governmental Center	6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale 22003

For a full list of all Fairfax County early voting sites, visit the **Fairfax County Early Voting website**.

#### Volunteer as a Poll Worker— Vietnamese and Korean Speakers Needed

The Fairfax County Office of Elections needs bilingual election officers to assist voters in the General Election on November 8 and in future elections. Specifically, individuals who speak Vietnamese and English fluently or Korean and English fluently are encouraged to serve in Annandale, Centreville, Chantilly, and Falls Church.

Officers will perform all regular election duties, including assisting voters in English, but will be assigned to precincts with a significant number of voters who may primarily speak Vietnamese or Korean. To serve as a designated bilingual election officer, you must also complete a short oral language skills assessment.

Fairfax County is the largest voting jurisdiction in Virginia with 264 precincts countywide. It takes thousands of enthusiastic and trained election officers to ensure that we have efficient and well-run elections. Compensation begins at \$175, and training is provided online for new officers. To apply, visit the <a href="Vote4Fairfax website">Vote4Fairfax website</a> (be sure to indicate if you speak Vietnamese or Korean). Visit <a href="Working at the Polls">Working at the Polls</a> for more information.

#### **Burke Centre Festival**

Supervisor Walkinshaw is excited for the return of the **Burke Centre Festival**, a celebration of this beautiful, award-winning community. The festival will feature a large Arts & Crafts Show, Fairfax County Police, Fire & Rescue displays, emergency preparedness area, live bands, dancing, roving characters, a wide variety of festival food vendors, amusement rides, pony rides, a nursing mom's private tent, basketball toss, Midway-style games, tons of community booths, giveaways and drawings, an afterhours wine garden with live music and much more.



Held September 10–11!

Conservancy Festival Grounds— 6060 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke, VA 22015 Saturday, September 10, 9:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Saturday Evening Wine & Beer Garden Hours: 5:00–10:00 p.m.— Last call is at 9:00 p.m. Sunday, September 11, 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

## **Environment & Parks News**

#### Planting a Tree in Fall

Fall is the best time to plant a tree. Help celebrate Native Trees Week, September 26-October2, 2022, by visiting one of the many area garden centers and other organizations throughout Northern Virginia promoting native trees and shrubs. For a listing of participating garden centers, visit the **Celebrate sNative Trees Website**. Why is a tree campaign talking about native shrubs? The shrub layer is an essential part of the ecosystem, providing food and nesting sites for many animals. And what's so special about native trees and shrubs? Native plants co-evolved over many years with the local wildlife, birds, and insects. Without native plants to help feed and be host plants for our local wildlife, new generations of our beloved butterflies, birds, and mammals will not survive. And if that's not enough, native trees and shrubs need no fertilizer (preventing excess fertilizers from washing into and polluting our waterways), need no extra watering once they are established after the first year, need no pesticides (the local insects help keep things in balance), and need no lawn mowing (get on board with the trend to decrease lawn and add more



native trees and shrubs). And, in addition to all that, native trees are beautiful. For more ideas about how to incorporate even a few native trees and shrubs into your yard, go to **Plant Nova Trees** to get started.

#### **Phasing Out Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers**



Last year, the Board approved Supervisor Walkinshaw's motion to phase out the use of gas-powered leaf blowers and lawn equipment on County-owned property. Now, the County is making good on that promise by replacing the existing County inventory with electric blowers and incentivizing the use of electric equipment by our landscaping contractors.

Gas-powered leaf blowers can emit 23 times the carbon dioxide of a Ford F-150 and operate at noise levels that can cause hearing damage. This is about Fairfax County being a good neighbor to those living near our facilities and helping to accelerate a shift to electric landscaping equipment. Supervisor Walkinshaw is hopeful that incentivizing the use of electric equipment through our procurement process will encourage more local landscaping contractors to make that shift, giving residential and commercial property owners more choices in the marketplace.

Read more on the County's News Center.

#### **Danbury Forest Stream Restoration Project**

Construction of the Accotink Tributary at Danbury Forest Stream Restoration Project will begin this month. This project is on a tributary just upstream of Lake Accotink and is primarily located on land owned by the Danbury Forest Community Association (DFCA). It was designed by the County's Stormwater Planning Division, in coordination with the DFCA. The existing channel is severely eroded and actively deepening and widening. The stream receives water flow from several stormwater outfalls that convey water from the surrounding neighborhoods, schools, roads, and commercial areas.

The project will restore approximately 4,000 linear feet of this tributary to Accotink Creek. The goal of the project is to improve water quality by reducing streambank erosion and restoring the ability of the stream to process phosphorous, nitrogen, and suspended sediment. This will be done by stabilizing the channel, installing grade control structures, improving the connection of the stream to its floodplain, improving habitat, and installing a diverse mix of native plantings. The project will also include replacement of the pedestrian bridge within the DFCA property.

Construction activity is expected to be substantially completed by March 2024. The construction entrance for the project will be located off the driveway to the Washington Gas facility from Rolling Road. A staging and stockpile area will be installed on the floodplain adjacent to the Washington Gas driveway within the Dominion Energy easement. Fencing will be installed to define the project's limits of disturbance and tree protection areas. Signage for construction activities will be posted along the Washington Gas driveway and the Lake Accotink trail entrance from Rolling Road.

For more information and project updates, visit the <u>Accotink Tributary at Danbury Forest Stream Restoration webpage</u>.

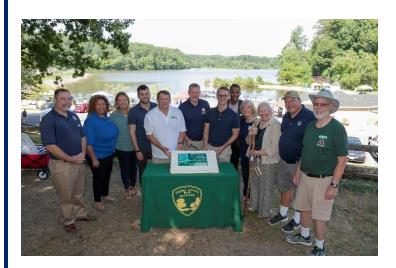


Existing Conditions



#### Lake Accotink Park 60th Anniversary

On August 27, Fairfax County celebrated 60 years of Lake Accotink Park with a community event that brought together the Fairfax County Park Authority, the Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP), and a variety of sponsors from the community. Chairman McKay, Supervisors Walkinshaw, Lusk, Gross, and Herrity, and Park Authority Board Members joined to present Park Manager Dan Grulke and FLAP with a Proclamation celebrating the event. Many volunteers, representatives of the park, and partner organizations working to conserve the Accotink watershed helped to make this event the amazing success that it was. Thank you to everyone who participated and the community for sharing in this incredible milestone for Lake Accotink Park!









## **Compliance Corner**

## Outdoor Storage of Personal Effects, Debris, and Other Materials

In 2021, the Department of Code Compliance (DCC) responded to approximately 5,500 complaints, almost half of which involved potential violations of the Zoning Ordinance. Of these complaints, outdoor storage was the most common and is among the most common violations found in residential districts. Outdoor storage of personal items, furniture, appliances, tires, equipment, tarp and canvas



covered items, construction materials, or other items on residential lots may not be located in a front yard and may not exceed 100 square feet in area. A residential lot may also be cited for a violation of maintaining a storage yard or junkyard based on the amount and types of items being stored.

For more information, visit the **Department of Code Compliance (DCC) website.** 

Find the outdoor storage flyer **here**.

How does DCC enforce?

DCC Investigators inspect and photograph the property to determine if there is a violation and then try to contact the property owner to discuss the nature of the complaint or violation. If there is a violation, a Notice of Violation (NOV) is issued directing the property owner(s) to abate the violation.

The NOV provides the owners with a specific timeline to come into compliance. DCC Investigators reinspect the property after the timeline to comply has expired to determine whether the violation has been abated.

Failure to comply with the NOV can result in the County taking legal action, such as seeking civil penalties or a court order to abate the violation.

DCC accepts complaints and concerns about potential violations on the DCC website or by telephone during regular business hours at (703) 324-1300.

## **Transportation Updates**

#### **Fairfax Connector Service Changes**

To continue to improve transit service in Fairfax County, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recently approved service and fare changes on Fairfax Connector that will go into effect on October 1. Members of the public provided input on these proposed service changes in Spring 2022 at virtual community meetings and through an online survey.

#### **Route 334** - Newington Circulator

Service on this route was streamlined to weekday rush-hour service and one mid-day trip.

#### Routes 350, 351, 352, and 353: TAGS: Springfield Business Circulator

To improve efficiency on existing Routes 350 and 351, which link the Franconia Metrorail Station to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Springfield Town Center, Route 350 is split, adding two routes – Route 352 and 353. The combined routes will maintain the existing Route 350 level of service. Locations served by the Springfield Business Circulator include: the Franconia-Springfield Metrorail Station and Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Station; Metro Park; Springfield Town Center; Hilton Springfield; Transportation Security Administration (TSA); and NVCC Medical Education Campus.

- Route 350 Springfield Business Circulator Weekday Service Only
- Route 351 Springfield Business Circulator Weekday Rush Hour Service Only
- Route 352 (new route) Springfield Business Circulator Weekday Mid-day Service Only
- Route 353 (new route) Springfield Business Circulator Weekday Service Only

#### Route 495 - Burke Center - Tysons

Service was reduced on this route to rush hour, a mid-day trip, and shortens the route on the north end between Tysons and Tysons West Park. Service between Tysons Corners and Tysons West Park will still be provided by Routes <u>424</u>, <u>432</u>, and <u>494</u>.

#### Route 722 - Chain Bridge Road - McLean - Langley

This change improves operation of Route 722 with a minor schedule adjustment.

#### Transfers Between WMATA Metrorail and Fairfax Connector Buses

This fare change will make the temporary transfer discounts from WMATA Metrorail to and from Fairfax Connector buses a permanent change.



#### **Deer Management Program**

Each year, deer management is conducted in select Fairfax County parks. The program is an ongoing partnership between the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA), Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD), and other regional public land owners to oversee deer population management. If you live adjacent to one of the deer management zones, you either have or soon will receive **this letter** explaining the program and the contact information for the FCPD in case you have any issues or if violations occur in or around the vicinity of your home. Please be cautious during this season, and take care to make yourself seen if you enter a hunting zone.

#### **September is National Preparedness Month**

National Preparedness month occurs every September to raise awareness about the importance of being prepared for emergencies and disasters. The 2022 theme is "A Lasting Legacy. The life you've built is worth protecting. Prepare for disasters to create a lasting legacy for you and your family." Instead of thinking "it will never happen to me," we encourage residents to use the **Community Emergency Response Guide (CERG)** to help prepare.



#### Here are the weekly topics to follow:

Week 1: Make an Emergency Plan (September 1 - 3)

Week 2: Practice Your Plan (September 4 - 10)

Week 3: Assemble Your Emergency Kits (September 11 - 17)

Week 4: Stay Informed During an Emergency (September 18 - 24)

Week 5: Get Involved (September 25 - 30)

We have several events this month, check out where we will be and join us when you can! Visit: **Ready Fairfax.** Fairfax County is also launching the 2022 Emergency Preparedness Survey to assess the culture of personal disaster preparedness and resilience in Fairfax County. How prepared are you? Take the **2022 Fairfax County Preparedness Survey.** 



### <u>FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE</u>

Events & Updates

#### **West Springfield District Station**

Address: 6140 Rolling Rd, Springfield, VA 22152



#### **Introduction to Neighborhood Watch**

Would you like to know what Neighborhood Watch is? How can it help your community? Would you like to know how to start a Neighborhood Watch in your community? Do you want a refresher on the Neighborhood Watch program? Join the Fairfax County Police Department's West Springfield District Station for an Introduction to Neighborhood Watch Zoom presentation on Thursday, September 15, at 6:30 p.m. They will discuss the Neighborhood Watch program, how it works, how it benefits your community, and how to get your community ready to volunteer. Use the Zoom link below. They look forward to seeing you at the meeting. If you have any questions, contact MPO Tony Capizzi from the West Springfield Station at (703) 277-2363.

#### Join on Zoom

Password: 970586 Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 636 651 3141 Conference code: 404496

#### Car Seat Installation Dates

The West Springfield District Station (6140 Rolling Rd, Springfield) has certified Child Safety Seat Installers safely place car seats—from infant car seats to booster seats—in your vehicle. If you have any questions or would like a seat installed, please contact the West

Springfield District Station at (703) 644-7377 and press zero. The dates for installation will be September 6, 13, 20, and 27, from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

The Fairfax Sheriff's Department also offers child safety seat inspections at the Fairfax County Courthouse parking garage. Visit the **Sheriff's Department website** for upcoming dates.

## West Springfield Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Community Engagement Meeting

The West Springfield District Community Advisory Committee will host a Community Engagement Meeting on Tuesday, September 6, at 7:00 p.m. These meetings offer the community a chance to dialogue and communicate more effectively with officers of the Fairfax County Police Department.

The speaker will be Amy Lay with the Northern Virginia Regional Intelligence Center. The meeting will be held via Zoom.

Consider signing up for the West Springfield Community Advisory Committee (CAC) newsletter. The email address is: <a href="wscacmailbox@gmail.com">wscacmailbox@gmail.com</a>. The CAC meetings are generally held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. (except for July and August), and all ages are welcome to attend.

If you have questions, contact MPO Tony Capizzi at (703) 277-2363.

#### Join on Zoom

Password: 268674

Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 636 651 3141 Conference code: 404496

#### Let's Talk

Did you know the West Springfield District Station covers more than 66 square miles, has over 200,000 community members, 40 public schools, 70 houses of worship, about 110 police officers, and 10 different patrol areas? If you would like to know more about the district, crime prevention, or just have questions, join MPO Tony Capizzi on Friday, September 22, at 6:30 p.m. for a virtual community meeting. Use the Zoom link below to join. If you have questions before the meeting, contact MPO Tony Capizzi at (703) 277-2363.

#### Join on Zoom

Password: 880058

Or Telephone: USA 636 651 3141 USA 877 402 9753 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 404496

### **Human Services Corner**

#### **Ready Kids**

Disasters happen everywhere, and every member of the family can prepare. Preparedness for the future starts today.

Whether you're a kid or teen yourself, a parent or loved one, or you work with youth, **Ready Kids** has tools and information to help before, during, and after disasters.



#### Free Webinar for Family Caregivers of Older Adults

#### What Legal Tool is Right for Me and My Family

Not sure what legal tools you need to assist in your caregiver journey? Attend this presentation by Legal Services of Northern Virginia and learn the single most valuable legal tool that EVERYONE should have and use. Figure out if you need a will or a trust; determine if you need a guardianship over your loved one. Plenty of time for questions and answers. Learn more about FREE legal services provided through Legal Services of Northern Virginia.

#### September is for Socks!

The Domestic and Sexual Violence
Services program is currently requesting donations of socks throughout the month of September. Socks should be new.
They need socks for women or children in low-cut or crew-cut. A variety of sizes are needed. You can bring your sock donations to the Braddock District office located at 9002 Burke Lake Rd. Burke VA 22015. You can also place your sock donation in a box located outside the office. If you would like additional information, please call (703) 425-9300 or email Irma.Meija-Lewis@fairfaxcounty.gov.



#### **Out of the Darkness Walk**

The Board of Supervisors has <u>teamed up with the American Foundation for Suicide</u>

<u>Prevention</u> for the Out of the Darkness Walk on Saturday, Oct. 1 at the Veterans Amphitheater in the City of Fairfax. If you would like to join the Board of Supervisors (BOS) Team, you can go to the <u>BOS Team page</u> for more information.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Braddock District Office at (703) 425-9300 or email <a href="mailto:irma.mejia-lewis@fairfaxcouty.gov">irma.mejia-lewis@fairfaxcouty.gov</a>.

#### **Neighbors, September is Hunger Action Month**

Help support local food banks through this month's <u>Virtual Stuff the Bus</u>. Monetary donations allow organizations to distribute more food, feed diverse communities, provide fresh food, and keep shelves stocked when donations are low. You can also support <u>ECHO</u> by donating the most needed items. Items for ECHO can also be delivered to the Braddock District Office (9002 Burke Lake Rd., 22015).

#### **Food Items**

- Bag (Dry) Beans (red and black preferred)
- Can Fruit
- Box Pasta
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Cereal
- Tin Fish (such as sardines)
- Can Milk (evaporated and Sweetened Condensed)
- Bag Rice
- Condiments (mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard)
- Lemon Juice

- Muffin/Corn Meal Mix
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Juice (pouches or bottles)
- Crackers
- Cooking Oil
- Tortillas
- Crackers, dates, nuts, dried fruit, and other healthy snacks
- Tea (green, herbal and black)
- Coffee (ground and instant)
- Masa Flour

## Personal Care Items

- Toilet Paper
- Facial Tissues
- Bath/ShowerSoap
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Shaving Cream/Razors
- Deodorant
- Paper Towels
- Band Aids

#### **Volunteer Opportunity at Kings Park Library**

The Kings Park Library shares a building with the Braddock District office. The Friends of Kings Park Library, an independent organization of local volunteers and supporters of the library, is looking for volunteers. The organization raises the majority of their funds through both on-going used book sales and two large semiannual book sales. The money raised is spent on needs not addressed in the County's annual library budget, or where the allocated funds from the County need to be supplemented.

The dedicated volunteers of the Friends of Kings Park Library work through the year to collect hundreds of donated books from the community and sponsor community activities. This year, the organization would like to invite other members of the Braddock District community to join their group of dedicated volunteers. If you have time and would like to get involved, please contact the organization's president, Dennis Chamot at <a href="mailto:deen.gen">dennischamot@yahoo.com</a>.

## **Land Use & Development**

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS & HEARINGS**

#### **Planning Commission Hearing – Decision Only**

 Ravensworth Shell – September 14 at 7:30 p.m. – Board Auditorium

#### **Braddock District Land Use & Environment Committee Meeting**

September 20 at 7:00 p.m. – virtual

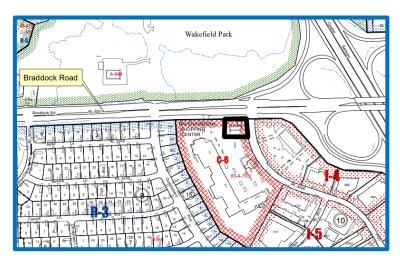
#### **Community Meeting on Residences at Government Center II**

September 28 at 7:00 p.m. - virtual

## Planning Commission Recommendation on Ravensworth Shell Application Scheduled for September 14

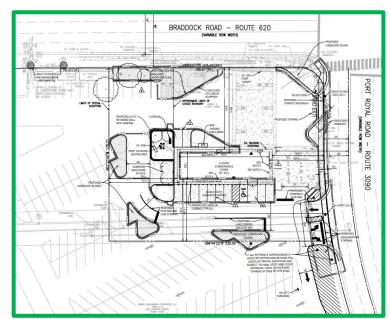
Capital Services, Inc. filed an application to modify Ravensworth Shell's existing vehicle fueling station by replacing the light vehicle repair and maintenance component with a convenience store. The gas station is located in Ravensworth Shopping Center on Braddock Road, just west of the I-495 interchange.

This site contains a 2,600 square foot building housing four vehicle service bays, associated office and storage space, an exterior vehicle lift, and six fuel pumps with 12 fueling positions under a canopy. The current building was constructed in 1967 and renovated in 1984. The service bays and exterior vehicle lift are located along the south side of the building. To the east of the building is a large paved area where fuel trucks access the underground fuel tanks. The building entrance is located on the north side, adjacent to the fuel pumps.



The applicant intends to retain the existing fuel pumps and canopy, replace the four-bay vehicle service area with a convenience store, and add a small second floor office. There would be two entrances to the convenience store, one on the north and the other on the south side of the building. Both the fuel pumps and convenience store would operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A number of site and architectural improvements would be included as part of the project. The building architecture would be upgraded and be in harmony with the shopping center. This would include brick veneer, glass windows and doors, and a gabled metal roof with a small tower.

Vehicular access is currently provided from both Braddock Road and Port Royal Road. The access to the shopping center from Braddock Road, with right-in and right-out movements, is proposed to remain the same. Port Royal Road includes two curb cuts serving the station along with a traffic signal further south providing full access for the shopping center. The



northernmost curb cut on Port Royal Road (closest to Braddock Road) is proposed to remain and become right-in only to allow fuel trucks to access the station's underground tanks. In 1983, the Fairfax County Office of Transportation (now Department of Transportation) had recommended that this entrance be closed or moved further south for safety reasons, but that did not happen. This application includes a narrower, channelized entrance to physically limit movements to right-in only. The second curb cut further south is proposed to continue to permit full movements. Lane striping, stop bars, new landscape islands, and pavement striping would be installed to direct traffic within the shopping center.

Overall daily trips are expected to increase from the current 3,128 trips to 4,033 trips and would be spread out throughout the day and evening hours. Landscaped islands and outdoor seating would be added, the sidewalk along Port Royal Road would be widened to five feet, speed bumps would be removed and a stop bar would be added along the southern side of the building. The existing signage would remain.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the application on July 27. Revised plans were submitted by Capital Services earlier that day which addressed a number of concerns raised by staff and the Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee. In order to allow additional time to reach resolution and get agreements in writing, the Planning Commission voted to defer their recommendation until September 14, with the record remaining open for written comment.

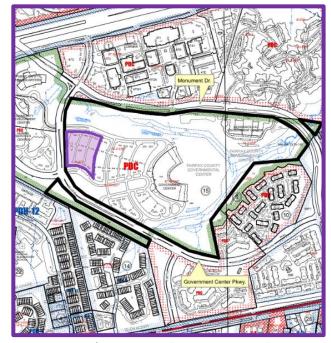
One of the outstanding issues is a staff recommendation that Capital Services and the shopping center owner dedicate land necessary for trail improvements associated with the upcoming Braddock Road Multimodal Improvement Project. We remain hopeful that a compromise can be reached with the Virginia Department of Transportation on this matter. Other questions relate to provision of a loading space, inlet filters for stormwater treatment, location of landscaping, and outdoor sidewalk displays.

Updated plans and Development Conditions will be available on the <u>PLUS website</u>. Select the "Zoning" tab and enter the application number, SEA-83-A-026, in the search box on the right side. Click on the "Record Information" arrow on the left and then click on "Attachments" in the drop-down menu. The most recent documents should be at the end of the list.

The Planning Commission meeting is scheduled in the Government Center Auditorium at **7:30 p.m. on September 14**. It will also be broadcast on Fairfax County Government Channel 16. A hearing before the Board of Supervisors has not yet been scheduled.

#### **Application Submitted for Residences at Government Center II**

The development of affordable housing to help address the critical shortage in the County is a priority of Supervisor Walkinshaw and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. In January 2021, the Board approved Supervisor Walkinshaw's motion to transfer approximately 4.5 acres of Board-owned property along Government Center Parkway at the intersection with Post Forest Drive, referred to as Parking Lots G and H, to the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA). This set in motion the potential replacement of a portion of the under-used surface parking at the Government Center with affordable and workforce housing and community uses located near employment opportunities, transit access, recreational and commercial amenities, and in walking distance of an elementary school. This project is being referred to as "Residences at



Government Center II," in recognition of the award-winning Residences at Government Center project opened in 2017 along Monument Drive on the north side of the Government Center site.

LACM VA, LLC, a subsidiary of Lincoln Avenue Capital, was selected by FCRHA through a competitive process in accordance with the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002 (PPEA) for development of the site. They are proposing two multi-family residential buildings with a total of 293 affordable dwelling units, 15,000 square feet of secondary uses (a child care facility), together with surface and structured parking. The plan and related information may be found on the **PLUS website**. Select the "Zoning" tab and enter the application number, RZPA-2022-BR-00086, in the search box on the right side. Click on the "Record Information" arrow on the left and then click on "Attachments" in the drop-down menu. The initial development plan should be at the end of the list.

Both a Comprehensive Plan Amendment and a Proffered Condition Amendment would be required for this proposal, because the Government Center campus is currently planned for office mixed-use up to an intensity of 0.35 FAR. This planned intensity does not afford enough development potential for the proposed project.

The Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee will be briefed on the Comprehensive Plan Amendment and provided with an overview of the development plan at their meeting on September 20. Supervisor Walkinshaw will host a virtual community meeting at 7:00 p.m. on September 28 to provide similar information to residents, hear comments, and respond to questions. Look for details in an upcoming Advisory.



## **Braddock District Land Use & Environment Committee Meeting**

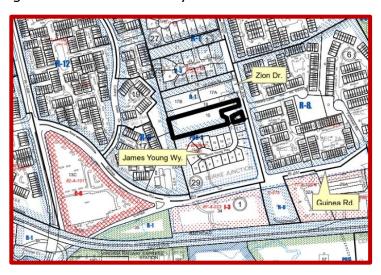
The Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee will hold a virtual meeting on **Tuesday, September 20**, at 7:00 p.m. The agenda will include an overview of the Residences at Government Center II Comprehensive Plan Amendment and application, a presentation on the Public Facilities Policy Plan update, and updates on pending Braddock District land use cases.

Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee meetings are open to the public and interested residents are encouraged to participate. Join online or by phone: (571) 429-5982, Phone Conference ID: 730 922 969#.

#### **Update on Proposal to Develop Day Property on Zion Drive**

A revised rezoning proposal was filed this summer for 10121 Zion Drive, a wooded undeveloped site known as the Day property. This 2.51-acre site is located on the west side of Zion Drive, just north of its intersection with Guinea Road and adjacent to the Burke Junction community. A Resource Protection Area (RPA) is located along the western boundary line.

The applicant has proposed rezoning the property from the R-1 District to the PDH-3 District to permit the development of six single-family detached homes. Access to the property would be provided through a new private street from James Young Way, which connects to Zion Drive opposite Hillard Lake Road and links to the Burke Junction neighborhood to the south. Although the property to the north is not part of this rezoning, the applicant has proposed reserving an area for interparcel access that would allow for future consolidation.



The application proposes to integrate this property with the Burke Junction community by using a site layout that would build single-family detached homes at a similar density. Four areas of open space have been proposed. The tree preservation areas are designed to complement existing tree preservation and landscape areas currently provided in Burke Junction. Stormwater management would be provided onsite, with additional capacity offsite in the Burke Junction community.

At the August meeting of the Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee, the applicant described the changes made to the plan based on feedback from staff and the Committee. The number of lots was reduced from seven to six, a play area was added, and the proposed pollinator garden was moved closer to the RPA. Sidewalks were added on both sides of the new private road. Questions remain regarding the new homeowners' association, stormwater facilities, and a trail connection.

A community meeting on the application will be held in October. Look for details in the October Braddock Beacon. The Planning Commission has scheduled a public hearing for October 26.

## Update on Construction at Erickson Living's Woodleigh Chase Project

Erickson Living is continuing to make progress on its Woodleigh Chase project on Braddock Road. The latest photos are below. The contractor is currently working on a utility tie-in east of the Burke Station entrance along Braddock Road. Work should be completed later this month and the sidewalk will reopen.

You may have seen that the marketing building adjacent to Braddock Road has been completed. Erickson Living will open the marketing center once their license is approved, which they hope will be this fall. If you have specific questions about Woodleigh Chase in the meantime, please contact the Greenspring Village sales office at (703) 923-3187.











Clockwise from bottom left: Stairwell with sprinkler in Community Building 1; Footings for Residential Building 1; Framing progress on Residential Building 1; Concrete pour and deck prep; Framing progress on



#### **Update on One University Project Construction**

On the western portion of the site, five slab sections, or approximately one-third of the foundation, has been poured. Eighty percent of the columns and 40 percent of the garage walls have also been poured. The elevated slab, which will be the ground floor for the affordable housing buildings, is being formed and pouring will begin in the northeast corner later this month. The stormwater vaults are being installed and backfilled. Most of the excess soil has been hauled away, so truck traffic should be noticeably lighter. Similar concrete work is taking place on the eastern side of the site for the student housing building. Concrete pours will take place through mid-November.



Thanks to the George Mason UAS Unit for this new drone photo of the One University site.

As previously reported, sanitary sewer work is underway on University Drive. Crews are working from the west toward Ox Road. The eastbound travel lane and south shoulder will be closed during this work, with one-way traffic controlled by flaggers on the north side of the road. The entire process is expected to last approximately 12 weeks.





#### FAIRFAX COUNTY SITE-SPECIFIC PLAN AMENDMENT PROCESS

#### COUNTYWIDE

## **Countywide Site-Specific Plan Amendment Process Begins in October**

On July 19, the Board of Supervisors approved changes to the Site-Specific Plan Amendment (SSPA) process, which allows anyone to propose land use changes (called "nominations") to Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan for individual sites. The adopted changes include opportunities to submit SSPA nominations every two years, new submission criteria (including a required concept plan and property owner's consent) for nominations, enhanced community engagement during the screening phase, a Planning Commission workshop during screening, and reducing the overall timeline for the nomination and screening period to improve efficiency and make better use of time and resources.

The revised SSPA process will be implemented in the next cycle, which kicks off on October 3. The nomination form, process guide, and other resources will be posted online later this month. Visit the **SSPA website** for the latest details on the upcoming cycle and a detailed report on all the adopted changes to the SSPA process.

#### SSPA Lunch & Learn

Department of Planning and Development staff will be hosting a series of instructional "Lunch and Learn" meetings to go over the SSPA nominating process, which are open to anyone who would like to participate in the nomination period. The meeting details are provided below.

#### Tuesday, September 13, at 12:00 p.m.

<u>Virtual - Microsoft Teams Meeting</u>

Meeting ID: 277 924 078 472 | Passcode: F3tdPU

Call-In Number: 1 571-429-5982 | Conference ID: 566 999 686#

#### Wednesday, September 14, at 12:00 p.m.

Virtual - Microsoft Teams Meeting

Meeting ID: 282 820 391 289 | Passcode: bZhc7q

Call-In Number: 1 571-429-5982 | Conference ID: 566 999 686#

#### Thursday, September 15, at 12:00 p.m.

Virtual - Microsoft Teams Meeting

Meeting ID: 278 070 749 746 | Passcode: t2tv9d

Call-In Number: 1 571-429-5982 | Conference ID: 577 926 550#

## Learn How to Use PLUS at Webinar Wednesdays

Join the Fairfax County PLUS staff for live webinars answering all your questions about the new Planning and Land Use System—PLUS. You can also access all Webinar Wednesday sessions through the **GoTo Webinar PLUS Channel**.



#### Overview of the Planning Module

Join the Department of Planning and Development as they give customers a tour of the Planning module in the new PLUS system. This session will focus on frequently asked questions received by Planning and staff tips and tricks for finding information you need in PLUS.

Wednesday, September 7, from 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Register Here!

#### **Zoning Overview for Residents**

Join the Department of Planning and Development to explore the Zoning module in the new Planning and Land Use System. This session will focus on utilizing search features and reports to find information about development happening in your neighborhood.

Wednesday, September 21, from 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Register Here!

#### Linking Licensed Professionals to your PLUS Account

Join the Health Department's Environmental Health division as they review the process for registering for a PLUS account and linking licensed professional information to that account.

Wednesday, September 28, from 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**Register Here!** 

#### Please Plan Ahead! Fairfax County Land Use Systems will be Unavailable between October 21 and 31

Fairfax County is converting all of its land use permitting, plan review, and inspections systems to the new PLUS system this fall. During the transition, all online application and review systems, including PLUS and the legacy systems (such as FIDO, ProjectDox, and PAWS) will be unavailable for 10 days. PLUS will replace all legacy systems beginning October 31, 2022, for a more efficient and modernized permitting and review system. The outage is set to begin Friday, October 21, at 4:30 p.m. All systems are expected to be available again on Monday, October 31.

• Depending on the type of application you are pursuing, please consider starting your application in sufficient time so the outage does not delay your project. Specific details will be available on agency web pages.

• Or consider delaying your permit process, if it's possible, so you are starting your project in the PLUS system after October 31.

Find more information on the PLUS website.

#### **Cases Filed with the Board of Zoning Appeals**

The Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) hears and makes decisions on requests for variances (relief from specific zoning regulations such as lot width, building height, or minimum yard requirements) and Special Use Permits. It meets on Wednesdays beginning at 9:00 a.m. BZA meetings are aired live on the county government's cable TV Channel 16. Residents who have concerns about an application are encouraged to submit a letter for the record or testify at the hearing on the case in person, by telephone, or by pre-submitted video. For information on how to submit comments or testify, please visit the **Board of Zoning Appeals website**. These matters will not come before the Board of Supervisors but will be decided by the BZA. Staff reports are normally available online a week before the scheduled hearing.

Access to information on BZA cases is available through the Planning and Land Use System, or PLUS. This system allows users to create and submit applications online, pay fees, track the status of applications, and receive electronic notifications. It also offers more information to the public than the previous system and does so in real time. Visit the **PLUS Information and Support website** for more information on this land use platform.

#### Johnny Wen & Joanna Wen – 4807 Marymead Drive, Fairfax SP-2022-BR-00100

The applicants are requesting a Special Permit to add an Accessory Living Unit containing greater than the permitted 800 square feet in floor area and a reduction in setback requirements to permit an addition 15.6 feet from the northwest side lot line (20-foot setback required). This application has been scheduled for a BZA hearing on October 5. Information, including a map of the site and staff report, when available, may be found on the **PLUS website**.

#### Chau Tran & Trang Tran – 10133 Zion Drive, Fairfax VC-2021-BR-00022

The applicants are seeking a Variance and Variance Amendment to permit construction of a new 4,100-square-foot single-family detached dwelling 10.1 feet from the north side lot line and 10.6 feet from the south side lot line (20-foot setback required on each side). This application has been scheduled for a BZA hearing on October 12. Information, including a map of the site and staff report, when available, may be found on the <a href="PLUS website">PLUS website</a>.

#### Tushar Bhardwaj – 4700 Ox Road, Fairfax VC-2021-BR-00010

The applicant is seeking a Variance to reduce the setback requirements to allow construction of a 6,000-square-foot single family house 18.4 feet from the western front lot line (40-foot setback required), 18.9 feet from the rear lot line (20-foot setback required), and 17.2 feet from the western lot line (20-foot setback required). The BZA hearing on this application has been deferred until October 26. Information, including a map of the site and staff report, when available, may be found on the **PLUS website**.

#### Trustees of Saint Matthews United Methodist Church – 8617 Little River Turnpike, Annandale SPA-80-A-087-05

The applicants are seeking to amend their Special Permit to modify the Development Conditions to increase the number of students, increase the number of employees, and expand the hours of operation. The maximum weekday enrollment would be increased from 99 students to 230 students, including approximately 115 students ages 2.5 to 4 and approximately 115 students ages 5 to 12. In addition, the applicants are seeking to provide overflow capacity for before- and after-school childcare for up to 25 students from the nearby Wakefield Forest Elementary School's School Age Child Care (SACC) program. These students would be ages 5 to 12. The proposed number of employees is anticipated to be 25 to 30. The hours of operation would be extended from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. This application has been scheduled for a BZA hearing on November 2. Information, including a map of the site and staff report, when available, may be found on the **PLUS website**.

If you have questions regarding these land use cases or any other issues of concern to you, please email <a href="mailto:braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov">braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov</a> or call the Braddock District office at 703-425-9300.