



TOWN OF LEESBURG
Memorandum

To: Town Manager
From: Capital Projects Director
Date: February 12, 2013
RE: Traffic Signal at Battlefield Parkway and Plaza Street

Project Background

The installation of a traffic signal on Battlefield Parkway between Route 15 Bypass and Route 15 Business (North King Street) was originally added to the Fiscal Year 2011-2015 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The initial step of this project was to perform a traffic study to determine the location of the traffic signal (Battlefield & Plaza or Battlefield & Catoctin), and to determine when the signal should be installed based on traffic warrant criteria.

After the project was authorized, the Department of Public Works collected the necessary traffic and pedestrian counts. The study concluded that the Battlefield Parkway and Plaza Street intersection was the most appropriate location for the traffic signal. The analysis also indicated that the signal would be warranted for installation in 2017. As a result, Town Council approved the establishment of a CIP project to install the traffic signal at Battlefield Parkway and Plaza, and appropriated funding for design in Fiscal Year 2016 with construction to occur in Fiscal Year 2017.

In 2012, Public Works re-evaluated the traffic conditions at the intersection of Battlefield Parkway and Plaza Street. The study determined that the intersection met the necessary traffic warrants for the signal to be installed earlier than anticipated due to the traffic generated by Tuscarora High School.

As a result, the Standing Residential Traffic Committee (SRTC) reviewed the updated traffic signal warrant study, and recommended that the CIP schedule for traffic signal be accelerated per the attached letter.

Funding

In the current CIP, the entire project funding is derived from Town General Obligation Bonds. Town Council Resolution 2013-119, dated October 23, 2012, directed the Town Manager to request gas tax funds from Loudoun County in order to install the traffic signal no later than Fiscal Year 2014. (See the attached November 12, 2012 letter from the Town to Loudoun County requesting \$350,000 in funding for the traffic signal). On December 12, 2012 the County's Transportation Land Use Committee approved the use of \$201,000 in excess Fiscal Year 2012 gas tax funds to accelerate the project. The County also indicated its intent to fund the remaining amount (approximately \$140,000) as part of their Fiscal Year 2014 gas tax budget.

Schedule

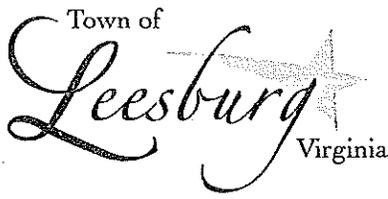
In accordance with Town Council instructions, the project schedule has been accelerated in the draft CIP for Fiscal Year 2014-2019 to complete both design and construction in Fiscal Year 2014. After the Town was notified that Loudoun County would fund a large portion of the signal, staff began working with its design engineers to provide a design proposal. The cost for design of this project will be within the contract limits for our continuing services contract and will not need an award by Town Council to

commence design work. Staff anticipates approving the design contract and beginning design before the end of February 2012.

The preliminary schedule for this project is:

February 2013	Begin design
May 2013	Advertise for Construction
June 2013/July 2013	Award Construction contract
July 2013	Start Construction
September 2013	Construction completed prior to school starting

- Attachments:
- 1) October 10, 2012 letter from the SRTC to Town Council
 - 2) Town Council Resolution No. 2012-119
 - 3) November 2, 2012 letter from the Town Manager to Loudoun County
 - 4) E-mail from Terrie Laycock to Calvin Grow dated December 14, 2012 re: funding for the signal



October 10, 2012

The Honorable Kristen C. Umstattd, Mayor
Members of the Town Council
Town of Leesburg
25 West Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176

RE: Traffic Signal at Battlefield Parkway and Plaza Street

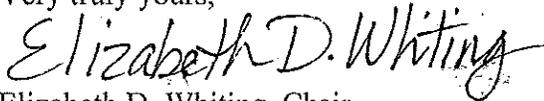
Dear Madam Mayor and Councilmembers:

I am writing on behalf of the Leesburg Standing Residential Traffic Committee (SRTC) regarding the traffic signal at Battlefield Parkway and Plaza Street. At the October 1, 2012 SRTC Meeting Town staff updated the Committee regarding the outcome of staff investigations of the proposal to accelerate the installation of the traffic signal at Battlefield Parkway and Plaza Street, now scheduled for construction in FY 2017. The Loudoun County Public Schools reported that they anticipate that 695 Tuscarora High School students will move to the high school in Lansdowne, resulting in a reduction of 124 vehicle trips per day. This will have no impact on the projected traffic growth on Battlefield Parkway and a traffic signal will still be warranted. Staff also reported that staff does not project any cut-through traffic diverting to Catocin Circle as that route adds 47 seconds to the driving time. Staff noted that the intersection meets warrants for installing the traffic signal currently.

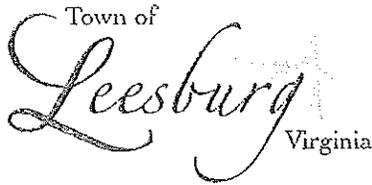
On motion by Sandy Kane, seconded by Sandy Grossman, the Committee unanimously approved recommending that the Town Council advance the time frame for installing the traffic signal at Battlefield Parkway and Plaza Street from FY 2017 to FY 2014.

The Committee accordingly recommends that Town Council fund the traffic signal in FY 2014.

Very truly yours,


Elizabeth D. Whiting, Chair
Leesburg Standing Residential Traffic Committee

C: John Wells, Town Manager
SRTC members



JOHN WELLS
Town Manager

25 West Market Street ■ 20176 ■ 703-771-2700 ■ Fax: 703-771-2727 ■ jwells@leesburgva.gov ■ www.leesburgva.gov

November 2, 2012

Mr. Tim Hemstreet, County Administrator
Loudoun County Government
1 Harrison Street SE
Mail Stop #02
Leesburg, VA 20175

RE: Traffic Signal for the Intersection at Plaza Street and Battlefield Parkway

Dear Mr. Hemstreet:

The Town requests \$350,000 of Gas Tax Funding from Loudoun County for the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Plaza Street and Battlefield Parkway. The Town recently performed a Traffic Signal Warrant Study for this intersection and per the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), a traffic signal is now warranted. Traffic counts show that the vehicle trips to and from Tuscarora High School appear to have increased traffic volumes that have resulted in this traffic signal being warranted earlier than the previous projections. I have also attached Town Council Resolution #2013-119 adopted on October 23, 2012 requesting funding for this signal from the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors.

A few years ago, the Town and Loudoun County worked closely to greatly improve highway safety at the entrance to Heritage High School on Evergreen Mill Road and the intersection of Sycolin Road (Rt. 643) and Tolbert Lane. Traffic signals and turn lanes were installed at these two locations with funds provided by Loudoun County. Motorists, especially the many Heritage High School students who need to travel these routes on the way to school, were very appreciative of the help.

We greatly appreciate past support of safety improvements projects and your willingness to address Leesburg and Loudoun County transportation issues. If you need any information or if we can assist in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me or Transportation Engineer, Calvin Grow at 703-771-2791.

Sincerely,

John Wells
Town Manager

Attachment: Resolution #2013-119

cc: Mayor and Council
Thomas A. Mason, P.E., Director of Public Works
Calvin K. Grow, P.E., Transportation Engineer

The Town of
Leesburg,
Virginia

PRESENTED: October 23, 2012

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-119

ADOPTED: October 23, 2012

A RESOLUTION: REQUESTING THE LOUDOUN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO ALLOCATE FUNDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT PLAZA STREET AND BATTLEFIELD PARKWAY

WHEREAS, a traffic signal at Plaza Street and Battlefield Parkway is funded in the Town's Capital Improvements Project budget for FY2017 at \$350,000; and

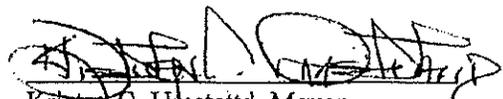
WHEREAS, based on current traffic counts, the traffic signal is now warranted; and

WHEREAS, based on the increased traffic at Loudoun County Schools; and

WHEREAS, Loudoun County has a Gas Tax Traffic Signal Fund.

THEREFORE, RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Leesburg in Virginia that the Town Manager is directed to send the appropriate letter requesting gas tax funds be made available no later than FY 14 for the traffic signal at Plaza Street and Battlefield Parkway.

PASSED this 23th day of October, 2012.


Kristin C. Umstadt, Mayor
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST

Clerk of Council

Renee LaFollette

From: Calvin Grow
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2012 4:20 PM
To: Renee LaFollette; Tom Mason; John Wells; Michael Bruckner; Norm Butts
Subject: FW: Funding for Traffic Signal at Battlefield Pkwy & Plaza St

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

FYI

Calvin K. Grow P.E.
Town Of Leesburg
Transportation Engineer
703-771-2791

From: Laycock, Terrie [<mailto:Terrie.Laycock@loudoun.gov>]
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2012 3:24 PM
To: Zimmerman, Aaron
Cc: Cournoyer, Jason; Calvin Grow
Subject: Re: Funding for Traffic Signal at Battlefield Pkwy & Plaza St

The Town will get 201K in excess funding from FY12 close out it can use. The deficit of 140Kish will be considered as a part of the Fy14 gas tax budget in the spring.

Jason, will you be initiating the transfer of the 210K to the Town ?

Terrie

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 14, 2012, at 2:59 PM, "Zimmerman, Aaron" <Aaron.Zimmerman@loudoun.gov> wrote:

Jason and Terrie,

I received a phone call from Calvin Grow at the Town of Leesburg inquiring about whether TLUC had voted today to approve funding for the traffic signal at Battlefield Pkwy and Plaza St. I saw that you two were the staff contacts in the TLUC item. Could one of you please respond to him? He's copied to this email.

Thanks and have a great weekend!

Aaron T. Zimmerman, PTP
Senior Transportation Planner

Loudoun County - Office of Transportation Services
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Leesburg, VA 20177-7000
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Email: aaron.zimmerman@loudoun.gov

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