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All About Algonkian



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Weekly Newsflash

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Updates from the Joint Board of Supervisors & School Board Committee

On Monday night, the Joint Board of Supervisors & School Board Committee met for the final meeting of 2023. It was one of the most productive meetings of the Joint Committee I have attended as a member of the Committee!

The Joint Committee voted for the following items that will be sent to our respective Boards for approval:

- Received an update on LCPS's progress on relining LCPS athletic courts to allow pickleball to be played. The goal is for every Loudoun County public school to be able to support four pickleball courts, with Dominion High School next on the list! **Once Dominion is completed, we will have twenty pickleball courts that can be used by the public!**
- Received an update on joint efforts to address safe pedestrian passage to LCPS schools. The Committee voted unanimously to endorse a set of 14 locations for prioritization of potential crosswalks. Two of them serve Horizon Elementary School in the Algonkian District, including the intersection of Broadmore Drive at Westover Terrace and the intersection of Potomac View Road at Parkside Circle / Broadmore Drive. My office has received numerous inquiries from residents about the need for safety improvements and I am excited that we are one step closer to making them a reality. The Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure will identify a funding source to complete a study with input from stakeholders like VDOT. The results of that study will determine whether a crosswalk is installed. LCPS and the County are also working on a streamlined process for the county and LCPS to holistically review crosswalk needs at intersections across the county and implement them proactively.
- We discussed the ongoing process to remove financial barriers for LCPS students. Now that athletic fees have ended, we look forward to the results of the LCPS study into what financial burdens remain that we can lift, such as marching band fees, theater, dance, DECA, and more. LCPS will make recommendations based on their ongoing review during the FY25 budget cycle. I will continue advocating to my School Board colleagues to eliminate fees to remove barriers to students participating in extracurricular activities.
- The Douglass High School Reconciliation Subcommittee issued their recommendations on how Loudoun County can make amends for the forced sale of Douglass High School. The reconciliation subcommittee recommended the creation of a documentary film as well as an annual commemorative event. These recommendations are exciting and I hope they will serve as a model for the nation!

On the issue of pedestrian safety, my office was horrified to learn that a pedestrian was struck by a vehicle Monday afternoon at [Lowes Island Boulevard](#)

& Saulty Drive. I was relieved to hear that the pedestrian who was struck survived the incident and will recover. This area has been a problem for years and was part of my request to the Joint School Board's Safe Pedestrian Passages to Schools review over the past year. My office worked with LCPS earlier this year to install new School Zone 25-mph signs before the crosswalk to ensure cars slow down during school pick-up and drop-off times. I will continue working with county and state transportation stakeholders to emphasize the need for additional safety improvements.

You can read the full agenda and view the items that the Joint Committee voted on [here](#).



Loudoun County to Study Pedestrian Improvements on Winding Road

On Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors voted to pass my Board Member Initiative (BMI) directing county staff to identify funding to study pedestrian connectivity along Winding Road!

My office received outreach from the Galilee United Methodist Church that parishioners and residents who live in the Villages at Potomac Falls Apartment Homes and Jefferson Village Community do not have a safe sidewalk connection between the church and their homes in the surrounding neighborhood. Galilee is known as a neighborhood church and hosts various recovery groups, scout troops, and community meetings throughout the week. Galilee Christian School is located at the church and families often walk preschool age children to school in the street between the neighboring communities and the church. The missing sidewalk segments present a safety risk for residents who have to walk along the shoulder of the road and make the area less inviting to pedestrians.

Once county staff is able to identify funding and a scope of work, they will return to the Board of Supervisors with a recommendation. I hope my colleagues will support this initiative which will look at solutions including, but not limited to, sidewalks, crosswalks, crosswalk beacons, and a bus shelter.

You can read the BMI that I submitted [here](#). If you have feedback on this proposed initiative, please contact my office!

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!



**LOUDOUN
COUNTY**
VIRGINIA

Early Voting Begins Tomorrow

Election Day is quickly approaching!

The most powerful way to make your voice heard in our democracy is by voting. Here in Virginia, we've made voting easy, with early voting beginning tomorrow, September 22. All registered voters in Virginia now have the option to vote at home, vote early, or vote on Election Day. No excuses are required no matter your choice.

Not sure where to vote? No problem! [Click here to visit the Virginia Elections Citizen Portal](#) where you can find helpful voting information. Also, here are some important dates to keep in mind as Election Day approaches:

- **Friday, September 22:** Early Voting Begins
- **Monday, October 16:** Voter Registration Deadline
 - *In-Person:* Due by 5 PM
 - *By Mail:* Must be postmarked by 5 PM
 - *Online:* By 11:59 PM
- **Friday, October 27:** Last Day to Request Mail Ballot
 - Must be requested by 5 PM
- **Saturday, November 4:** Last Day to Vote Early In-Person
- **Tuesday, November 7:** Election Day
 - *Voting Hours:* 6 AM - 7 PM
 - [Click Here to Find Your Polling Place](#)

More information about the November 7, 2023, general election is online at loudoun.gov/novemberelection.

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We want to hear from you! Share your concerns, questions, or events that you would like to see featured in upcoming newsletters.

[Email Ethan Gardner](#)

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