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- More Progress on the Fairfax County Parkway: The project to widen the North Loop on the Parkway at Rolling Road will begin this spring. Please join me in attending VDOT's "Pardon Our Dust" meeting this Monday that discusses the project.
- Park Authority Seeking Public Input on Burke Lake Driving Range: The driving range at Burke Lake Park, the county's most visited park, is in serious need of renovation. Recently the Park Authority received an unsolicited proposal to do just that. Full details below.
- <u>Free Tax Relief Workshop in West Springfield:</u> Tax season is upon us! On March 26th I will be hosting a tax relief workshop for older adults and people with disabilities. Full details below

More Progress on the Fairfax County Parkway - Project to Widen the North Loop on the Parkway (at Rolling Road) to Get Underway.

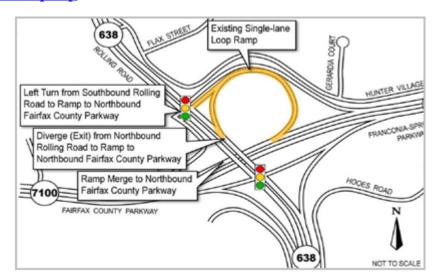
I am happy to report that another critical project to improve the Fairfax County Parkway will get under way beginning in March. Herrity Report readers will recall that I worked to get this bottleneck identified and a solution funded when NGA relocated to Ft Belvior's North Area. This project will upgrade and widen the loop ramp from the new section of the Fairfax County Parkway north onto Fairfax County Parkway to a dual-lane ramp.

Please join me in attending VDOT's "Pardon Our Dust" meeting this Monday, February 9, from 6:30 -8:00 pm at Rolling Valley Elementary School. Project representatives from VDOT and the contractors will be on hand in an open house format to answer questions and walk through the project design, construction timeline and detour plans.

Other improvements in the intersection include bridge rehabilitation; providing retaining walls between Hunter Village Drive and the off-ramp from Franconia-Springfield Parkway to Rolling Road and between the loop ramp and the off-ramp from Franconia-Springfield Parkway; new shoulders along the loop ramp, off-ramp, Fairfax County Parkway, and Franconia-Springfield Parkway.

- Median work along Fairfax County Parkway and Rolling Road.
- Upgrading the existing traffic signals along Fairfax County Parkway, one at Rolling Road/Bentley Village Drive/Ramp from westbound Franconia-Springfield Parkway and the second at Rolling Road/Ramp from eastbound Franconia-Springfield Parkway.
- Shared use path improvements along Rolling Road and Hunter Village Drive.
- Improved lighting

Work on the project will begin this Spring, for more information visit http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/parkway_north-rolling_road_loop.asp



I am also pleased to report that the Fairfax County Corridor Improvement Study will be underway this year. This study will look at the entire parkway and prioritize improvements to one of our critical "Main Streets."

Park Authority Seeking Public Input on Burke Lake Driving Range

Burke Lake Park is the county's most visited park. The driving range and clubhouse are an important component of the park and have been scheduled for much needed renovation. During this process the Park Authority received an unsolicited proposal for redevelopment of the driving range facilities at Burke Lake Park via the Virginia Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act (PPEA). The PPEA allows private commercial entities to propose to construct and operate public use facilities on public land. Park Authority staff determined that the initial proposal met the requirements as a qualifying recreation project under the PPEA guidelines.

At my request, the Park Authority has put the initial concept plans online. They can be found at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/burke-lake-golf-ppea.htm. If the proposal moves forward there will be both a public meeting and a public hearing before it is approved. The timeline for the first public meeting and the public hearing will depend on when the Park Authority and proposer settle on their initial concerns and have something ready to present to the community for review. If they come to a tentative agreement, the earliest a public meeting on the proposal will be held is late spring at which residents would be provided an opportunity to comment and impact the proposal. Then no earlier than the fall a public hearing would take place, giving residents another opportunity to impact the proposal, voice concerns and support or oppose the project. Please let me know if you want to be kept informed of the process in addition to the notices that will be sent by the Park Authority.

I have concerns with some of the proposal, as does the Park Authority, and the Park Authority is working to address them. I have also made it clear that I do not want the upgrade to lead to increases in prices that push out our current golf range users, including the junior golf program and warm up rounds for those playing the course.

The current clubhouse and driving range are in desperate need of renovation. The goal here is an improved and enhanced driving range and clubhouse that both the golf community and the Burke Lake communities can be proud of while reducing the financial impact to the county. If this proposal ends up having a detrimental impact on our communities then it will not be done.

Free Tax Relief Workshop in West Springfield

I am hosting a free tax relief workshop for older adults and people with disabilities on March 26th between 10am and 1pm. The workshop will be in the community room of the West Springfield Government center, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152. County staff from the Department of Tax Administration (DTA) will be present to assist with filling out the application form, as well as answering questions.

For more information and a full list of workshops around the county please visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/2015/tax-relief-workshops-2015.htm

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Originally published Feb. 6, 2015