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All About Algonkian



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Weekly Newsflash

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**Planning Commission Recommends Approval
of Cascades Marketplace Revitalization**



At a Work Session on Thursday, October 12th, the Planning Commission issued a unanimous recommendation of approval for the Cascades Marketplace rezoning application. This application proposes up to 755 dwelling units, new retail/commercial/office construction, and upgrades to the Cascades Marketplace shopping center. It has been a major goal of my term to revitalize the Cascades Marketplace shopping center into a thriving mixed-use development that supports retail and amenities for our community.

I have worked closely with the developers over the last few years to improve their application and ensure community feedback is included into the application. I continue to work with Willard Retail and county staff to finalize the proffer agreements to ensure that the project's capital facilities contributions support improvements of county facilities adjacent to the Cascades Marketplace. This includes funding for the construction of a dog park on county property behind the Cascades Library, pickleball courts at the Senior Center, and support the future renovations of both facilities.

The application is scheduled to come before the Board of Supervisors for the November 15th Public Hearing. Public speakers are welcome to during the meeting, either in-person or virtually.

Between now and November 15th, residents can share their feedback in the following ways:

- Visit cascades-marketplace.com to review the plans from Willard Retail and respond to the feedback form provided on the website. The developers have utilized this feedback to make many improvements to this application! There are eight questions where you can share your opinions on the project.

- [Read the official submissions and staff comments on LandMARC here.](#) You are able to leave public feedback to the county and BOS on that page.
- Contact my office directly by email or phone to share feedback to myself and my staff. We follow up on all comments shared with our office.



New Regulations on Data Center Facades

During the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite (ZOR) Work Session on October 16th, the Board of Supervisors supported my motion to increase the standards for data center facades when facing notable public uses, including residential, civic spaces, and many retail sites. It is important to me that data centers approved adjacent to existing or planned community-facing uses - such as residential, entertainment, recreation, and more - utilize a high quality and visually pleasing design on their facade which faces that use.

My office has heard many complaints about the aesthetics of data centers so I am fighting to hold the data center industry to a higher standard. I have worked throughout the ZOR process to make clear to the data center industry that the county opposes data center development adjacent to or near residential communities.

The last two ZOR work sessions will take place over the next two weeks, on October 23rd and 30th. If you have feedback or suggestions for amendments to the draft zoning ordinance, I encourage you to reach out to my office!

NAACP Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Award



I was honored on Saturday to receive the NAACP Loudoun Branch's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Trailblazer Award at the 2023 Freedom Fund Masquerade Ball. NAACP Loudoun Branch President Michelle Thomas highlighted my efforts on the Board of Supervisors that earned the award:

"From renaming roads, recreational parks and critical infrastructure that honored confederates and segregationists, to leading the Historic Douglass High School Reconciliation Initiative to study the impacts of massive resistance on the African American community in Loudoun. Supervisor Briskman has been one of our strongest allies on the Board of Supervisors, fiercely leading the way forward so all residents have the opportunity to thrive together."

I will continue working to represent all of my constituents and bring the important values of diversity, equity, and inclusion to Loudoun County.



From left to right: Delegate David Reid, School Board Member Atoosa Reaser (Algonkian), and Me.



Photo with NAACP Loudoun Branch President Pastor Michelle Thomas

Prevent COVID-19, Flu, and RSV with Updated Vaccines



Help Prevent Flu, COVID-19 & RSV

You can protect yourself and help prevent spreading viruses to others if you:

- Get vaccinated against the flu & COVID-19.
- Practice good hygiene, such as hand-washing.
- Seek the appropriate level of medical care, if ill.

The infographic features a central image of a nurse in blue scrubs and a green surgical mask, wearing white gloves and holding a syringe. The background is light blue with a white plus sign in a blue circle in the top right corner. There are also stylized virus particle icons in the top left and bottom left corners.

Loudoun County health officials encourage residents to stay current on the latest recommendations for preventing respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19, seasonal flu and RSV (respiratory syncytial virus). As colder weather arrives and Loudoun residents increase indoor activities, the potential for the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses also increases. Health officials advise that getting vaccinated is the best way to prevent illness due to viruses. Help protect yourself, your family, and your community by getting the updated COVID-19, Flu, and RSV vaccines.

COVID-19 Vaccine

The CDC updated its COVID-19 vaccine recommendation in September with recommendations of updated vaccines made by Pfizer, Moderna, and Novavax approved by the federal government. The new COVID-19 vaccine is now available at many pharmacies and physicians' offices. Visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) or text your zip code to GETVAX (438829) to find available vaccination appointments at nearby medical offices and pharmacies. For people with health insurance, most plans will cover COVID-19 vaccine at no cost. Adults who do not have health insurance or have health plans that do not cover the cost can get a free vaccine from local pharmacies participating in the CDC's [Bridge Access Program](#).

Flu and RSV Vaccines

Residents also can take action to protect themselves against other respiratory illnesses, including the seasonal flu and RSV. Health officials recommend that residents protect themselves against the seasonal flu virus by getting a flu vaccine, which can be administered at the same time as a COVID-19 vaccine. Residents can find flu vaccine providers in our community online at [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov).

Vaccines also are available to protect infants and older adults from severe RSV. RSV vaccine is recommended for those under 8 months and over 60 years of age, as well as for pregnant women to help protect their babies. To learn more about RSV, visit [cdc.gov/rsv](https://www.cdc.gov/rsv).

For more information, see the county press release with resources [here](#).

Follow us on social media!



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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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