

# Coles District Newsletter

## SUPERVISOR YESLI VEGA

April 2020

3rd Edition



Dear Neighbor,

These are certainly unprecedented times. The COVID-19 pandemic which has swept over the world has hit Northern Virginia and Prince William County particularly hard. Though it's unlike anything we've seen please know that your local government has responded to this crisis as best as we can and remain open for business.

As of last evening, (April 6th) the county has reported 193 cases of residents testing positive for the virus with four fatalities. Those in our county affected by this terrible virus and their families, remain in our thoughts and prayers.

In the following, you'll find twelve pages of information related to COVID-19, including the local, state, and federal governments response in addition to relief being offered by each to help those in need.

We all know these responses are fast breaking and I will do my best to keep you updated on latest news and information via e-mail and on our social media pages.

While the Board has agreed to meet only for emergency purposes, some work must go on as we are still mandated by state law to pass a budget by May 15th. That means we will still be having meetings and discussions on the budget this month and the subsequent tax rates needed to fund the appropriate level of service at this time.

As of this writing, there still appears to be an appetite by some on the Board and in county government to raise your taxes in these dire economic times. This is particularly troubling considering the county is still protected to receive at least \$26 million in *additional revenue* over last fiscal year **without raising a single individual tax rate or fee** on you to pay for education, social services, and essential functions of our government. Please know that as the budget and tax rates are debated over the next month that I will **not** be voting to raise your tax rates as the increase in revenue without a tax increase makes taking this step unnecessary. Public hearings on the budget and tax rates will occur on April 16th and 18th.

Like most district offices, my staff and I are working remotely to help prevent the spread, but we can be reached anytime at (703) 792-4620 or by e-mail at [ColesDistrict@pwcgov.org](mailto:ColesDistrict@pwcgov.org) to assist with any questions or requests you have at this time.

For Coles,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yesli Vega', written over a horizontal line.

Yesli Vega

Coles District Supervisor

 [/ColesDistrict](https://www.facebook.com/ColesDistrict)

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# COVID-19

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## How COVID-19 spreads:

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
- Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people not showing symptoms.

## How to protect yourself:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects (e.g., tables, countertops, light switches, doorknobs, and cabinet handles).

## Symptoms of COVID-19:

These symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure (based on the incubation period of the virus)

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- **When to seek emergency medical attention:**
- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

\*This list is not all inclusive. Please consult a medical provider for other severe or concerning symptoms.

## What to do if you believe you have COVID-19:

- Stay home except to get medical care
- Stay in touch with your doctor
- Avoid public transportation
- Stay away from others as much as possible
- Wear a cloth covering over your nose and mouth
- If you are having trouble breathing, seek medical attention, but call first
- Call your doctor or emergency room before going in and tell them your symptoms.
- Call 911 if you have a medical emergency

## Coles District Office

Like many other district offices, my staff and I are currently working remotely. However, our normal business hours remain, Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. We are happy to assist you by email at [ColesDistrict@pwcgov.org](mailto:ColesDistrict@pwcgov.org) or by phone at (703) 792-4620.

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## Prince William County Government Response to COVID-19

The County Executive activated the Emergency Operations Center and has issued a [Declaration of Local State of Emergency](#) which allows the county to mobilize and prioritize resources, handle procurement issues, as well as assign and coordinate response activities to help promote and enforce social distancing.

Up to date information from the Prince William County government on COVID-19 can be found at [coronavirus.pwcgov.org](https://coronavirus.pwcgov.org). If you are interested in receiving updates from Prince William County via text regarding COVID-19, please text COVIDPWC to 888777 for English or COVIDPWCEs to 888777 for Spanish.

Most appointed boards, commissions, and committees have suspended meetings for the month of April.

### Actions by the Board of County Supervisors:

- Board of Supervisors sent a [letter](#) to Chair of the Federal COVID-19 Task Force and Vice President of the United States Michael Pence calling for the National Capital Region to be designated as a priority testing site.
- [Donated \\$30,000 to local food banks](#) - \$10,000 each to Action In Community Through Service (ACTS), Northern Virginia Family Service's SERVE Campus, and the Haymarket Food Pantry from the contingency fund.
- Board of Supervisors voted to [amend](#) its Rules of Procedure to allow members to participate in meetings from remote locations, and adopted an [emergency ordinance](#) to provide for the continuity of government in the event of enemy attack or other disaster.

### Prince William Health District:

- For questions regarding COVID-19 citizens can call **(703) 872-7759** - 7 days a week, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.
- Citizens are encouraged to do business online or via phone if possible - call Manassas Clinic (703) 792-6300, Woodbridge Clinic (703) 792-7300.
- Established incident management team to coordinate response, and has direct lines of communication between the Virginia Department of Health, Prince William County, the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, hospitals, clinical providers, schools and other community partners.
- WIC Offices will be closed to the public but will continue to provide services via phone.
- Citizens are encouraged to call before visiting offices.

## **Prince William County Department and Agency Operational Status & Actions:**

All government buildings closed to the public, canceled all outside meetings, events and gatherings. County employees will continue to report to work or telework if available, and departments will remain open for business virtually. The public will be able to contact departments by phone and e-mail.

### **Adult Detention Center**

- Implementing social distancing between ADC lobby staff and the general public
- Implementing social distancing in the non-contact visitation area
- Limiting the number of visitors for non-contact visitation to 10

### **Animal Shelter**

- Conducting adoptions by appointment only - call (703)-792-6465 or email [animalshelter@pwcgov.org](mailto:animalshelter@pwcgov.org)
- To view animals available for adoption visit [PetFinder.com](https://www.petfinder.com)
- Only servicing one individual / group at a time
- No more than 4 members of household allowed during visit
- Not conducting meet and greets
- Hold on registration and renewal of dog licenses
- Hold on taking in healthy stray cats

### **Area Agency on Aging**

- Adult Day Healthcare facilities closed
- Senior Centers are closed
- Bluebird Bus tours are canceled
- Home-delivered and congregate meals will receive frozen meals delivered by staff on a regular basis

### **Circuit Court**

- Marriage Licenses and Notary Oaths by appointment only - call (703) 792-6036 or email [circuitcourt@pwcgov.org](mailto:circuitcourt@pwcgov.org)
- Will continue to hear essential matters outlined in [Special Continuing Order](#)
- For up-to-date operational status visit the [Clerk of the Circuit Court on Facebook](#)

### **Community Services**

- Group meetings, social rehab programs, and behavioral health home meeting programs canceled

### **County Attorney's Office**

- Fully operational
- Deputized as attorneys general if needed to issue quarantine or isolation orders

### **Criminal Justice Services**

- Offices closed to visitors
- Probation/Pretrial Officers are conducting visits in the home or community only when necessary for urgent matters
- Pretrial staff continue to interview inmates at the Adult Detention Center in non-contact areas

## **PWC Department and Agency Operational Status & Actions (Cont.):**

### **Development Services / Planning / Zoning**

- Plans, permit applications, non-conforming use determinations, rezoning and special use permit case applications can be dropped off in large bins outside the Development Services building on [plaza side](#)
- Residential Inspections that require entry into an existing occupied dwelling suspended for 30 Days
- Only exterior residential inspections of occupied dwellings will be conducted
- All new residential building inspections (interior and exterior) will be conducted

### **Department of Economic Development**

- Compiled [resources](#) for affected workers and businesses

### **Department of Fire & Rescue**

- Fully operational
- Canceled all training except for recruit school
- All social activities at the firehouses are canceled.

### **Finance Department & Taxpayer Services**

- Tax relief application filing deadline extended to May 15, 2020 - more information available [here](#)
- Business Tangible Personal (BTP) property tax filing deadline extended to July 15, 2020
- Taxes cannot be paid in-person, payments can be made online at [tax.pwcgov.org](http://tax.pwcgov.org)

### **General District Court**

- Due to [Declaration of Judicial Emergency](#), all traffic, criminal, and civil court dockets for the period March 16, 2020 through April 26, 2020 have been suspended
- Clerks' offices open with limited staff to address essential case processing only which includes arraignments, bond motions, and protective orders
- All cases that were scheduled for the time period noted will be continued

### **Housing and Community Development**

- Suspended in person meetings and canceled events
- All appointments over the phone - call (703) 792-7530

### **Human Resources**

- Fully operational via tele-work - call (703) 792-6640 or email [hr@pwcgov.org](mailto:hr@pwcgov.org)

### **Human Rights Commission**

- Suspended in-person services
- All business conducted remotely - call (703) 792-4680 or email [pwhrc@pwcgov.org](mailto:pwhrc@pwcgov.org)

### **Juvenile and Domestic Court**

- Suspending operator license ceremonies
- Will continue to hear essential matters outlined in [Special Continuing Order](#)

## **PWC Department and Agency Operational Status & Actions (Cont.):**

### **Libraries**

- All library facilities are closed until further notice
- To check out e-books, audiobooks, and more digital content, visit [pwcgov.org/digitallibrary](http://pwcgov.org/digitallibrary)

### **Office of Elections**

- Office accessible via phone at (703) 792-6470 or email [pwcvote@pwcgov.org](mailto:pwcvote@pwcgov.org)
- Voter registration services available [online](#) through the Virginia Department of Elections
- Voter registration [applications](#) can be sent by mail to:  
Office of Elections  
9250 Lee Ave, Suite 1  
Manassas, VA 20110

### **OmniRide / Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission**

- Increased the frequency of cleaning services for buses
- Implemented free fares for Local and Metro Express services
- Cash payment not accepted for commuter passengers, only SmarTrip
- Certain [routes](#) are operating on Friday service levels or have suspended operation

### **Parks, Recreation, and Tourism**

- Closed fitness centers, community centers and historic buildings
- Registration for classes and events has been temporarily disabled on our website.
- Parking lots and non-trail amenities will be closed to the public
- Outdoor parks open for trails only

### **Police Department**

- Fully operational
- Expanded the types of reports permitted through [online reporting services](#)
- Suspended public education and outreach programs
- Officers may be wearing face masks to help prevent the spread of the virus

### **Public Safety Communications Center (9-1-1)**

- Fully operational
- Higher than normal volume of calls
- If citizens are merely wondering if they have contracted the virus or only because they have some of the symptoms, encouraged to avoid calling 9-1-1
- If citizens believe they have contracted COVID-19, recommend citizens contact their physician

### **Public Works / Environmental Services**

- Lot Grading Plans and Lot Grading Inspection; Construction General Permit; Camera Van Inspections; Geotechnical review and as-built plan; Floodplain and RPA issues - call (703) 792-7070

## **PWC Department and Agency Operational Status & Actions (Cont):**

### **Sheriff's Office**

- Fully operational
- Business can be conducted by phone - call (703) 792-6070

### **Social Services**

- Family Support, Foster Care, Child/Adult Protective Services and Pre-trial Supervision fully operational
- Homeless shelters fully operational
- Overnight Shelter has been moved to the Ferlazzo Gym
- Juvenile Detention Center and Molinari Shelter for Youth fully operational with no visitation
- Canceled public events and meetings

### **Solid Waste Division / Landfill**

- Requesting trips be limited to once per week
- Landfill and Balls Ford Road Compost facility are now closed on Sundays
- Request citizens not to bring brush, yard debris, construction debris or bulky items
- Household hazardous waste and electronics recycling program suspended
- Donation Center and donation bins are no longer available - alternative donation sites can be found [here](#)
- Staff have been restricted from assisting with unloading
- No cash payments, credit or debit card only

### **Virginia Cooperative Extension**

- All classes and programming canceled
- Emergency services still available 24/7
- Manassas: (703)792-7800 - Woodbridge: (703) 792-4900

## **Prince William County Schools:**

- All schools closed for the remainder of the school year as a result of Governor's Executive Order No. 53
- Packaged breakfast and lunch are being served at certain school sites Monday - Friday from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Parents or guardians without students present are asked to bring proof of student enrollment in the form of student ID, report card, or other official school documentation with the child's name printed on the document.
- Optional home learning materials and daily schedules are available for preschool to grade 12. Work is not for submission to a teacher or for a grade.



# Virginia Government Response to COVID-19

Up to date information from the Commonwealth of Virginia on COVID-19 can be found at [virginia.gov/coronavirus](https://virginia.gov/coronavirus). For question regarding COVID-19, citizens can call the Virginia Department of Health coronavirus hotline 24/7 at (877) 275-8343.

## Executive Actions by the Governor of Virginia:

March 12, 2020	<a href="#">Executive Order No. 51 - Declaration of State of Emergency</a>
March 17, 2020	<a href="#">Executive Directive No. 7 - Directing the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles to take certain administrative action</a>
March 19, 2020	<a href="#">Executive Directive No. 8 - Directing the Superintendent of the Virginia Department of State to take certain administrative action</a>
March 20, 2020	<a href="#">Executive Order No. 52 - Increase in hospital bed capacity</a>
March 20, 2020	<a href="#">Order of Public Health Emergency One</a>
March 23, 2020	<a href="#">Executive Order No. 53 - Temporary restrictions on restaurants, recreational, entertainment, gatherings, non-essential businesses, and closure of K-12</a>
March 25, 2020	<a href="#">Order of Public Health Emergency Two</a>
March 28, 2020	<a href="#">Executive Order No. 54 - Delegation of authority to the Commissioner of the Virginia Unemployment Commission to request Title XII advances to support</a>
March 30, 2020	<a href="#">Executive Order No. 55 - Temporary stay at home order</a>

**All Virginians have been [directed to stay at home](#) except for allowable travel including:**

- to seek medical attention
- work
- care for family or household members
- obtain essential goods and services like groceries, prescriptions, etc.
- engage in outdoor activity with strict social distancing requirements

## **Virginia Department and Agency Operational Status & Actions:**

### **Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (ABC Stores):**

- Reduced store operating hours - open 12:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. seven days a week.
- Distillers temporarily authorized to ship their spirits (and any low alcohol beverage coolers manufactured or blended on the licensed premises) to consumers and licensees with restrictions.
- Richmond central office and most regional enforcement offices remain open.
- Warehouse will continue to accept and receive shipments.
- All in-store grand opening and tasting events have been cancelled.
- Conferences for licensees with violations will take place as scheduled via teleconference
- Violation hearings postponed.
- Cancelled on-site RSVP and MART trainings until further notice - free training available online.

### **Department of Education:**

- Produced parent guide for school aged children with information on in-home learning activities, social distancing and other topics.
- Issued guidance for allowing high school seniors to graduate on time despite inability to fulfill requirements due to circumstances.
- Exploring options for cancelling the administration of state-required SOL tests.

### **Department of Elections:**

- Voters may choose reason "2A My disability or illness" for absentee voting in the May 2020 elections due to COVID-19.
- Citizens encouraged to conduct all business [online](#).
- Office can be reached by phone at (804) 864-8901 or email [info@elections.virginia.gov](mailto:info@elections.virginia.gov).

### **Department of Motor Vehicles:**

- All DMV customer service centers are closed and all DMV 2 Go and DMV Connect services postponed.
- Driver's licenses and identification cards set to expire between March 15 and May 15 are extended 60 days from the original date of expiration.
- Vehicle registrations that expire in March and April are extended for 60 days.
- Citizens encouraged to renew their licenses, identification cards, or vehicle registration [online](#).
- Mail-in options are available for [vehicle registration](#), [original title transactions](#), and [driver's license renewal](#), if mailed a notice.
- Validity period of every license, permit, and certificate issued to businesses involved in the transportation of people or property for hire extended until May 31, 2020.

## **Virginia Department and Agency Operational Status & Actions (Continued):**

### **Department of Social Services / Medicaid Assistance Services:**

- Extended certification periods for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Child Care Subsidy programs.
- Emergency benefits made available to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants.
- Citizens can apply for help with health care, food, child care, heating and cooling bills, health care and cash assistance online at [CommonHelp](#).
- Eliminated all co-payments for services covered by Medicaid and Family Access to Medical Insurance Security.
- Permitting Medicaid participants to obtain a 90-day supply of many routine prescriptions.
- Waived pre-approval requirements for many critical medical services.
- Expanded access to telehealth services.

### **Virginia Employment Commission (Unemployment Insurance):**

- Expanded eligibility requirements for unemployment insurance for those impacted by COVID-19.
- The one-week deadline for unemployment insurance benefits and requirement to conduct a weekly job search have been waived.
- You can apply for unemployment insurance benefits by calling (866) 832-2363 Monday through Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30PM, and between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM on Saturday, or visiting [vec.virginia.gov/unemployed](http://vec.virginia.gov/unemployed).

# United States Federal Government Response to COVID-19

Up to date information from the U.S. federal government on COVID-19 can be found at [coronavirus.gov](https://coronavirus.gov)

## Executive Actions by the President of the United States:

March 11, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Proclamation—Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Certain Additional Persons Who Pose a Risk of Transmitting 2019 Novel Coronavirus</u></a>
March 13, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak</u></a>
March 14, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Proclamation on the Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Certain Additional Persons Who Pose a Risk of Transmitting Coronavirus</u></a>
March 14, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Proclamation on the National Day of Prayer for all Americans Affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic and for our National Response Efforts</u></a>
March 18, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Executive Order on Prioritizing and Allocating Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of Covid-19</u></a>
March 20, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Memorandum on the Delegation of Functions Under 31 U.S.C. 5302</u></a>
March 22, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Memorandum on Providing Federal Support for Governors' Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19</u></a>
March 23, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Executive Order on Preventing Hoarding of Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of COVID-19</u></a>
March 27, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Memorandum on Order Under the Defense Production Act Regarding General Motors Company</u></a>
March 27, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Executive Order to Order the Selected Reserve and Certain Members of the Individual Ready Reserve of the Armed Forces to Active Duty</u></a>
March 27, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Executive Order on Delegating Additional Authority Under the DPA with Respect to Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of COVID-19</u></a>
March 28, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Memorandum on Providing Federal Support for Governors' Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19</u></a>
March 30, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Memorandum on Providing Federal Support for Governors' Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19</u></a>
March 31, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Memorandum on Delegation of Certain Functions and Authorities under the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020</u></a>
April 2, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Memorandum on Order Under the Defense Production Act Regarding the Purchase of Ventilators</u></a>
April 2, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Memorandum on Order Under the Defense Production Act Regarding 3M Company</u></a>
April 2, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Memorandum on Providing Federal Support for Governors' Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19</u></a>
April 3, 2020	<a href="#"><u>Memorandum on Allocating Certain Scarce or Threatened Health and Medical Resources to Domestic Use</u></a>

## **Actions by the United States Congress:**

### **H.R.6074 - Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020**

- Became public law March 6, 2020
- \$8.3 billion in emergency funding
- \$3.4 billion - Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund
- \$2.2 billion - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- \$986 million - Agency for International Development
- \$836 million - National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
- \$264 million - State Department
- \$61 million - Food and Drug Administration
- \$20 million - Small Business Administration
- Allowed removal of restrictions on Medicare providers allowing them to offer telehealth services during duration of COVID-19 pandemic
- Requires the HHS Secretary to purchase vaccines for the Coronavirus

### **H.R.6201 - Families First Coronavirus Response Act**

- Became public law March 18, 2020
- \$3.7 billion in emergency funding
- \$1.3 billion - Department of Health and Human Services
- \$1 billion - Department of Agriculture
- \$82 million - Department of Defense
- \$60 million – Department of Veterans Affairs
- \$15 million – Department of Treasury
- Requires employers provide paid sick time and leave related to COVID-19 for certain workers
- Work requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) are suspended during duration of COVID-19 pandemic

### **H.R.748 - Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act**

- Became public law March 27, 2020

## United States Department and Agency Operational Status & Actions:

### Amtrak:

- Reduced coach class and business class bookings to 50% capacity.
- Increased the frequency of cleaning services at stations and onboard trains.
- Increased the quantity of sanitizers and disinfectant wipes available for customers and employees.

### Small Business Administration - Disaster Loans:

As of last Thursday, March 19th, the U.S. Small Business Administration has granted a disaster declaration for Prince William County, as well as all of the Commonwealth Virginia. As a result, affected businesses, private nonprofits, homeowners and renters may qualify for federal, low-interest disaster loans. Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications [here](#).

Applicants may also call the SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) for more information on SBA disaster assistance. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call (800) 877-8339.

Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

For a detailed explanation of SBA's Disaster Loans, please see SBA's Three Step Process Factsheet. That can be accessed [here](#).

### Items Required for Applications:

1. Loan application (SBA Form 5), completed and signed (this is electronic/online in the portal). To see what the form looks like, an example can be found [here](#).
2. Tax Information Authorization (IRS Form 4506-T), completed and signed by each applicant, each principal owning 20 percent or more of the applicant business, each general partner or managing member; and, for any owner who has more than 50 percent ownership in an affiliate business. Affiliates include, but are not limited to, business parents, subsidiaries, and/or other businesses with common ownership or management.
3. Complete copies, including all schedules, of the most recently filed Federal income tax returns for the applicant business; an explanation if not available.
4. Personal Financial Statement (SBA Form 413) completed, signed, and dated by the applicant, each principal owning 20 percent or more of the applicant business, and each general partner or managing member
5. Schedule of Liabilities listing all fixed debts (SBA Form 2202 may be used).

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the Department of Economic Development team at [CGrove@pwcgov.org](mailto:CGrove@pwcgov.org) or call 703-792-5510.

# 516 Unit Housing Development Approved Over Objections of District Supervisor



On March 10th, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors approved a massive 516 unit home development request over the objections of the area's District Supervisor, Jeanine Lawson.

The Stanley Martin Homes Devlin Road development project faced near universal opposition from the surrounding neighborhoods and Brentsville District over the density and subsequent impacts on school overcrowding, traffic, taxes, public safety, and the environment.

After listening to hours of requests from residents to deny the request, Supervisors Kenny Boddy, Andrea Bailey, Victor Angry, Margaret Franklin, and Chairwoman Ann Wheeler voted to approve the development. Supervisors Jeanine Lawson, Yesli Vega, and Pete Candland opposed.

"While not in the Coles District, Coles residents and residents throughout the county will feel the impact of this vote and its effect on our schools, traffic, public safety services, taxes, and environment. When developments of this size are approved without regard for mitigating overcrowding and road congestion it has a negative impact not just on the immediate area, but the entire county" said Coles District Supervisor, Yesli Vega.

Vega added, "This should put everyone concerned about similar issues in the Coles District on alert. We have plenty of large land use cases of our own that will be coming up soon. This decision to force such a large development through over the objections of its own Supervisor wasn't a good way for this new Board to start and I fear could be a sign of things to come. So far, it's Special Interests 1, Prince William County Residents 0."

The members who voted for the development had the opportunity to make a motion to reconsider its vote at their subsequent meeting on March 31st. Local Brentsville resident Lisa Schumann collected over 1,000 signatures from fellow residents to encourage the Board in that direction, but a motion for reconsideration was not made.

- Coles District Staff



# Flat Tax Proposal

On March 18th I co-signed [a letter to County Executive Chris Martino](#) with Supervisors Pete Candland and Jeanine Lawson requesting the county to present us with a budget option based upon keeping residential tax payments the same as last year in light of the current financial collapse brought about by COVID-19.

I voted against the proposed advertised residential tax rate in February as it would result in the largest tax increase in Prince William County's history, if adopted. Our residents already pay among the highest property tax rates of any county in the region and this would make us the highest taxed. Furthermore, the county was projected to receive \$54.1 million in additional revenue over last year without raising taxes a penny.

It should come as no surprise that I oppose it now with many of our residents left wondering how they're going to pay their bills or put food on the table, much less pay for a record tax increase.

To date, our request for a budget based on keeping your tax payments at last year's levels has not been provided. However, that doesn't mean that I'm done fighting for a fiscally responsible budget. Even with the economic downturn, the county still estimates that we will receive an additional **\$26 million more** in revenue over last year **if rates are kept the same**. This reality underscores the fact that it makes very little sense to levy a record tax increase on Coles District families (or any family in our county) at such a dire time as this.

Public Hearings on the budget and your tax rates are scheduled to be held on Tuesday April 14th and Thursday April 16th at Board Chambers with a final vote likely to take place on April 28th.

- Supervisor Vega

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## Department of Public Works, Communication Get New Directors

The Department of Public Works and the Communications Department both welcomed new Directors in the month of March.

Longtime county veteran and Landfill Director, Tom Smith, was elevated as head of Public Works in early March and Sherrie Johnson was recently hired as Communications Director, replacing Jason Grant who assumed a role with the International City/County Management Association.

Smith will replace the retiring Tom Bruun. We would like to thank both Tom Bruun and Jason Grant for their service to the county and wish their replacements all the best.

- Coles District Staff





## Lake Jackson Town Hall

On March 12th Supervisor Vega held a town hall meeting at the Lake Jackson Fire House to discuss the Lake Jackson Service District which maintains the community's roads, and future modifications to the Lake Jackson Dam.

Since 1992, residents of the Lake Jackson Service District have paid an additional tax on their property values to help finance and maintain roads in their community. A presentation was given by Luke Hisghman from Public Works on the state of the roads and options for future levels of service. A presentation was also given by the Lake Jackson Roads Committee, a citizen committee appointed by the Coles District Supervisor to advise on matters related to the service district and to serve as a liaison between the community's needs and the Supervisor.

Of particular importance was a discussion on future services and the tax rate necessary to pay for such services. As Coles District Supervisor, Supervisor Vega sets the advertised tax rate for Lake Jackson and chose to keep the current rate flat based on the service district's current surplus and projected increase in revenue for the upcoming fiscal year due to increases in assessed home values.

The Lake Jackson Dam was also discussed following a presentation by the Assistant Director of Environmental Services for Public Works, Marc Aveni. Public Works believes the current 92 year old gate in the middle of the dam is a safety hazard for the dam operator and is close to needing to be replaced or removed. Public Works recommends replacing the gate with a spillway.

Director of Transportation Ric Canizales joined to provide an update on the Brentsville Interchange project and Seth Hender-Voss of Parks and Recreation fielded questions on Dove's Landing as it related to its borders and access to Lake Jackson.

More meetings and events will be scheduled post COVID-19 to address these issues.

Special thanks to the Lake Jackson Civic Association and the Lake Jackson Roads Committee for helping to sponsor the event.

*- Coles District Staff*



## **Meals On Wheels Delivery**

On March 12th I had the privilege of delivering meals with Mr. Bob to the less fortunate and home-bound senior citizens in our community. The County's Meals on Wheels program provides one meal a day to our elderly with a requested donation of \$1.50.

It was a heartwarming experience and I made a great friend spending the day with Mr. Bob!

- *Supervisor Vega*



## **A Coles District Treasure**

On March 4th I had the opportunity to meet with Ms. Gladys. Ms. Gladys will be turning 108 years young this July and we are working to verify whether she is not only the longest living citizen of Prince William County, but in the entire Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Gladys regaled me with stories of a time in Prince William County when horse and buggies dominated Dumfries Road instead of lines of cars.

The secret to her longevity - living a life of honesty.

Here's hoping life returns to normal soon and we can all celebrate number 108 with Ms. Gladys in July!

- *Supervisor Vega*



## Walking Week Proclamation

Before COVID-19 I was to introduce a proclamation at the request of the Wood N’ Dale Wanderers Club making April 1-7 “Walking Week” in Prince William County.

While only emergency measures were understandably taken up at our March 31st meeting I was able to enter in a draft of the proclamation and expressed my hopes to re-introduce next year.

The Wood N’ Dale Wanderers Club is a walking club in the Coles District and a member of Walk Virginia which advocates for a healthy lifestyle through exercise and...walking!

For those of you with cabin fever, the Governor has exempted outdoor exercise from his stay-at-home orders. Just be safe and practice social distancing with a mask if you can.

For more on the Wood N’ Dale Wanderers please visit their website at [walkvirginia.org/woodndale](http://walkvirginia.org/woodndale)

- Supervisor Vega

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## Animal Shelter Update

At our March 10th Board meeting Deputy Executive, Rebecca Horner, came back with a revised plan for the County Animal Shelter. A contract for the modified version of “Option C” was fully executed and signed the following day, March 11th.

In the update, Ms. Horner stated that there are insufficient funds in the existing project budget for \$100,000 worth of site paving, \$75,000 for demolition of the existing shelter, \$110,000 for the barn, and \$300,000 for furniture, furnishings, and equipment, in addition to the additional 2,300 square feet for future growth needs. The \$300,000 for furniture was questioned by Supervisor Vega following her own requests for an office chair which was met with options ranging between \$1,300-\$1,700 (Supervisor Vega found a cheaper option online for \$165). The workout facility has been removed.

A date for groundbreaking is to be determined.

- Coles District Staff

# Eye on Transparency

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## Public Comment Time Preserved (Remotely)

In the lead up to the March 31st Board meeting many residents expressed concern over Resolution 4-D, which they feared would have suspended Public Comment Time (formerly known as Citizens Time) indefinitely at Board meetings.

In concert with Supervisor Jeanine Lawson, my office helped to draft up an amendment to Resolution 4-D which balanced the public's concerns over free speech while looking out for the health of our residents.

The amendment instructs county staff to provide avenues by which the public can still communicate with us remotely, but in real time, at subsequent Board meetings during Public Comment Time while the Governor's orders for social distancing are in place. We expect the county will have the software and program in place for residents to communicate with us via video conferencing and phone before our next meeting on April 14th.

As the form of government closest to our people, it is vitally important that we provide as many options possible for you to communicate and share your thoughts with us on whatever issue is of importance to you.

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## Clarification

In our March Newsletter, I indicated in this section that a change to our rules of procedure to allow for at least two evening meetings per month had been passed at our February 4th Board meeting. While I support this change to allow for more of our residents to take part in their governmental process, the measure was not ultimately adopted by the Board of County Supervisors. I regret the error and want to reiterate my desire for it to be taken up again at a future meeting.

- Supervisor Vega

## April Board Meetings

April 7th - **CANCELED**

April 14th - 2:00 PM - Budget Recap Presented

April 14th - 7:30 PM - Budget Public Hearings

April 16th - 7:30 PM - Budget Public Hearings

April 21st - 7:30 PM - Budget Markup

April 28th - 7:30 PM - Budget Adoption

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## Links To Watch March Board Meetings

[March 10th - 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM](#)

[March 31st - 2:00 PM](#)

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## Coles District Events Postponed

### **Route 234 - Brentsville Road Interchange Project**

*Previously scheduled Wednesday, March 25th*

**POSTPONED** - New date TBD

### **Neighborhood Town Hall on Dar Al-Noor Expansion**

*Previously scheduled Thursday, March 26th*

**POSTPONED** - New date TBD



# Contact Information

## Coles District Supervisor Yesli Vega

(703) 792-4620 | [ColesDistrict@pwcgov.org](mailto:ColesDistrict@pwcgov.org) | [YVega@pwcgov.org](mailto:YVega@pwcgov.org)

## Board of Supervisors

BOCS@pwcgov.org

District	Name	Phone	Email Address
Chair At-Large	Ann Wheeler	(703) 792-4640	AWheeler@pwcgov.org
Brentsville	Jeanine Lawson	(703) 792-6190	JLawson@pwcgov.org
Gainesville	Pete Candland	(703) 792-6195	Gainesville@pwcgov.org
Neabsco	Victor Angry	(703) 792-4667	VSAngry@pwcgov.org
Occoquan	Kenny Boddye	(703) 792-4643	KBoddye@pwcgov.org
Potomac	Andrea Bailey	(703) 792-4645	ABailey@pwcgov.org
Woodbridge	Margaret Franklin	(703) 792-4646	MFranklin@pwcgov.org

## School Board

District	Name	Phone	Email Address
Chair At-Large	Babur Lateef	(571) 353-6469	BLateef@pwcs.edu
Brentsville	Adele Jackson	(703) 791-8709	AJackson@pwcs.edu
Coles	Lisa Zargarpur	(703) 791-8709	LZargarpur@pwcs.edu
Gainesville	Jennifer Wall	(703) 791-8709	JWall@pwcs.edu
Neabsco	Diane Raulston	(571) 251-3467	DRaulston@pwcs.edu
Occoquan	Lillie Jessie	(571) 659-1636	LJessie@pwcs.edu
Potomac	Justin Wilk	(703) 791-8709	JWilk@pwcs.edu
Woodbridge	Loree Williams	(571) 242-8259	LWilliams@pwcs.edu

# Contact Information

## Supervisor Vega's Citizen Appointments

Airport Authority, Stafford Regional	Desi Arnaiz	<a href="mailto:desi@vasi.com">desi@vasi.com</a>
Animal Advisory Committee	Ron Crigger	<a href="mailto:roncrigger@comcast.net">roncrigger@comcast.net</a>
Architectural Review Board	<b>VACANT</b>	N/A
Board of Equalization	Willie Deutsch	<a href="mailto:willie.deutsch@gmail.com">willie.deutsch@gmail.com</a>
Board of Zoning Appeals	Davon Gray	<a href="mailto:davongray72@gmail.com">davongray72@gmail.com</a>
Commission on Aging	<b>VACANT</b>	N/A
Community Services Board	Pat Sowers	<a href="mailto:patrick@teamsowers.com">patrick@teamsowers.com</a>
DCSM / Zoning Ordinance Advisory Committee	Steve Mitchell	<a href="mailto:snklm@verizon.net">snklm@verizon.net</a>
Historical Commission	John DePue	<a href="mailto:jfdepue@comcast.net">jfdepue@comcast.net</a>
Historical Commission	Erin Shockley	<a href="mailto:eerriiaann@gmail.com">eerriiaann@gmail.com</a>
Housing Board	Robert Gudz	<a href="mailto:rgudz@yahoo.com">rgudz@yahoo.com</a>
Lake Jackson Sanitary District Advisory Cmte	Bill Berry	<a href="mailto:wjbo624@gmail.com">wjbo624@gmail.com</a>
Lake Jackson Sanitary District Advisory Cmte	Howard Smith	<a href="mailto:howardhas@yahoo.com">howardhas@yahoo.com</a>
Lake Jackson Sanitary District Advisory Cmte	Jason Curtis	<a href="mailto:jasocurtis@gmail.com">jasocurtis@gmail.com</a>
Lake Jackson Sanitary District Advisory Cmte	Michael Trentacoste	<a href="mailto:michael@trentacoste.net">michael@trentacoste.net</a>
Library Board	Catherine Turner	<a href="mailto:bobandcat4@verizon.net">bobandcat4@verizon.net</a>
Parks and Recreation Committee	Jane Beyer	<a href="mailto:janebeyer777@gmail.com">janebeyer777@gmail.com</a>
Persons with Disabilities	Sarah Pitkin	<a href="mailto:pitkinse1@gmail.com">pitkinse1@gmail.com</a>
Planning Commission	Joe Fontanella	<a href="mailto:colesplanning@gmail.com">colesplanning@gmail.com</a>
Trails and Blueways Council	Michael DePue	<a href="mailto:mjdepue@gmail.com">mjdepue@gmail.com</a>
Trails and Blueways Council	Eric VanNortwick	<a href="mailto:edvannortwick@comcast.net">edvannortwick@comcast.net</a>
Prince William County Arts Council	<b>VACANT</b>	N/A
PRTC Alternate	<b>VACANT</b>	N/A
Service Authority	Paul O'Meara	<a href="mailto:pom.arlington@gmail.com">pom.arlington@gmail.com</a>
Social Services Advisory Board	Jacob Mosser	<a href="mailto:mosserjd@gmail.com">mosserjd@gmail.com</a>
Solid Waste Citizens Advisory Group	Harris Glasgow	<a href="mailto:harry.glasgow@gmail.com">harry.glasgow@gmail.com</a>
Solid Waste Citizens Advisory Group	Joseph Chisholm	<a href="mailto:chisholms1@msn.com">chisholms1@msn.com</a>
Solid Waste Citizens Advisory Group	James Gestrich	<a href="mailto:jadi458@yahoo.com">jadi458@yahoo.com</a>
Strategic Plan Development Team	Martin Jeter	<a href="mailto:sanmar02@aol.com">sanmar02@aol.com</a>
Taxicab Review Board	Ellen Miles	<a href="mailto:ellenmiles1@gmail.com">ellenmiles1@gmail.com</a>
Weapons Control Committee	Robert Gudz	<a href="mailto:rgudz@yahoo.com">rgudz@yahoo.com</a>

If interested in serving on any of the **VACANT** boards, commissions, or committees listed, please submit your resume to [ColesDistrict@pwcgov.org](mailto:ColesDistrict@pwcgov.org)

# Contact Information

## Statewide Officials

### Governor Ralph Northam

(804) 786-0000 | [governor@gov.state.va.us](mailto:governor@gov.state.va.us)

### Lieutenant Governor Justin Fairfax

(804) 786-2078 | [ltgov@ltgov.state.va.us](mailto:ltgov@ltgov.state.va.us)

### Attorney General Mark Herring

(804) 786-2071 | [mail@oag.state.va.us](mailto:mail@oag.state.va.us)

## State Senate

	Name	Capitol Phone	District Phone	Email Address
13th	John Bell	(804) 698-7513	(571) 367-9080	<a href="mailto:district13@senate.virginia.gov">district13@senate.virginia.gov</a>
28th	Richard Stuart	(804) 698-7528	(804) 493-8892	<a href="mailto:district28@senate.virginia.gov">district28@senate.virginia.gov</a>
29th	Jeremy McPike	(804) 698-7529	(571) 316-0581	<a href="mailto:district29@senate.virginia.gov">district29@senate.virginia.gov</a>
36th	Scott Surovell	(804) 698-7536	(571) 249-4484	<a href="mailto:district36@senate.virginia.gov">district36@senate.virginia.gov</a>
39th	George Barker	(804) 698-7539	(703) 303-1426	<a href="mailto:district39@senate.virginia.gov">district39@senate.virginia.gov</a>

## House of Delegates

	Name	Capitol Phone	District Phone	Email Address
2nd	Jennifer Carroll Foy	(804) 698-1002	(571) 989-1713	<a href="mailto:DelJCarrollFoy@house.virginia.gov">DelJCarrollFoy@house.virginia.gov</a>
13th	Danica Roem	(804) 698-1013	(571) 393-0242	<a href="mailto:DelDRoem@house.virginia.gov">DelDRoem@house.virginia.gov</a>
31st	Elizabeth Guzman	(804) 698-1031	(571) 403-1213	<a href="mailto:DelEGuzman@house.virginia.gov">DelEGuzman@house.virginia.gov</a>
40th	Daniel Helmer	(804) 698-1040	N/A	<a href="mailto:DelDHelmer@house.virginia.gov">DelDHelmer@house.virginia.gov</a>
50th	Lee Carter	(804) 698-1050	(571) 606-7299	<a href="mailto:DelLCarter@house.virginia.gov">DelLCarter@house.virginia.gov</a>
51st	Hala Ayala	(804) 698-1051	N/A	<a href="mailto:DelHAyala@house.virginia.gov">DelHAyala@house.virginia.gov</a>
52nd	Luke Torian	(804) 698-1052	(703) 785-2224	<a href="mailto:DelLTorian@house.virginia.gov">DelLTorian@house.virginia.gov</a>
87th	Suhas Subramanyam	(804) 698-1087	N/A	<a href="mailto:DelSSubramanyam@house.virginia.gov">DelSSubramanyam@house.virginia.gov</a>



# Contact Information

## U.S. Senate

Name	Capitol Phone	District Phone
Timothy Kaine	(202) 224-4024	(703) 361-3192
Mark Warner	(202) 224-2023	(703) 442-0670

## U.S. House of Representatives

	Name	Capitol Phone	District Phone
1st	Robert Wittman	(202) 225-4261	(540) 659-2734
10th	Jennifer Wexton	(202) 225-5136	(703) 234-3800
11th	Gerry Connolly	(202) 225-1492	(571) 408-4407

## County Departments

Adult Detention Center	(703) 792-6420	Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court	(703) 792-6160
Area Agency on Aging	(703) 792-6374	Management and Budget	(703) 792-6720
Circuit Court	(703) 792-6015	Neighborhood Services	(703) 792-7018
Commonwealth's Attorney	(703) 792-6050	Office of Elections	(703) 792-6470
Community Services - Manassas	(703) 792-7800	Parks and Recreation	(703) 792-7060
Community Services - Woodbridge	(703) 792-4900	Planning Office	(703) 792-7615
County Attorney	(703) 792-6620	Police Department (Non-Emergency)	(703) 792-6500
Criminal Justice Services - Manassas	(703) 792-6065	Prince William Health District	(703) 792-7300
Criminal Justice Services - Woodbridge	(703) 792-4984	Public Libraries	(703) 792-6100
Development Services	(703) 792-6930	Real Estate Assessments	(703) 792-6780
Economic Development	(703) 792-5500	Sheriff's Office (Non-Emergency)	(703) 792-6070
Environmental Services	(703) 792-7070	Social Services	(703) 792-7500
Executive Management	(703) 792-6600	Solid Waste Management	(703) 792-6254
Fire and Rescue (Non-Emergency)	(703) 792-6800	Taxpayer Services	(703) 792-6710
General District Court	(703) 792-6141	VDOT	(800) 367-7623
Housing and Community Development	(703) 792-7530	Virginia Cooperative Extension	(703) 792-4371
Human Rights Commission	(703) 792-4680	Zoning Office	(703) 792-7615