

## **Road Renaming in Adjacent Jurisdictions**

### Fairfax County Confederate Names Task Force

Denice Dressel, Senior Heritage Resource Planner, Fairfax County Department of Planning and Development Noelle Dominguez, Coordination Section Chief, Fairfax County Department of Transportation

October 11, 2021

### Road Renaming -Adjacent Jurisdictions

City of Alexandria

• Jefferson Davis Highway/Rt. 1

**Arlington County** 

- Jefferson Davis Highway/Rt. 1
- Lee Highway/Rt. 29

Loudoun County

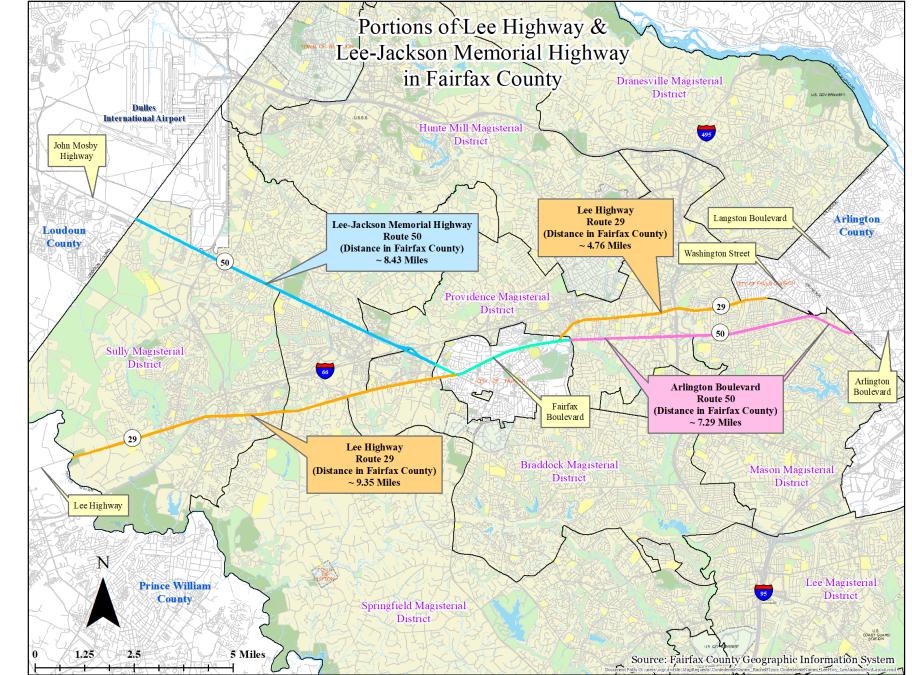
- John Mosby Highway/Rt. 50
- Harry Byrd Highway/Rt. 7

Prince William County

- Jefferson Davis Highway/Rt. 1
- Lee Highway/Rt. 29

City of Fairfax

• Lee Highway/Rt. 29



## City Of Alexandria

- 7 member Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Confederate Memorials and Street Names
  - Confederate Flag
  - Appomattox Statue
  - Secondary Streets named for Confederate leaders
  - Jefferson Davis Highway/Rt. 1

## 2015

- Ad Hoc Advisory Group on renaming Jefferson Davis Highway
  - Online survey

2017

- Two public hearings to solicit potential new names
- Recommended renaming to Richmond Highway

 2018 Alexandria City Council voted 6-0 to approve an ordinance renaming Jefferson Davis Highway to Richmond Highway within the boundaries of the City, effective January 1, 2019

# 2019

## **Arlington County**

### Jefferson Davis Highway

- 2017 participated in the City of Alexandria's Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Renaming Jefferson Davis Highway
- Conducted public engagement and outreach
- Held public hearing
- April 2019 Board adopted resolution requesting the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) rename Jefferson Davis Highway within the County of Arlington to "Richmond Highway."
- In May 2019, the CTB renamed the roadway, per Arlington County's request

### Lee Highway

- Fall of 2020 Lee Highway Alliance created a working group of 25 community members
- Spring 2021 VA Law enacted to authorize Arlington to rename the section of Rt. 29, Lee Hwy, within its boundaries
- July 17, 2021 Arlington County Board voted to replace the name "Lee Highway" with "Langston Boulevard," honoring the abolitionist, attorney, educator, and first Black Congressman from Virginia, John M. Langston. (The Alliance's first recommendation of "Loving Avenue" after the Virginia interracial couple whose fight to be wed went to the Supreme Court, was withdrawn due to the family's objection.)

## Loudoun County

- December 15, 2020: Loudoun County Board of Supervisors directed staff to initiate the process of renaming Harry Byrd Highway (Route 7) and John Mosby Highway (Route 50), in potential coordination with Fairfax County.
- May 18, 2021: Loudoun County Board approved the proposed process of renaming Route 7 and Route 50.
- September 21, 2021: Loudoun County Board approved the proposed short list of names for use in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Public outreach campaign:

### Proposed Route 7 Short List of Names

- Loudoun Heritage
- Potomac Gap
- Piedmont Gateway
- Virginia Piedmont
- Catoctin Valley
- Loudoun Trail
- Potomac Heritage
- Leesburg Pike\*

#### • Public outreach campaign: ranking of shortlisted names.

- Public Information Meeting occurred in September.
- Survey open September 30 through October 14, 2021
- Present results of public outreach campaign to:
  - Task Force at the October 20, 2021, meeting
  - Loudoun County Board of Supervisors in early December 2021

#### Proposed Route 50 Short List of Names

- Virginia Piedmont
- Loudoun Heritage
- Middleburg
- Piedmont Gateway
- Piedmont Heritage
- Little River Turnpike\*

\*Denotes further discussion required

## **Prince William County**

### Jefferson Davis Highway

- June / July 2020 Prince William County Board of County Supervisors, requested staff to begin the process of renaming Jefferson Davis Highway (U.S. Route 1) and develop a plan to mitigate the impacts of renaming Route 1 on affected businesses.
- September 8, 2020 Prince William County Board of County Supervisors approved a Resolution to request the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to change the name of Route 1 in Prince William County from Jefferson Davis Highway.
- November 2020 Request was approved by the CTB
- Summer 2022 Targeted implementation date

### Lee Highway

• The Prince William Board of County Supervisors has not focused on a review of the name of Lee Highway (U. S. Route 29) at this time.

## City of Fairfax

## 2020-2021

### Connecting Fairfax for All - 16 Member Citizen Stakeholder Advisory Group

- Identified decision points:
  - $\circ$  Images in County Seal
  - o Monuments, markers, and memorials
  - $\,\circ\,$  Names of streets and neighborhoods
- Facilitated Community Learning Sessions
- Timeline: Summer 2021 Report back to City Council; Council sets process to consider recommendations

### 2021

### **Report Recommendations regarding street names**

 The City Council should immediately adopt a policy regarding the naming of streets and neighborhoods based on the recommendations outlined here and begin implementation of a process to change the following street names: Streets and Neighborhoods Named for Specific Confederate Leaders/Soldiers or Closely Associated with the Confederacy, Slavery, or the "Lost Cause" -- this group includes any names referring to Robert E. Lee, John Singleton Mosby, Stonewall Jackson, or George Pickett, including Lee Highway.

## **Questions?**