

Sull-E Newsletter



A message from Kathy Smith

The election of 2016 is finally over- but the results will be felt here in Fairfax County for many years to come. President-Elect Donald Trump and the newly re-elected Republican Congress may decide to make major changes to where and how federal dollars are spent- decisions that will impact our local economy more than any other region in the country. Fairfax County officials will be watching these changes closely, and I will report more as bills begin to move in the new Congress.

The Meals Tax referendum on the ballot failed by a 46.2%-53.8% margin. Under Virginia law, a county can only implement a Meals Tax if passed by a voter referendum. Because our referendum failed, Fairfax County will not implement a Meals Tax.

I was somber seeing the results of the Meals Tax as our budget next year is going to be extremely difficult and painful for county services and schools. FCPS is currently projecting a shortfall for the FY18 budget (adopted in Spring of 17) of \$134 million dollars, while the rest of Fairfax County government is projecting a

shortfall of about \$78 million dollars. One note on those numbers; the schools' number is updated through last month, while the county shortfall is estimated from July. The new county side numbers will be updated at our Board Budget Committee meeting on November 22nd.

In total that makes a likely shortfall of \$212 million dollars and growing because of potential state cuts to their education budget. Many of you reading may be wondering why the county has such a potentially large budget shortfall. There are two large components to this. First, the state and local economies have still not fully recovered from the Great Recession, sequestration and other national level issues. In total growth this year, Virginians only saw an average of a 1.0% growth rate in wages; this is below state estimates which were used in the budgeting process this year. This statistic leads to lower than expected state income tax revenue, and sales tax revenue. It also tends to track the housing market as low wage growth leads to less market demand for purchasing homes, and less gains in home values for current property owners. Second, the General Assembly passed on many required expenses to local governments last year and \$58 million of the school's \$134 million shortfall is non-negotiable.

I urge everyone in the community to get involved in this discussion of our upcoming county budget. You can get educated by reading the [school budget presentation](#), the [county budget update](#) and attending our next county budget update on November 22nd. Let me know where you see cuts that should be made for this budget. I look forward to your feedback!

Kathy

www.facebook.com/sullydistrict

| www.twitter.com/sullysupervisor



Animal Shelter Corner



Abby Skye is the kind of dog who's always on the go, go, go and does everything with a smile on her face and a wag in her tail! She loves to chase tennis balls and will even kind of bring them back to you. She knows how to sit (for treats) and should be easy to train (with treats). Once she gets all her energy out, she's very happy to sit next to you and get some love.

She was surrendered to the shelter because her family was moving. She can't wait to find a new home where she can continue learning new things, getting lots of exercise, and giving lots of smooches. Learn more about Abby Skye and the Animal Shelter here:

<http://www.petango.com/Adopt/Dog-Terrier-American-Staffordshire-29914774>

Fairfax Connector Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule

(November 15, 2016, Fairfax, Virginia) - In observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday, **Fairfax Connector will be operating Sunday service on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 24, 2016, and holiday weekday service on the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, Nov. 25, 2016.**

Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 24, 2016

- The following routes will operate **Sunday service**: [101](#), [109](#), [151](#), [152](#), [161](#), [162](#), [171](#), [310](#), [321](#), [322](#), [371](#), [401](#), [402](#), [423](#), [463](#), [505](#), [551](#), [558](#), [559](#), [574](#), [605](#), [630](#), [640](#), [650](#), [721](#), [937](#), [950](#), [981](#), [983](#), [RIBS 1](#), [RIBS 2](#), [RIBS 3](#), [RIBS 4](#), and [RIBS 5](#).
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- **Routes not listed above do not operate on Sundays** and therefore will not operate on Thanksgiving Day.

Day after Thanksgiving, Friday, Nov. 25, 2016

- The following routes **will not operate**: [231](#), [232](#), [335](#), [393](#), [394](#), [395](#), [422](#), [432](#), [461](#), [494](#), [495](#), [556](#), [585](#), [599](#), [624](#), [634](#), [644](#), [724](#), and [985](#)
- [Route 980](#) will run every 12-15 minutes instead of every 6-8 minutes.
- **All other routes** will operate [regular weekday service](#).



Fairfax Partners with Carton Recycling Group to Boost Carton Recycling

Fairfax County has partnered with carton recycling nonprofit Carton Council to launch an awareness campaign to increase recycling of food and beverage carton packaging throughout the county. The county recently added food and beverage cartons to its recycling program. The campaign aims to further boost the county's recycling rate by letting residents know that food and beverage cartons such as

those used for milk and orange juice containers can now be recycled and should be thrown in the bin where residents currently recycle their glass, plastic and cans.

"Fairfax County currently offers a wide variety of disposal and recycling services to our residents, including traditional curbside and drop-off services, as well as free E-waste and household hazardous waste drop-off every day," said Charlie Forbes, chief of recycling for Fairfax County. "Knowing what is recyclable and what isn't can be confusing; our partnership with the Carton Council will help us to increase awareness about the different types of food and beverage cartons that can be recycled."

The county's recycling rate of 50 percent is well above Virginia's state minimum requirement of 25 percent.

"We want to ensure every resident throughout the county knows they can now recycle cartons they use every day like milk, orange juice and broth. This campaign focuses on advertisements to disseminate and maximize the reach of our message," said Carla Fantoni*, vice president of communications at Carton Council, a group of carton manufacturers united to expand carton recycling in the United States through strong private-public collaboration. "We are excited to work closely with Fairfax County, which is already doing a lot to help residents recycle right."

This awareness campaign in Fairfax County is scheduled to last until November 2016. Carton recycling is now available in close to 60 percent of American households nationwide. Recycling cartons helps reduce waste and landfills and also reuse our natural resources as cartons are recycled into paper products like paper towels, napkins, and even building materials. Residents can learn more about carton recycling by visiting recyclecartonseastcoast.com.

Snow Facts from VDOT

HOW WE PREPARE

We monitor the forecast closely with National Weather Service and Iteris, and a mobilization plan is decided. Up to 48 hours prior, crews treat critical locations when pavement temps are above 20 degrees and weather will not begin as rain. This anti-icing is most effective during the first hour of the storm.

On interstates, about 450 lane miles of bridges, ramps and roads prone to freezing are treated with liquid magnesium chloride. On major roads such as Routes 1, 7, 28, and 50, crews treat about 1,700 lane miles with brine.

Brine (77% water, 23% salt) helps prevents ice from bonding to the road surface, reduces salt needed to melt ice, is kinder to the environment, and can lower snow removal time and costs.

Mobilizing Equipment

About 12-18 hours prior to a small event and 18-24 hours for large events, trucks report, load, and deploy around northern Virginia. When two or more inches are forecast, trucks are staged in subdivisions.

HOW WE CLEAR ROADS

In northern Virginia, crews work interstates, major roads, and main subdivision roads concurrently. Crews begin plowing when two inches have fallen.

Interstates and high-volume roads are made passable, then bare pavement where possible. Subdivision main roads are made passable, then remaining streets and cul-de-sacs.

Neighborhoods

Northern Virginia roads are divided among 613 “snow maps” assigned to plow drivers. Drivers complete a minimum of one pass on each road. This year, 180

VDOT employees will ride the roads to monitor progress and more than 30 will monitor remotely.

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER A STORM

Clearance Goals

For one passable lane on all subdivisions:

2-4" of snow: 24 hours after storm ends

4-6" of snow: 48 hours after storm ends

6" or more: More than 48 hours after storm ends

What Does "Passable" Mean?

In neighborhoods, an 8- to 10-foot path for emergency vehicle access. It is drivable with extreme caution, but is snow-packed and not curb-to-curb or to bare pavement. Crews will sand hills, curves and intersections to help with traction.

Sidewalks and Trails

While VDOT cannot address with road-clearing priorities, crews are asked to be mindful, especially near schools. There is often limited room to pile snow, especially in significant storms, to make roads passable. Residents and businesses are asked to clear near their properties. Check with your locality for ordinances.

Driveways

The plows will push some snow back, so view our video for tips on shoveling before they arrive.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

» » Park in driveways or on the odd-numbered side of the street to allow plows room to pass

- » » Monitor forecasts carefully
- » » Adjust commutes, telework, and avoid driving if possible
- » » Ensure enough gas, wiper fluid, proper tires, food, water and medicine when driving
- » » Give plows room to work
- » » Be patient

STAY CONNECTED

- » » Report issues to 800-FOR-ROAD (367-7623) or my.vdot.virginia.gov
 - » » NEW! virginiadot.org/novaemergency for releases, important messages, FAQs and other resources
 - » » 511virginia.gov for road conditions
 - » » vdotplows.org for neighborhood status and locations of plows
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2016-2017 NORTHERN VIRGINIA SNOW FACTS

Arlington*, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties
*Arlington maintains own secondary roads.



LANE MILES TO PLOW:

13,413

INTERSTATE: 725

PRIMARY: 1,732

SECONDARY: 10,878 (INCLUDES 16,000 SUBDIVISION STREETS)

4,564 VDOT AND CONTRACT VEHICLES

95% OF FLEET IS CONTRACTED



MATERIALS ON HAND



125,155 TONS SALT
44,705 GALLONS BRINE
20,338 TONS SAND

18 AREA HEADQUARTERS

24 SALT DOMES



THE DOME AT I-495 AND VAN DORN, OUR LARGEST, HOLDS 33,000 TONS OF SALT



CLEARANCE GOALS AFTER STORM ENDS

HOW LONG FOR A PASSABLE
LANE ON ALL ROADS?

2-4" of snow: 24 HOURS

4-6" of snow: 48 HOURS

6" + of snow: 48+ HOURS

SNOW BUDGET: \$82.7 MILLION