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- [Fairfax County Parkway Town Hall Rescheduled](#): New date of April 17th, I hope you can still join us to discuss the future of the Parkway.
- [MWAA PLA Vote Will Double Tolls Next Year](#): With a 10% preference to union bidders, MWAA has virtually ensured that the state will not contribute to the costs of Dulles Rail Phase II and Dulles toll road tolls will double to \$4.50 next year. MWAA needs to reverse its decision.
- [Regulatory Overload \(Part III\): Daycare Nightmare](#): New regulations while sounding good will likely reduce the number of licensed day care providers in the county.
- [Child Safety Seat Inspections](#): The West Springfield District Police Station offers an inspection and information service to help you be sure your seat is installed correctly - upcoming inspection events listed below.
- [Dulles Rail Phase II Have Your Voice Heard](#): Public hearing scheduled for March 20th at 5:00. More below.
- [Springfield District Budget Town Halls Announced](#): County staff will present the county's FY2013 budget and answer any questions.

Regulatory Overload (Part IV) No Dancing Allowed

On March 6th at 4:00, the Board will hold a public hearing on proposed regulations requested to address an isolated issue that will have a huge regulatory and fiscal impact on responsible businesses throughout the county. The new Zoning Ordinance Amendment: Public Entertainment Establishments was initiated at the request of Supervisor McKay to deal with problems that his constituents have had with a restaurant that offered dancing - specifically noise, fire code violations, drunkenness and gang activity. But what I see happening with this proposal was best described by Planning Commissioner de la Fe last week, "we may be spraying the whole county with DDT because of one fruit fly."

These new regulations will serve as a cumbersome and costly barrier to responsible

businesses. It will increase the cost of doing business in the county and the cost of patronizing them to our citizens. It will also reduce the number of dance floors in the county. Rather than deal with the real problems that are occurring with some of our eating establishments and dance halls, we are negatively impacting responsible businesses and the dancing public.

I am firmly opposed to these new regulations for a number of reasons:

- The new special use permit requirements will significantly increase the cost of doing business for restaurants and hotels across the county. The permit fee is over \$16,000 and that is before you hire the lawyers and other professionals and the cost of complying with the additional requirements.
- The increased cost of doing business will be passed on to customers in the way of higher prices for everything from weddings to banquets to association meetings.
- There is a significant impact on many long standing businesses that now have to address new parking, landscape, sign, lighting and other requirements.
- We're cutting off our nose to spite our face: This legislation is aimed at very few bad actors, but there will be consequences and effects for many many more upstanding businesses. We have other ways to address the bad actors.
- Dancing is gaining in popularity and many recreational dancers will be unfairly affected by this. With shows like Dancing with the Stars, and the America's Got Talent (which our very own West Springfield High School Dance Team starred in) growing in popularity, there is a real interest in dancing and a real lack of venues for it.
- We're not sure of the details: How many places will be affected by this? The industry was not engaged in the development of the regulations so staff is unsure of the exact impact.
- You can't dance on 150 square feet - the size of the dance floor allowed without a special exception - that is 10 feet by 15 feet.
- The Planning Commission seemed to feel the Board was driving this and had more questions than answers.

Not all regulation is bad, but we should not be making rules for the exception and we shouldn't be punishing the many for the actions of the few. In this case the problem we should be trying to address is how to encourage the development of more responsible places to dance. This proposal should be dead on arrival. I hope the Board agrees.

Likely up next: Regulatory overload (Part V): How to operate your business.

Fairfax County Parkway Town Hall Rescheduled

In my last newsletter I advertised my upcoming town hall meeting on the future of the Fairfax County Parkway. Since then, the Board of Supervisors has scheduled a public hearing on the Dulles Rail Phase II project that could coincide with my town hall. For that reason I have rescheduled the town hall to April 17th - I hope you can still join us!

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 April 17th.

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, April 17th

7 p.m.

James W. Robinson Secondary School, Recital Hall
5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax

MWAA PLA Vote Will Double Dulles Tolls Next Year

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority's (MWAA) decision last week to provide preferences to union contractors over non-union contractors will virtually ensure that tolls on the Dulles Toll Road will double from \$2.25 to \$4.50 next year. Both houses of the General Assembly as well as Governor McDonnell have made it very clear that the \$150 million or potentially \$500 million in state assistance for Phase II is dependent on an open competitive bidding process without a mandated project labor agreement (PLA). MWAA's 10% incentive for the use of a PLA effectively mandates that the winner must have a PLA and will clearly violate the new state law. MWAA needs to reconsider this decision and eliminate the PLA requirement or Virginia jobs, businesses and residents on the Dulles corridor and the area's side roads will suffer.

Mandating the PLA is a bad idea on a number of fronts:

- Virginia is a "Right to Work" state and 97.4% of our workers are non-union. We need to ensure a level playing field between union workers and non union workers for the sake of Virginia workers and businesses.
- A PLA is likely to reduce the number of bidders; especially Virginia based bidders, increasing the cost of the project.
- Phase I is reportedly "on time and on budget" and is being constructed without a mandated PLA. Only 40 percent of Phase I is currently being worked under a voluntary PLA - the rest of the project contractors have no PLA.
- The project is almost entirely funded by Virginia dollars (local governments and toll road users) and should be subject to Virginia's right to work laws and Virginia businesses should not be put at a disadvantage.
- Legislation that passed both houses of the General Assembly will prohibit a state contribution to Phase II of Dulles Rail driving up toll road costs.

On several occasions I have asked the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to join the General Assembly and the Governor and take a firm stance against a mandated PLA with

no success. It is past time for the Board of Supervisors to take a strong stand against the anti-Virginia practices of the MWAA board.

It is also past time for MWAA to again start acting like a good partner for our community and businesses instead of representing the interests of MWAA Board Member Dennis Martire (Vice President of the Laborers International Union of North America (LIUNA)), Maryland and the District. MWAA can start by seating the newly appointed Virginia Board members and eliminating the PLA preference. Otherwise Virginia jobs will be outsourced to other states and businesses and the toll road users will suffer under \$4.50 tolls on the Dulles Toll Road starting next year.

Regulatory Overload (Part III): Daycare Nightmare

At last Tuesday's Board of Supervisors' meeting staff proposed amending our Home Child Care Facilities Ordinance adding regulatory requirements for child care providers. While each of these additional requirements may make sense for child care providers that watch 6 or more children (and therefore are required to be state licensed), I thought the requirements would force many existing small providers who watch only one or two children out of the business or into the unlicensed world. These new regulations could cost child care providers an additional almost \$700 a year and 16 hours of training.

Most regulation is founded in good intent and sound good as many of these changes do. What is often missing is the analysis of the overall and long term impacts of the regulation on those being regulated. I asked that the Board defer voting on the new regulations until staff could survey our licensed providers to garner feedback about what the positive and negative outcomes would be from such a bill including the number that might go out of business- daycare is hard enough to find. My motion passed and I hope to revisit this issue when we have a lot more information in front of us. For more information on the proposed changes [click here](#). I would love to hear your thoughts on this, please feel free to email my office at springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov with your comments.

There are several sections of the ordinance that I have issue with:

- The additional requirements will cost providers almost \$700 per year even if they only care for one child.
- Providers would be required to have a landline telephone. This requirement represented a significant portion of the additional cost. Cell phones (especially ones that have texting and internet capability) can be more reliable than landline phones and many people have moved to cell phones.
- Excessive new regulations on swimming and wading activities - the new regulation would require that along with the child care provider another adult of at least 18 years of age shall have to be present. This will virtually eliminate the ability for children in day care to have these experiences even if their parents gave permission as currently required.
- All new and renewing providers would now have to complete 16 hours of training per annum as opposed to the previous amount of 6 hours for renewing providers and 12 hours for new providers. The CPR requirement for instance is twice as frequent as recommended by the American Heart Association.

Child Safety Seat Inspections

All children under the age of 8 must be properly secured in a child safety seat or booster when riding in a vehicle. The West Springfield District Police Station offers an inspection and information service to help you be sure your seat is installed correctly. Inspections are held twice a month and appointments can be made by calling 703-644-7377. Hit "Zero" when the voicemail system answers and that will put you through to the front desk.

The next inspection dates are March 22, April 12, and April 19.

A special note to expectant parents; please plan ahead to avoid a last minute rush.

Dulles Rail Phase II Have Your Voice Heard

I won't go into my thoughts on the project here as you can [read them at this link](#), but if you would like to voice your questions or concerns about the project there are several ways for you to do so listed below.

Board of Supervisors' Public Hearing: Tuesday, March 20 at 5 p.m.

(Does not cover the topic of Silver Line station names)

Fairfax County Government Center: 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax
Board Auditorium

Register to speak: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker_bos.htm

Ask Fairfax! online discussion: Friday, March 9 at 11 a.m.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/askfairfax

Public Meeting: Monday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m.

South County Center: 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria
Community Room 221A/B

Public Meeting: Wednesday, March 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Hutchison Elementary School: 13209 Parcher Avenue, Herndon
Cafeteria

Public Meeting: Thursday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Westgate Elementary School: 7500 Magarity Road, Falls Church
Cafeteria

Public Meeting: Monday, March 19 at 7 p.m.

Fairfax County Government Center: 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax
Conference Rooms 9/10

To submit online comments, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/dullesmetro.

Springfield District Budget Town Halls Announced

Supervisor Herrity is pleased to announce two budget town halls for Springfield District residents.

- 1) Thursday, March 15th at 7pm in Conference Room 9 & 10 at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.
- 2) Monday, March 19th at 7pm in the Community Room at the West Springfield Government Center, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield.

A presentation will be given and Supervisor Herrity will give remarks and then open the floor for questions. County budget staff will also be in attendance with handouts and to answer any questions you may have. This is a great opportunity to have your opinions heard and help craft the FY2013 Fairfax County Budget.

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