



Date of Council Meeting: August 12, 2013

**TOWN OF LEESBURG
TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION**

Subject: Local Fixed Route Bus Service Update

Staff Contact: Betsy Fields, Research & Communications Manager

Recommendation: Item is provided for information only.

Issue: In December 2012, Virginia Regional Transit was informed by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transit (DRPT) that they were no longer eligible to receive federal rural transit funding for their fixed-route bus service in Leesburg and eastern Loudoun County. Since that time, the Town and the County have been working towards a long-term solution to funding and operating local fixed route bus service.

Fiscal Analysis: No impact to the FY 2014 Budget; funding for the bus service is already included.

Background: In order to assist Leesburg and Loudoun County with the transition from funding under the federal rural program (in which the non-profit operator of the system is the grant recipient) to funding under the federal urban program (in which the local governments are the grant recipients), DRPT has funded a study of the current local fixed-route system, including routes, ridership, fare structure and operational costs. This study is being conducted by Kimley-Horn under a contract with Loudoun County Transportation Services. They anticipate completing the study in September.

Town staff requested that a stakeholders meeting be included in the scope of work for this study. We are currently working to schedule this stakeholders meeting for the second or third week of August. Representatives from Leesburg-based businesses and institutions whose clients, customers, and/or employees rely upon the bus service – such as Healthworks for Northern Virginia, Interfaith Relief, the County offices located in the Shenandoah Building, stores and management from the Outlet Center and other large retailers – will be invited. In addition, we will plan a general public input session for individuals who use the bus service regularly within the same timeframe. Representatives from Kimley-Horn will be at these meetings to record comments and answer questions.

Attachment: Bus Shelter Update



Virginia Regional Transit
 109 N. Bailey Lane
 Purcellville, VA
 540-338-1610

To: Bruce Simms, Regional Transit Director
 From: Susan Newbrough, Transit Manager Loudoun Region
 CC: Calvin Grow
 Subject: Status of Bus Shelters for Leesburg
 Date: August 6, 2013

An update on the installation of bus stop shelters for the Town of Leesburg is as follows:

Location	Status
Food Lion Grocery S. King Street (Sycolin Road Route)	Installed June 2013
Fieldstone (Ida Lee Route)	Installed March 2013.
Senior Citizen Center Old Waterford Road (Ida Lee Route)	Installed March 2012.
Potomac Station Shopping Center On Battlefield Parkway (in front of Arby's)	E-mail sent on 6/26/12, Stephen Kurtz of EDENS was supportive of the concept of the shelter, but was waiting on Bond Release from the Town of Leesburg for the property. E-mail sent on 6/3/13 sent to Stephen Kurtz regarding bus shelter; had no response.
Free Clinic – Cornwall Hospital Gibson Street (Ida Lee or Trolley)	Due to construction on the hospital site; and relocation of the Free Clinic, hold was placed on proceeding until completion of construction to determine location of shelter on hospital property.
Edwards Ferry Road Heritage Square Townhomes (7 on 7 East)	No response to e-mails requesting in writing approval. Contacted American Management Corporation, today 8/5/13. Spoke with Tanya. She will e-mail in writing approval.
Rite Aide 448 S. King Street (Ida Lee & Sycolin Routes)	Approval has been signed off by Rite Aid Corporation; and forwarded to CRC Realty (property owners), they have signed off and are forwarding the final copies to VRT. Awaiting the documents arrival for install date.