



Supervisor John T. Stirrup
Gainesville District

THE GAINESVILLE EXPRESS

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Dear Gainesville Resident,

I have some distressing news with regard to the power line issue. On October 7, 2008 the [State Corporation Commission](#) (SCC) issued a final [order](#) granting approval of the transmission lines proposed by [Dominion Virginia Power](#), to construct the proposed Meadow Brook – Loudoun 500 kV transmission line within existing company owned right-of-way (ROW) for the entire path in Virginia; the Dominion segment is generally known as the proposed [“Southern” Route](#). *(This is a large file which may take some time to download. You may also have to zoom in to see the route which is shown in light blue.)*

I would like to mention that this issue is not over just yet. As described in the [SCC Press Release](#), the SCC agreed with the hearing examiner’s recommendation that approval of the Virginia portion of the 502 Junction-Loudoun line was logically contingent upon approval of segments of the line in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. The SCC ordered that construction of the Virginia segment cannot begin until both the applicable West Virginia and Pennsylvania state authorities have approved segments of the line in those two states. At this time, West Virginia state authorities have approved the segments and Pennsylvania has not issued a decision.

In response to this news, I offered a resolution which requests that the SCC study the costs and benefits of undergrounding the line, as well as require the line to be constructed underground. This resolution cited the County’s ability to request this action under Virginia State Code and states that undergrounding the line is the only means to preserve community design, environmentally sensitive areas, public facilities, parks and open space, historic, scenic, archaeological and cultural resources. This resolution was approved unanimously but will not be official until the Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) approves the minutes of the October 21st at the next meeting on November 18th.

Jeff Brown, Energy Economist, will give some more information on this issue at my next Town Hall meeting. Information for the Town Hall meeting is provided below. If you have questions please feel free to contact my office at by phone at (703) 792-6195 or by email at Gainesville@pwcgov.org.

Sincerely,

John T. Stirrup
Supervisor
Gainesville District

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Gainesville District Quarterly Town Hall Meeting, November 12, 2008

Supervisor Stirrup will hold his next Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the new Samuel L. Gravely, Jr. Elementary School, 4670 Waverly Farm Drive in Haymarket. The topic of this meeting is transportation, the Chief of Staff of the United States Department of Transportation, Quintin Kendall will attend along with State and County government transportation representatives. Jeff Brown, Energy Economist, will also provide an update on the power line issue.

Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) Meetings

The [BOCS](#) will hold meetings on November 18th and 25th starting at 2:00 p.m. in the Board Chambers at the McCoart Building located at 1 County Complex Court in Woodbridge. Meetings are broadcast live on Comcast Cable Channel 23, and then re-broadcast in their entirety at 7:30 p.m. on the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday following the Tuesday Board meeting and at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. To view the current agenda, visit: [PWC - Board Of County Supervisors \(BOCS\)](#). You can also visit the County website to view video of past BOCS meetings using the following link: <http://www.pwcgov.org/MeetingRoom.aspx>.

The Strategic Plan Goal Task Force Citizen Input Meeting, November 17, 2008

The Strategic Plan Goal Task Forces, appointed by the BOCS, invite members of the community to provide their input into the 2012 Strategic Plan's community outcomes and strategies for the following goals (full transcript of goals are on the PWC web site: www.pwcgov.org/strategicplan):

- Economic Development and Transportation
- Human Services
- Public Safety

This Strategic Plan will guide programmatic and budgetary decisions within the County for the next four years. Citizen's input is the foundation to the development of this plan and we encourage interested citizens to participate.

The meeting will be held Monday, November 17th in the Development Service Building, 5 County Complex Court, Woodbridge room 107A from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. If you can't attend, comments can be sent to strategicplan@pwcgov.org.

Annual "Drug Free" Poster Contest for Youth

The Prince William County Office on Youth, Prince William County Community Services and the Prince William Substance-Abuse Prevention Task Force are sponsoring their annual Poster Contest, "Ask Me, See Me, Be Me! I'm Drug Free." The poster contest encourages middle and high school age teens to support underage drinking and drug prevention efforts by designing a poster. The submitted poster must support the theme of "Ask Me, See Me, Be Me! I'm Drug Free."

Posters are required to be submitted by Friday, November 14 at 5 p.m. Entries must be on poster board, no larger than the standard poster board 22" x 28". The entrant's name, age, address, telephone number, and school must be printed on the back of the poster. Youth do not need to be enrolled in the public school system to enter the contest.

Posters will be judged on the "Ask Me, See Me, Be Me! I'm Drug Free" theme and for artistic merit. There will be two age categories, 12-14, and 15-18. All entries will become the property of the PW Substance-Abuse Prevention Task Force. Entries can be dropped off in person from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday-Friday or mailed to the PWC Office on Youth at 4379 Ridgewood Center Drive, Woodbridge, Virginia 22192 or to Community Services, Attn: Angie Mendez, 7969 Ashton Avenue, Manassas, Virginia 20109.

Posters will be displayed and awards will be presented at the annual Remembrance Day program on Saturday, December 13, at 1:30 p.m., in the Atrium of the James J. McCoart Building in Woodbridge.

For more information, go to the Office On Youth's website at www.pwcgov.org/youth, or please call the office at 703-792-6095.

Upcoming Memory Screenings at the Senior Centers, November 18 & 19, 2008

Two days are scheduled for memory screenings, Tuesday, November 18 at the Woodbridge Senior Center, and Wednesday, November 19 at the Manassas Senior Center. The time for both locations is 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Persons will sign up for appointments scheduled 15 minutes apart. The Alzheimer's Foundation is sending the assessment tool to be used. It will be a confidential face-to-face assessment which should take a maximum of 5 minutes and then brief information and possible referral given to the participant. The Alzheimer's Foundation is providing all materials.

Sharon Clark, RN, our nurse at the Senior Centers can provide further information or answer questions, her phone number is 792-5426. For additional information, please contact the Prince William Area Agency on Aging at (703) 792-6400 or visit www.pwcgov.org/aoa.

Prince William NSP Funding Plan and Comment Period

Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park are requesting public comment on their proposed Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Substantial Amendment to the FY 2009 Annual Action Plan. The Action Plan is part of the Consolidated Plan for the Prince William Area, and this Substantial Amendment identifies specific activities to be undertaken with the recent federal funding allocated to address foreclosures.

The Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (HERA) appropriated \$3.92 billion for emergency assistance for redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed homes and residential properties, and Prince William County was notified that they will receive an allocation of \$4,134,612. Virginia received \$38,749,931 to be used statewide.

The proposed Amendment explains how the funds will be distributed to the areas of greatest need, including:

- those with the highest percentage of home foreclosures,
- those with the highest percentage of homes financed by a subprime mortgage related loan, and,
- those likely to face a significant rise in the rate of home foreclosures.

NSP guidelines require that a minimum of 25% of funds be used to assist households with income at or below 50% of area median income. The maximum income level for beneficiaries of funds cannot exceed 120% of area median income. To view the entire Prince William Area NSP Substantial Amendment and specific details on eligible activities and participants, go to <http://www.co.prince-william.va.us/default.aspx?topic=040064> and scroll down to Public Notices. Click on "NSP Substantial Amendment."

The 15 Day Comment Period will end November 10, 2008 and the public has several ways in which to comment, either in person, by writing or email. Two public information hearings will be held on November 6, 2008, in Manassas and Woodbridge. To view all of the information related to the public comment period, including contact information for written comments, go to <http://www.co.prince-william.va.us/default.aspx?topic=040064> and scroll down to Public Notices. Click on "FY09 Open Comment Period Notice NSP Amendment."

Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) has developed its own response to foreclosures by tailoring some of their financial products to support recipients of the NSP funding. These include financing for first-time homebuyers and rental developments, support for homebuyer education and identification of FHA and GSE foreclosed homes. For more details about VHDA's plan, go to <http://www.nvaha.org/alerts.html>

Recent Happenings in Gainesville

Saturday, September 27, 2008 at Silver Lake

Supervisor Stirrup joined with citizens at Silver Lake on Saturday, September 27th to clean up the 277 acre property. Many families with their children pitched in to help with the clean up. Several dumpsters were filled and carted away. Great job and thank you to all volunteers!!!!



*Supervisor Stirrup with clean up volunteers
Silver Lake Property, September 27, 2008*



Clean up volunteers at Silver Lake Property, September 27, 2008

Congratulations to Matthew Bess for Achieving the Rank of Eagle Scout



*Eagle Scout Matthew Bess receives commendation from Supervisor Stirrup
September 28, 2008*

In 2007, Matthew worked on his Eagle Service Project, landscaping around the Gainesville United Methodist Church. He successfully planned, coordinated and supervised the execution of this project. It was completed with outstanding support from his fellow scouts of Troop 924 and volunteers from the Church. Congratulations!!!!

**Supervisor Stirrup speaks at
Catharpin Recreational Park Opening, October 11, 2008**



Pictured on stage left to right: Jay Ellington, PWC Park Authority Director; Supervisor Stirrup; Rick Berry, Gainesville Park Authority Representative

Catharpin Recreational Park, previously known as Sudley Park, is located at 4805 Sudley Road, Catharpin, 20143. The park currently has three baseball fields and two softball fields. Plans are to add multipurpose rectangular fields in the future.

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