



Supervisor John T. Stirrup
Gainesville District

THE GAINESVILLE EXPRESS

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Dear Gainesville Resident,

On September 23, 2009, I will hold my next Town Hall Meeting at Battlefield High School to provide an update of the Land Use and Transportation Chapters of the Prince William County Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan). Over this issue of the Gainesville Express and a supplement I will send just prior to the Town Hall Meeting, I hope to provide enough information that residents will have a basic working knowledge of the Comp Plan and the processes that can change it so the Town Hall Meeting will be as productive as possible. This two part series will include:

Part 1: What is the Comp Plan?

Part 2: How is the Comp Plan changed and what changes have been proposed in the update?

The Comp Plan is a large and very important document. Decisions made to change the Comp Plan will likely affect the County for many years to come. I hope that everyone will come to the Town Hall Meeting and provide your input. The Comp Plan is available online at <http://www.pwcgov.org/CompPlan>; information regarding the current update of the Comp Plan can be found at <http://www.pwcgov.org/PlanUpdate>.

Also, on October 1, 2009 I will hold another Town Hall Meeting at Sinclair Elementary School. The topic of this meeting is Neighborhood Issues such as property code enforcement and zoning issues.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at gainesville@pwcgov.org or 703-792-6195.

Sincerely,

John T. Stirrup
Supervisor Gainesville District

LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

PART 1: WHAT IS THE COMP PLAN?

The Comp Plan is one of the primary documents the Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) uses to make decisions. Generally, it is a guide to development in a manner that promotes the health, safety and

general welfare of the community. All localities in Virginia are required to adopt a Comp Plan and they must be reviewed, but not necessarily revised, every five years to ensure that it remains a timely document for decision makers and reflects the community's vision of its future.

Prince William County's Comp Plan last major update was in 2003 and it currently contains 15 chapters – Community Design, Cultural Resources, Economic Development, Environment, Fire and Rescue, Housing, Library, Long-Range Land Use, Parks, Open Space and Trails, Police, Potable Water, Sanitary Sewer, Schools, Telecommunications, and Transportation. Each chapter outlines the County's goals and objectives and lists action strategies to achieve those goals. The Comp Plan also currently includes sector plans that provide additional, more detailed guidance for the development within specific boundaries, such as the I-66/Route 29 sector plan, which provides a snapshot of the eventual build-out of the Gainesville area. The Town Hall Meeting on September 23, 2009 at Battlefield High School will focus on two of the chapters, Long-Range Land Use and Transportation.

The Long-Range Land Use chapter outlines the physical development pattern for the County. The Long-Range Land Use plan will help answer questions such as: where should we encourage residential, commercial and industrial development, and at what densities; where should we preserve open space; and what environmentally sensitive areas need protection.

Each property in the County has one or more land use designations that guide future development. This designation is a major factor in staff review of rezoning and special use permit (SUP) requests that come before the Planning Commission and the Board of County Supervisors (BOCS). In these requests, staff will analyze the consistency of the application with the Long-Range Land Use Chapter of the Comp Plan, as well as the other plan chapters. The various chapters of the Comp Plan provide standards which are the basis for the analysis and allow staff to identify strengths and weaknesses of the application. For example, a strength might be that the Long Range Land Use designation might place an upper limit on density at 4 units per acre and the proposed project has a density of 3.9 units per acre. This would be a strength because it is in conformance with the Long Range Land Use designation by not exceeding 4 units per acre. A weakness might be the lack of capacity in the transportation system to accommodate the additional trips that would come to the area as a result of the development. In this case, the County would ask the developer to mitigate the project's impact on the transportation system by building a new road or contributing money toward a new road or additional transportation improvement. Through this process, the County is able to work with developers to ensure that the impacts of new development are offset through improvements to infrastructure. Additionally, the County is able to deny a development plan if it is not in conformance with the Comp Plan.

The transportation chapter of the Comp Plan is also used for planning purposes. It designates the general corridors for transportation improvements for road systems and mass transit. The designation of the corridors allows the County to reserve right-of-way for future projects and provides a basis for the improvements the County can request a developer to provide as a part of a development project. For example, when Dominion Valley was rezoned, Toll Brothers agreed to build all of the internal roads as well as widen route 15 to four lanes along the borders of the property. It was possible for the County to negotiate this improvement because Route 15 is classified as a four lane divided highway on the Comp Plan. If it were listed as a two lane highway, it would have been very difficult for the County to negotiate the improvement. Also, if a road segment is included on the Comp Plan, the County is able to work with a developer so that nothing is built in the anticipated location of the new road. This lowers the costs of road building as the acquisition of unbuilt properties is lower and there are no existing structures which must be demolished.

As the BOCS proceeds with its review of the Comp Plan, the shape of the County can change. Property that used to be designated as residential could become commercial and vice versa. While many areas of

the County may remain unchanged, some areas may see significant change. It is important that residents are aware of the discussion involving the Comp Plan and communicate their preferences to their elected officials. The current Comp Plan and recommendations from the Land Use Advisory Committee (LUAC), the Mobility Committee, the Planning Commission, and Planning and Transportation staff are available on the Planning Office website at <http://www.pwcgov.org/planning>. Links regarding the Comp Plan are located in the Long-Range Planning box to the upper left of the grid.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) Meetings

The **BOCS** will hold meetings on September 22nd and October 6th, 13th and 20th, 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>.

Haymarket Day Saturday, September 19th

The Town of Haymarket will hold Haymarket Day from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be a parade, multiple vendors, special performances, fun for the whole family. This year they have a very special band. The United States Navy Band, the [Commodores!](#) They will be playing from 12:30pm - 2:00pm on the Main Stage at the Harrover property. The parade starts at 10:00 a.m. Supervisor Stirrup will participate in the parade and will have a booth with information from his office and county departments. For more information, you can visit the website: http://www.townofhaymarket.org/haymarket_day.php

Land Use and Transportation Town Hall Meetings

Prince William County residents are invited to provide input on the future of land use and transportation in the County. The Board of County Supervisors has scheduled a series of town hall meetings on the update of the Long-Range Land Use and Transportation chapters of the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan contains a strategy for responsible, fiscally-sound growth to produce a healthy and livable community, with high quality of life, adequate open spaces and parks and a robust local economy.

The Planning Commission has developed proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan in conjunction with the Land Use Advisory Committee and the Mobility Committee. Residents may attend any of the Town Hall Meetings to provide input. For more information on the proposed changes, visit <http://www.pwcgov.org/PlanUpdate>. Residents may also offer their comments, ideas and concerns by e-mailing planning@pwcgov.org (put "2008 Comp Plan Update" in the subject line). Additional Town Hall meetings will be held throughout the County:

Coles
Sept. 17, 2009: 7-9 p.m.
Development Services Building
5 County Complex Court
Prince William, VA 22192

Gainesville
Sept. 23, 2009: 7:30-9 p.m.
Battlefield High School
15000 Graduation Drive
Haymarket, VA 20169

Brentsville
Sept. 30, 2009: 7-9 p.m.
Marstellar Middle School
14000 Sudley Manor Drive
Bristow, VA 20136

Business Community (county-wide): Oct. 21,
2009: 7-9 p.m.
James J. McCoart Administration Building,
Board Chambers
1 County Complex Dr.; Woodbridge, VA 22192

Homeowner & Condominium Leadership Seminar, September 18th

Has your community association had problems with bank-owned properties that do not comply with covenants? Are owners upset with the board's cost-cutting measures? Do board members and owners understand their financial and budget responsibilities? Is the association aware of the action of the state's Common Interest Community Board and the Ombudsman's position to handle owners' complaints?

These and other questions will be answered at the 2009 Homeowner and Condominium Leadership Seminar. The topics to be presented will benefit current and potential board members, owners who want to understand the governance of their communities and property managers. The seminar will be held on Friday, September 18, 2009, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. in Room 202 of the Development Services Building, 5 County Complex Court in Woodbridge. Registration is required, and the fee of \$20 covers conference materials, breaks and lunch. The registration brochure is available at www.pwcgov.org/hoa or by calling 703-792-7018.

Industry experts Greg Brooksher, Donna Mason, Bill Mason and Pia Trigiani will speak at this year's seminar. Greg Brooksher will provide essential information on budgets and financial responsibilities. Donna Mason has developed techniques for learning of pending foreclosures and will share those as well as effective ways to obtain cooperation from banks for property maintenance. Bill Mason, along with Donna, has experience in the collection of delinquent fees which he will disclose. Pia Trigiani has been chairing the state's Common Interest Community Board and will provide an update on the interaction of the Ombudsman with owners who have complaints about their associations. Additionally, Sarah Patterson from Community Associations Institute and PWC staff will be available to answer questions about available resources for community associations.

Registration will close on Thursday, September 17, 2009. A reservation may be made by calling PWC Neighborhood Services at 703-792-7018.

Gainesville District Quarterly Town Hall Meeting, October 1st

Supervisor Stirrup will hold a Gainesville District Town Hall Meeting October 1, 2009 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Sinclair Elementary School, 7801 Garner Drive, Manassas 20109. The topic of this meeting is Neighborhood Issues. Several county employees have been invited to share information and answer questions on property code enforcement and zoning issues.

Battlefield High School to Host Cyber Dawn, October 3rd

Battlefield High School invites the public to attend the opening ceremony of Cyber Dawn on Saturday, October 3, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. The National Anthem will be preformed by the Battlefield High School Chorus along with the Battlefield High School ROTC Color Guard. Supervisor Stirrup will welcome everyone and introduce the keynote speaker, Brigadier General Smith who is the Director of the U.S. Army Cyber Task Force.

In the late spring and early summer of this year several announcements were made by the US Government about the need to execute cyber challenges to find and recruit top cyber talent. In response to this, White Wolf Security is facilitating Cyber Dawn, an open cyber exercise in the D.C. Metro Area. White Wolf Security is a leading cyber exercise company. Cyber Dawn will be hosted by Battlefield High School's Information Technology and Robotics Programs. Their motto is "Inspiring Leaders in Technology & Engineering" or "ILITE."

What is a Cyber Exercise?

A cyber challenge is a computer network attack and defend live fire exercise. Teams of defenders (Blue Cell) work to protect live systems from a large team of attackers (Red Cell). The exercise uses live systems on a closed network. Nothing is simulated. The targets are real systems populated with sample data. The attacks are real and conducted by some of the DC area's finest penetration testers.

Who's involved?

The planned player classes are: high school, college, civilian, military, and government. A top defending team will be declared for each player class. Teams and players will be scored across a number of metrics that are similar to how they would conduct themselves in a real environment. In addition to being an exercise, Cyber Dawn will also be a job fair and cyber security awareness event. At this time, they have commitments from Northrop Grumman, CISCO, Dell Computer, National Guard, US Army, Secret Service, and the Air Force to create teams and provide equipment.

Grand Opening of Silver Lake Regional Park October 4th

Join us in opening this beautiful new park on Sunday, October 4, 2009. The park opens at 12:00 p.m. The ceremony begins at 1:30 p.m. Silver Lake Regional Park, 16198 Silver Lake Road (off Antioch Road), Haymarket.

Silver Lake Public Meetings – October 6th and October 27th

The Park Authority will hold Silver Lake Master Plan Meetings at Mountain View Elementary school gym from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. The meetings are open to all citizens for the purpose of obtaining input into the Master Plan design and recreation amenities that may be included in the final development of Silver Lake Regional Park. For more information, visit their website:

<http://www.pwcparks.org/ParkDevelopment/MasterPlanCommunityMeetings/tabid/141/Default.aspx>

DID YOU KNOW?

Prince William Park Authority Receives Award – Silver Lake

The Virginia Recreation & Park Society, awarded the Park Authority with the Best New Special Event for the 2008 National Public Lands Day at Silver Lake. Congratulations!!!

Carol Ferguson Retires

After two and a half years, Carol Ferguson has retired from Supervisor Stirrup's office. She will be missed by staff and residents. Carol was a tireless advocate for the community and assisted residents with all manner of problems. Carol was known for her infectious optimism and her enthusiasm in helping residents with problems large and small. Her dedication and resolve is an inspiration to us all. Carol will remain as the Gainesville District representative of the Sesquicentennial Manassas Battlefield committee. We all will miss her and wish her well in the future.



Carol Ferguson with Supervisor Stirrup

September is National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month, and it's time to start thinking about how to be prepared in case of any emergency. Preparation starts at home, but it is also good to be prepared at work and at school. Prince William County's aim during National Preparedness Month is to create a culture of preparedness in which individuals, families and businesses take steps to get ready for hazards of all types.

Keys steps to preparing for emergencies:

1. **Put Together an Emergency Supply Kit.** If the power goes out, transportation is unavailable or area businesses are forced to close for an extended period of time, you will need some essential items. An emergency supply kit includes, among other things, essential items to last at least three days, such as water and non-perishable food, a battery-powered radio, extra batteries, flashlights, a first aid kit and medications. And, don't forget your pets! They need food and water as well.
2. **Make a Communication Plan.** Talk to your family and friends about how you would communicate during an emergency. Decide on a meeting place if children cannot return to school or if your family cannot return home. Designate an out-of-town friend or relative as a point-of-contact in case you cannot reach your family or friends. And plan for your own specific needs, such as an evacuation destination for pets or transportation for medical equipment.
3. **Listen for Local Instructions.** Before, during and after a disaster, it is critical to listen for the most up-to-date, local information from emergency officials. Local media will convey instructions from local, state and federal partners concerning evacuation orders or staying safe where you are, and what to do when the emergency has passed.
4. **Sign Up for PWCAN.** Prince William County uses the Prince William Community Alert Network (PWCAN) to contact residents during a major crisis or emergency. PWCAN delivers important emergency alerts, notifications and updates on all devices you register. PWCAN is a personal connection to real-time updates, instructions on where to go, what to do, or what not to

do, who to contact and other important information. To register for PWCAN, visit <http://www.pwcgov.org/pwcan>.

Make a Plan

Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to plan in advance: how you will contact one another; how you will get back together; and what you will do in different situations. Please view the website below for more information on how to make a family plan.

<http://www.ready.gov/america/makeaplan/index.html>

Recent Happenings in Gainesville

Grizzlies Give Back 5K Run/Walk and Family Fun Festival



Supervisor Stirrup receives a medal for placing in the Grizzlies Give Back 5K walk/run
Pictured Left to right: Supervisor Stirrup, Lorna Swingle, Grizzly Board Member, Dean Matthews, Grizzly Board Member and
Craig Feight, Grizzly Board Member
August 29, 2009
Atlas Walk/Virginia Gateway, Gainesville Virginia

The Gainesville Grizzlies football and cheerleading teams held the Grizzlies Give Back 5K Run/Walk and Family Fun Festival at the Virginia Gateway Shopping Center on August 29, 2009. Over three thousand people attended the events through out the day.

The Grizzlies Give Back 5K is in its second year and was developed by the Gainesville-Haymarket Youth Football League as a way for our young players/cheerleaders to have a way to give back to the community that supports them so much during the football season. The goal is to provide a teachable

moment to the players and cheerleaders about helping others less fortunate and providing a legacy for themselves and to future generations of Grizzly athletes.

One hundred percent of the money raised will be used to "Give Back" to the community. The Grizzlies are sponsoring a "Wish" through the Make-A-Wish Foundation to a child in this area and the rest of the money will be donated to the Grizzly Field of Dreams Fund. The Grizzly Field of Dreams Fund has been established to raise money to build additional football fields in this community.



Five hundred and fifty-six people participated in the Grizzlies Give Back 5K walk/run August 29, 2009, Atlas Walk/Virginia Gateway, Gainesville, Virginia

Old Carolina Road Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



Pictured left to right: Tom Blaser, Prince William County Director of Transportation; Mark Vasey, Branch Highway; Brentsville District Supervisor Wally Covington; Khattab Shammout, Prince William County Transportation; Sam Alattar, Prince William County Transportation; Gainesville District Supervisor John Stirrup; Delegate Bob Marshall; Mark Gunn, Rinker Design Associates; Mo Ayyoubi, Prince William County Transportation; Mo Kim, Rinker Design Associates

On September 11, 2009, the ribbon cutting ceremony was held and the new segment of Old Carolina Road is now open!

The Old Carolina Road Project is a 4-lane divided facility with a raised median, curb and gutter. It includes a five-foot concrete sidewalk and a ten-foot multi-use trail on opposing sides. The project limits extend from Heathcote Blvd. to Piedmont Vista Drive.

We are proud to say that this project was completed on time and on budget.

Prior to the revolutionary war, this path, which is now Old Carolina Road, was called many different names such as the Great Warrior Path, the Shenandoah Indian Trail and the Susquehannock Plain Path.

For the revolutionary soldiers, it was called the Old Carolina Road where traders from Frederick, Maryland to North Carolina traveled a 10 foot wide dirt track to move commodities like wool and cotton from South to North. The road also was the scene of major battles during the Civil War.



Pictured from left to right: Brentsville District Supervisor Wally Covington, Gainesville District Supervisor John Stirrup, Thirteenth District Virginia House of Delegates Delegate Bob Marshall
Old Carolina Road Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
September 11, 2009

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