



Date of Council Meeting: October 21, 2013

**TOWN OF LEESBURG
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSESSION**

Subject: Beautification of Route 15 North Bypass and Leesburg Gateway Sign

Staff Contact: Renée LaFollette, PE, Director of Capital Projects
Tom Mason, PE, Director of Public Works
Bill Ference, Park and Public Space Planner

Recommendation: Informational only at this time. Potential enhancements will be included in the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 budget estimated currently at \$42,000.

Background: On September 23, 2013, Town staff presented information related to the beautification of the Route 15 North Bypass at the Edwards Ferry intersection. At that time, Town Council expressed interest in the installation of a Leesburg gateway sign.

As a result, staff identified three potential locations noted on the attachment as locations “A”, “B”, and “C”. Although further analysis and discussion with VDOT is necessary, locations “B” and “C” appear to be the most viable options. Location “A” has elevation and construction challenges, and would not be able to be placed outside the limited access property line of the bypass. Locations “B” and “C” are preferred due to the level nature of the area. Both of these locations appear to be outside the limited access property line, and will provide the best view of the sign upon entry from the north.

Since the Route 15 Bypass is considered a “limited access” roadway, VDOT’s Land Use Permit Guidance Manual, revised May 20, 2013, does not allow gateway type signs within the limited access property. Therefore, the sign will need to be located outside of this line. In some locations, this may move the sign too far away from the road to provide adequate visibility of the sign.

If the gateway sign can be located outside of the limited access line, and within the current right of way that is maintained by the Town, no permit will be required from VDOT. If the sign is in VDOT maintained right of way, then a Land Use Permit will be required along with a sketch plan of the location.

Other beautification enhancements discussed by Town Council at the September 23, 2013 Work Session are listed as follows:

- Re-coating of the existing galvanized traffic signal poles at the Edwards Ferry and Route 15 North Bypass intersection
 - Estimated cost is \$10,000.
 - Estimated maintenance of the re-coating is \$10,000 every three to five years.
- Lower level plantings and shrubbery
 - Estimated cost is \$2,000.
 - Work to be scheduled after the right turn lane construction is completed.

Attachment: Aerial map of the Route North 15 Bypass



15

A

Route 15 Bypass

B

15

Balls Bluff Rd

C

Battlefield Pkwy