



Keeping the Parkway From Becoming a Parking Lot

- [Keeping the Parkway From Becoming a Parking Lot](#) - Important information on changes coming to the Fairfax County Parkway and my March 20 Town Hall meeting on the Parkway's future.
- [Smart Market/Smart Idea](#) - This May a farmers market comes to Springfield.
- [Fair Lakes/Fairfax County Parkway Detour Ends](#) - Beginning this week cars will be able to make left hand turns onto the Parkway.
- [Closure of South Side Bus Bays at Vienna Metro Station](#) - Important information if you take the bus to or from Vienna Metro Station

Keeping the Parkway From Becoming a Parking Lot

There is an old riddle that goes "Why do we park on driveways and drive on parkways?" Unfortunately the Fairfax County Parkway, one of Fairfax County's "main streets" is quickly becoming a parking lot and challenging this age old riddle. We have had some successes in improving parts of the Parkway but I believe we need to get in front of the problem and establish a vision for its long-term future now. Below is information on a Town Hall meeting on the future of the Parkway that I will be holding on March 20th - I look forward to your participation.

Improving the Fairfax County Parkway has been one of my priorities since being elected Supervisor. We have had some successes to date including:

- I led the successful effort to have the Parkway reclassified in the state system from a secondary road to a primary road to make it eligible for more state maintenance and construction funding. As a result the route numbers will change from 7100 to 286 and from 7900 to 289 later this year. [More info here.](#)
- Working with Dominion Power and VDOT, I was able to shave one to two years off the construction schedule for the [Fair Lakes and Fairfax County Parkway grade separated intersection](#) by accelerating utility relocation. Through traffic on the Parkway will be able to cross over this intersection unimpeded by the end of this year. [More info here.](#)
- After several crossover fatalities Delegate Albo and I requested VDOT commission a safety study that will result in safety improvements beginning this summer (including

installation of guardrail and median barriers) on dangerous sections of the Parkway. The full study is available on my [website](#) (pdf).

- I led the successful effort to obtain funding for the two-lane North Loop of the Parkway at Rolling Road so traffic travelling from the NGA and continuing northbound on the Parkway doesn't back up onto the main road. The Governor funded the improvements at this critical bottleneck last year. A public meeting is planned for this fall. [More info here.](#)
- I was a leader in the effort to make finding the funds for repaving the Parkway a priority. Hats off to VDOT for creatively securing the funding. The majority of the Parkway will be repaved this summer. VDOT plans to host public meetings county-wide on this project. When they have been set I will share the dates/times/locations in a future Herrity Report.
- I worked with VDOT to extend the green time for the Parkway at Popes Head Road. This is reportedly the longest green light in the state.
- The Fairfax County Department of Transportation will be adding an additional lane to the Parkway southbound between 29 and Braddock Road as part of the Board of Supervisors Second 4-Year Transportation Program; construction should begin in Fall 2013.
- VDOT, Federal Highway and the Army will complete the last phase (the Rolling Road interchange) of the missing link of the Parkway later this year.

Even with these improvements, the Parkway is experiencing significant congestion. I believe we need to get in front of the problem and establish a vision for its long-term future now before we wake up and find the Parkway as congested as I-66. That is why, along with VDOT and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation, I will be hosting a **Town Hall Meeting to discuss the future of the Parkway on March 20th.**

Specifically it will:

- Share the history of the Parkway
- Give current and projected levels of traffic
- Explain improvements that are currently planned
- Discuss possible future solutions and plans that should be considered
- Provide an open forum for residents to give their views and offer their own visions for the Parkway

The meeting has been set for:

Tuesday, March 20th
7 p.m.
James W. Robinson Secondary School, Davala Hall
5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax

Smart Market/Smart Idea

I am happy to announce that this May, a Smart Market will be opening in the parking lot of the American Legion on Old Keene Mill Road in Springfield. My office has been working with Smart Markets and the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce over the last few months to identify

a location for this important community cause. While all the details are not yet finalized, the market will tentatively be open on Saturdays from 10am to 2pm.

Smart Markets, similar to farmers markets, are markets set up around Fairfax County that allow producers to sell their products on the market. Unlike our farmers markets, Smart Markets are not run by the Park Authority and do not make a profit. All the money made at Smart Markets, aside from a small portion of sales which goes back into growing the program, is retained by small farmers that grow their product locally. This program is a great example of innovation that benefits the community by providing low cost, healthy food options, while at the same time giving small farmers and producers access to markets and allowing them to grow their businesses.

Fair Lakes/Fairfax County Parkway Detour Ends

Drivers are once again able to make left turns from Fair Lakes Parkway onto Fairfax County Parkway. For the past six months, motorists have been detoured onto Fair lakes Circle while crews build an interchange. All movements are now restored to and from Fairfax County Parkway and Fair Lakes Parkway. VDOT will continue to monitor the new signal phasing Thursday, Friday and Saturday in case any adjustments need to be made. Please let my office know of any issues that may arise regarding this change so we can work with VDOT to have them addressed.

Closure of South Side Bus Bays at Vienna Metro Station

On February 27, 2012, the South Side bus bays at the Vienna Metro Station will be closing for approximately six months while they are being rebuilt. The reconstruction of these bus bays is part of the MetroWest development project currently under construction south of the Vienna Metro Station. Because of this closure, the pickup locations for all Fairfax Connector routes (including routes 462/3/6, 621/2/3, 630/1/2, 640/1/2 and 650/1/2) are moving to the north side of the Vienna Metro Station; Fairfax Connector however, buses will still drop passengers off on the south side of the station at a temporary drop off location. Connector buses will pick up passengers from four temporary bus bays on Virginia Center Boulevard and from one bus bay inside of the north bus loop.

Moving the Fairfax Connector pickup location to the north side of the Vienna Metro Station will undoubtedly have a major impact on passengers by increasing the distance they have to walk to catch their bus. In order to mitigate the impact of the move on its passengers and to inform passengers of their travel options, Fairfax Connector staff will perform extensive and aggressive outreach work, using both print media and on-site outreach, to ensure passengers find their bus and do not miss their ride home. The flyer being distributed is available on my website; for more information, contact Matthew Crooks of the Fairfax County Department of Transportation at 703-877-5600 or Fairfax Connector Customer Service at 703-339-7200.