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Loudoun County Board of Supervisors Business Meeting, Tuesday, November 17, 2026

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[00:07:58] I still don't want to just everyone I um we we have a quorum but I but I'd like to wait just a couple more minutes to get more people here I do want to note that none of our male colleagues on this day is right now one time it's just all the females who are here and here on time we just want to put that out there and make that known so yeah jazz hands to that yay yeah ladies let's jazz hands to that so um we're going to give them about five more minutes to see if they can find their

[00:08:28] way, find their way in the room. Okay. Thanks. Yeah. Yeah. We're going to go and start. I don't

[00:12:03] know. I know it. I know it. I know that's okay though. That's okay. They will get here. I have confidence in the men on the board. We'll get here at some point this evening. Okay. Hey, I'm going to go on and call to order the November 17th, 2026 Loudoun County Board of Supervisors business meeting. This room has a hearing loop. If you need hearing assistance, please see the clerk to my left to request one. If you need a headset, we have those available as well.

[00:12:37] So tonight's my night to give words, and so I'm going to try to get through this without being emotional, although after last night it was going to be hard. So yesterday was a really tough day for me, in addition to hitting a deer on my way home, which is just the worst feeling in the world hitting an animal,

last night I joined the sheriff and LCPS at an event that discussed the fact that substance use in our county is going up and opioid deaths are going up and deaths when just all substances are going up and I will tell

[00:13:14] you as a mental health therapist as I know that that usually when this happens it's because something else is going on and I would tell you I would say I think think the world feels really angry right now. And anger often, anger is a secondary emotion. It's never a primary emotion. Anger is always secondary to something else. And I'm not sure if that something else is anxiety. I'm not sure if that something else is depression. I don't know what that something else is. But the world does feel really angry right now. So I wanted to just take a second and speak on what is, in my opinion, really important. And that is just the straight-up

[00:13:50] ability to try to find kindness and be kind to one another, which I know sounds pretty cheesy, but today it's really important. So I'm going to read something I saw the other day online, and I thought it was really, really powerful, and I want just to read it, if you all don't mind. See if I can get it. It says, that gay boy you punched in the hall today committed suicide later that evening. The girl you called a slut in class today, she's a virgin. That boy you called lame, he has to work every night to support his family the girl you pushed down the other day she's

[00:14:25] already being abused at home the girl you call fat she's starving herself the old man you made fun of because of the ugly scars he fought for our country the boy you made fun of for crying his mother is dying you think you know people guess what you don't so I saw that and I thought it was really, really powerful. And what I would say is this, there is this belief now that being kind means that you're not strong. People mistake kindness for weakness. I think kindness still

[00:15:02] matters a lot. I think kindness is not weakness. I think kindness is not a lack of passion or belief. I think kindness doesn't mean you will accept anything or fall for everything just because you're kind. I don't think a person who's kind doesn't mean that they won't fight and fight hard for their beliefs. I do think kindness can save a life. And I think all of us, well maybe not all of us, but many of us in a world that feels really, really angry, and I understand all

[00:15:36] the reasons we feel angry right now, but I think that sometimes that second to take a pause before you say something or do something. And I think that kindness is real and it matters and could save a life. So I just want to say that. Would you please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance?

[00:15:59] I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

[00:16:17] Okay. It's a pretty long consent agenda, so, and some things have been added to it, so I'm going to read their consent agenda. Item 7A, proclamation to recognize November 20th as Transgender Day of Remembrance.

[00:16:34] That is for approval only, Supervisor Brixman. If you don't mind, could you tell the board when you're going to and where you're going to present that proclamation? We think we'd all appreciate that. Item 11A, award authority to increase public safety and emergency preparedness equipment and related services.

[00:16:53] Item 11B, award authority to increase park recreation and community services merchant card processing services. Item 11C, contract renewal occupational health services. Item 11D, contract renewal public safety two-way radios and related equipment.

[00:17:12] Item 11E, contract renewal, information technology, products, and software services. Item 11F, contract renewal, advanced technology solutions aggregator. Item 11G, contract renewal, geotechnical engineering, and soil scientist services.

[00:17:30] Item 11H, contract renewal, traffic engineering, and operations services. Item 11I, Contract Award in FY 2027, Capital Improvement Program, Amendment Construction of Shellhorn Road, formerly known as Sterling Boulevard Extension.

[00:17:50] Item 11J, Financial and Cyber Crimes Prevention Positions. Item 11, I'm sorry, Item 14A, Appointments and Confirmations. Item 14D, the AIR Report of November 17, 2026.

[00:18:08] Item 11F, authorization to advertise proposed amendments to Chapter 466 of the Codified Ordinance of Loudoun County, Operation and Vehicle Snow Emergency Routes. Item 14G, resolution of intent to amend Loudoun County Zoning Ordinance, ZOAM 2026-0001, ZMAP 2026-0007, and Facilities Standards Manual, ZOAM 2026-0003.

[00:18:37] Item 14H, PCOR 2026-0094, University Center LIHTC Public Hearing Waiver. Item 14I, ratification of the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the International Association of Fire, Local 3756, and Loudoun County, Virginia.

[00:19:00] Item 14J, board-initiated proffered amendments for Moorfield Station, and item 14K, Fleetwood Road Approvements Study. That is the consent agenda. Is there a second for the consent agenda? Motions made and seconded by Vice Chair Turner.

[00:19:17] Discussion on the consent agenda. I would say a couple, just one important thing. So if you know me, you know that I am a person who does support unions, and I definitely support our first responders. being able to unionize.

[00:19:32] There is a lot of work that goes in doing a collective bargaining agreement. And so when we come to the board and we read that it's being ratified, it goes, when we read it, it sounds like a quick thing that happens. But I do want to stop and say to the IAFF Local 3756, all of our firefighters, all of our first responders, EMT, thank you so much for sitting down at the table in working on this collective bargaining agreement, and to our firefighters and first responders, thank you for your service, 'cause it is an incredibly, incredibly hard job.

[00:20:09] And I am very happy to support IAFF and all SEIU and all of our unions. And so I just wanted to say that, because there were times things go on the consent agenda because it's been worked out, but what you don't see behind the scenes is how much it took to work it out.

[00:20:26] And I want to thank the staff who worked on this collective bargaining agreement as well. Ms. Bricksman. Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you, colleagues, for supporting the proclamation to recognize November 20th as the Transgender Day of Remembrance. That was established in 1999 in honor of Rita Hester, an African-American transgender woman who was murdered in 1998.

[00:20:49] According to the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, there have been nearly 400 documented transgender and non-binary individuals who have been killed in acts of violence across the U.S. since 2013, and African-American transgender women disproportionately are represented in that among the victims. The Trevor Project reports that 46 percent of transgender and non-binary youth

surveyed in Virginia reported that they or their families had considered leaving the Commonwealth because of concerns surrounding LGBT rights and protections.

[00:21:25] Luckily, we just passed a constitutional amendment for marriage equality, so we're going in the right direction. Quality Loudon will host a vigil on Friday, November 20th from 6 to 8 p.m. at their community center at 1507 Dodonna Terrace Southeast, where I intend to bring the proclamation on the university center LIHTC public hearing waiver.

[00:21:48] This University Center Lakeview project was approved by the board in 2023. The applicant must amend their proffers just to meet Virginia housing requirements. And for purposes, they must amend ZMAP 2021-0022.

[00:22:05] It's basically paperwork, but we have to go through the process. So we're waiving that public hearing and the costs associated with it to help them along with that LIHTC building that hopefully will be breaking ground soon. Thank you. Mr. Cruey.

[00:22:21] Thank you, Chair Randall. I'm just going to speak about 14K Fleetwood Road Improvement Study. I want to thank staff for the effort that went into conducting the study and evaluating the needs of Fleetwood Road to upgrade the roadway to VDOT standards to improve safety.

[00:22:41] The study consists of a 1.5-mile segment from Walking Meadow Drive to Route 50. Fleetwood Road was paved utilizing the Rural Rustic Road program in 2016.

[00:22:57] It was a pave in place, and there are several curves along the roadway that are dangerous and don't meet VDOT design guidelines. It does intersect with Route 50 at a sharp angle, which creates safety and site distance challenges at that intersection.

[00:23:15] So it really does need some improvements. We have had multiple residential communities along this roadway, and I see it needing improvements in that section that has not been approved in the near future.

[00:23:32] and I want to thank staff and my colleagues for supporting the study and the results. Thank you. Thank you. Ms. Glass. Thank you, Madam Chair. I want to thank my colleagues for adding the proper amendment for Moorfield Station to the consent agenda. I also want to thank the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation for being such an outstanding community partner. I'm very excited about the Miracle Field and the inclusive recreational opportunities it will provide for children and families throughout our community.

[00:24:04] A miracle field is a ball field specifically designed for children with disabilities. It typically features customized rubberized turf that allows wheelchairs and other mobility devices to move easily and is designed to accommodate players with all abilities.

[00:24:22] I'm proud to support these proper amendments and the lasting benefits they will bring to our community. Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, ma'am. Thank you very much. Anybody else? Okay. I made the motion seconded by Vice Chair Turner. All of the people, please say aye. Any opposed?

[00:24:38] That motion will pass 603. Mr. Letourneau and Mr. Sains are working their way from work. They both work in D.C., so they'll be here shortly. And Mr. Kirshner sent me a text and said he'll be here around 4.30. So all of our other colleagues are on the way.

[00:24:54] So I do want to do my chair's updates. And I want to talk about, we attended, many of us attended the Virginia Association of Counties conference this weekend, this past weekend. And there were some important things that I did want to pass on to the county.

[00:25:12] A lot of it was about how federal legislation will impact state legislation that will impact local counties, our governments. Some of it just comes from federal to local.

[00:25:28] So first thing, a little bit about the economy, the Affordable Care Act insurance benefits are due to be rolled back in January. Health care costs, many of those health care costs will shift to state and local governments.

[00:25:44] ACA rollbacks will impact about 125,000 Virginians with about a $3.5 billion cost to Virginia. I don't know how much of that will be loud in. I'm trying to get some of those numbers weeded out, but to Virginia, it's about a $3.5 billion cost.

[00:26:03] As I actually have been discussing for a long, long time, H.R. 1, which is sometimes called the Big Beautiful Bill, will shift the cost of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also called the SNAP benefits, to states and localities.

[00:26:18] Today, the way it works is that there's a 50-50 split between the federal government and state governments on who pays the SNAP administration costs. But for some states, like Virginia, localities also pay some of those administration costs.

[00:26:34] So the 50-50 split between federal and state government will now go to a 75-25 split, with 75% being paid by state government, which will be passed down to localities, and only 25% to be paid by localities.

[00:26:50] Now, we don't know yet what that will do on how that could impact the budgets in Loudoun County, but I do know that there are a lot of counties in Virginia that cannot pick up even another 25% of those federal SNAP costs, especially those rural counties.

[00:27:07] And so VACO, the VACO board directors, of which I am a member, we are sending, I know it sounds silly, but a strongly worded letter, but also people to speak to our federal delegation to talk about just how this can and how this will impact not just our budgets, but impact human beings, you know, whether or not we can continue to feed children and things like that is going to be something that is really, really important.

[00:27:38] There's also a—and Leo, you might want to help Mr. Rogers, I'm sorry. There's some federal legislation that has been presented that will erode local authority. It is under a proposed rewrite of a portion of federal law called 2CFR, and 2CFR is federal legislation as it relates to counties.

[00:28:05] One of the things, and Mr. Rogers, again, if I get this definition wrong, please correct me. One of the things that the federal government wants to roll back or impact is something called viewpoint neutrality. Viewpoint neutrality means that if there is a event, a rally or whatever it might be on any publicly owned property, then at that event, the two sides of whatever is being talked about has to be presented.

[00:28:41] if that piece of land has no federal money in it. So even if it's like the Loudoun County Courthouse property that does not have any federal money on the Loudoun County Courthouse property, say it didn't have any federal money on the Loudoun County Courthouse property.

[00:28:56] If there is an event at the Loudoun County Courthouse property about, you know, we really love having fruit day, right? There has to also be, by law, there would be a, we really hate having fruit voice on that property at the same time. So it really does tell organizations and groups that you cannot have an event of any type without having viewpoint neutrality, meaning the other side there as well. Now, of course, as it stands right now, you can have a really love having fruit day on Saturday at five o'clock, and somebody else can have a really

[00:29:32] not having fruit day on Sunday, but it's not required by law that both points of view are stated at the same event, and that would be required by law on any piece of county-owned property, so says the federal government.

[00:29:48] The other thing that is really, really concerning is that the proposed new rule and regulations on federal grant, this is also under 2 CFR, and I have put this on my Chair Rando page, if I can go post it again or send it out via email.

[00:30:07] This would allow for the termination, the ending, of any federal grant to any locality mid-process without any due diligence or providing any explanation. So Loudoun County has quite a few federal grants that we are part of, including like CDBG Brock grants and grants for homes, that kind of stuff.

[00:30:29] Well, under this 2 CFR, any of those can just be cut off at any point. And so I am not sure, and maybe when we do our ledge item, which we're going to be doing pretty early when they're shaking their head, I am not sure when those may come before federal government, but those are some of the things that we're really concerned about.

[00:30:51] In general, we're always concerned about having our local power eroded, but losing grant funding always, always hurts the people least able to take that hit. And so, we're always concerned about that.

[00:31:07] So we discussed all those things on the board of directors and took votes and, of course, I did vote to keep all local control. I did vote to have this discussion with Mr. Supermanyam, Congressman Supermanyam, Senators Warner and Kane.

[00:31:25] I will be down with the National Association of Counties in February going to the Capitol Hill to push against these initiatives. And so, but it's really important to me that I keep everybody aware of all the things that are going on as well. And finally discussed at some length was the statewide collective bargain legislation.

[00:31:49] So the collective bargaining bill will be brought back to the General Assembly this year. Last year, Loudon did not take a position on the collective bargaining bill. One thing that I have said to SEIU and some of the other unions is that if maybe they were considered picking up the language in Loudoun's collective bargaining ordinance, which is also the language in Fairfax's collective bargaining ordinance, which is I think just more appropriate language, and put that forward, I do believe that that would be something and the governor would be willing to sign.

[00:32:27] And so I've said that many times to people. And so that was there. And then finally, it was discussed of there will be, and this is a quote, several dozen data center bills that will be filed in the General Assembly this year and go before the General Assembly.

[00:32:49] Loudon has requested greater local control as it pertains to data centers. And so I made sure that that was part of the Virginia Association of Counties legislative program. And that program was for Loudoun to have, well, not just Loudoun, localities to have greater local control, just in general, as it proposed to data centers.

[00:33:14] And I made the point that when we've asked for this before, when we've asked for control to say no to data centers based on power and things like that, and never even made it out of committee in the General Assembly. We have a feeling it's probably going to make it out of committee this year, and that's a very good thing if it makes it out of committee this year.

[00:33:30] So we expect that to change. And so some of that will be discussed at the General Assembly. I will do my very best, both on my Facebook page and on my email, to put some of these things up, because there were times that the General Assembly and our federal elected officials, Hearing from us is great, but hearing from you is better.

[00:33:54] And so I'll make sure that we put that up. So if you all want to join us down there or write a letter or something, that is all good. And then I will share one more time the 2 CFR, which is all the federal legislation that is related to local government.

[00:34:11] And finally, before I get to my voice for a cause, I want to say congratulations to my colleague, Sylvia Glass, who is now joining me to be on the Baker of Board of Directors. Congratulations, Ms. Glass. All right, my voice for a cause today is the Young Men's Service League, the Ashburn chapter.

[00:34:29] The Young Men's Service League is a national nonprofit service organization with a chapter in Ashburn. Members of the Young Men's Service League and their moms, their teenage sons, they volunteer together to serve the local communities during their sons' four years of high school.

[00:34:45] I think that's so cool. The Young Men's Service League teaches leadership and life skills to develop our young men to become capable, confident, and compassionate leaders of tomorrow. I wanted to focus this month on voice for causes that were men-focused because this is men's health awareness month.

[00:35:06] And so because it's that, I want to make sure that the voice for causes this year were kind of had a focus on our men and boys. And I think the Young Men's Service League is a fantastic voice for Acosta. Thank you for being here. Vicki Roustan and Mickey Joseph, thank you all for being here.

[00:35:24] A couple of questions to ask you, if you don't mind. What were some of the local organizations that the young men, who do you all partner with? And how do you serve those organizations? Sure. Thank you for having us, Chair Randall. So we actually partner with 27 philanthropies throughout Loudoun County.

[00:35:40] And we really bring manpower to their causes with physical manpower with our young men and us as well. We have different categories of philanthropies. So we have environmental protection, families in need, home and food insecure. So like the Dulles South Food Pantry, for example, is a favorite of ours.

[00:35:58] People living with disabilities. So we do a lot of Special Olympics events. Senior citizens, Ashburn Senior Center. We love going there. And veterans. Honor Flights is a really favorite among the young men. So those are some of the philanthropies. The honor flights are amazing. They really are.

[00:36:14] So tell me how participating in community service and serving in those leadership roles, how does that impact the young men? We see a huge change in the young men, especially because they start as freshmen and end as seniors. And it really helps them grow. It instills a heart of service.

[00:36:30] It builds their confidence. They get put into situations that sometimes they would never have been put in if they didn't come to these philanthropies and serve with us. And it also just builds their character. So, of course, it also strengthens the mother-son relationships, which is why all the moms are so invested in it.

[00:36:47] We spend so much time with our boys really talking about things that I don't think we would ever talk about if we weren't put into some of these philanthropies and in front of some of the people that we serve. Oh, I really do like that. As a mother of two boys, I really like that. The car rides back and forth.

[00:37:03] Same, same. You have two sons, yeah. So why is it important for young men to get involved with serving the community at a younger age? So I really think my kids have been serving with me for a long time, even before this organization.

[00:37:20] But I really think it allows our young men to get a perspective outside of their own world and outside of their own sheltered, sometimes bubble that we, some of us, are fortunate enough to live in, in Loudoun County and Ashburn.

[00:37:35] I think it also builds civic responsibility. It lets them know that we are part of this together and everyone needs to step up and help and also helps to build empathy. I've seen a huge change in my young men because they've just worked with so many different types of people.

[00:37:51] So it really, really helps build empathy. Oh, I love that. I love the building of empathy. Thank you. So please give us your contact information. If somebody wants to contact you to join and have you, a parent and their young man, a mom and their young man join, or if they want to give money, if they have a project for the young men, how do they get a hold of you?

[00:38:12] Yeah, so we love to partner with other philanthropies. YMSLashburn, A-S-H-B-U-R-N, .org is where you can find us. And it is for high school boys, rising freshmen. So it would be in your eighth grade when your son is in eighth grade.

[00:38:30] That is when is the best time to get a hold of us so that we can get them into our spring. Like now is about the time. Now is about the time. Say the website one more time. YMSLashburn.org. YMSLashburn.org. So thank you very much.

[00:38:46] And again, I have two of those young men, and they are wonderful. I love being a boy mom. Thank you so much. I don't allow clapping very much. And during the, in fact, I only allow clapping twice. Voice for cause and during resolutions.

[00:39:03] But we really appreciate what y'all are doing. Thanks so much. Thank you for having us. Mr. Hemstreet, do you have any comments this evening? Thank you, Madam Chair. I have three comments for today. The first is that Loudoun County Transit is inviting community members to participate in shaping the future of public transportation in the county by contributing to the development of its transit master plan.

[00:39:27] Now through December 30th, residents are invited to share their experiences through a short survey. They'll be asked whether they currently use public transportation, have used it in the past, or may

consider using it in the future. More information, including a link to the survey, is online at loudon.gov slash transit master plan.

[00:39:45] Second, the application process for Loudon County's Human Services Nonprofit Competitive Grant Program for fiscal year 2028 is underway. Interested organizations are encouraged to attend a pre-application webinar, which is scheduled for this Thursday, November 19th.

[00:40:01] More information is online at loudon.gov slash non-profit grants. And then finally, the Sheriff's Office is on the scent of dangerous driving with the launch of Operation Highway Hound. The targeted traffic enforcement initiative is aimed at reducing crashes, improving roadway safety, and changing dangerous driving behaviors throughout Loudoun County.

[00:40:19] Efforts will focus on high-volume traffic corridors as well as neighborhoods most impacted by motorist and pedestrian injuries. Those are my comments for this evening, Madam Chair. Thank you, Sarah. I appreciate that. Okay. Supervisors, it's an interesting evening, to say the least, which is great, actually.

[00:40:40] So what we're going to do is this. We're going to go on and do our two information items. And we don't start, by rules of order, we don't start public comment until 6 o'clock. So if our information items don't get us until 6 o'clock, and I don't think they will, I usually try to go then do an action item.

[00:40:58] Subvisors, tonight the action item I will take up is the Ledge Program item, because we do not have any speakers on the Ledge Program, and we might be able to get Ms. Vanderbilt out of the room a little bit earlier. So we do the Ledge Program item. I do have a motion on that item tonight.

[00:41:17] And then by the time we do the ledge program item, I do hope we're at 6 o'clock, I think we will be, we will do public comments at that time, and then we'll probably take a break, because public comments are going to take an hour and a half, so we'll probably take a break, and then when we come back from public comments, we will do the pause item at that time, so we can get everybody in your beautiful green shirts out the room after we do that item.

[00:41:38] But the first thing we're going to do are the two information items, so would staff please come to the table?

[00:42:02] Good evening. Ready when you are.

[00:42:23] So while they're getting this ready, so last night I'm coming home, and I'm on this road all the time, and my lights are on, and I'm looking everywhere, everywhere.

[00:42:39] And then, like, out of nowhere, this deer, it was just smack in front of me, and I hit it. And I felt terrible, so I tried to look back to see, You know, I didn't see it anymore. So I don't know what happened, but I felt just horrible.

[00:42:58] I guess they just, if it doesn't kill them, they leave and go off somewhere else, which is, it just, it felt terrible. So everybody be really careful. So I'll go ahead and get started with our presentation. This is for the Electrical Infrastructure Phase 2 CPAM.

[00:43:17] And with me this evening is, well, I'll introduce myself. I'm Pat Giglio with the Department of Planning and Zoning. Also with me is Dan Galindo, Director of Planning and Zoning, and Paul Vernon, Project Manager with Kimley Horn. Tonight we are providing an update and a check-in on the work completed to date on Phase 2 of the Electrical Infrastructure CPAM.

[00:43:35] Phase 1 of the Electrical Infrastructure CPAM was completed back in February 2026 with the adoption of map and policy amendments to the Loudoun County 2019 General Plan, which guides the location, siting, design, and aesthetics of high-voltage transmission corridors and electric infrastructure.

[00:43:52] Phase two builds on the work completed in phase one and is focused on proactive planning for new high-voltage transmission corridors to address anticipated local and regional demand. Phase two proposes amendments to the county's electrical infrastructure map and electrical policies to better guide the development of transmission corridors and electrical infrastructure.

[00:44:11] The Loudoun County Susceptibility Map and Policy Development Study included an attachment one of your staff report was developed by Kimley Horn to support ongoing work efforts for the CPAM. Paul will present the findings and recommendations from the study this evening. So I'll turn it over to Paul.

[00:44:28] Thank you, Pat. As Pat said, today we'll present the findings and the observations from the susceptibility mapping and policy study. We'll discuss the relative compatibility of potential transmission corridors, proposed amendments to strengthen the policies that were adopted in phase one, and proposed amendments to the electrical map that Pat actually talked about for potential future transmission corridors.

[00:44:53] One of the key outcomes of the phase one work was the adoption of the electrical infrastructure map in the 2019 general plan. The map, as you see on the screen, depicts existing and approved high voltage transmission corridors that have been identified for future transmission development.

[00:45:10] The map on the left shows the multi-state PJM service area and the different utility zones that participate in the regional system. The map on the right shows the interconnected high voltage transmission network that moves electricity across that same area and you see Loudon in the white boxes on those two maps.

[00:45:30] Together the maps illustrate that Loudon is part of a much larger regional grid where transmission needs and projects can extend well beyond county and state boundaries. As we remember from our phase one work, transmission projects move through three distinct phases. PJM identifies the regional transmission need, electric utilities develop project and route alternatives, and the SCC makes the approval decision.

[00:45:56] Loudon's role remains advisory, using the comprehensive plan policy and participation in SCC proceedings to communicate county priorities. Excuse me. Phase two utilized two relative mapping approaches. Susceptibility mapping asks how open or constrained different areas are to change based on avoiding residential areas, then considering historic, environmental, agricultural, and other sensitive resources. Corridor compatibility mapping takes that information and tests how a connection between two points could move through those

[00:46:33] less constrained areas. Together, the analysis helps us understand where transmission corridors may face fewer or greater planning constraints. Before we talk about the susceptibility maps themselves. In the next slides, we wanted to show this graphic to talk about how we measured susceptibility. Based on Loudoun's existing policies and community input, avoiding dense residential areas

was a high priority. Existing transmission corridors, major roads received positive weights because of county policy encouraging their use. Conservation lands,

[00:47:09] historic resources, and other environmental features received negative weights. And combining these weighted factors identify areas that may be more constrained or less constrained for future transmission corridor planning. So the susceptibility maps. A mentor of mine once told me to squint at a map like this. When you squint at it, the small details blur together and broader patterns become more clear. Here, the red and orange areas generally show the county's more constrained

[00:47:44] landscapes. The blue and green areas show fewer measured constraints and would be considered more compatible for transmission development. The map helps us see countywide patterns, but it does not determine if any individual property is available or suitable. And we'll go over these in a little closer in detail in the next three slides. Zooming into eastern Loudon, where much of the county's existing transmission network and commercial and industrial development are concentrated, the pattern becomes clearer. Residential communities are generally more constrained, shown in red and

[00:48:21] orange, while commercial and industrial areas have fewer measured constraints, shown in dark blue, and are more compatible for transmission development. Major highways and existing transmission corridors also appear less constrained, linear features potentially reducing the need for entirely new corridors. Zooming into northwestern Loudon, the landscape is generally more constrained red and orange areas reflect towns villages mountainside historic and natural resources and conservation lands the lesser constrained areas shown in blue and green

[00:48:55] generally follow major roads and highways or lands without conservation easement different than eastern loudon there is a mix of lower and higher constrained areas but still fewer opportunities for new transmission infrastructure zooming into southwestern loudon the map shows another generally constrained landscape. Mountainside, conserved lands, historic resources, towns and villages appear in red and orange. Areas with fewer measured constraints, shown in blue and green, are more limited and generally follow lands outside of conservation easement. The lower constrained areas here, however, are much more fragmented than forming broad continuous corridor

[00:49:35] opportunities in this portion of the map. The preliminary corridor compatibility analysis uses the susceptibility mapping to test conceptual connections between five generalized origin points and four interconnection points. The model seeks a reasonably direct path while avoiding more constrained areas. The resulting potential corridors are broad planning scenarios only.

[00:50:01] They are not proposed or approved routes, and they do not account for engineering feasibility or property availability. The five origin points represent generalized locations where future transmission connection could enter Loudoun from surrounding jurisdictions. The four interconnection points represent locations where that connection could tie into the county's existing transmission infrastructure network or major load centers such as data center alley. These points are hypothetical but they were not selected randomly. They represent locations where gaps in the mountains provide

[00:50:38] practical east-west passage, where existing roads and transmission infrastructure provide physical connectivity, and where connections to the regional transmission network could be more logical from a transmission planning perspective. The exact future entry points, system needs, required capacity, and interconnections cannot be predicted 100% in advance and will be subject to regional transmission planning needs. Think of these next maps as modeling routes almost like

[00:51:11] water flowing downhill. From Blumont to Stirling, the model path follows the lower constrained areas and gravitates towards Route 7 as a potential east-west connection that could reduce new land disturbance and avoid more constrained areas. The Route 28 to Stirling scenario tests a north-south connection between these two areas. Using that same water flow analogy, the model path follows the established Route 28 corridor towards the dark blue lower constrained areas around Stirling that contain existing data centers and non-residential uses.

[00:51:49] This creates a logical connection through eastern Loudoun while reducing the need for an entirely new greenfield alignment. Excuse me. The Paris to Sterling scenario tests a more southerly east-west connection. The modeled alignment crosses more constrained rural, agricultural, and historic areas.

[00:52:08] However, east of Stone Ridge, the mapping identifies a darker blue, lower constrained opportunity generally associated with the route 50 corridor. This suggests that route 50 may warrant further consideration in eastern Loudon even though the full connection remains comparatively constrained in the west. This scenario connects route 28 to Leesburg.

[00:52:33] The model highlights both route 7, route 267, as well as the existing W and OD trail. These established transportation and utility corridors appear as lower constrained linear features, the results supporting using Route 267 and existing transmission corridors where feasible to reduce new land disturbance and avoid more constrained residential and community areas.

[00:52:59] The mapping confirms that no corridor is entirely unconstrained. Every scenario encounters some combination of land use, environmental, agricultural, historic or property-related constraint. For that reason, the county's first priority should remain upgrading and co-locating within existing corridors before considering new greenfield alignments.

[00:53:23] The mapping points to the county's major highways as the clearest, lower-constrained opportunities for future transmission planning. Route 7 provides the strongest continuous east-west connection, or Route 28, 267, and Route 50 east of Stone Ridge provide additional opportunities.

[00:53:46] The policy evaluation found that the adopted electoral policies in phase one already provide a substantial framework for transmission planning and development. Based on the phase two research and mapping, county staff and Kimley-Horn identified opportunities to strengthen and clarify the existing policy framework.

[00:54:06] The recommendations provide greater specificity on place types and geographies and add focused policies addressing sensitive land uses, undergrounding, and regional transmission coordination. The first recommendation addresses roads and highways.

[00:54:24] The existing policies refer broadly to road rights-of-way, but the mapping showed that adopted policy was too inclusive and included roadways that contributed to the rural landscapes and/or directly bisected residential communities. So the recommendation is to focus specifically on major rights-of-way.

[00:54:42] Second, we identified specific communities and geographies where impacts should be minimized. Finally, the analysis showed that several important land uses and environmental features were only addressed broadly in existing policy, so we recommend more detailed guidance on those resources.

[00:55:00] The remaining recommendations address three areas. For rural land, we recommend minimizing impacts to rural economy uses and agricultural operation, avoiding elements that contribute

to Loudoun's rural landscape. For underground transmission, we recommend encouraging undergrounding near sensitive residential and community gathering spaces, along with communicating preliminary route planning to the public early. And for regional coordination, we recommend a more proactive approach to planning for transmission projects that extend beyond county boundaries. Based on the mapping results,

[00:55:37] the recommendation is to amend the electrical infrastructure map to identify selected highway segments as potential transmission corridors, as were mentioned before, Route 7 from Clark County line to Route 28, Route 28, Route 267, and Route 50 east of Stone Ridge. These are not approved transmission alignments. Any future proposal would still require project-specific engineering, public engagement, and SEC review. Next slide.

[00:56:08] And this map actually depicts some of, in more detail, those proposed routes. As we'd mentioned earlier, none of the scenarios of the 20 scenarios that were identified had all had constraints. So So none of those were any that we had identified as being supported.

[00:56:23] The only, as we mentioned, only those routes that followed major roadways where there were less constraints were those that we felt could be supported. And as such, we brought forward draft amendments to the county's electrical infrastructure map to identify those major roadways as a possible transmission corridor.

[00:56:42] And then in addition to that, you'll see we have multiple policies that are included in attachment two where we outlined a little more detail about our specific geographies, environmental resources that needed more identification and clarification in our policies versus those broader categories.

[00:57:02] So with that, that concludes the presentation. We request your guidance on the draft policies and maps as we move forward and continue on the work efforts for phase two of the electrical infrastructure, CPAM. We're anticipating doing public outreach in February, and we'll continue to work on these into the spring and prepare them for public hearing.

[00:57:22] So it is possible that tonight I or my colleagues may have actual guidance to give, but it's also possible that we have a lot of questions based on this presentation before we're able to give guidance.

[00:57:39] And so we'll just see how that goes tonight. Guidance may come tonight, but guidance may come at later times, depending on kind of how just we ingest this information, okay? And we anticipated that. This is the first draft, and we're anticipating a lot of input as we kind of develop that.

[00:57:54] This is, again, the first draft for you all to get a look at something, get some of the ideas that were based out of the study and things we had observations as staff that could be further strengthened in our existing policies. I understand. Thank you so much. Supervisors, if you have questions, please put your light on.

[00:58:11] Ms. Bricksman? Thank you. There was one recommendation here. The amendments include a new draft strategy calling for better coordination with neighboring jurisdictions, PGM, electrical providers, and state agencies to proactively plan for regional transmission projects.

[00:58:26] A couple months ago, when we received a letter from Dominion that said a route was planned and, you know, confirmed and voted on three years before we knew about it, I don't know if it was by

consensus or by motion I asked that the board direct that we have specific members of staff that are monitoring those meetings.

[00:58:51] Has that happened yet? Are you waiting for endorsement from this study? So we have staff working on it on a preliminary basis. We do have a meeting actually next Monday to try to work towards a contract with consultants that would help us achieve that work more focused.

[00:59:09] Oh, okay, so we're looking at using a contractor, not a specific step. We're looking at that, yes. Okay, okay, great, because they met on November 3rd, and they're meeting again on December 1st, so they're working. Perhaps, let me know if you can answer this question.

[00:59:30] The PGM has consumer advocates from each state, and right now the Virginia consumer advocate seat is vacant. Do we have any idea how those seats are filled and if we can influence that in any way, shape, or form?

[00:59:50] I don't have any information on that. Okay. All right. I'm curious. I'll email, hopefully, or call somebody and figure that out. I don't know if it's something the General Assembly appoints a consumer advocate or how that works, but it is, given that, you know, we have more data centers than anywhere else in the world requiring this power, The idea that Virginia does not have a consumer advocate on that board is quite terrifying.

[01:00:20] And so, and thank you. Let us know about the consultant work. And, I mean, I don't know if we, is it possible to just have someone monitor those meetings virtually while we're waiting for the consultant's contract? We will be monitoring them, correct.

[01:00:39] Oh, phenomenal. Okay. All right. Thank you so much. And I will have probably some more as I digest. I really appreciate the work. I'm really glad that we're diving into this. So thank you so much for the presentation. Mr. Crony. Thank you, Chair Randall, and thank you, staff.

[01:00:56] So are you recommending putting in an electrical infrastructure map with those possible transmission corridors into our comprehensive plan? That is the intent. So with the identification of a possible transmission corridor, it does not guarantee that there will be anything built there.

[01:01:18] What it does do when we go before Dominion or SCC, when there are proposed routes, we can point to those as being those preferred routes. And so moving forward, I know we had some applications that in the past had proposed corridors through Western Loudoun that kind of came on a large diagonal across through Waterford, Peony, and Springs before.

[01:01:42] Yeah, and I'm not talking about that. I'm talking about Route 50 from Paris to... That is not part of it. If you read the language specific... No, I understand, but I wouldn't support any of Route 50. Correct. So you touched on exactly why none of the 20 scenarios that we identified were any that we advocated for.

[01:02:01] The only place that we see where there is potential is on the Route 50 corridor where the dual lane portion is to the east of Stone Ridge where there are already in some situations some existing transmission corridors. But in those situations, there's the ability potentially that you could develop transmission corridors.

[01:02:21] So I don't support putting any lines on a map at this point. Even, you know, you see what's happening with the Greenfield issues with Golden to Mars and with Valley Link North. I don't think we

should be putting any lines on the map. In fact, I would like to know how many, what is the ultimate build-out plan?

[01:02:42] Do we have any idea from PJ about the ultimate build-out plan? And what is the projected growth in electrical demand that suggests additional transmission infrastructure may ultimately be necessary? So I know you guys did this due diligent report.

[01:03:01] Has it been updated? Do we know the ultimate demand that is required in Loudoun County? That number is changing every year. And that is part of the regional transmission planning that PJM does.

[01:03:17] And so to really predict what that load is in five to ten years is difficult. And even PJM is struggling with that at the moment. So, you know, again, I don't, it is always a moving target. And so that's why with our existing policies, we identified existing transmission corridors as those preferred locations because there were already impacts in those areas.

[01:03:38] Yeah, but one thing to consider is Morrisville to Wishing Star, which is coming up in my district, is 1,960 kilowatts or kilovolts. That is way over anything I've ever seen.

[01:03:54] I can't support any more going on that corridor. So these corridors are at capacity. So I just think that needs to be considered. Mr. Crony, your time's up. I'm sorry. Your time's up. Sorry, but your time was up. Ms. Umstead? Thank you, Madam Chair.

[01:04:12] Do we have a sense of how wide a corridor would have to be for underground lines? What I have heard from some members of the energy industry is that underground corridors have to be seven to nine times wider than above ground corridors.

[01:04:39] And so my question, and I don't expect an answer, but I think we need to start thinking about it. Is there enough room for a swath of land that's seven to nine times wider than what would be needed for an overhead line or lines?

[01:05:00] So it's just something to keep in mind as we go forward. But if you, at any point, can answer the question as part of this process, that would be great. Thanks. Ms. Glass.

[01:05:16] Thank you, Madam Chair. I was looking on for the corridor compatibility for, and it talked about upgrading the existing transmission corridors. When you talk about upgrading the existing corridors, does that mean you, is there an expansion of width of the corridor? Is it how do you know how how does that expansion what does it look like? Oftentimes what we're seeing is our electrical providers are actually replacing

[01:05:49] conductors and elements on the poles themselves which allow more electricity to pass through those those lines that are there or replacing lines themselves so that they can have more capacity. The other thing they've done and we've seen it before is that they'll also take down older structures and be able to put other monopole structures within the same corridor, so that's what we're referring to in terms of some of those upgrades. In regards to expansion of those corridors, you know, again, we have very limited areas where that can occur just because of the constraints of where they're built, so that is problematic moving forward, and that's, again,

[01:06:26] what we were tasked with with phase two and what the, we were charged with was that question, if you were to create new greenfield corridors where could they possibly go and as the study showed there are numerous constraints and there are it is very difficult to find areas in the county where

there are not constraints and that where there will not be conflicts so thank you mr turner thank you madam chair can you go to slide 16 and i'm going to run out of time i'm afraid so let's try and do this as fast as we can uh okay next slide the one that shows route 7 on

[01:07:05] right there. Okay, this shows a blue corridor along either side of Route 7, and yet we know for a fact that Dominion considered both the north and south route along Route 7 from Aspen to Golden. It rejected the north route. We also know, if you go down, you don't need to go to the next slide, that the 267 route theoretically is a reasonable right-of-way, and yet we know that that was one of the last choices, if a choice at all for Dominion, because they'd have to condemn 35 houses in that corridor in order to put a power line down that corridor.

[01:07:38] So I understand you are providing a theoretical analysis of where an existing right-of-way can go in Loudoun County. I totally get that. But to Supervisor Crony's point and to my point about Route 7, the board has already decided these are egregiously bad routes to follow.

[01:07:56] To wit, or to that point, naturally my screen time's out right now, in the report it says on page 6. The principal unresolved planning issue is how the county should address the potential need for new or greenfield transmission corridors when upgrades, reconductoring, voltage conversion, grid enhancing technologies, and co-location within existing rights of way are not sufficient or feasible. We're already there in the termination of the majority, I believe, of this board.

[01:08:27] We're already there. If you go to the new code, 15.2-2209.5, the high energy use facility code, And you go down to paragraph, subparagraph D, it says, quote, site assessments submitted to a locality under subsections B and C shall be used by the locality to assess consistency with the policies of the locality's comprehensive plan and compliance with various other parts of the comprehensive plan.

[01:08:52] Therefore, based on those two documents, what I would propose is language at the end of Action 6.2B in Attachment 2, the following language. So it finishes with, that would have, basically it would have an impact on urban centers, mixed use developments, blah, blah, blah, should be avoided.

[01:09:14] An additional sentence, and I don't know whether to make this a motion or wait until this comes back to us for a review. quote, if the board determines existing transmission or distribution rights-of-way are at capacity or when land use applications will result in one or more transmission lines being placed outside of rights-of-way recommended by this plan, the placement of such lines may be used as a basis by the board of supervisors for denial of the application. So let's codify once and for all in our comprehensive plan, if you want to put lines in areas where we think you should put them, that's fine. We have no control over where you put your lines. But if you are a

[01:09:53] land application coming to us that's going to result in a transmission line that is not in our recommended rights of way, we have the right to deny that application based on that transmission line. I'd like to include that language. Madam Chair, I can make it as a motion now. Mr. Turner, so this is an information item, not an action item. We can turn any information I am to an action item. With respect, I think that as most, three of our colleagues are not here, and this is the first draft of this and we're getting this for the first time, I would rather hold motions until the next time that we all see this and we have kind of time to

[01:10:31] ingest it. I like what you're saying, I agree with what you're saying, but I just think if we can hold motions tonight, that probably would be more helpful. I'm happy to do that, Madam Chair, and I can

provide that line with your staff. We appreciate that feedback. Also, from what we're hearing, too, is I'm starting to hear there's not a support for adding possible transmissional routes along our highway.

[01:10:49] And that's the type of feedback we are looking for from y'all in terms of are we going in the right direction? Where can we strengthen things? Is there additional language that puts us in a better position before the SEC in our conversations with Dominion? And again, we have to reiterate, these policies are a guide.

[01:11:07] So they are a framework for us to have that discussion with the SEC and those decision makers as we move forward. So we can't mandate, but we can also have strong guidance and suggestion of that language. Thank you very much. So thank you for doing this and thank you for being here.

[01:11:25] Let me, I'm going to kind of jump around a little bit. Let me go to page 19, slide 19. Your scenarios are interesting because I think what you said is that there is a priorities for not having any new green fields.

[01:11:40] First of all, so much of what Mr. Crony has said, I agree with that, but why isn't the priority not being around homes, not being through backyards, not being through, why is that not the first priority? We've already written a policy to that.

[01:11:56] Oh, I'm, yeah, I'm sorry. So we already in phase one was the big lift on all of our policies. But that hasn't happened, which is why we're having the whole Valley Link North discussion right now. So I want to have that discussion because I don't think that is what we, policy and action are two different things.

[01:12:18] Correct. And I don't believe we put that policy into action, which is why we have so many homes that could be impacted by Valley Link North. So I'd like to have that discussion. I also want to just go to page five real quick so I can really understand what you're saying here. So are you saying that all of these transmission lines are part of a reliability grid?

[01:12:42] None of this is to serve any single need, but all of this is to serve the grid, meaning other homes, other businesses, not just a single type of need in the county.

[01:12:58] Is that what you're saying on this page? This page, sorry, this page is trying to show the interconnection of the entire grid. When we get into the smaller micro level of the county is when we look at those individual routes that are trying to serve demand centers, be it data center alley or other portions of the county where we have electrical growth.

[01:13:24] But this is talking about the reliability of the county as a whole. Correct. Okay. I don't mean to cut you off, and I'm sorry. I don't mean to be rude at all, but I'm just going to run out of time, and I don't mean to be rude. I just don't want to run out of my time. So can we go really quickly to page 25? So on page 25, is it page 25? It is not page 25. I apologize. It's page 23.

[01:13:50] We talk about undergrounding transmission, which, okay, let's talk about undergrounding transmission. How are we having this discussion, and we should, and I want to have this discussion about undergrounding transmission, adopting a new strategy, when we are being told by PGM and Dominion that we cannot possibly underground transmissions?

[01:14:09] How are we having both those discussions? Because I would love to have the undergrounding transmissions, if they're needed at all. But tell me what discussion we're having here. when we have PGM

and Dominion saying it's not possible. Almost to Ms. Umstead's question a little bit.

[01:14:26] So if you look at the language in your attachments, and this is under strategy 6.3 on undergrounding, this was specifically written with the idea that to engage Dominion and electrical providers much earlier in their process when they're planning these transmission routes to consider both overhead and underground transmission lines when they're proximate to residential and other gathering places and sensitive uses.

[01:14:52] So this is putting us on the record saying we want to have those conversations earlier when you're planning these versus when we're at the SEC to have those conversations. That makes sense. So that's why that's in there. That makes sense. That's helpful. Okay. So supervisors, I am sure, again, this is just a first pass at this, how do we plan on doing this?

[01:15:11] Do we plan on coming back to this meeting and having this discussion? Do we plan on sending this to a TLUC? What's you all's thoughts on this one? Dan, I guess that's a good question. It's at the direction of the board. Many times we do these check-ins, we go straight to planning commission hearing.

[01:15:29] Obviously, now we're not doing that here, so I think it's partly a matter of how much time the board thinks it would need to look into this, maybe meet with this outside of the meeting and bring it back to a meeting where you can actually take any actions you might want to take. So I'll talk to my colleagues, and we can talk amongst ourselves. In my opinion, normally I would say something like this to the committee, But on this one, because it's, I think this should actually come to the full board, just straight to the full board is my thought on this.

[01:15:55] But I think that that's a discussion that we can have. But I think we should come straight to the full board and not go through committee, just come here first. Yeah. Is there pretty much agreement on that, maybe? Okay. All right. Thank you all. I appreciate it. Can I leave the board for a thought? You can leave the board for all the thoughts you want to, sir.

[01:16:12] I do want to clarify one thing on this, that we're under no obligation to do anything within this ongoing project. The board could stop it before we take anything to hearing, especially if the mapping is problematic, but there's support for the policies. We can change up what moves forward.

[01:16:28] I think, as Pat said, the point of phase two was to look at in the scenario where there is a new line coming in that for some reason is not along an existing corridor to try to determine what new areas might be most appropriate, even if they are less appropriate than an existing corridor, and as we noted, even if they are really the best of bad options.

[01:16:50] There is no good option for this kind of process right now, so we are just presenting you what we have found to this point, but we do not have to move forward if the board chooses not to. Okay, thank you very much. I appreciate it, and I think we'll want to, but we're just not going to have decisions made right now. Sure, thank you. Okay, thank you.

[01:17:05] Supervisors, the next thing we're going to do, and I'm so sad Mr. Sains is not here yet, because we're going to do the data center informational fact sheet which is actually his BMI and his idea, so I'm not sure where Mr. Sains is. I'm going to actually send him a text to see how far away he is. We're going to go in and start this item, but this, to give credit where it's due, this item was Mr. Sains' idea to do this.

[01:17:27] So we're going to go in and start while I text him and find out how far away he is. All right. Good evening, board members. Good evening. I'm Glenn Barber, public affairs and communications officer.

[01:17:44] You already know Dan Galindo. Also at the table tonight is Deputy County Administrator Dan Galindo. and Dominique Ong with Planning and Zoning. I think you just changed people's positions. That's what I think just happened. Deputy County Administrator.

[01:18:02] Danny Davis? Yes. What did I say? Dan Galindo. Oh. Dan's like, really? That's fine, though. Sorry, Danny. That's all right. So I'm going to just give a brief overview of how we got here today, the response to the board member initiative.

[01:18:23] And then this team to my right will give a little demo of our new data dashboard. The purpose of this informational item is to provide a formal response to the board member initiative that Supervisor Sains brought earlier this year in January.

[01:18:40] Additionally, tonight we'll introduce the board to a new online resource for various types of data on data centers in Loudoun County. I just want to point out one small update in your packet. Uh, unfortunately, the incorrect version of attachment one, one of the fact sheets, was uploaded to the board's packet.

[01:19:00] It was missing page two. We've printed a complete and correct version for you, which is in your folders under the yellow tab, uh, supplemental tab. The correct version is, of course, on our website. You may recall that I emailed the board on September 2nd with an initial response to the BMI.

[01:19:19] time, I delivered the two fact sheets that are printable resources for the board. And because the information that Loudon has to offer on this topic cannot fit on a single fact sheet, we developed a data center webpage, which is on the screen right now. We published that for you back in September as well. We provided that initial response in September to deliver informational resources to the board and to the public as soon as they became available. This formal response tonight is coming to accommodate the additional time that staff needed to develop the data center dashboard so that we could just present one information update to the BMI. This initiative

[01:19:58] was intended to be responsive to the many inquiries that the board offices and staff within many county departments have been receiving over the past many months from other elected officials, our colleagues in governments across the country, and news media from around the world. This resource, this information about data centers in Loudoun, is intended to help anyone begin their research on our website and find answers to commonly asked information.

[01:20:26] This resource has helped relieve a great burden on staff in Loudoun because we're able to refer inquiries to the website as a starting point. I know that many staff in planning and zoning have referred planners and other jurisdictions to the website, and I also have referred countless news organizations from around the world to loudon.gov slash datacenters.

[01:20:50] Earlier this year, staff in multiple departments collaborated to bring forward comprehensive information on as many topics as we could think of in order to preemptively answer as many questions as we could think of. Development of the content required a whole-of-county approach because so many different departments hold various types of data related to this topic.

[01:21:13] The departments involved include the Departments of Economic Development, Building and Development, General Services, Information Technology, Planning and Zoning, the Combined Fire and Rescue System, the Health Department, and the offices of the County Attorney, Commissioner of Revenue, Sheriff, Mapping and Geographic Information, and county administrator, including management and budget and public affairs and communications.

[01:21:37] Development of the response to the BMI also helped county staff align information from those varying departments to ensure consistency of information across departments and greater accuracy. My office coordinated the information provided by all of those departments because the ultimate deliverables, the fact sheet and website, were created by public affairs and communications While the data center dashboard you're about to see, which is linked from the website, was pulled together by planning and zoning staff.

[01:22:08] So loudon.gov slash data centers is now the front door to data center topics for Loudon County. The website covers a broad range of topics like our history, how we became the data center capital, Loudon's response to data center growth, topics of interest to residents such as water, noise, air quality, land values, as well as power concerns and the use of generators.

[01:22:32] We've included information about tax revenue and the industry's impact on our county budget, and we've discussed safety and security and connect users to Loudoun's land use policies. And we provide advice to other jurisdictions offering the top 10 considerations for any locality that is beginning to see potential data center development in where they're located.

[01:22:54] So staff and departments that own this information obviously are going to need to work together continually to keep this information up to date. Along the way, we would welcome any input from members of the board regarding the content that's already on the website, as well as any new topics that may come up as this issue continues to evolve in the future, and to ensure that we are addressing the information needs of your constituents in the community as a whole. So that concludes my update, and at this time, I will turn it over to Mr. Davis, Thank you, Mr. Barber. Thank you, Chair Randall, members of the board.

[01:23:29] So after releasing the first iteration of this information, we've received additional requests for information from board members as well as ways of more clearly displaying this information, including a breakdown of information by election district.

[01:23:46] And so the Department of Planning and Zoning has been working incredibly hard. They are maintaining the primary database of all of this information about data centers across the county, as well as by election district, number of buildings, square footage, and the various statuses of the applications.

[01:24:05] And so we wanted to walk through with you today the new tool that's been developed, the data center dashboard, and be able to show you and give you an example of one case use for that dashboard. and then we're happy to answer any questions specifically about that.

[01:24:22] With us today, we have Dom Ong, who's a planning analyst from DPZ. She's going to provide the overview and walk through that example with you. Good evening. Good evening. So like Danny said, I'm going to give a quick demonstration and overview of the data center inventory dashboard.

[01:24:40] So the purpose of this dashboard is to show the number and location of data centers in Loudoun County by their development status and their particular geographic district. So the underlying

data that is running this dashboard is derived from three county-maintained data sources.

[01:24:58] So building, permit, and plan data from Landmark, the county's online land management system, and then parcel data from the Office of Mapping and Geographic Information and the Commissioner of Revenue. So first, I'm just going to demonstrate and provide an overview of the dashboard's main features.

[01:25:18] So as you can see here on the right side, there is an interactive map that users can zoom in and out of. And below that map, there is a definition of terms and a glossary of zoning districts. And then to the left side of the interactive map, we have bar charts that summarize countywide information.

[01:25:37] And below those bar charts, we have a table with summary statistics that show high-level aggregate measures based on three development status categories. So now I'm going to walk through how users can navigate through the map.

[01:25:55] So users can click the legend in the top right-hand corner of the dashboard to see how the map symbolizes and displays different features. So we can see here that the black star represents a location of a data center building.

[01:26:13] And a thick black outline delineates the boundary of a parent project, a data center parent project, which I'll define in greater detail later in this presentation. And so the legend also shows how parcels are colored based on development status.

[01:26:31] So in here, the first in orange, we have parcels with built or under construction data centers. In the blue, we have parcels with legislative applications proposing data centers. are still in review. And then third, we have data centers. In green, we have data centers with site plans currently in review. And then next, we have purple for parcels with conditionally approved or approved site plans for data centers. And lastly, in the bottom here, red distinguishes parcels with approved legislative applications, but do not currently have active site plans submitted and

[01:27:11] in review. And so in addition to the legend, above it, we have two filtered categories. So there are two drop-down lists that users could use to create a more focused view based on their selection of their selected option in this list. So next, I'm going to reset that. Next, I'll just walk through the bar graphs on the left-hand side. So in addition to using the filters to

[01:27:47] be able to customize the map view here, selecting a category from the bar charts can also be used to trigger a filtered, customized version of the map view. So there are three bar charts that show, first, the number of data center parcels by election district and development status. And then next, the number of data center parcels by zoning district and development status.

[01:28:15] And then lastly, we have a chart that shows the number of data center buildings by the year in which they were built. And so you can see below the bar charts, we have a table with three rows of summary statistics. So it's set to the countywide level by default. But as I'll demonstrate later, we can, a user can click on a specific election district, a specific status, and these summary statistics will respond in, based on the user's selection.

[01:28:53] Do you all have page numbers on these slides if we want to go back to them and refer to them? Well, they are their slides, but do you have page numbers on these? This is all an interactive website, so this is all real time currently. How do we know how to go back to a question?

[01:29:08] Yeah, I don't know how somebody, if one of us wants to go back to a question, I'm not sure how to get you back to where I want to put you, but okay. We'll get you there. Thank you. Yeah, and I think hopefully things will be more clear as we walk through this example of how we can use the interactive filtering capability of the dashboard to answer a frequently asked question that we have and move between the countywide and a more detailed local perspective.

[01:29:37] So the example we're going to walk through is how we can use the dashboard to answer how many data centers are built or under construction in a particular election district. And in this example, I'll be looking at Sterling. So we can see here on the bar chart at the top left where the different election districts are shown on the horizontal axis.

[01:29:59] So each election district has five bars. So each of those bars represents one of the status categories that we... The bar height represents the number of parcels in that category in that particular election district.

[01:30:15] So you could select either an electric district label or a specific status bar to update both the map and the summary to statistic table to reflect that selection of your choice.

[01:30:31] So for example, here I'll select the Sterling Sterling election district label at the bottom of the chart, and doing that will automatically filter the map to only show the data center parcels within that election district.

[01:30:48] So at the same time, the summary statistics in the table below are recalculated using just the parcels in that election district. And so if I was a user particularly curious about a specific parcel, I could click on that parcel and see a pop-up window with additional information. So in this example, the first page of each pop-up is the parent project information. So there are arrows at the top to navigate between the different pages. So the first page is parent project information. So

[01:31:27] parent projects are these bold black outlines. And that parent project is only designated for the purposes of this dashboard, and we've defined it for this research to mean a coordinated development consisting of one or more data center buildings that share plans, share infrastructure, phasing, and a common development history, so in terms of a shared kind of approval pathway.

[01:31:55] So that information is visible in this first page, as well as whether that particular This particular parcel includes one or multiple data center buildings. So by clicking in the arrow in the top left corner of the pop-up, we can obtain more parcel specific information.

[01:32:16] So the title of the second page represents the parcel identification number that a user could input and search on Landmark or on Weblo just to get additional information. So one kind of key attributes that would, in this pop-up window, include the data center square footage, which represents the total data center floor area on the selected parcel, so in this particular parcel.

[01:32:45] It also includes the amount of square foot data center floor area that's built or under construction listed here. And then also includes permit numbers that were issued by the county for the buildings in that particular parcel. So users could use this permit number to search up the building in a landmark to get additional information regarding that structure.

[01:33:09] So I guess in closing, this dashboard is meant to be responsive to a user's specific questions, and it's also subject to change and improvement over time. The underlying data is updated every six

months.

[01:33:26] So as we obtain additional information and as user needs become clear and more refined, we intend to update this dashboard to be responsive to those. Okay, that's it. That was really very good.

[01:33:43] Thank you. And nice to meet you. Okay, supervisors. I did text Mr. Sains. He's just now getting on the toll roll. So he's going to be a while before he gets here, even though this was his initiative. So have you all given him the update on this already? We have not had a chance to walk through with him yet, but we'll be happy to.

[01:34:01] All right. So if you have questions on the dashboard, please put your lights on. Ms. Umstead. Thank you, Madam Chair. So I know that our Department of Economic Development has provided information about how many data centers use closed-loop cooling systems and how many data centers are using treated wastewater.

[01:34:31] And I just checked this wonderful tool you all have put together under the water category, but I could not find that information. So I think that would be very useful. So maybe, you know, talk to economic development and get a few more specifics.

[01:34:53] But this is a great tool, and I thank you all. Good work. Thank you very much. Mr. Crony. Yeah, I just want to thank staff for doing this. This is called transparency.

[01:35:09] This is what our public has been looking for at town halls. Residents have asked me for a data center dashboard. In fact, Brambleton asked for that, and I'm glad Supervisor Sains put forward this initiative because this is exactly what I think you're looking for, is information.

[01:35:29] Where are the data centers? Where are they being constructed? Where are the power lines? So this provides, I think, the information the public's looking for. It's kind of astounding to me, but I think it's needed to show the public what's coming.

[01:35:49] Transparency is the best way to do business, and I really appreciate what staff has put forward. I love the interactive nature of it. I think it allows people to zoom in and to answer questions that they might have, you know, just to get the data.

[01:36:07] And I really appreciate it. The dashboard is amazing. Did you guys just launch that yesterday or? Today. Today. About an hour ago. So it's fresh off the press. That's amazing. Thank you so much. And what's your name again?

[01:36:23] I don't think I got your name. Dom, Dom Ong. Thank you. Thank you for putting together the dashboard. I think this will be a great tool for residents and for me to take a look at what's going on in the Little River District and also countywide. So thank you very much.

[01:36:39] I appreciate it. Thank you. Ms. Bricksman. Thank you, Chair Randall. This is really great. Thank you. I appreciate it. I know that I'm going to have to dig into it before I can navigate it naturally. But I was curious, and forgive me if you said this, but when we're navigating through here, we go to a district or just county-wide, will we be able to tell which data centers were built by right or which data centers went through a legislative public process?

[01:37:16] Yes. So I'm just going to reset this view. So we have a filter in the top right corner that enables you to filter a parent project. So essentially equivalent to a campus, whether that had a buy right or legislative pathway.

[01:37:35] So that filter enables that. So that category is also based on the earliest entitlement for specifying data center use. So the earliest specs or...

[01:37:51] And so the parent would be the project, whether it's administrative or whether it was by right or if it was legislative, the parent is that project. And it can include several buildings.

[01:38:08] Yeah. So it can include several buildings or several parcels. And then there was a snapshot and it said 54 buildings are in legislative review right now. So, will those 54 buildings be subject to the pause if it passes tonight?

[01:38:27] Are those legislative? They are legislative. Those are the legislative buildings. Okay, so 54 buildings. Okay. So, on the ground right now, we have 92 million square feet. That's almost 1,600 football fields. But if the legislative review and those 54 buildings go through, that's another 36 football fields.

[01:38:49] So, Supervisor Briskman, the middle section, the white cards there, the 33.8 million are not currently on the ground. They are in the administrative process, so they could have an approved site plan and not a building permit yet.

[01:39:05] Oh, so 92 adds those together. That's correct. They're not quite all built, but they have approval to be built and may need to go through permitting. Yeah, that's correct. No further board action would be needed on those 33.8 million additionals.

[01:39:20] But there would be sort of a possibility, if some of those are the grandfathered data centers, there could be a possibility that they get kicked out of grandfathering for one reason or another. There are a few site plans. It was 15 the last time we talked.

[01:39:35] I think a few have been approved, so we can give you all an update on that soon about how many site plans are still subject to the ZOAM. That's fine. The point is the $33 million is not necessarily 1,000% going to happen. That is correct. But we're pretty sure it will.

[01:39:51] Ms. Bricksman, thank you so much. Ms. Glass. Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you, Steph, for this presentation. I really appreciate it. I'm pretty sure that there will be a lot of people that will want to look and just go through it and see what they see.

[01:40:08] I just have a quick person. Is this easy for the layperson? Because we talk a lot about legislative and by right and legy and, you know, we have all this information.

[01:40:25] But for the person that may not know all of the information that we hear every month, are they able to understand what's going on? Supervisor Glass, I think what I would respond is first of all just appreciation to DPZ for their awareness of this information being used by a broad swath of our community from elected officials to citizens who don't deal with this every day.

[01:40:55] So the information on the bottom of this map, the definition of terms and the zoning ordinance was intended to try to help better inform them of the various nomenclatures that are used on this map and this dashboard. It's still a lot of information.

[01:41:11] So we realized that it might be, you know, challenging and take some time to walk through. But the goal was to make it accessible to anyone to be able to open up and either use the data set to filter through or use the map process to filter through.

[01:41:27] And so whether people are more visual-based or more data-based, it gives them that capability. Okay, thank you. If I could just add two more points. There is a user's guide posted on the web page, which is the landing page leading to the dashboard.

[01:41:43] And soon, in the next week or so, we're planning to have an instructional video posted in the same place so that those two resources together will help the public learn how to use the dashboard effectively. Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Glass. Mr. Kirshner.

[01:42:00] Thank you, Madam Chair. And I'll reiterate what a lot of my fellow supervisors up here have said. This is really good work. I think it puts a lot of information at not only our fingertips, our staffs, our public. One of the things I have found during this whole process is there's all kinds of misinformation floating around out there, especially on the legal side of things.

[01:42:20] Obviously, what you've presented to us shows us kind of where Loudon is in terms of a snapshot, what has been approved. As a matter of fact, I know a lot of this stuff's been approved since 2016, which is over 10 years ago. The bulk of what's been built or is built or is up.

[01:42:38] And it's obviously quickly been declining over the last four or five years. But I guess my question is, given a lot of the information floating around, because the Internet is not always the best place to get information, are there any plans or is it feasible that we can kind of put up some basic land use rules that we live under here in Virginia as a county, some legal aspects of that?

[01:43:03] I mean, obviously, some Q&A type of thing. I think that's going to be really helpful to a lot of folks to kind of weed through a lot of the misinformation that kind of floats around out on the Internet. I would make that as a suggestion if it was a suggestion time because I think it would be very, very helpful for the public to help understand that.

[01:43:20] The other thing I think I was noticing, I noticed, for example, in my district there are no data centers. Obviously, I know why that is. It's largely because of the land use rules that we have here in the county that have existed for a long time. And so, obviously, data isn't allowed there. I think that kind of information is also going to be very, very helpful for the public as well.

[01:43:40] The final question I have, and I think is great, because as everybody knows, and it's been mentioned many, many times, we are the data center of the capital of the world. This began in the early 2000s. There was a decision made to allow, basically where offices are allowed to allow data centers to be developed, and the explosion occurred very quickly over the last 10, well, actually over about 25-year period, largely over a 15-year period, and none of us had any idea that a NVIDIA chip, which would carry way more information, would come the way it did,

[01:44:16] and so we're obviously trying to get our grasp on this and try to figure out how to manage this process for something that was completely unforeseen, but with that said, you have a This line in the staff item here says, through the information development process, staff has also generated a list of top ten considerations that governments in other localities around the country should consider.

[01:44:35] Data centers are not going away, they're going to be built throughout all the country. My question is this, when localities look to Loudoun County, who kind of led the way in a lot of ways on this, I'd like to see, you didn't show us in the presentation, or maybe I missed it, what those top ten were.

[01:44:51] I think that's super helpful. I'm glad you put that in. I'd love to, if you could click on that and just kind of go over that briefly in my last bit of time. Thank you. So, Supervisor Kirchner, this is on that page two, I think the one that was left out of the packet inadvertently, and so it's... The most important one of all.

[01:45:23] It is here on the website. It's in front of you. You have it in hard copy. Okay, great. And you don't have to read through all this. Is there anything you wanted to highlight about this, or is it... Obviously, this is a changing document. I know I'm out of time, but... You are out of time, so thank you.

[01:45:40] Anything you want to highlight. Actually, you are out of time. Thank you. Supervisor Kirshner, I would just say that those topics were responsive to the number of inquiries that this county has received from other jurisdictions on those topics, or lessons learned that we wanted other jurisdictions to focus on.

[01:46:02] Before I call on Vice Chair Turner, colleagues, it is really uncomfortable for me to shut you guys down when you're out of time. So please shut yourselves down when you're out of time, because I will, but I don't want to. So if we can help me out here. Mr. Turner? This is phenomenal.

[01:46:21] I must get four or five requests from around the country on a weekly basis about our data centers. This is just an unbelievable resource. And one of the things I've maintained for the last couple of years is great challenges demand great solutions.

[01:46:37] There's no reason in many fronts that Loudoun County should not become the exemplar for the world in how to deal with the data center growth. We're on the very far right-hand side of the bell curve. No one else lives where we live. And to the extent that we can do things for the first time here as an example for the rest of the world, we ought to be doing that.

[01:46:58] And this is that caliber. You could lock me in a room for 100 years, and I couldn't even develop the first page of this. It is incredibly good and really effective. With that, I have a nitpicking that I want to... So if I filter by right in the upper right-hand corner, I still see a small couple of sections, one in Dulles and one in Sterling, of data centers that are in the legislative process.

[01:47:27] If I filter by right, why would we still have data centers in the legislative process? There could be a number of different aspects of a legislative application. It could be that it was by right, and they are in a process for a minor zoning modification.

[01:47:48] It could be to amend a small aspect like a buffer. It could be something larger. I know at least one of these is, well, this is at Loudoun County Parkway and Wax Pool. So, you know, they might have to just change something that was on and already approved.

[01:48:04] So the building could already be there. It might just be a small legislative. So the application was submitted by right, and they'd made a change that kicked it into the legislative track for some aspect of it. They may even have the building already in place. It's just they're looking to make a small adjustment. Or they could be looking to add an additional density to it, which would still, again, come to the board.

[01:48:26] Okay. I have time left, so I'll nitpick one more thing. If I click on buy right in the upper right-hand corner, I get 78. If I click on legislative in the upper right corner, I get 164. That adds up to 242, and yet on our cover page we say there's 245.

[01:48:44] I think the difficulty with these summary statistics, that they're based on parcels. In some buildings, there are multiple buildings based in multiple parcels. Or they're a singular building across multiple parcels.

[01:49:03] So I think it's the difficulty of aggregating different sort of units of measurement. Okay. Good. That's a good answer. Thanks very much. I appreciate it. First of all, thank you. and I'm so sad Mr. Sainz is not here because this is a very, very good tool, and it was his idea to do this, and so I'm sad he's not here. So you all talk about when they were built, but you don't talk about when they were approved, and most of them were approved or zoned well in actually possibly in the 90s, not even in the 2000s.

[01:49:32] I think it's important to be transparent to say when were they built, but when were they approved, because once they were approved, and especially if they were approved by right, They couldn't be pulled back even if we wanted to, and we wanted to. So I think to have that section in there built versus approved is really important.

[01:49:51] That's the first thing I would say. To kind of shift to what Mr. Turner said, I do think because we have been doing this in Loudoun for 26 years, I think in some ways we have like a moral responsibility to say to other counties and other places, This is how we got here in Loudoun County.

[01:50:09] And if we could roll that clock back 26 years, this is what we would do different. They would not be zoned as office uses because they're not office uses. They're industrial. They didn't know that when they zoned them that way 26 years ago. But I think we would say that.

[01:50:26] We would talk about power. We would talk about water. Gosh knows, we would talk about design standards, especially for some of those first ones. And so I do think that having that section in there that talks about what to say to other places is really important because, again, when you know better, you do better, and we do know better now.

[01:50:44] And if we can tell if the county's that, that's really, really very helpful. And my last question is, if you go to the colors, the purple is legislative, but not yet, there's no site planned yet.

[01:51:01] Is that correct? So then those do or do not come to the board for approval. So those were administrative, basically? They were previously legislative applications, so say perhaps a special exception. But since the time of approval by the board, they have not yet submitted a site plan application.

[01:51:22] So their approval for either their conditional use or their zoning by the board remains, but they have yet to pursue. So they're kind of sitting in their grandfather status? It's not necessarily grandfathered, it's just they have a legislative approval and they've not yet taken advantage of that to submit a site plan application.

[01:51:42] They don't necessarily start moving on a project the next year or even five years. How would that not be a grandfathered status? Grandfathering is just about the active applications that are in process. So the category we're talking about is once the board has approved a rezoning or what have you, No matter how many boards back.

[01:52:01] Yes, no matter how many years back. An applicant still has to go through the administrative process to actually be able to build the structure. Okay. So they have the approval from the board. So those are the ones we should be talking to and maybe talking to them about a different use. Those and Chair Randall, the ones with active site plans are, again, they're still in a review process.

[01:52:20] Perfect. I love that. I've had to go get all those for discussions. So perfect. All right. Thank you so much. This was really very helpful, very good. Supervisors, we have 10 minutes until we go to public comments. I don't think we have time to do the ledge item.

[01:52:36] I am sorry, Renee. But we might have time to do the, it's the, although it's Mr. Sainz's too, I hate that he's not here yet. The composting item, exactly.

[01:52:52] Is the staff in the room for that item, for the composting item? I'm so sorry he's not in the room for that. It's the food scraps composting item. It's item 14. Madam Chair, I think the staff's right outside. Can they come in the room in time for that one?

[01:53:09] Because we may be able to get one of these action items done before we go to the public comments.

[01:53:41] Hello, Mr. Brown.

[01:54:07] Well, good evening, Madam Chair, member of the board. We're going to get you guys out this room. We'll take that. Okay. I apologize. We stepped out to make sure that there was room for the speakers to sit inside. Okay, that's okay. So as team sets up, I just wanted to set this up for us.

[01:54:23] We have at the Keys Mr. Tony Hayes, our recycling specialist, and our business operations manager, Ms. Amber Stiles, for the solid waste management operations. We do have a presentation that we can give you, or we can go straight to questions, whatever your preference is.

[01:54:39] I think I'm going to go to a motion, and then we'll ask questions within the motion. That's what I think we're going to do. I'm going to make the motion on behalf of Mr. Sainz, because this is his initiative, but he, I thought he was coming, not here yet. I move the Board of Supervisors direct the expansion of the Food Waste Composting Service as recommended by the Loudoun County Food Scraps Diversion Feasibility Study in detail in Table 1 in the November 17, 2026 Board of Supervisors Business Meeting Action Item to the Fiscal Year 2028 Budget Development Process.

[01:55:12] Second. Motions made and seconded by Supervisor Tacroni. Supervisors, it's a fairly short item, and I'm sure you've all read it. So I will go on and let you all go straight to questions. If you do have any questions for staff, you can do that right now.

[01:55:29] And I don't need to open that. I can do a closing just to save time. Ms. Bricksman? Thank you. And thank you for the item. It was an interesting read. My one, well, I had a couple questions. What's our return on this?

[01:55:47] Like, are we donating food scraps to farmers? Are we partnering with schools for education programs? Are we turning it into fertilizer and sending it somewhere else? So I'm going to turn that over. Are we able to sell it? I'll turn that over to the team, then explain how the contractor manages the scraps.

[01:56:07] Okay. So for this program, the contractor collects the food scraps and takes them to a commercial composting facility that is then used for farming applications.

[01:56:25] So they're composted and then resold or reused on farms to replenish soils. And so we don't have a direct ROI for this. Our biggest ROI for this is obviously under the Energy Strategy, which reduces the landfill gas discharges, GHG, as well as all of our diversion programs reduce or increases landfill space.

[01:56:52] So when we divert it, it prolongs the county's availability of our owned landfill space. So those are the two primary benefits. So will we get data on that? Like how much landfill space are we saving and how many, what kind of gas was it?

[01:57:11] So it's methane. Methane. How much methane are we preventing from going into the air? Will we get reports on that? Yes, ma'am. And in the document, you see that the pilot project, I think it was 13-plus tons that we generated. And we're looking at probably 130 tons.

[01:57:31] Don't mind my math. It's in the item. Okay, I'll take a look. Yes, ma'am. Okay, well, that's a return. Yes, ma'am. Okay, great. Well, thank you. Happy to support. Thank you, ma'am. Mr. Crony? Yeah, thank you. So I'm very happy to support this, you know, especially since food waste accounts for 24% of material deposited in U.S. landfills.

[01:57:53] I was amazed at that. So question for you. Can we provide a subsidized two-gallon countertop pails to the public? I know other locales have done that using our plastic bag tax. Is that a possibility?

[01:58:10] So the feasibility study did not really do a deep dive into that. There are other localities that provide that kind of service, but it's really a higher maintenance construct. If you want to add to that. Good evening.

[01:58:27] So certainly we could provide those bins. We've actually purchased them in the past using the plastic bag tax, and we have provided them to the public at the landfill to help promote the existing composting program that we have established there for food waste drop-off.

[01:58:43] But we could provide, I wonder if you have them now. Do you have them now? We can provide them to them, but the key is we are not going to collect them curbside, so they would be using those to bring them to our locations. Which is fine, but I think we should offer that. I noticed Latin County Public Schools, you didn't really, you had recommendations, but I don't know that we were moving forward with a program with them because they're a separate entity, is that true?

[01:59:12] Yes, so the feasibility study looked at operations in county facilities as well as in school facilities and made recommendations for both. But the recommendations for the schools, we were able to pass along to our contacts at LCPS and for them to take into consideration for their operations.

[01:59:30] Yeah, I think that would be a good joint committee discussion in addition to our work plan, by the way. So that I'll be bringing that forward when we talk about that again. I noticed selling the compost is something that you recommended as well, like selling the end product as a value add.

[01:59:53] Is that being considered too? That would be a possible future consideration. It's not an immediate recommendation that is made at this time. Okay. And lastly, the education I think is really important. I think Supervisor Briskman might have mentioned this, but because people don't really know, including myself, you know, what we should be putting in the bins.

[02:00:16] So is that going to be a strong portion of this project? Yes. So in addition to the new drop-off centers and the collection at county facilities, the feasibility study also recommended a program coordinator. And so one of the primary responsibilities of that position would be to conduct public outreach, education, and events, as well as helping manage this new program. Thank you. Thank you very much. Ms. Glass. I appreciate Supervisor Sainz with this

[02:00:50] program, and I wish he was here so that you could hear about this. I was at a restaurant right down the street, oh my goodness, a couple of weeks ago, and it was a non-profit organization who was talking about food waste.

[02:01:06] And the restaurant-- oh my goodness, I'm so sorry. I can't remember their name. But they were implementing that for their business. So I would love to see small businesses being able to participate in this as well, if they want to.

[02:01:28] And we do actually have at least one, if not two, local restaurants that use the landfill food scrap program to do that. There are non-profits out there and for-profits out there that will go around and collect it from restaurants as well. So that'll be part of the education and outreach program that we are engaging with if the board approves this. Okay, thank you. Mr. Vice Chair Turner. So in my kitchen, I have a bag for plastic bag recycle, which I have to go to the

[02:02:03] supermarket to recycle. I have a bag on the back of the door for recycling number one, number two, and number five bottles, which I can take to my building. I have a box where I put flattened paper products, which I can recycle through my building. I have an industrial strength plastic bag that is for non-recyclables, which I double zip tie, which is going to go to the landfill and live for a thousand years and now i have to get a covered bucket for organic waste and take it to the composting center my kitchen is getting very crowded this is a good thing i'm just i'm getting

[02:02:42] tired of all my environmental righteousness we can we can come over and help you with your direct purpose it's a great answer that's a great answer that's a great answer well i feel like i'm and then the entire day-to-day complimenting Mr. Sains because the plastic bag tax, which could fund some of this, was his initiative.

[02:03:06] And this item of the food scraps composting was also his initiative. So Mr. Sains is just on fire tonight. Good for him. So right now, have we allocated the plastic bag tax money already or could it be used for this if we needed to?

[02:03:25] Or has all that money been allocated already? So the proposal is the initial one-time expense would be used out of the plastic bag tax should the board approve that. With the reallocation of the bag tax to the localities, there is a concern that there may not be enough to sustain the long-term programmatic element of it.

[02:03:43] So the proposal in front of the board during the budget deliberation would be local tax funding to fund the ongoing operations and the one-time expenses would be associated with the plastic bag tax. Yeah, you know, with so much respect to Colt and all of our towns, this was my concern when Mr. Martinez put up that legislation.

[02:04:05] And truthfully, for the most part, the county covers a lot of those costs anyway, and now we're going to also do the reallocation of the plastic bag tax. I may bring a motion during the budget to minus the money that we would give the separate localities.

[02:04:24] And for that plastic bag tax reallocation, because in truth, you know, the county pays for it all anyway, which is not an issue, not an issue at all, until you then decide that the county then also pays to figure out how to reallocate plastic bag tax all around every town.

[02:04:41] Then it gets to be really very complicated, which is why I, you know, with respect to Leesburg and to Delegate Martinez, why I opposed that effort, in fact. So then right now, the plastic bag tax, we have enough money for a one-time use for this, but they're not ongoing because of reallocation.

[02:05:05] Is that what we're saying? So the reallocation is part of it. As you know, we've had many discussions about if the plastic bag tax is successful, it'll be a diminishing fund. Which we hope it is, and I think it already is. Hi, Mr. Sains, we've been talking about you all night long. So when it gets down to the point where we're narrowly on the edge, there was a bit of concern as to whether or not we fully allocate that.

[02:05:30] But that's actually so interesting because we actually want that to be a diminishing tax. I mean, the goal of the plastic bag tax is you don't use plastic bags. That's right. So you want that to be a diminishing tax. So what would that mean going forward? Would we need to look at some other source of revenue or what does that mean? We would, and that was the wisdom of the Office of Management Budget when we looked very closely at that.

[02:05:48] the one-time expenses can easily be covered under the plastic bag tax, but they wanted to make sure that there was sufficient funds, let me rephrase that, the concern was there may not be sufficient funds in the future to fund the recurring cost, and it would then require local tax funds or the removal of the program.

[02:06:06] So what the current proposal for the board's consideration during the budget process is the recurring operations where it would be at a local tax funding and the one-time expenses that may occur periodically throughout the program could be used, the plastic bag tax could be used for that.

[02:06:23] So it did not then put a long-term recurring programmatic reliance on a tax that should be going away if it actually does what it's supposed to do. Okay, I understand. Thank you. Mr. Sains, this is your amazing item.

[02:06:40] I have already made the motion, but I'm happy to transfer the motion to you if you'd like to have that. And I'm happy, even though Mr. Turner and I have spoken since you've just arrived, if you want to ask questions, that's fine. But if you want to just transfer you the, what are we doing, sir?

[02:06:56] Give me my stuff back. You're messing my, I have a system up here. What are we, no, it's the, you want to see the item? Here. No, I was looking for my notes, but they're not up here. No, I'll just. Do you want to see the motion? Did you already read the motion?

[02:07:12] I did read it, but I'm happy to just say that, just transfer the motion. and assume Mr. Sains made the motion and I second the motion if that's okay? Sure, thank you. Okay. Yeah, I don't know where my notes went, but yeah, no, thank you for making the motion. I think this is a good initiative that we've started and it kind of builds on what you talked about earlier, the plastic bag tax, which was another BMI of mine that I brought forward a few years back, so it's good to see that's implemented and working.

[02:07:40] I would like to say, I was just at the grocery store the other day and saw a lot of folks either with their own bags. I saw some folks are still doing the hand-holding of five or six or seven items and dropping things as they go to the parking lot. But I think this is a good initiative.

[02:07:57] We slow-rolled it out. It's working, and I think by rolling it out to all the other locations, we will see some more good come from this item. I know we've had a few of our very smart, intelligent Loudoun

County students email every couple of months asking for an update.

[02:08:19] So the last update that we gave when this was coming to them, they're very excited with that news. So hopefully my colleagues can support the item. Thank you. Thank you. So now Mr. Sainz has made that motion, just to be clear about that. All the people who say aye. Any opposed?

[02:08:35] That motion will pass 9-0. All right, we're going to go into public comments now. And so when I call your name, I usually try to call people's names like three names in advance that you know you're going to be next. Please come to the podium that's closest to you. Your time on the podium is the time that you have left.

[02:08:53] When your time has expired, please yield the floor to the next speaker. If you would do us a favor, and as you are talking, face us. Because, one, if you face away, you're off mic and no one can hear you. and two, your comments are for the board. If you want to do something like, say, everyone who supports stand up, that's fine.

[02:09:12] But when you're talking, please face us. If you are calling in and you cannot see the timer in our boardroom, if you are on the phone, I'm going to ask that you keep your own clock because I don't stop you when you get to one minute and 30 seconds because it throws off your flow.

[02:09:28] But I will stop you when you get to two minutes. When you come up, if you would state your name for the record, If you'd like to state the district you live in, you may, but you certainly do not have to do that. I ask, and I'm sure I don't have to ask this, but I will, that all appropriateness is followed in the room.

[02:09:50] I'd appreciate that so much. So, again, I'll call your names three names in advance. Can we put the clock at two minutes because the clock's doing all kinds of things right now? There we go. So I'll call your names three names in advance. Oh, by the way, we do public comment for an hour and a half.

[02:10:08] So after an hour and a half, if we didn't get to you, we do public comment for an hour and a half. So if we don't get to you in that time, you are more than welcome to send your comments in, to email your comments in. Well, we've gotten a lot of emails, so most of you have emailed your comments already to do that.

[02:10:26] But after an hour and a half, we do stop public comments, okay? And then supervisors, after public comments, we're going to take our break because we would have been on this dais for, what, three and a half hours by the time we get done with public comments. And then when we come back, we will take this item up first. And so then as soon as we come back, we can do this item, okay?

[02:10:45] That's the plan right now. So our first speaker is Ashley Wormley, followed by, and if I mispronounce your name, I apologize, and when you come up, just pronounce it for me. Yaya, Yaha, I'm sorry, followed by Mara Wash Copeland. Good evening. Good evening. Is the microphone on? The microphone's on. Wonderful, thank you. My name is Ashley Wormeling. I'm a Catoctin resident and co-chair of the Coalition to Block Valley Lake North. I'm here to ask this board to do two things tonight. One, approve the data center pause. And two, include the omnibus

[02:11:23] legislative package to defend your constituents, not only against Valley North, but future transmission line projects as well. Last week, ValleyLink hosted its second open house in Lovettsville, and hundreds of people showed up. ValleyLink may have narrowed the study segments for now, but our

community has not wavered in its commitment to this fight. We expect the same of our elected representatives, especially this board, who unanimously passed an unprecedented BMI opposing Valley North. By pausing data center development, you are addressing the root cause of the so-called grid reliability issue behind future transmission lines because we know that

[02:12:02] whatever happens with Valley North, there's going to be another transmission line coming right behind it. Of course, only the Virginia General Assembly has the ability to shape the approval process for transmission lines. Our legislative package makes large load customers pay for any power lines built for them and has protections for landowners and conservation land. By including this legislative package as one of your legislative priorities, you're not only honoring your commitment to the BMI, but you are sending a message to our state legislators that this is an issue that desperately needs to be prioritized. This is bigger than one transmission

[02:12:41] line. It is about fundamental issues with the process as a whole. Our proposed legislative package seeks to address the ways in which we, the people, have a voice in protecting and defending our own property. Please stand by us in Western Loudoun.

[02:12:57] Approve the omnibus legislative package for General Assembly consideration, and then pause to plan properly for future data center development in Loudoun County. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Warren. Thank you, Ms. Woman. I appreciate that. And you guys, I forgot to say it, everybody, but I see the jazz hand memo did go out, so thank you so much.

[02:13:18] Iza, and I think I mispronounced your last name. I am sorry. It is Y-A-H-Y-A when you come up, or you just come on up and pronounce your name for me, and I apologize. You will be followed by Mara Wash Copeland, followed by Colleen Gillis. Yes, ma'am. Good evening. Good evening, respected members of the board.

[02:13:37] My name is Iza Yaya, and as a born and raised Loudoun County resident, I wanted to start off by thanking you guys personally for all you do for our county. I'm a recent graduate of Loudoun County Public Schools and a student pursuing a career in the data center industry. The investments Loudoun has made in its students have helped shape my future, and I want the next generations to have that same opportunity, if not better.

[02:13:59] That's why the contribution of this industry truly matters. In fiscal year 2027, data centers are projected to generate approximately $1.3 billion in local tax revenue, strengthening the Calcane's ability to invest in public services, including our $2.1 billion school operating budget.

[02:14:19] Those investments help shape the very classrooms and opportunities that prepare students like me for what comes next. And I see the opportunities that this industry brings loud and firsthand. Through NOVA's Engineering Technology Career Scholars Program, I'm confidently preparing for my career and to pursue a quality life in the county that I love.

[02:14:38] On the flip side, I see many others my age from all around looking at an uncertain job market, wondering where their futures will take them. This industry offers something tangible for our residents that I don't want them to lose, an abundance of career pathways that lead to quality income instability for the people of Loudoun inside Loudoun.

[02:14:59] Of course, growth must be responsible. Loudoun has well-established standards, and this board reviews applications individually. We can continue strengthening those protections without putting

new proposals on hold. I want to emphasize that a 12-month pause will not pause global demand. It risks allowing investment and opportunities that could benefit Loudoun's residents to take root elsewhere.

[02:15:19] I want my friends, my neighbors, and my residents to feel well-supported and to be able and confident to pursue their ambitions here and build their futures here in Loudoun County. Thank you so much. Thank you, young lady. Appreciate that. Mara Walsh-Copeland followed by Colleen Gillis.

[02:15:37] Good evening, Ms. Walsh-Copeland. Good evening. I'm Mara Walsh-Kopman for the Executive Committee and participating organizations of the Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition. We know the impacts of Loudoun's data centers on our neighborhoods, environment, and historic resources, and we ask you to take a pause.

[02:15:58] In October, we express our concerns to staff to find draft text does not emphasize protections for citizens, lacks details to mitigate low-frequency noise, setbacks, on-site generation, and expansion thresholds. where concerned standards show no ban on evaporative towers and groundwater wells.

[02:16:18] Zoning regulations must address issues identified but not implemented in prior zoning amendments. In 2013, residents voiced data center noise and abutting setback issues. However, the ZOAG, PC, and Board recommended against even a 100-foot setback.

[02:16:36] The date? April 2014. During the 2014 noise ZOAM, the community again voiced data center allowance and related tonal noise. However, staff believed regulating tonal noise placed the county at a competitive disadvantage.

[02:16:53] Their approach was barring residential uses in close proximity. The date? September 2016. These issues must be addressed more fully now, 13 years later. future drafts must present resident focused protections we ask for a second round public input after the draft review by the board in December because this time we need to get the engagement right heed the lessons learned from being the data center capital of the world it's time to take a pause to do it right and

[02:17:28] to do it now thank you thank you miss Copeland Colleen Gillis and you will be followed by Woody Turner. Good evening, Ms. Gillis. Good evening, members of the board. My name is Colleen Gillis. I'm a resident here in Loudoun County, have been for 25 years, and I'm also a practicing land use and zoning lawyer, and I'm in front of you and your planning commission quite often.

[02:17:51] So over my 25 years of being here, what I've seen is partnership makes things happen in this county. It's a partnership that makes great parks happen, great road connections happen, school sites happen. This community that we all love to live in, work in and play in has occurred because of partnership. It's easy to say no, it's much harder to do the work, but you over your years have done that work to create great opportunities and to create this great, great community. Tonight, you're being asked to pass a pause.

[02:18:20] To be clear, a pause is a moratorium. And to be doubly clear, a moratorium is not permitted under Virginia law. In my 20 years, I've watched very few, very, very few lawsuits be filed against the county. When I started in this industry, it was on the back of the downzoning litigation.

[02:18:40] Right after all of those had happened, lots of litigation. But since then, Loudoun County has been come to known as a very predictable, reliable process. The process doesn't always work in the favor of my clients. Sometimes they don't get the result that they want, but it's a fair and predictable process. If

you pass the moratorium tonight, I know from conversations that I have had with clients that that will change. It will no longer be predictable and fair, and that there will be lawsuits that will be filed. Please don't pass the moratorium. I'm saying that

[02:19:16] not just in my professional role, but as a taxpayer. Don't expose us to millions and millions and millions of dollars of possible exposure and liability, please don't create uncertainty for the business community, for the businesses we have today, and the businesses that we want to attract in 5, 10, 15 years.

[02:19:35] It's going to be very hard to lose this reputation. You've always had the power to bring great projects to fruition. Keep exercising that power. Don't pass the moratorium. Thank you, Ms. Gillis. Woody Turner, followed by... Hold on just a second. Yes.

[02:19:51] Woody Turner, followed by Brian Turner, followed by Emily Kuletschko, I believe it is. Good evening, Mr. Turner. Good evening, Madam Chair and members of the board. My name is Woody Turner. I'm a resident of Leesburg. I moved to Loudoun County in probably 1949.

[02:20:12] Oh, I've been here for quite a while. I've seen a lot. But before I start my brief remarks, I just want to make a note that there's a big, bright, beautiful sign outside that says the data centers reduce the car tax. Indeed, they've done a lot of good things and they should take credit for that. They should also take credit for a number of things that they've been able to enable the board to do. For us, data centers are part of our DNA and we should continue with that. However, some of them have ruined the quality of life for

[02:20:48] thousands of residents and many communities, and that's why we're here tonight. Now, as Fox News and a special report noted last night, and MS Now picked up this morning, Microsoft had a huge outage on Thursday. On Friday, there was a national airline group stop. Also on Friday, there was a workday outage, and yesterday there were bank technology failures at Morgan Chase, Wells Fargo, and Zelle. And yesterday, there was a United Airlines system outage. And today, NSA has a

[02:21:23] code yellow alert because their IT communication systems are down. That's all cause for alarm. Perhaps the technology sphere should take a pause and figure out what their problems are before they go crazy with new applications. But here in Loudoun County, we've been enduring a land use an electrical grid planning failure for some time.

[02:21:48] That's also cause for alarm. And it's time for the county and the data centers, who would you like to see them be our partners if they would just join us, take a pause and fix the things that are broken. Those that negatively impact our citizens, I think it's time to take a pause and get things fixed.

[02:22:10] Don't you? Thank you, Mr. Turner. Thank you. And you'll be followed by Mr. Brian Turner, followed by Emily, I think it's Kletchko, followed by Nick Albu. Good evening, Mr. Turner. Good evening. Nice outfit, Mr. Turner. Good evening, Chair Randall and members of the board.

[02:22:27] I'm Brian Turner, and I live in the Little Rubber District. I serve as general counsel to the Loudon Coalition of HOA and condo associations and a number of residents and HOAs that are negatively impacted by data center development and power lines. In September, I shared with you and the county attorney's office a thoroughly researched legal opinion that supports a narrowly drawn, temporary pause on processing only legislative applications tied to phase two was well within your legal authority to act.

[02:22:57] Nothing I've seen from anyone since then changes that opinion. Here's why. It reaches only legislative applications, that is, rezonings, concept plan amendments, special exceptions, and minor special exceptions. It ends when the phase two is adopted.

[02:23:14] Phase 2 has already been initiated and scheduled by this board, and it respects Virginia's vested rights provisions. It does not implicate already approved site plans or other properly approved administrative approvals. There have been times when this board has not acted because it may have lacked the authority to do so.

[02:23:34] This is not one of those times. On this resolution, you have the authority. Please use it for the sake of sound land use planning and for the thousands of residents in hundreds of neighborhoods that will benefit from it. thank you thank you mr turner um emily kluchko followed by nick albu nicholas albu emily the last name is spelled c-l-u-c-h-k-o is she on the phone no madam chair no okay so going

[02:24:10] once going twice very good mr albu you're going to be followed by benjamin keefler good evening sir uh good evening chair randall members of the board my name is nick albu i'm a resident in the catocton district and i practice law here in leesburg over the last couple of months i've been trying to figure out an answer to a question that i thought was relatively simple why is the board entertaining the concept of imposing a moratorium we all know that a moratorium is unauthorized the supreme court of virginia has said so the attorney general has said so

[02:24:49] the county administrator and the county attorney have said so and we all know that calling it a pause, doesn't change anything. You can call it a pause. You can call it a suspension. You can call it a freeze. You can call it a halt. It doesn't matter what label you put on it. It's a moratorium.

[02:25:08] And we all know that even if the action that's being contemplated by the board is authorized, it will trigger equal protection claims. And equal protection claims will give rise to significant damages. When we're talking about billion dollar projects, billion dollar projects with a B, those damages will easily, easily amount to millions of dollars per project.

[02:25:35] And if equal protection violations then lead to denials of applications down the road based on the imposition of unconstitutional conditions, those damage claims will amount to hundreds of millions of dollars per project, at least.

[02:25:51] So if we know a moratorium is not authorized, and if we know that calling it a pause does not change anything. And if we know that even if this is authorized, it's going to generate damage claims based on constitutional violations, I'm left with the same question. Why is the board giving this any consideration? Taking unlawful action that will generate substantial claims against the county is not good governance. I appreciate your consideration. Thank you,

[02:26:22] Mr. Albu, Benjamin Keifler, followed by, okay, I'm sorry, it's Sri Perthetti Sundariam. I do believe that's how it is. Good evening, Mr. Keifler. Good evening.

[02:26:38] I'm Ben Keifler, the chair of the Loudon Coalition of Homeowners and Condo Associations. I also serve on the County Zoning Ordnance Committee as the LCHCA representative. I appreciate the board's continued efforts to address the challenges associated with data center development and I am here to support a meaningful temporary pause. Loudoun County has experienced extraordinary growth in this industry bringing significant economic benefits but also unintended consequences extended well beyond individual facilities. Despite its best efforts the county has often found itself responding to challenges after

they emerge rather than having the appropriate regulatory framework in place beforehand. The pause offers an opportunity to

[02:27:15] change that dynamic. The county is already undertaking important comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance amendment changes to reconsider where data centers belong and what standards should govern their development. Continuing to approve new projects under that current framework risks perpetuating the cycle we are trying to correct. For that reason, a pause must be meaningful both in its intent and application. Allowing new approvals to continue undermines its purpose. Supporting a pause is not opposing economic development.

[02:27:46] It is about ensuring future growth occurs within an appropriate regulatory framework. The county cannot get ahead of its development challenges if it continues to create new ones while trying to address the existing ones. I encourage the board to adopt a comprehensive, meaningful pause and complete the important regulatory work already underway.

[02:28:06] Thank you. I'm assuming by how fast you ran in this room that you were actually Ms. Sundarium, is that correct? Okay. And you're going to be filed. That's fine, ma'am. That's fine. You will be followed by Mary Badger. Good evening.

[02:28:21] Thank you, respected. I'm really happy to be here and represent my community. I'm Sripreeti Sundaram from Brambleton in the Little River District. I live near the proposed Demos substation and the 300 megawatt stack hyperscale data center campus.

[02:28:40] This industrial facility will have 114 diesel generators, less than 250 feet from the residential homes. We are not opposed to having data centers, but just the location. We want, I mean, that's a location for a friendly Dunkin' Donuts, not for a data center.

[02:29:01] When people talk about data centers, they picture the buildings. Those of us near a substation know it's a neighbor in its own right, with its noise, its own lighting, its fencing, and its power lines coming in and out. And that's why the residents of Brambleton overwhelmingly opposed the NOVAC-DEMO substation at our open house two weeks ago and caused our HOA to reverse the support for the project.

[02:29:27] And I do have the thing printed out and the opposition. There is 863 signatures, which I would like to present to the board members here. This resolution pauses both the matters.

[02:29:43] A substation is where the load from these campuses meet the grid, and it's often the piece of land closest to the homes as it does in Brambleton. The phase two project plan that's approved in September 2025 says it will revisit such use-specific standards, and my request is to get rid of the substation and the proposed data center.

[02:30:06] We are not opposed to having technology, but it's just not in our backyard. That's it. And please let me know how I can pass this around. Yes, ma'am. There's nine copies for nine members. Yes, ma'am. And thank you so much. And you can give those copies to the clerk, and she will make sure we get them.

[02:30:24] Thank you. Thank you. I appreciate it. Mary Badger, and ma'am, you're going to be followed by Bill Junda. Good evening. Good evening, Chair Randall and Supervisors. My name is Mary Badger, Broad Run District. My husband and I reside in Regency at Belmont, a 55 and overactive adult community that will be permanently impacted by the approved and grandfathered data center on the Tello site and by the

Aspen to Golden transmission line. The transmission lines will run approximately 600 feet from our nearest homes, and the data center will be built just 200 feet from our

[02:31:02] nearest homes. Most of our residents have chosen their homes as the last home they will buy, and no one expected to live 200 feet from a data center. Most are also not in a position to sell at a loss and start over somewhere else.

[02:31:18] I have read the resolution. It's whereas clauses list what this board is supposed to weigh. Healthy surroundings for family life, a harmonious community, and the light, air, and view blocked by the size, height, and bulk of these structures. That is now my street this refers to.

[02:31:36] Although the SCC determined the route for Aspen to Golden, the lines exist to carry power primarily to data centers this county approved. Every data center approved before Phase 2 is finished equals more load and more transmission lines.

[02:31:53] The pause is the one part of this chain the county controls. It asks applicants to wait for the rules that this board itself said were needed. What residents really need is appropriate due diligence measures for data center developers to follow. Please adopt Attachment 1 tonight, and when Phase 2 comes to you, please make sure it addresses the people who live next to the substations and transmission lines before more permanent harm is done.

[02:32:21] Adopt the pauses drafted, finish the rules before you approve more. Thank you. Thank you, ma'am. Thank you. Bill Junda, you will be followed by Therese Kerfoot. Good evening, Mr. Junda. Good evening.

[02:32:36] I think someone left their cell phone up here. Somebody left their cell phone up here. It's pink. If there's somebody missing the cell phone, it's not Mr. Junda's. Nope. Oh, she has.

[02:32:52] Okay. There you go. All right, Mr. Junda, ready when you are. Thank you so much. My name is Bill Junda. I'm a Loudon resident and owner of our local engineering firm, Gordon. Tonight I'm speaking on behalf of CREDA, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association of Northern Virginia. We obviously oppose the moratorium that is being considered tonight.

[02:33:10] Look, we understand there are problem sites out there, but the issues of the past surrounding a handful of bad examples have largely been solved for with the ZOR and with the Phase 1. This board already has the power to ask for things from Phase 2 and to weigh those merits now. But I want to focus on substations specifically as part of this topic.

[02:33:29] Most of these substations are not speculative. they're for real projects where the applicants have already put forth $55 million or more in deposits to Dominion. That money's non-refundable. These are to power buildings that are already approved and vested and under construction with hundreds of millions of dollars per building on the line. Many of these have executed leases that contain liquidated damages. Honestly, I know several people standing out in the lobby that are afraid they're going to lose their jobs if this passes or if their substations get denied. I think the most frustrating thing, though, is we have a shining example of what not to do across the Potomac. In Maryland, it all started with good

[02:34:06] intentions, needing to wait for adequate public facilities like water or sewer, but the door cracked open and it kept getting easier to justify. And now moratoriums get handed out like candy on Halloween based on the political wins of the day for everything from residential to data centers. And no

one invests in Maryland anymore because of it. I worry though that a pause will take away your ability to negotiate the next GW campus deal. Community benefits are going to become more prevalent? What if a project checks all the boxes and offers an improvement elsewhere? Maybe the applicant offers to withdraw a site from another location that is less preferred. Maybe it improves an existing substation. Maybe it includes a retrofit of an older site or gets someone like

[02:34:45] Vantage off the turbines. But what if you can't make that deal because we're in the middle of this pause? I urge the board to leave itself flexibility to make those deals, to be able to pull a project out of the paws and to make great deals for Loudoun. Thank you, Mr. Genda. Therese Kerfoot, followed by Thomas McNeric. Good evening. Good evening, to Randall and members of the board.

[02:35:11] I'm Therese Kerfoot, Executive Vice President of Strategy for Edgecore Digital Infrastructure. We're a data center operator with a data center in Sterling, Virginia. While I'm here to ask you not to implement the moratorium. I'm here specifically to ask you to allow Firehouse substation to continue through the permitting process because it contains the final stages of power that we need for the data center development that we have in Sterling, Virginia, which we expect to provide over, which will be open in April of 2027. To develop this building,

[02:35:50] our team followed all county and utility processes. The county rezoned our project for data center use four years ago in 2022. This county provided final site plan approval in January of 2025. We've paid Dominion to spend the last two years bringing initial power to the project and also to begin the development for firehouse substation. Relying on those approvals, EDGE Corps and its customer has invested over a billion dollars in our data center project, which we expect to bring over $220 million in tax benefits to Loudoun County by 2040.

[02:36:30] The final phase of power to this building is firehouse substation. The permit process began over a year ago, but isn't complete. The SEC is expected to approve the CPCN for firehouse early next year.

[02:36:45] and there is no alternative power for our project to replace Firehouse. A moratorium that includes Firehouse substation would put EDGCOR at risk of material monetary damages, breaching its customer leases, and materially impairing its substantial investment.

[02:37:04] We ask that you uphold the promises that you have made and allow Firehouse to continue through the permitting process. Thank you. Thank you, ma'am. Thomas McNarch. And sir, you're going to be followed by, I think it's Archon Shia. Good evening. Hi. Hi. I am Tom McNarchic, Little River District. I live near the Demos substation site and the STAC data centers. I read the resolution closely, and I want to thank staff. It is clear, It is narrow and it respects the law's 12-month limit.

[02:37:44] I want to point to one provision that is entirely in your hands. Paragraph 3B lets this board direct staff to schedule any paused application for a hearing once seven months have passed since the Planning Commission's public hearing.

[02:38:02] No applicant request is needed. It just takes a board majority. That goes further than what you voted for in September. The September motion let the board take up an application early, only if it was a grid reliability substation or its statutory deadline was about to run out.

[02:38:23] Paragraph 3B defeats the purpose of this resolution. And let's be honest, none of these applications is an emergency. Every door you leave open is a way around the pause. Staff is working hard on phase two, and the county's own timeline already runs to July.

[02:38:43] With the vacancies in the planning department, it can only move so fast. The point is to pause until the rules are done, not to move the same fights to a new schedule. I also want to support paragraph nine. When the pause ends, paused applications are heard in order, no more than five per hearing.

[02:39:05] that protects the public's ability to follow and speak on each one. Please keep it. Adopt the pause without 3B. Finish the rules before you approve more. Thank you. Thank you, sir.

[02:39:21] Thank you. Carolyn McCulley, you will be followed by... I'm sorry, that is not right. It's Arkan Shaya, I think, S-H-A-H, and then you'll be followed by Carolyn McCulley. Good evening, sir.

[02:39:37] Good evening. My name is Urchin Shah, respected council members and all my fellow Loudoun County neighbors. I'm a mechanical engineer by professions, and I appreciate the time to share my views on the data centers. Loudoun County is considered as a global leader in the data center space, and it is established that through the critical development of the Internet infrastructure it has developed over the years.

[02:40:03] And that is the reason why we have done that. We have developed a whole ecosystem around the data centers, and that's why we have more and more companies that are coming to this area. And that is equally important. And why is that? Because I personally believe that as leaders in this space, it is even more important that we have the opportunity to shape and build responsibly, not just for today, but for the generations to come.

[02:40:29] I believe that we should be achieving more, And we should be even capitalizing on the situation that we have right now. And how do we do that? We do that by applying and ensuring that the standards are upheld. We ensure that good companies are coming in here and they are doing the right things.

[02:40:47] And that's how we do it. Having a new jerk reaction is not going to help us to go in any other direction. And I believe that innovation is not only going to lead us increase in the jobs, but it's also going to bring R&D to this area. We should be imposing and we should be even encouraging R&D into this space.

[02:41:05] We should be having more discussions on how can we improve? How can we improve the mechanical infrastructure? How can we improve the electrical infrastructure? And that's how we are going to grow. The world is moving fast. Just because we pause doesn't mean that the world will not stop. And we should be at the forefront as we are the leaders in this space.

[02:41:24] And we should be an example and be like, hey, if we can improve, and we are going to go and improve, and we are going to keep on innovating, and we are going to keep everyone improving with us. With that being said, I have benefited from the data center development, but I want to make sure that it's not just me.

[02:41:41] Sir, I'm sorry. Your time is up. Thank you. I'm sorry. So after Carol and Macaulay, we do have, and I'm sorry that I missed this, we do have an elected official in the room, and I normally call on them first, and I just didn't realize he was here and wanted to speak. He's going to go over and do the thing. So after Carol and Macaulay, hi, Carol, how are you doing?

[02:42:01] Delegate John McAuliffe will speak after that. Good evening, ma'am. We're ready for you. Good evening, Chair Randall and members of the board. I'm Carolyn McCulley, and I live in Birchwood in the

Little River District. When I moved here from Falls Church in 2020, I could see the Blue Ridge Mountains from my street.

[02:42:19] Now that beautiful view is gone, and in its place, the Tech Park at Brambleton and all the transmission lines. The next data center will be even closer. Shreveport South is a 1.3 million square foot, 300 megawatt hyperscale campus planned to be right across from my street.

[02:42:40] On the east side of Birchwood, the Golden to Mars line will tower over the homes. About a half a mile away, Digital Dulles has applied to run triple the number of gas turbines than Vantage 2, which has made national news for its visible pollution and noise.

[02:43:00] Do we want to make that mistake again? Six years was all it took to change where I live. But those who knew about the pipeline should have seen it closing in on neighbors and schools. It's time to do something about it. I have sat in these meetings and heard you weigh the business community's concerns about commitments and the risk of litigation.

[02:43:24] But you made a commitment to residents, too. We bought homes here because we thought we understood what kind of place it would be. The collective value of our homes, our health, and our quality of life deserves at least the same weight as data centers investment, and frankly, more.

[02:43:44] I know most of you are hearing us, and I hear you reacting, but we're not seeing real change yet. The pause is where that starts. Adopt the pauses drafted, finish the rules before you approve more. Thank you. Thank you, Ms. McCulley.

[02:44:01] Thank you. That is a lot of jazz hands right there. Delegate McAuliffe, you're going to be followed by Arif Demiriki. I am so sorry if I'm messing your names up.

[02:44:20] Good evening, Mr. McAuliffe. Thank you, Madam Chair. Not here to comment on the language or what you should or shouldn't do, although you can probably guess my perspective. I just want to clarify a few things that I've heard about what you do and do not have permission to do as per state guidance. So county legislative bodies, municipal legislative bodies, do have the authority for procedural pauses. And they can pause legislative action, which in this case, because there is no buy right anymore on data centers in Loudoun County, you have that authority.

[02:44:51] If there are additional authorities that are forthcoming from the state, well, that's what we'll do in January and February as we start to work through what the state-level regulations are on data centers, and if that includes giving counties more authority, it may. But right now, I just want to clarify, you do have that existing authority now.

[02:45:09] So thank you so much for all your hard work. Thank you. Thank you. Arif, if you would say your last name for me, please. And you will be followed by John Kolich. Good evening, sir. Good evening, Chair and Chair Randall, members of the board.

[02:45:27] My name is Arif Demersi, and I've been with Cloud Issue for nearly three years. When I graduated from college, I knew I wanted to build my career in a place that aligned with my values. Values like accountability, civic duty, integrity, and doing the right thing, even when it's difficult. Three years later, I can say with complete confidence that I made the right choice.

[02:45:45] I'm proud of what I do. I'm proud of the countless people I work alongside, and proud of the impact we have on the communities we serve. I've had the opportunity to see firsthand how this industry,

and Cloud Rescue specifically, invests in communities not only here in Loudoun County, but across the country and around the world.

[02:46:01] We support organizations fighting food insecurity, helping families in need, advancing education, and working to ensure that future generations have greater opportunities than the ones before them. CloudHQ is not simply a data center developer. We're a long-term member of the communities where we operate. We invest here, we hire here, we volunteer here, and we are committed to being responsible stewards of the communities we call home. We recognize that growth requires listening, adapting, and continual improvement. As you consider this 12-month pause, I respectfully ask you to also consider the people behind these projects: the engineers and architects,

[02:46:38] electricians, construction workers, project managers, local businesses, and families whose livelihoods depend on this industry. A 12-month pause may sound temporary, but its impact on workers, local businesses, and future investments can be immediate and lasting.

[02:46:53] I am proud to work in an industry that builds the infrastructure powering our modern world. while continuing to invest in the communities we serve. I respectfully urge you to allow responsible projects based on individual merits to continue moving forward through the county's established review process rather than imposing a blanket pause.

[02:47:10] Thank you. Thank you. Sir, before you walk away, with apologies, you use the word we a lot, and I don't see down here, and you probably said it, but I missed it. Who was we? Who are you speaking on behalf of? Cloud HQ.

[02:47:26] You're speaking on behalf of CloudHQ. Thank you. I appreciate that. I'm John Colich, and then you'll be followed by Alfredo Valdez. Good evening, sir. Good evening. Good evening, Chair Randall and members of the board. My name is John Colich. I'm Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer for Sol Centers, a publicly held company listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

[02:47:48] I would like to voice our opposition to the proposed resolution to pause legislative applications for data centers and substations. The proposed pause, which in reality is a moratorium, erodes the trust the business community has in the local government. Business leaders spend many years planning their facilities, which cost millions of dollars in upfront cost.

[02:48:08] A pause jeopardizes the confidence in the county and turns away future investment. This will have a trickle-down effect and will impact a larger segment of the economic growth in the county. Business leaders and other industries will begin to question the county's leadership and question if the next moratorium will impact their business operations.

[02:48:28] There is fierce competition for economic development in the region, and the county should foster a process that is trustworthy and attracts business investment. Competing jurisdictions are waiting for opportunities to prove to prospective investors that Loudoun County is unpredictable and investment should be taken elsewhere in the region.

[02:48:48] A pause provides ammunition for this sales pitch. As a member of the business community, we need to rely on the county to keep its word, stand strong with their commitments, so we can invest the time and capital to expand our operations in the county. Business leaders have contributed to much of the growth and success of the county for many decades.

[02:49:08] Trust and a predictable governmental process have been vital to this relationship. At this time, we ask the county to continue to honor the established governmental process without a pause so business leaders can see the county as a solid investment in the future. Thank you for your leadership and consideration to our request.

[02:49:26] Thank you, sir. Appreciate that. Alfredo Valdez, followed by Mark Bayless. Good evening, sir. Good evening, Madam Chair and respected board members. I'm Alfredo Valdez, a Bertruid resident in Brambleton and a resident in the Little River District.

[02:49:48] Supervisor Turner, I find it fascinating that when you travel and speak to other localities about data center lessons from Loudoun, Your advice is, quote, never allow by right data center development, end quote. I agree with you and I'm here tonight asking the entire board to do all it can in this pause and beyond to stop making loud and the cautionary tale to other localities.

[02:50:10] In the same brief, you advise localities to never allow separate by right substations and to require substations in the same application as a data center. I say figure out how to do that here too. It's not sufficient to advise others to learn from our mistakes, but then not do all you can to change those mistakes here.

[02:50:30] Supervise the Saints. You said it took the county leadership completely by surprise when Vantage turned on their gas turbines at Vantage 2 data center in Sterling. That turned Vantage into a national story. How could the county staff authorize an on-site power plant yet leave its elected board and neighboring residents unaware until it began affecting their lives and health?

[02:50:51] That raises a fundamental question about oversight and accountability within the county's own approval process. Now you are about to do it again and approve that next mistake to be next to my community, our community here with all the people with green shirts from Brambleton.

[02:51:08] And earlier this year, Digital Realty filed an application to expand its digital Dulles campus to 11.7 million square feet and add an on-site microgrid featuring 23 natural gas turbines, nearly triple what Vantage has. This is completely and completely unacceptable.

[02:51:27] Adopt the pause as drafted. Finish the rules before you approve more. Thank you very much for your time. Thank you, sir. I'm sorry. Are you Mr. Bayless?

[02:51:44] Thanks for you, Mr. Bayless. Sir, you're going to be followed by Dominica Codote. Good evening, sir. Good evening. Good evening, Chair Randall and members of the board. My name is Mark Bayless, as you already know. I'm a Katocton District resident, and I've served in the FCC Technology Advisory Council since 2010.

[02:52:03] I urge you to vote no on the proposed delay of data center approvals. Loudoun County has become one of the world's most economically successful technology communities, in large part because of its data center industry. The county projects approximately $1.3 billion in tax revenue for fiscal 2027.

[02:52:25] You all know that that revenue goes to schools, public safety, and reducing taxes on homeowners. But the data centers represent something far more important than that. They are the infrastructure supporting artificial intelligence, medical research, national defense, American technology competition.

[02:52:45] AI is already helping researchers develop cancer treatments, discover new medicines, improve medical diagnosis. We should not unnecessarily delay the infrastructure that makes that process possible. I recognize the concerns about noise, water, electrical capacity, and residential neighborhoods, but those concerns deserve solutions.

[02:53:07] But the answer is better standards, not a blanket delay on qualifying applications. Continue reviewing projects individually. Require developers to address their impacts, protect homeowners and rate payers, and distinguish high-value AI computing and other data centers from unvaluable ones like crypto mining.

[02:53:27] The board can complete its new zoning standards without automatically delaying responsible projects. To vote yes would risk surrendering the United States' leadership in data centers and artificial intelligence to other countries such as China.

[02:53:44] So I urge you to please vote no. Thank you. Thank you, sir. That was Mr. Bayless. Dominica Cadotte, C-A-D-O-T-T-E. You are next, ma'am. And ma'am, just give me one second.

[02:54:00] You will be followed by David Smith. Good evening, ma'am. Good evening. Good evening, members of the board. My name is Dominica Cadotte. I'm represented by Supervisor Sylvia Glass. I am here tonight to demand a pass on data centers and substation development in Loudoun County until we have a comprehensive plan that puts residents first.

[02:54:22] Our neighborhoods, homes, properties, and quality of life are being sacrificed for corporate development. Residents are tired of being an afterthought, while decisions are being made that permanently change our communities.

[02:54:39] So, I'm asking you for a pause. We need responsible planning, and we need our elected officials to remember who they work for. Your responsibility is to serve residents, not developers and not corporations. If you want to be re-elected, start listening to the people who put you in those seats.

[02:54:57] I also want to address the approved data center in Broadland, Cyrus 1. Approval does not mean that this board should wash its hands off the responsibility to protect the residents. I'm asking you to use every legal tool available to you to stop this data center.

[02:55:13] I have started a petition, and we have over 2,400 signatures. And also for the people who support putting data centers in residential neighborhoods. Please move into a home next to one and live with the noise, the generators, the disruptions. It's easy to support something when you don't have to live with the consequences.

[02:55:32] And finally, I want to say something. I should be home today with my little son, who is four and is sick. But instead, I'm standing here and asking you to do your job to protect the residents, something that should be obvious. Thank you. Thank you, ma'am. And before you leave, ma'am, before you leave, if you do have the petition, you can give it to the clerk.

[02:55:53] Otherwise, it's online. Can you just email us the link so we know where to find the petition? Okay, thank you very much. I appreciate that. David Smith, you will be followed by Clement Lupton. Good evening, Mr. Smith. Good evening, Madam Chair and members of the board.

[02:56:12] I live in the Ashburn District. I'm a resident of the county since 1987. You all might remember Hechengers. That's how far back I go. My comments tonight are concerning the proposed resolutions.

[02:56:30] I believe there's two of them, to pause data center applications, and I'd like to speak against those. I'm very pleased to see that Phase 2 has been initiated. This includes the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance, and they enumerate standards and location criteria.

[02:56:47] I had a chance to go through them in detail the other day. Besides data centers themselves, topics include substations, power generation, noise, and building design, among others. And the standards are planned for enactment in July 2027. This is progress and is greatly appreciated.

[02:57:06] However, the board is considering these two draft resolutions, pausing votes on applications for up to 12 months, retroactive to September 15th. While a moratorium is legal and Lauda County's proposed resolutions may be lawful, a pause on board boats on applications likely has the same effect on data center owners and their tenants as a moratorium.

[02:57:32] Moratoriums and pauses are both temporary, and they impose additional costs and risks, which you've heard about from others earlier this evening. The risk is where the county may be exposed legally. Besides inviting litigation from increased costs to construction delays, litigation may expose the similarity of outcomes between a pause and a moratorium.

[02:57:57] I ask you to not invite litigation. It will waste time. It will erode political goodwill that this county is really good at generating towards businesses. and then from a slightly different perspective.

[02:58:13] Oh, I'm sorry, sir, your time is up. I'm sorry, your time is up. Very good, thank you. Thank you. David, no, Clement Lupton, you're going to be followed by our first remote speaker. And I'm sorry, who's doing the remote tonight? Is it you, Andy?

[02:58:30] Yes, it is. Okay, so is Paul Serrano on the phone after Mr. Lupton? Yes, he is. Okay, wonderful. Mr. Lupton, and you'll be followed by our remote speaker, Paul Serrano. Good evening, sir. Good evening, Chair Randall, members of the board. I am Clement Lupton, Government Relations Manager for the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce.

[02:58:47] I'm here to speak on the resolution to pause the board's consideration of data center and substation legislative applications. The chamber urges the board to oppose this resolution, whether you call it a pause or a moratorium. As this resolution was originally intended, this effort is not only unnecessary, it sends a negative message to the entire business community and not just this industry.

[02:59:09] Under this resolution, applications that have received a Planning Commission recommendation would wait for Phase 2, which staff expects in July of 2027. Staff would then bring forward no more than five per meeting, so some applicants may not see a vote until 2028. And staff expects those applicants to incorporate Phase 2 standards, which are rules that did not exist when they applied.

[02:59:31] That is changing the rules midstream. Applicants can decline to defer, but declining means asking for a vote from a board that has already said it would rather wait. No applicant who followed every rule in place when they filed should have to choose between waiting a year or more and risking that vote. The resolution also reaches beyond data centers.

[02:59:49] 22 of the 32 applications it covers involve substations, including 12 substation-only applications. The exception is narrow. A substation serving a large-load customer qualifies only if it meets transmission-level tests. The chamber respectfully urges the board not to adopt a pause on data center and substation legislative applications.

[03:00:08] Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Lupton. I'm sorry, on the phone, on the remote, we're going to go to Paul Serrano, followed by Dorner Trainter, who is, I believe, in the room. We're ready, Andy.

[03:00:25] Chair Randall, I'm Paul Serrano. I've lived in Ashburn for 14 years. I'm here to urge the board to expect pausing legislative applications for data centers. It's apparent that the board is already moving diligently to exercise oversight of development.

[03:00:43] At the same time, I have great concern about the efforts of some to delay projects in progress by any means. I've testified before about my direct experience with new data centers as close as 300 feet from my bedroom window.

[03:01:02] My personal observations run counter to the unsubstantiated claims of people who claim impacts of noise and pollution and declining property values. Tonight, I will add the hard reality of my own history of electric bills, which have gone up far less than the increase in the general cost of living.

[03:01:27] But data centers are a convenient straw man for feeding the public panic over energy costs, as well as other things. I'd like to see the board pursue standards and controls for data center development, which you can do without a general pause, rather to reject individual projects that don't pass muster.

[03:01:49] In the current environment, the board should exercise leadership to help the public sort through misinformation that spreads freely through news and social media. Instead, I see some supervisors seeking to demonize for political advantage the industry that drives our prosperity.

[03:02:11] That's not the kind of future I expected when I came to work here 20 years ago, and it's not what I want now. Thank you for your time. Thank you, sir. Dorna Tainter, followed by Victor Block, followed by John Peterson.

[03:02:29] Hey. Good evening. Good evening. I'm Dorna Tainter from Waterford, as usual, urging you to adopt the resolution for a pause as drafted. We've been asking for years. Here's what it takes for us to be heard. We organize meetings, do extensive research, help draft legislation, build websites, knock on doors, and help neighbors write to you.

[03:02:52] Many residents at those doors are totally surprised. We spend five hours a week. Several people do a lot more, all unpaid while paying for signs and supplies ourself. Then we try to get a speaking slot.

[03:03:09] 40 minutes of calling is normal. My wife and I took turns calling for a total of 200 times and never got through. After that, then there's childcare, missed work, and an evening here. And then a vote gets moved and we repeat the process.

[03:03:26] Please don't mistake the people who can't manage all of that for the only people who care. There's a school with 11 data centers within half a mile, gas turbines advantage, transmission towers in people's backyards, farms and agritourism, losing jobs to the power lines.

[03:03:50] These effects stretch all the way to Ohio, and we need to slow down. We don't need better data center marketing, we know. We need higher standards to make data centers the best neighbors possible. We need you to uphold the promises you made to the homeowners, small businesses, farms, parks, wineries, and anyone outside of the data center industry as well.

[03:04:15] The pause will give us that chance. Thank you. Thank you, ma'am. Victor Block, you'll be followed by John Peterson. Good evening, Mr. Block. Hey, Chair Randall. How are you? I'm well. Thank

you. Thank you all for having me. I'm Victor Block, president of Loudoun Valley Estates HOA in Sterling District.

[03:04:34] It's amazing to see so many people here tonight. It almost feels like a mini version of a Rockridge SEC hearing. In September, seven of you voted to have staff write this resolution. Tonight, pass it and pass it clean. In other words, no trades this time.

[03:04:50] Staff in the Planning Commission keep working. Nobody loses their place in line, and any applicant who will not wait still gets a hearing. It isn't perfect, but as one of you said recently, don't let perfect be the enemy of good. Pass it and keep working on the rest.

[03:05:08] The pause is already fair to the industry. Based on your package tonight, there are plenty in the pipeline to keep building. Nobody is building that fast, and nobody is getting power that soon. The industry keeps asking for predictability. So do we. Our community has now lived with uncertainty for years, not knowing what gets built next to our homes or when.

[03:05:30] We heard a lot about partnership tonight. There is a partnership with our communities, too. It started when we bought our homes. We had no reason to expect our open space, parks, schools, and homes would be devastated by this infrastructure. We heard tonight that this changes the rules midstream.

[03:05:46] Imagine having the rules changed on you after more than 20 years in your home. We are all getting this right. we're all owed getting this right all of your constituents are watching this vote tonight please do the right thing thank you thank you thank you very much sir uh john peterson good evening mr peterson you're going to be followed by nicole riley good evening madam chairman the rest of the board um john peterson with peterson companies um we have been doing business in the county for well over 35 years on numerous projects we have five existing projects We do business all over the Washington region.

[03:06:26] I was just kind of jotting down the number. We do have done business in 30 different jurisdictions in the Washington region over the last 30 years. Nothing like this has ever come up. This is unprecedented, what you are trying to do.

[03:06:43] You have the opportunity to become leaders of the world's most important industry, and you are missing that opportunity. you are really messing things up. You have a great opportunity here.

[03:06:59] The governor of this state had a decision to make when it came down to working with data centers. And I think what was influenced by her decision was the reputation that the state might suffer if they didn't do what they said they were going to do.

[03:07:19] This board has given authority to the data centers as are on the books. You're changing the rules in the middle of the game. That is not the way this county has become a great business environment that it has.

[03:07:35] We have many opportunities. I would just urge you to just remember that the actions that you might need, that you might be taking in the short term, have a long-lasting negative implication. We can take our dollars and go develop in other places, But we like doing business here, because you have a great environment here.

[03:08:00] And I would ask that you not do a pause. What is the pause going to actually let you do that you haven't already done? You've done a lot of great things with the community to put your hands on the levers.

Keep doing what you're doing. Thank you, Mr. President. And get it right. Before you walk away, I do want to say, and I'll give this time back, I do want to say this.

[03:08:20] I have talked many times about the fact that across the street from One Loudoun was the possibility of a by-right data center. And I called you, and we talked about you not putting a by-right data center that near One Loudoun. And you agreed.

[03:08:37] You put a silver diner, and you were building apartments there instead of doing the by-right data center at One Loudoun. You could have done it, and you didn't. And I've never publicly thanked you for that. So thank you. You're welcome. We'll continue to do a good job.

[03:08:52] Thank you. Let's see. Nicole Riley. Good evening, ma'am. Give me one second. You're going to be followed by John Harthorn. Harthorn. Good evening, ma'am. Great. Good evening, Chair Randall and members of the board.

[03:09:08] My name is Nicole Riley, and I represent the Data Center Coalition, whose members include many of Loudoun County's leading data center owners and operators. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. Our members strongly oppose the proposal to impose a moratorium on processing new data center and substation legislative applications.

[03:09:26] Moratoriums send a signal that an area is closed for a business, for data centers, but also for the trade unions and schools that are training and growing the construction and operational workforce, for the many local businesses that provide goods and services that support the data center industry, and for other significant economic development projects.

[03:09:44] While we recognize that growth can raise important questions that are worthy of public discussion, sweeping policies to impose a moratorium do not solve complex infrastructure challenges. Instead, they risk stalling economic opportunity, shrinking the workforce pipeline, and defunding essential local public services.

[03:10:04] Loudoun County's reputation for predictable decisions and fair, well-planned development would be undermined by moratorium, creating uncertainty for businesses, property owners, workers, and residents. Property owners and applicants have made substantial investments, like you heard earlier this evening, and have submitted those applications under the county's existing rules.

[03:10:23] Just as importantly, a moratorium is unnecessary. The proper approach is to allow the Phase II process to conclude and apply any resulting policy changes on a forward-looking basis, not on any projects already in the pipeline. Data centers drive Loudoun County's economy, delivering about $1.3 billion in tax revenue and thousands of jobs that fund core public services.

[03:10:45] The county should not abruptly change course in a way that creates uncertainty, invites legal challenges, and disrupts investments that were made in reliance on existing rules. For those reasons, we respectfully ask the board to reject any proposal that pauses or suspends legislative applications on data centers and substation projects.

[03:11:02] Thank you for your time and consideration. Thank you very much.

[03:11:17] Good evening, Mr. Hawthorne, and you will be followed by Dan Vargas.

[03:11:40] Good evening, Chair Randall and board members. My name is John Hawthorne. I am vice president and associate general counsel of B.F. Saul Company and Affiliates. I am here to voice our

opposition to the proposed resolution to pause Board of Supervisors' consideration of legislative applications for data centers and substations.

[03:11:59] No legal authority exists whereby a county board can implement a moratorium through a categorical suspension of decisions. Further to the point, we have found no such authority that ever even differentiates the term pause from the synonymous use of the statutory term moratorium. Renaming a statutory prohibition does not, on its own, make the action permissive.

[03:12:20] Our organization has owned property in Loudoun County for decades, and for a period of time was one of the county's largest landowners. We have paid over $5 million to taxes through the Route 28 taxing district since its inception 40 years ago. We have worked with the county for these past 40 years and have contributed to the economic growth of the county.

[03:12:41] We have worked tirelessly with the board for the past two years on our existing legislative application for land that we own on the Route 28 taxing district. One of our applications, in fact, is grandfathered under the recent grandfathering resolution. Twelve months have passed since one of our legislative applications was accepted by the Planning Commission, and we have not yet received a response from the board.

[03:13:02] This pause attempts to extinguish our statutory rights by running out the clock on our protections under the Route 28 taxing district. If passed, the pause threatens to undercut our ability to develop our property in the most logically and economically viable manner. Virginia has always balanced property rights with the government's authority to regulate zoning.

[03:13:23] These principles are foundations for the property rights in the Commonwealth, and if passed, the board's actions will erode these protections. thank you for your time and consideration of this request. Good evening. Thank you, sir. Dan Vargas, you're going to be followed by Michaela Hackstrom. Good evening, Mr. Vargas.

[03:13:45] Good evening. My name is Dan Vargas. I'm speaking before you as a local civil engineer working in Loudoun County and also as a resident of the Little River District in strong opposition to the board's consideration of the moratorium on legislative applications for data centers and substations. I think it's important to restate that thanks to the recent zoning ordinance amendments that have been adopted and are already in effect. Every new data center or substation application today has to go through the legislative process. I personally agree that data centers and substations should only be built where they belong and within the overall character of Loudoun County. That issue has been resolved. There was also a lot of discussion amongst the

[03:14:21] board in September about how a moratorium or pause would not impede the progress of any administrative applications. While that specific point may be true, as I just noted, the legislative processes now are required first step in any site plan application. Saying there are plenty of administrative site plans in the hopper and therefore it won't impact the data center industry would be like Loudon Waters saying they can shut down their water treatment facilities because the water towers are full. The supply of administrative applications would be consumed during a legislative moratorium and whether the industry is willing to sit around and wait to see what will happen afterwards remains to be seen. I work on many different types of land development applications throughout the county. The recent increased scrutiny from staff on data center site plans

[03:15:01] has been expected and in some ways justified that that mindset seems to have permeated into reviews on every other kind of application throughout the county whether it be residential commercial retail you name it we are now experiencing significant difficulties in dealing with county staff on what would otherwise have been pretty straightforward slate plan applications this has resulted in quite the chilling effect on overall development throughout the county and i'm concerned about what upping the ante even further would cause in my opinion as a professional in the land development industry, the board's consideration of a moratorium is unnecessary and could cause a major disruption to all development industries moving forward in the county. And as a resident of Loudoun

[03:15:38] County, I'm very concerned that our leaders are considering such a risky move, particularly given the amount of costly litigation that would surely ensue. Thank you. Thank you, sir. Thank you. Yes, Michaela Hackstrom, followed by, on the phone, Lauren Little-Stolen.

[03:15:58] Good evening, ma'am. Good evening. I'd like to thank my opportunity to speak here today. Chair Randall and members of the board, my name is Michaela Hackstrom. I'm a student at Northern Virginia Community College, and I live next door in Prince William County. I'm asking you to please vote no on the 12-month pause.

[03:16:16] For you, this is a policy question. For me, it's my future. I plan to become a data center technician, and Loudoun County is where I want to do it. This is the data center capital of the world. For someone my age, that means a skilled, well-paid career is being built 20 minutes from where I grew up.

[03:16:34] And I'm not only here for myself, I'm here for my classmates and everyone my age who's asking the same question. When we finish school, what will be here for us? We watch people only a few years older than us move away because they can't find a career that lets them afford to stay. Data centers are one of the few industries here that are growing and hiring people like us.

[03:16:53] I understand the concerns about power, noise, and how close these buildings are to homes. Those deserve real answers, and you can keep improving the rules without a pause. But a pause sends a message to my generation that the door is closing. If Latin doesn't embrace this industry, those opportunities will go somewhere else.

[03:17:12] And so will we. Please keep Latin building for the future of my generation. Vote no on the pause. Thank you. Well done, young lady, and thank you. On the phone would be Lily, I'm sorry, Lauren, Lily Stolen, followed by James O'Brien. Good evening, board members.

[03:17:31] I'm Lauren Lillistolen, Sterling District. I've been actively involved with the Golden to Mars project since July 2024. If the final order stands, the Golden to Mars line will be routed through my neighborhood. 600 feet from my home and a mere 250 feet from where my elementary school children play recess daily. The line will run to the Broad Run Stream Valley, along trails in many families, including mine, used to walk to and from school. This line will also permanently damage the ecologically important green corridor that functions as one of the last remaining habitats for local wildlife, as well as a peaceful escape for community members and an outdoor classroom for our children. As a result of my engagement, I've learned more than I ever wanted to know

[03:18:09] about transmission planning. I've learned that a line like Golden to Mars starts with a forecast, how much power the region will need and where. In Northern Virginia, the growth of that forecast is driven mostly by data centers. When a data center is approved, its load goes into the forecast. When the

forecast grows, the lines follow. When residents ask the county about a transmission line, we're told it's the SEC's decision. While that is largely true about the route, it's not true regarding the load. The load starts here with you, one approval at a time. Regardless of how long you have held your seat. This board created the demand. I have been to enough of these meetings that I can already hear some of you refusing to accept responsibility and trying to hide behind

[03:18:49] a zoning administrator's decision made 25 years ago. This board needs to address data center development more responsibly, and you've had years' worth of opportunity. Please don't fail tonight. This pause matters to people like me, people who may not be dealing with a data center directly but are grappling with the supporting infrastructure. Every data center approved before phase two is finished is more load in the next forecast more substations more lines for loudon county data centers can still be approved approve them under rules that acknowledge their burden on residents and account for everything they bring with them please adopt the pause as drafted finish

[03:19:23] the rules before you approve more data centers thank you thank you ma'am james o'brien good evening sir you're going to be followed by taylor chess good evening sir good evening madam chair and the members of the board.

[03:19:40] My name is Jay O'Brien and I live in the Broadbound District. I've called Loudoun County home for 34 years and I proudly work in the data center industry for Equinix and I'm here as a resident. I moved here for the opportunity for work in technology.

[03:19:55] In the end, it was the jobs, it was a livable community, and it was the great schools my children had available to them, allowing them to thrive, making Loudoun the right choice. I'm proud to work for a company who has a great track record and shows commitment to being a good neighbor, giving back to the community, and supporting responsible growth in Loudoun County.

[03:20:18] As a resident, I want clear and forcible standards for data centers. But a blanket pause doesn't create new standards, it creates uncertainty. Understanding what goes on inside of data centers needs to be at the heart of the conversation.

[03:20:35] Data centers are considered critical infrastructure, the lifeblood, and driving the digital economy. When you dial 911, or a doctor looks at your health records, or you make a bank transaction other than yesterday, that depends on the infrastructure in Loudoun County, and that's only a small portion of it.

[03:20:54] A pause in the data center and substation applications has a ripple effect and calls into question the confidence that businesses have had in Loudoun for decades. In fact, many of Loudoun County's information technology 10 pillars rely on what these data centers are providing.

[03:21:11] This industry opens the doors for solid careers, with or without a college degree, for young people and veterans alike. As a mentor in Equinex Pathway to Tech, I show local high school students that these careers are right here in the county. And veterans, they make up 7.5% of our U.S. workforce building their civilian careers.

[03:21:34] A pause puts the mentoring on hold and creates uncertainty for the industry, and anyone thinking about counting the loudest to lick a work like I did. I ask you not to adopt a pause. Sir, thank you. Okay. Thank you very much.

[03:21:49] I appreciate that. Taylor Chess, followed by Michelle Juergens. Good evening, Mr. Chess. Good evening, Chair Randall and board. Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to talk. I believe a pause in the data center development would be a serious mistake for Loudoun County.

[03:22:09] Consequences that would reach into many other industries. It sends a troubling message to businesses considering investing in Loudoun County. That message, the rules can change at any time. Businesses need predictability.

[03:22:27] Without confidence, investment and economic development will suffer. Peterson Companies has had a long, constructive working relationship with Loudoun County. We have regarded the board as straightforward about development priorities.

[03:22:43] Our experience with two properties, one that you just mentioned, were going to be my examples tonight. We acquired the Lakeview University Center, which had existing the right to do data center. In discussions with board members, they told us they didn't want data centers along Route 7.

[03:23:02] They wanted them in more industrial areas. We listened, we worked with the county to rezone Lakeview to residential. We then acquired Cochrane Tech, an established industrial setting bordered by a park, a concrete plant, a quarry, and other data centers.

[03:23:20] This was precisely the type of location that the county said was appropriate. We've now been working on that application for over two years. A moratorium will delay another 12 to 18 months. This is precisely the kind of location the county said was appropriate.

[03:23:38] We acted in good faith, adjusted our plans, and invested substantial resources. If a project like Cochran Tech can be put on hold midstream, what assurance does the next company have that they can rely on the county's guidance?

[03:23:55] It's not just about data centers. Loudoun County should thoughtfully manage its land use. Mr. Chess, I'm sorry. I'm sorry, your time's up. Thanks. Michelle Jergens, followed by Gregory Perio.

[03:24:11] Good evening, ma'am. Good evening, chair members of the board and county staff. Tonight I'm speaking on behalf of the University Centre community in support of our temporary pause on data centre applications. While our community was fortunate to secure an alternative land use in place of the proposed Amazon Bridgefield Tech Centre, many communities across Loudoun County continue to face proposals that will have lasting effects on their neighbourhoods.

[03:24:37] This is not an argument against economic development, innovation, or the data centre industry. Rather, it's a recognition that a period, it is recognition that a period of extraordinary growth calls for thoughtful evaluation. A temporary pause would provide the county with an opportunity to assess the cumulative impacts of data centre growth, complete ongoing regulatory improvements, and ensure that future decisions are guided by sound analysis rather than development momentum alone.

[03:25:11] Residents have repeatedly raised concerns about noise, visual impacts, the expansion of transmission infrastructure, increasing energy demands and the effects these facilities have on community character and quality of life. These concerns are not in opposition to progress.

[03:25:30] They reflect a desire for growth that is balanced, sustainable, and compatible with the communities where people live, work, and raise their families. Most importantly, a pause would allow the board to determine whether existing regulations remain adequate for an industry evolving at an

unprecedented scale and pace, while ensuring that land use policy, infrastructure planning, and community interests remain aligned.

[03:25:57] Thank you for your time and consideration. Thank you, ma'am. I appreciate that. Greg Perio, followed by T.J. Thrasher. Good evening, sir. Yeah, hello, everyone. I'm Greg Perio.

[03:26:12] I'm one of the directors of the Trailside Homeowners Association in Sterling District. I live about 150, 200 yards from the Vantage 2 campus on Glen Drive. In September, I told you that it runs around the clock on gas turbines because it has no grid connection, and on diesel when the turbines are down. I also have told you about four children in my neighborhood who have developed respiratory illnesses, and I have been to the hospital

[03:26:47] more than once. And when they recently, in July, ran their backup diesel generators for 24 hours, I had to evacuate my home because I was having a hard time breathing. As far as noise, I have measured the decibel levels at above 60 at my property line.

[03:27:13] And Vantage says that they've invested in mitigating the noise problem, but it still penetrates my home. And if I wake up at night, often I have a hard time going back to sleep. So the resolution, the very first paragraph of the resolution says to look at on-site power generation.

[03:27:37] That's Advantage 2 example. And this board knows that current rules do not address it. Approving another campus before Phase 2 is done means approving it under the same rules that produce what I live next to.

[03:27:55] Adopt Attachment 1, including the Route 28 conversion. Adopt the pause as drafted, finish the rules before you approve more. Thank you, sir. T.J. Thrasher, you will be followed by Derek Max.

[03:28:11] Good evening, Mr. Thrasher. Good evening. My name is T.J. Thrasher. I am vice president of data center construction for Prologis, but I'm here speaking for myself as a Loudon resident. I grew up in Northern Virginia and have lived in Loudon for more than 20 years.

[03:28:30] My wife, two boys, and I live in Aldi. Loudoun's our home, and I care about the decisions the board makes about its future. I spent much of my career delivering data center projects, and I've seen the opportunities this work creates. It's personal for me.

[03:28:45] My father and brother both work for HIT Construction and live here in Loudoun, and my cousin Melanie lives here too and works in purchasing for Dynelectric. This industry supports more than just the crews on the job site. In my work, I see people in design, engineering, procurement, project management, along with local businesses supporting these projects.

[03:29:08] People say workers can just move to other construction if data center work slows. From what I see in Loudon, there aren't enough comparable projects to absorb them. I understand concerns about traffic, noise, power, and nearby communities, and those deserve careful review.

[03:29:27] However, pausing applications already under review will delay projects and local jobs. It would also leave businesses uncertain about the standards those applications will face. Businesses and workers plan around the county's process.

[03:29:42] Changing it midstream creates real uncertainty. I'm asking the board to reject the proposed pause and allow pending applications to continue through the process already underway with each project evaluated on its own merit. Thank you.

[03:29:58] - Thank you, sir. Excuse me. Derek Max, followed by Joseph Bono. Good evening, sir. - Good evening, Chairman, members of the board. My name is Derek Max. I'm vice president of the Jefferson Forum and a 30-year resident of Loudoun County.

[03:30:16] When it comes to data centers in Loudoun County, lies and misinformation have outrun the truth. And sadly, too many elected officials seem willing to embrace those lies rather than defend the industry that has helped make Loudoun one of the most prosperous counties in America. We are told data centers raise electricity prices, but adding customers spreads fixed costs over more users.

[03:30:36] That's true at McDonald's. That's true at Dominion. States with a higher concentration of data centers have lower residential electricity rates. We were told that data centers threaten our water supply, yet there's no studies linking data centers to a reduction in our water tables. Most data centers operate on a closed loop.

[03:30:53] We were told data centers add pollution, but DEQ data, the state data that measures this, says that Loudon's air quality has improved over the last 10 years when data centers have grown. We were told data centers create unbearable noise, but data centers operate comfortably below Loudoun's 50-decibel nighttime limit.

[03:31:10] Yes, data centers require less electricity. So do research centers, factories, shopping malls, and fulfillment centers. The real problem in Virginia is energy policy. At precisely the moment electricity demand is soaring, the Virginia Clean Economy Act is restricting our ability to expand reliable generation.

[03:31:27] Its costly mandates have contributed to rising electricity bills, not the data centers. The answer is not to suppress demand. It's not to do a pause. It is to produce the affordable, reliable electricity Virginia needs to remain competitive. If you hate power lines, we need to build reliable energy here.

[03:31:46] Finally, let's stop pretending that this is a pause. Whether through regulatory barriers or economic suicide, this is the first step towards driving data centers out of Loudoun and out of Virginia. An industry that has generated billions in local revenue, supported our schools, lowered our taxes, deserves better. Loudoun should be welcoming investment, not chasing it away.

[03:32:04] Shame on us if we let misinformation destroy one of Virginia's greatest economic success stories. Thank you. Thank you, sir. Joseph Bono, followed by the remote speaker, Robert Forlett.

[03:32:20] Good evening, sir. Good evening, Madam Chair and members of the board. My name is Joseph Bono, and I'm a resident of Birchwood in the Little River District. I'm here this evening requesting a pause now and possibly considering an audit later on on all issues related to substations and data centers.

[03:32:37] I want to reflect on the history of how we got here. In 2000, a zoning determination treated data centers as offices, so they ended up wherever offices could go. In 2014, the board made data centers a by-right use in five of 41 zoning districts.

[03:32:56] About 14 new data centers per year followed, That by-right argument does not make what is happening right now right. Most of the supervisors who serve on this board can say that you weren't a part of that decision. However, the board has approved 32 of 39 legislative data center applications.

[03:33:18] The board made a comprehensive plan which deliberately concentrates housing and growth in the eastern part of the county while limiting development in the western part of the county. That means

additional data center development is concentrated in the same part of the county where most of your constituents live.

[03:33:36] We are saturated, and the projects in the pipeline could nearly double what we already see. One interesting thing about some of the comments that I've heard that have been coming from those who support data centers, Nowhere, not one time, has there been any acknowledgement of the negative impacts and health on the qualities of life of the tens of thousands of people outside of those doors and the hundreds of people, maybe tens of hundreds of people, in green shirts sitting behind me.

[03:34:09] They pretend like it doesn't exist, and I have a hard time with that. Finally, for future discussion, please reconsider and audit of all the projects in the pipeline. Please adopt the pause, finish the rules before you approve more. Thank you.

[03:34:25] Thank you, sir. I don't know how this happened, but we have more speakers than time left. However, I am going to let everyone who signed up, the first 45 speakers speak. We won't get into anybody on the waiting list, but the first 45 speakers, you will get a chance to speak, even though we'll go a little past the allotted time.

[03:34:46] Robert Follett is on the phone, fired by also remote, Brian Burton, and Don Luce, all remote speakers. Good evening. My name is Bob Follett, and I've been living in Loudoun County for over 20 years, and I've been in Northern Virginia for almost 70 years.

[03:35:10] I'm now retired, but in my career, I worked for a major IT company for 33 years, winding up on the corporate staff before retiring. I mention this not because it has anything directly to do with the subject at hand, but just to give some context to where I'm coming from.

[03:35:29] You've heard lots of details from others, and I would just merely like to observe. The data centers provide important functions in data storage and routing data on the Internet, among other things, and have also provided significant tax benefits to Loudoun County taxpayers.

[03:35:50] I think that's extremely important. I believe a blanket pause would be unwise. Rather, each situation should be judged on its own merits. If there are problems that need further addressing in certain cases, then they should be addressed.

[03:36:07] But there is no need to pause other cases which would otherwise proceed on schedule. In other words, please consider each data center on a case-by-case basis. Thank you for your time. Thank you, sir. Thank you.

[03:36:22] Brian Burton and Don Luce are both on the phone, remote. Hi, good morning. I'm Karen Randall and the poor supervisors. This is Brian Burton. I'm a resident of Leesburg. I just want to say that it's unwise to pause on the data centers because it's just a stalling tactic, and everything's been lined up.

[03:36:52] Why should you stall about making decisions about projects that are approved, basically, and in the process of finalization? It's sending a contradictory message to the community.

[03:37:10] But for the residents, I think you need better zoning. It's a zoning issue, not a data center issue. Considering how you zone the data centers, it's much wiser to approach it that way than just reject the data centers.

[03:37:34] Medicines are basically free of pollution once they're connected to the grid. They're economical, and they provide a lot of taxes to the community. Everyone benefits once they're properly in

place in the community.

[03:37:51] Thank you. Thank you, sir. Don Luce, followed by John Scott, who's back in the room with us, I do believe. Don Luce, on the phone. Thank you very much. Thank you. Thank you to the board for allowing me to speak. I'm in the, I guess, Algonquian district, and I don't want to repeat all the other arguments, but I will say that I support not stopping, I guess if I oppose stopping and doing a pause, and I think you should go forward.

[03:38:21] I believe the board is capable of negotiating. You've found problems. The thing about life, it seems like you learn as you go along a lot of times, and maybe you've found some information out, and you say maybe there's a better location. I think you should just negotiate with some of these data centers.

[03:38:39] Obviously, shutting it down and doing a pause is going to hurt somebody. As a matter of fact, I heard somebody in the room there talking about how they moved everything around in the county, they opened up their land, and then moved it to an area where they thought it would be safe for a data center, and now that person is going to be punished as a result of a pause. I think it would be better for the county overall in the business situation if they just look at what they've got on the table and see what they can move around if they need to.

[03:39:05] thank you thank you sir john scott uh you will be followed sir by yeah our last two speakers um patricia galardio and gwen morgan good evening mr scott hi good evening my name's john scott i'm a resident of birchwood in the little river district i've heard county executives say that data centers represent 1.3 billion of tax revenue about 40 percent of the current budget

[03:39:40] Two-thirds of that is tax on equipment that depreciates fast. The county's own budget calls it volatile. A pause is risk management. One industry should not carry 40% of the budget.

[03:40:00] Local real estate agents say a nearby data centre can hurt an individual's homes value. Axios recently reported that many homebuyers are now even screening listings for planned data centre sites. The board delayed removing the grandfathering protections because developers might sue them for an estimated 60 million or more in lawsuits.

[03:40:33] It's possible that residents also face an increased and estimated risk too, because their largest asset is most Hamley's owned property. If a possible loss counts for developers, it doubly counts for homeowners. We, as your constituents, want livable communities.

[03:40:59] We don't want to live in the ever-expanding data center capital of the world. Pause as drafted. Finish the rules before you approve more. Thank you. Thank you, sir. And our last two speakers are Patricia, and we actually are two minutes past the time, but we're going to make sure we have these two speakers come up. Patricia Gallardo, I hope I said your name right, ma'am, and the last pick would be Gwen Morgan. Ready when you are. Hi, good evening. I'm Patricia

[03:41:34] Gallardo, and I'm a Broadlands resident in the Broad Run District, and I've called Broadlands home for 15 years. Broadlands is a planned community. We bought here for the neighborhoods, the schools, the trails, and open space, and not massive industrial data centers next to our homes.

[03:41:54] I think you've heard the outrage among residents, and you know what our community is facing. Eastern Loudoun is already home to an enormous concentration of data center development. So I

have to say, being number 44 and listening to those opposed to this pause is dumbfounding, knowing that we already have over 300 approved data centers in just Eastern Loudoun.

[03:42:24] and to think that we as residents are maybe being unreasonable to say can we please get a handle on this. We are the ones who have to live with it when all those people go home, many of whom are not living next to data centers. This resolution says the purpose of the pause is to allow this board to apply what it's learning in phase two, protecting healthy surroundings for family life and addressing the size, height, bulk, and noise of these structures.

[03:42:56] Those are the right priorities. But residents must help determine what those protections actually mean. We're the ones who know what 24-hour noise is like at 2 a.m. We know when setbacks are too short because we live at the end of them. We know the difference between meaningful buffers and a row of saplings.

[03:43:16] So please adopt the pause tonight. Then use that time to hold community sessions on Phase II noise, height, and setback standards in the districts directly affected, including broad run, before the drafts are final. Adopt the pause as drafted.

[03:43:33] Include the residents. Finish the rules before approving more. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you, ma'am. Supervisors, we have one last speaker, Patricia, I mean, sorry, Grin Morgan. Before we go on and take our break, I do want us to all give me one second, Ms. Morgan.

[03:43:48] I guess a month ago when Mr. Rogers requested this time to talk to his colleagues, we did get a memo, but if there's anything that is appropriate, Mr. Rogers, for people to ask you, because I do think there's probably some questions that can be asked absolutely in open session, and I want my colleagues to be able to ask you anything that they think that they need to.

[03:44:17] If it's a closed session issue, you can say that. But I also think it's important for everyone to hear those answers. So if you do, after Ms. Morgan speaks, if you do have any questions for the county attorney who has taken this time to talk to his colleagues in the legal community before we go on break, we can do that.

[03:44:37] And then at least we can kind of have that in our head and kind of chew on those responses a little bit before we come back on the dais. So Ms. Morgan, you will be our last speaker. Thank you for being so patient. Thank you very much.

[03:44:53] Good evening, my name is Gwen Morgan and I live in the Sterling District in Ashburn. I'm asking the board to pause approval of new data centers until the county's electrical infrastructure plan is complete. I'm not asking the board to oppose data centers as a category, I'm asking just for time to plan.

[03:45:11] Right now, data center applications, substation permits, and transmission lines are reviewed in separate proceedings, and none of those reviews has to account for the others. I saw this in the MARS substation case. In June 2024, the board approved a commission permit for the MARS substation near Dulles.

[03:45:31] The applicant's representative said, we really can't find a better location for this substation. And the site was tied to a Byright data center. I don't know whether alternatives were studied in depth or whether anyone checked how the site would affect the transmission routes that would have to connect to it.

[03:45:50] But two years later, the Golden to Mars line is still in dispute. I understand the board has said that the current law, state law, does not allow it to weigh power needs alongside data center applications. If that's correct, then this goes beyond Loudoun.

[03:46:06] And I asked the board to press the General Assembly to change that so localities can plan for power and land use together. Until then, the plan should include stronger standards, such as a setback of at least 500 feet between new data centers and homes or schools.

[03:46:26] And I'd ask for tighter noise and pollution standards, including limits on diesel backup generators, and a requirement that any future substation application include an analysis of the transmission lines that it would necessitate, including routing constraints near homes, schools, and the airport.

[03:46:44] I'm asking the board to pause new data center approvals until that plan is complete. Thank you. Thank you, ma'am. And thank you, everybody, for coming out to speak. Thank you, everyone. Mr. Rogers, is there anything you want to tell us or that you've gleaned or that you learned or anything as you requested that time to talk to your colleagues in the legal community?

[03:47:07] I had an opportunity to speak with 12 entities and, I'm sorry, yeah, 12 entities and 16 people from those entities, they expressed considerable concern over reputational issues, there was issues regarding litigation, and a lot of issues involving contracts and damages that the parties would suffer.

[03:47:29] I noted all those for the board, I also noted my opinion, my legal opinion, which I put in the memo as to the board's ability to do a pause resolution. There are two pause resolutions in there. I recommend the second one, the second one does not include ZRTDs, ZRTDs are something that's unique to Loudoun County, we have the Route 28 tax district, which y'all know it's going away, and it's better to let the district go away than to enact a pause

[03:48:02] resolution, which would essentially deny through the pause resolution those ZRTD cases, but But the two resolutions are in your package, and I'm happy to answer any questions on how the resolutions were drafted and the balance that was crafted in those resolutions.

[03:48:20] Thank you, Mr. Rogers. Does anyone have any questions for Mr. Rogers before we take our break? Ms. Briggsman? Thank you. And thank you, Mr. Rogers, for your work on this. Really appreciate it. For many years, we were told, and I was told as a board member, that a moratorium would not be legal for us to do.

[03:48:40] And then we started seeing other jurisdictions around the state effectively doing pauses so that they could complete the regulations that they were working on pertaining to data centers. And that's part of the reason I brought this in July.

[03:48:56] So just for clarity, in your opinion, we are within our legal rights and legal standing to implement a pause while we complete our regulations. Yes, and the reason for that is that the board has a 12-month period to consider legislative applications.

[03:49:17] On a case-by-case basis, you could request additional information or continue to defer a case for 12 months. And the applicant's remedy is to go to court and say, board, you must provide an answer. In the resolution, it provides for that 12-month time period, and it also provides a mechanism for reconsideration of those cases that are paused and when they would come up.

[03:49:43] So, it's a balancing act that's in the resolution. It's not a moratorium. Right. I think that opinion is that. Thank you. And in your research, did you find that other jurisdictions in Virginia have faced legal challenges?

[03:50:01] I think it was Suffolk, Front Royal. I think Suffolk's already expired. They had a 12-month pause. Have you seen any significant legal challenges to these pauses? I'm unaware of them. That doesn't mean they don't exist.

[03:50:16] And some of the jurisdictions don't have the data center development that we do. Gotcha. And then one last question. We had somebody concerned about a substation that was already in permitting. It would be my understanding that if a substation is in the permitting process, it's already been approved either legislatively or administratively, and so it would not be impacted by the 12-month pause. If it's in the administrative approval, it would not be impacted. If it's in the legislative approval, and I think I heard one as well that said that it's been going on for about a year, then there's provisions

[03:50:53] in the pause resolution where that could come forward to the board. Okay, but if it's already in permitting, which my understanding is permitting is beyond legislative, beyond administrative, you're in permitting, that would not be impacted by the pause. Yeah, I'm assuming when you say permitting that it means administrative review, it would not be covered.

[03:51:11] Okay, all right, thank you very much, thanks for all your work on this. Any other questions for Mr. Rogers, Mr. Kirshner? Thank you, Madam Chair. Mr. Rogers, I have a couple of follow-up questions. You mentioned you had spoken to, I think, 16 or 18 different entities from various industries, including power and data center and some lawyers, et cetera.

[03:51:30] And I think some of the things when I've talked to you before were expressed, and correct me if I'm wrong, but basically how this would back up land applications, perhaps injure the county's reputation, perhaps real threat to actual costly litigation, which we would then have to defend, I'm assuming.

[03:51:50] Is that correct? Yes. Okay. And then, obviously, there's the reputation loss. I think that was expressed to you as well. And then there was also the concern, I think, from Novec and Dominion, and I wanted to get kind of a handle on this, that there were some concerns that if some of these substation applications were denied, that it would actually increase the costs to the user.

[03:52:14] that one of the concerns that was expressed by the power companies? It was. If projects are approved by PJM and the SEC, those are projects for new customers. Those projects and the cost would then still need to be absorbed by the existing customers. So that concern was expressed to me. And that's very helpful. I mean, obviously, that I think gives us all concern and pause that by rejecting these, we would actually make costs go up, which is something that power companies are putting forward.

[03:52:46] I do think, obviously, you have given us advice today that you believe that a pause may be defensible. You don't believe it is necessarily a moratorium. Obviously, some other attorneys take a different position from that. We appreciate that perspective.

[03:53:02] I have a tendency to disagree with you. But let me ask you this question. It would still be your advice, if I'm correct, that we don't necessarily put a pause on, but actually take these up case by case. Because really, we're going to have to take these up eventually, correct? And this is just kind of is delaying the inevitable.

[03:53:18] Is that a fair—can you give me advice? That is an accurate portrayal of my advice. You can handle these cases on a case-by-case basis, deferring the cases as appropriate, even including deferring the cases for the ZOAM and the CPAM.

[03:53:38] And it's sort of that process, which you could do, that if you take them up on that case-by-case basis, there may be some that you would approve, some that you would deny, some that you would defer. So essentially, it comes to us, it goes to a public hearing. We could set that out past the actual—from, I think we're scheduled to have Phase II done in about June of 2027.

[03:54:03] So theoretically, we could let that go through the normal process, set it out, and potentially avoid much of this costly litigation. At the public hearing. I don't know if you didn't get litigation over your deferrals, but that's correct. Thank you. Ms. Umstead?

[03:54:19] Thank you, Madam Chair. Mr. Rogers, I think you say you prefer of the three proposed draft motions, you prefer number two? I do.

[03:54:35] That resolution is the one that does not include ZRTDs as part of the legislative applications that would be paused. I believe there's only one, and we heard from the attorney for that applicant tonight. Is it, so let me share my impression. It appears to me that the attorneys you met with and the individuals, whether attorneys or data center applicants who spoke tonight,

[03:55:13] were quite serious that they intend to sue. Do you think they are blowing smoke? I do not. I hope I identify to the board that I think there's a real threat of litigation here. All right. Thank you. Mr. Turner.

[03:55:34] Thank you, Madam Chair. Let me just clarify for the people in the audience here. A ZRTD is a Route 28 tax district. These are landowners who have been paying extra taxes on their land since they've owned the land for the right to develop their land under, I believe, the 72 zoning ordinance and upgrade to the current ordinance at any time that they choose to do that in return for having paid the extra taxes. There are major legal implications if a ZRTD comes to the board and we deny it when they have paid extra taxes for up to 30 years for the right to upgrade

[03:56:12] to the new zoning ordinance. The challenge we have right now is, and that's why I think I talked with the county attorney offline, and we prefer the second motion because it, by legally excluding the ZRTDs, we create a stronger legal basis for the pause. There's only one application that was a ZRTD that would come up. The ZRTD period ends on December 5th. After December 5th, according to County Attorney, there are no more ZRTDs. That period where they are protected because of their

[03:56:48] extra taxes ends. There is only one application that we had that was going to come due prior to December 5th, and that was deferred at the last public hearing until March. So there are no ZRTDs that are going to be affected by this. After December 5th, there will be no more ZRTDs, and I prefer the stronger language, legal protections for the pause.

[03:57:09] Secondly, and... Mr. Turner, with due respect, I set this aside so we can ask Mr. Rogers' questions. I was about to do that. Okay, I'm sorry. Thank you. Am I correct that the purpose of the pause is to enable us to apply the Phase II performance standards to data centers that are currently in the pipeline?

[03:57:29] Yes, and that is identified in the resolution itself. Okay, so there's no problem with us retroactively applying new performance standards to an application that was made prior to those new

performance standards?

[03:57:48] I don't believe you're retroactively applying them. I think when they come up for their decision, what the board's standards are at that time should be applied. So you're not doing it retroactively. yes, the applicant applied under different standards, those standards were changed, applicants have known that this process is going on, and have probably participated in it.

[03:58:12] So you're applying the standards that exist at the time of the decision on approval or denial. So if we included the new performance standards, more rigorous noise standards, a requirement for Tier 4 generators, that could all apply to these applications that are in the pipeline?

[03:58:29] Yes, sir. Thank you. Mr. Rogers, I was, I thank you for taking this time. I was, you know, as I said before, if somebody asks for, especially an employee, asks for one deferral, I do it almost automatically because it's just my way.

[03:58:49] So I thank you for taking this time. I have just a couple of questions. You said that if there's an issue, the applicant's remedy is to go to court. and you talked a lot about how we could be in court. I'm having a little trouble understanding how you're very, very sure this is completely legal and also saying the applicant's remedy is to go to court.

[03:59:14] How are both those things true? That's my first question. My second question is the date, the year date. How did you get to the date that the Planning Commission received it versus the date that the application was accepted?

[03:59:32] Let me start with that first question. Sure. The remedy under state law, should the board fail to act on an application in 12 months, is to go to court and say, court, make the board consider my application. That's why the resolution itself contains a process for here's where you're pausing the applications, here's how the applications will be reconsidered.

[03:59:56] Even in that court hearing, The court would see that the board is already scheduling for how the applications would be considered after the pause has ended. Your second question, could you restate the second question? The second question, and I may have a third question. The second question is, how did you get to the date of when the Planning Commission receives the application versus when the application was accepted?

[04:00:21] Because the governing body has 12 months to make a decision on the application. In Loudoun County, we consider that to start when the Planning Commission first gets the case for a hearing. Not when it's accepted. Then the Planning Commission has 100 days to make a decision.

[04:00:37] But not when we accept the application, when the Planning Commission gets the application. Correct, because you couldn't make a decision on the application when it was submitted. And then finally, I just want to reiterate what some of my colleagues have said. So this is not a moratorium because a pause is because we are considering doing something else.

[04:01:04] A moratorium would just be stop all data centers with no guidelines for why we stopped them. But a pause is we stopped them because we are doing the phase two data center standards. So the pause is legally allowed because of the fact that we're doing phase two data center standards.

[04:01:22] Were it not for the fact that we already have that process underway, we couldn't legally do the pause. But because we have that process underway, we can legally do the pause. Is that correct? I think

that's mostly correct. What I would say is that the board is using the time period allowed by code to make a decision on a legislative application.

[04:01:44] That's why it's a pause rather than a moratorium. Okay. All right. Thank you, Mr. Rogers. We walked on the dais at 4 o'clock, it's now like 7, so we actually, I mean 8, so we actually need to take a break. So we're going to go take our dinner break, and we'll be back hopefully 20 minutes, 20 minutes, we'll be back.

[04:02:04] Thank you, everybody, and thank you for all for coming, I appreciate it, we appreciate it.

[04:20:21] Please, Jason, Jason, Jason, are you, Jason?

[04:38:39] Jason, okay, are you named Jason? Yes, please. Are you named Jason? Your name's not Jason.

[04:38:59] That's okay. It doesn't need to be red. Oh, because it's on red. Okay. All right. Thank you. Okay.

[04:39:18] We are back. And as I said, we're going to take literally the last item on the agenda tonight is supposed to be 14M. We're going to go to 14M right now, because people are here to hear that item. So, yeah, but at this point, this is a county item, so there you are.

[04:39:47] I was wondering, okay, hi, how are you doing? Do you have, Mr. Glendo, do you have anything to add to this that we don't know already? Anything that Leo has told you to add? Anything that you want to add, or do we know what we need to know?

[04:40:03] No, ma'am, I think you know what you need to know. You know what we need to know. Okay, so I don't think there's anything to be at it. So this at one point was a BMI, but because this item now belongs to the board, there is no reason for any of my colleagues to have the normal three minutes because it's a board item now.

[04:40:26] It is a board item that was brought forward first by Mr. Crony and Ms. Bricksman. Ms. Bricksman has been asked to make the motion. Mr. Crony, I'm sure you'll want to second the motion. Ms. Bricksman, would you like to make a motion? I would. Thank you.

[04:40:41] I move that the Board of Supervisors approve the resolution to pause consideration of legislative applications for data centers and substations with the exception of ZRTD applications provided as attachment two to the November 17th, 2026 Board of Supervisors business meeting action item.

[04:40:58] Second. I'm sorry. Was that motion? Which motion was that? That was two? Okay. That was two. Okay. Yeah, it's with the exception of ZRTDs. Okay, yeah, okay. Discussion on the motion, Ms. Brickson. Thank you. Well, as we saw earlier tonight, Loudoun County is home to more than 245 data centers, soon to be a bunch more.

[04:41:19] And as we saw, if the administrative applications are all approved, we'll have 92 million square feet of data center on the ground here fairly soon. That equates to nearly 1,600 football fields. I first brought the pause forward in July as a way to let the board have some breathing room so that we can finish phase two of our zoning amendments.

[04:41:45] Just the fact of the matter is that this development of data centers has moved a lot faster than the board has been able to respond. And we did have a lot of missed opportunities to respond and get this under control as our constituents have been begging us to do.

[04:42:00] And this is a golden opportunity to do that tonight. Loudoners have repeatedly raised concerns about noise, air quality, water quality, all the new substations and transmission lines that are required to power the data centers.

[04:42:18] The encroachment of data centers and substations on our neighborhoods, our schools, our green spaces, and our play areas. And so they really have been screaming about the data centers impacting their quality of life.

[04:42:35] Yes, we do need the technology, but all the technology does not have to be in Loudoun. And if we continue to allow data centers to gobble up all of our developable land, we are constraining ourselves from being able to build residential and to diversify our economy.

[04:42:53] As I said, we're in the middle of phase two of our data center standards and locations project, where we are actively considering the development of standards to govern these facilities, where they should and should not be located, how they should operate, including substations and other energy infrastructure to serve them.

[04:43:11] The phase two amendments and policy recommendations will come back to the board next year. And this legal pause allows us to hold those off for consideration, but also allows us to make sure those applications subscribe to the new regulations once they are approved.

[04:43:31] So the question before the board is straightforward in my mind. While we are actively reviewing the impacts of the industry, should we continue to advance legislative applications? And I think for me at least, and hopefully the majority of the board, the answer is no. We need to have those new rules apply.

[04:43:48] And as we heard earlier, the county attorney has made it clear that we do have legal authority to do this. this is not a moratorium. We've seen several other jurisdictions in this state do this. That's kind of where I got this idea after years and years of being advised that moratoriums are illegal.

[04:44:04] I noticed other jurisdictions accomplishing this. And so I will save the rest of my comments for my closing. Thank you, Chair. Excuse me. Just to be clear, moratoriums are illegal, but this is not a moratorium. That's the important part. Ms. Tacroni? Thank you, Chair Rondo. I have a friendly amendment that I'm hoping Supervisor Brissman will accept, and it's to remove the following statement from page two, and be responsive to the operational requirements of data centers and substations to help further economic growth and enlargement of the tax base.

[04:44:42] Okay, so thank you. Wait, wait, wait, wait. That was pretty fast, and no, she made the motion, you second it, and so if it's a friendly, it's accepted, but we all need to also know what it is. Okay. So can you tell us where that's at? That is on page two of the resolution.

[04:45:01] It basically, it's the large paragraph under whereas. Most of the statements are about protecting the health and safety and general welfare of the public, conditions to mitigate the impacts of conflicting land uses caused by the size, height, area, bulk, and location of data center and substation structures, the noise generated from such structures, and the obstruction of light, air, and view by such structures. And then there's this last sentence that I think is out. Her time should be running.

[04:45:35] Her time should be running. Thank you. Sorry, is out of balance with the rest of it. Okay, I'm sorry. Tell me one more time where this is at, because we're with none of us. It's on page two. Which

where is? The bigger one. It's the bigger one. The large where is. Okay, thank you.

[04:45:51] You can go on, you can go on. We just need to read it now. That's at the end. Yeah, my point for doing it is we do not need to enlarge the task base by continuing to approve data centers. We need to diversify our economy. I've been told repeatedly that we are too reliant on data centers.

[04:46:12] Why would you encourage more dependence on this industry? And I believe this needs to be removed from our data center pause. It really doesn't fit with that paragraph. That paragraph is more about residential impacts and how to mitigate those with our data center standards, too.

[04:46:30] So I believe that that needs to be removed. But I do support the resolution. I support putting the brakes on legislative data center applications while we complete phase two data center standards, CPAM, and ZOAM. This is not a moratorium. This is common sense.

[04:46:47] It's a pause and plan. There are some things that matter more than additional tax revenue, our land, our water, our roads, our quality of life, and our community character. It's clear to me that the cost of data center development outweigh the benefits in Loudoun County with the encroachment of data centers into residential neighborhoods, near schools, and environmental and historic resources.

[04:47:10] I support a pause to get the regulations right to fix them. For example, our noise ordinance must be updated to account for tonal noise. We need stronger substation regulations. Substations are too close to residential communities, and they need to be cited appropriately and designed in a manner that balances infrastructure needs with community compatibility.

[04:47:34] We have approved too many data centers without considering the full impact on residents. It's time to reverse course now before it is too late. As we can see tonight, residents are united in a demand for a pause. So you have to wrap it up, Mr. Crony, because you had like a whole minute where you weren't running, so please wrap it up.

[04:47:53] Okay, thank you. So I support a pause and to enact policies and regulation. Okay, so you're done. You're done. Thank you. I was going to finish. Everyone, let me just take, can we all just take three minutes so I can actually read this?

[04:48:10] Because I haven't, just give me a second. Well, I haven't read what you just put in there, which you just want to pull it out. Can I ask you to clarify? And I'm fine. I don't know if I just want to read it. Can I ask you to clarify to make sure? So, Supervisor Tricone, you're literally saying for that whole whereas as a pause consideration, that whereas clause, you're literally saying from whereas pause consideration and all the way down to data centers, substations, period, and you're just looking to remove to help further economic growth and enlargement of the tax base.

[04:48:40] No, I think she means all the way down to enlargement of the tax base. Is that right? Yeah, it's view by such structure. Put your light on, please. And then, sorry. View by such structure, period, and then we're removing that last and.

[04:48:55] And be responsive to the operational requirements of data centers and substations to further economic growth and enlargement of the tax base. So it's that last sentence. It's the last sentence in the last whereas. Okay, so and be responsive to operational requirements of data centers.

[04:49:11] tell me the first word we're starting with in this one starting and yeah yeah oh and be responsible so i hadn't read okay that's cool okay thank you i thank you for me give me that moment miss

[04:49:39] is um stuff uh yes thank you madam chair all right the regulations that board members claim we need to have in place before uh we can move forward with these legislative applications those regulations, we already have the authority to work with data centers and ensure that

[04:50:15] they have met our vision of what we want to see. So I don't think that provision justifies the pause at all. Second, I am very worried about the amount of litigation that is about to head our way, because I think this pause will pass tonight. We have heard from a number of applicants and their attorneys that they are quite serious about preserving their rights.

[04:50:53] And among those rights are constitutional rights, to be treated equally, to be treated fairly. Furthermore, there is currently a lawsuit in Frederick County, Maryland, where the county executive is being sued by a data center for having politicized the process of data center approval or denial.

[04:51:23] I'm afraid we may see something similar here. And finally, I wish we were all as familiar with 42 U. S. C. 1983 as we should be, because that prohibits the use of the cover of government to deprive an individual or a business of its constitutional or statutory rights.

[04:51:50] And I think what this board is poised to do tonight is to deprive an industry and different entities within that industry of their constitutional rights. For all of those reasons, I will be voting no.

[04:52:08] Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Umstead. Mr. Kirschner? Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you for everyone who came out and spoke. I think we probably had about a split 50-50 on either side of this issue. We've been hearing this for many years, and that's why this board has stepped up. Most of us on this board have stepped up and really worked hard to make sure we have necessary provisions within our local codes to address some of the concerns that a lot of the residents have expressed.

[04:52:32] We still have some more work to do, and we're going to get there. I also thank the industry that came out. I hear your concerns. I appreciate them. And so when we're governing, good governance is really a balancing, a process of going forward. So, I'm not going to get into the pros and cons, because there's plenty on both sides, quite frankly.

[04:52:52] And as someone who governs, we want to kind of balance that and make sure we approach it properly. I also have a lot of legal concerns about this resolution. We have a number of letters from lawyers. We have our own resolution or our own memorandum from our own county attorney. And let me just point out, for those who are listening, we have a number of different claims that will be coming our way.

[04:53:12] Equal protection claims that will implicate constitutional conditions doctrine. We will have a number of potential damages, including compensatory damages, perhaps punitive damages as well that could end up at our doorstep and cost our taxpayers not just a few million, but millions of dollars.

[04:53:32] We even talked at one point that the cost could be as much as $60 million. That was just the legal cost if we are found liable as a county. So there's a very different way to approach this. Quite frankly, this is more political. This vote is more political. There's a practical way. And I am all about pausing in a correct fashion to make sure we have the safeguards put in place while at the same time protecting the property rights for those who have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars.

[04:53:58] I would do it for a homeowner. I would do it for a business. It's very important that we do it that way. But let's just say what this is. Let's just talk about what we're practically doing. We're saying let's put a

moratorium indefinitely regardless of the application, I guess except for the ZRTDs that was put in the motion. Let's just put it on pause until September without ever considering each application where we could do that right now, fellow board members.

[04:54:20] We can do that right now. It comes to us, we can vote it up and down. We could then, once it comes to a public hearing, we could send it out past when we get through phase two. We have all those tools at our disposal. This, ladies and gentlemen, is a pure political vote to try to win votes. Hey, we're doing something on data.

[04:54:35] And we are doing things. We're doing a ton of things. But this is really bad governance to do it this way. We expose ourselves to litigation. We expose ourselves to business reputation. We're going to be looked at incredibly skeptically going into the future, and we have had a pretty good partner for the county as a whole that we are basically giving the middle finger to in a lot of ways.

[04:55:03] So I think we can put a, effectively put a pause, but let these applications go forward and vote them up and down as they come, rather than putting a blanket pause. I think that's the right way to go. It's sound governance, and that's what I would support. It's actually, this is not a meaningful temporary pause. this is just a moratorium by another name. Thank you, Mr. Kirster. You did not just say time. Of all the people, you did not just say time. She's like 45 seconds over. She's like, time, Mr. Letourneau. We always have a tendency to pay attention to the time when we don't agree

[04:55:36] with the person speaking at the time, do we? Okay. So this has actually been a difficult discussion, but also one where I don't know that I can recall something where I feel has significantly less consequence than speakers on both sides do. For the simple fact that Mr.

[04:55:56] Kirshner is right and that if the board did not adopt this resolution, we could in fact take up each of these things. And if recent history is judgment, some of them would probably not fare that well in front of the board. And so I end up thinking the outcome would probably be pretty similar either way. And then if I'm being very honest to my friends in the industry, you are probably not going to want the board to take up your application unless you think it's going to pass. We've seen this over and over and over. I've been doing this for 15 years up here. I know how land use works. And so I don't actually think that this will truly impact that

[04:56:35] many applications. It's just reality. I also don't think it is a particularly egregious thought for the Board of Supervisors to say we are, in fact, and have announced to the whole world for some time our intentions to implement new standards as part of a new zoning ordinance amendment, and we want those to apply to the things that are not currently in the permitting process, but rather applications we have to consider. I don't think that that's an egregious point of view for the board to have, which is why I will ultimately vote yes, but I don't think the sky is

[04:57:11] falling if it doesn't pass, nor do I think the sky is falling if it does pass. I want to say, like, I absolutely take seriously the concerns about the reputation, but I also have to say, this is truly an unprecedented situation that we're in. None of us have seen anything like this, And I don't just mean the political tsunami, I mean the fact that I have never in my life looked at a power projection past 2030, and it has a negative for the PGM service area.

[04:57:41] But that's where we're at right now. So I've reached the point, having supported data centers in the past, and by the way, not in other cases, where I can't credibly look constituents in the eye and tell

them I know exactly what's going to happen, because I don't.

[04:57:57] So we've got to get clarity on that. And to me, that is truly the bigger issue here. Besides all of the land use stuff that we're talking about, it is understanding where PJM is going, understand where power supply is going. We can, I don't necessarily think the speaker who spoke about power supply is wrong about how we got here, but we're here.

[04:58:15] So all of that really needs to play out in order for us to be able to credibly vote on these applications and understand them. I also think there are several relief valves in here. I think we had a reasonable compromise on grandfathering in the first place, and the Applications that truly need to be heard for the reliability of the grid will be heard.

[04:58:35] So that's where I end that out. Thank you. Mr. Turner. Well, thank you, Madam Chair. I just want to be clear here with the county attorney. So to the argument that we can individually vote on each of these applications, if we took each of these applications individually, we cannot apply the Phase II standards because they don't exist yet.

[04:58:58] The only way we can apply the Phase 2 standards of the applications in the pipeline is if we delay them until the Phase 2 standards are complete. Is that correct? So you can approve, you could deny, and you could defer. And if you deferred, you could defer until the Phase 2 standards were in place.

[04:59:16] That would be doing it on a case-by-case basis. Okay, so we could consider each application individually and then defer until the completion of the Phase 2 standards? You could do that. Okay, thank you. So, first of all, thank you for everybody that came out.

[04:59:36] This was, and I think Mr. Kirshner is right, it was about 50-50. Now, my emails have not been 50-50, but this was about 50-50 today. You know, it's interesting because two things. One, since I've been on this board, I have talked excessively, especially in my first term, about my concern of too much of our county budget being relying on one industry and data centers.

[04:59:59] I will tell you, in my first term when I said it, I was fairly well talked down to by a good deal of my colleagues who told me I didn't know what I was talking about and kind of I should stay in my place. And so this is an interesting moment for me when now everyone's talking about too much of the revenue being in one industry.

[05:00:18] I have always, always thought that. And so I want to say that first. I also want to say that when data centers and landowners talk about how much money they have spent, I hear you, I believe you, that matters.

[05:00:36] But by percentage, if you just looked at the percentage of someone's probably income, what people spend on their homes is also a pretty high number by percentage of what a data center might spend on land, on the land for a data center. So when the data center tells me we've spent this much money to get the land and this much money to do, well, the question is how much money does somebody spend on their home, and could that home be negatively impacted by a data center?

[05:01:06] I think we have to consider that. The place where I disagree some is I do believe that homeowners and everyone is my constituents, but I also think businesses are my business constituents. And I try to walk the line as finely as I can, because Loudoun's reputation, obviously our economy, our tax base, all that means a lot.

[05:01:33] It means something, and we want to keep these taxes lower and do all that we have done to a very large degree because of data centers. And I would tell you, two years ago, three years ago especially, this was not the conversation people were having with us. We were hearing over and over and over and over again, don't put homes there, put data centers.

[05:01:53] But I am also an elected official, and I'm supposed to move to some degree with constituents. So when constituents have switched, I'm not supposed to just say, well, three years ago you weren't saying that, so I'm not going to do anything different.

[05:02:11] Doing something because you've always done it is just never the good answer. And so I will be voting for this pause, understanding all the concerns around our reputation and whatever I have to do to meet with industry, meet with accredited agencies, I will do all those things because our reputation matters a lot.

[05:02:34] But I'm also hearing the heart, the heart of homeowners. Ms. Brickson, would you like a closing? I would, thank you. In fact, we have received more than 200 emails supporting the pause tonight um in our in our mailboxes uh since i think friday um i i don't think i've ever once heard a constituent say to me please build a data center and not residential um at least in my experience um and that is um one thing i do want to thank mr peterson for as

[05:03:10] well, because early in my first term, we met about a potential data center project up near University Center. And I said, please, please don't build data centers there. Let's think about something else to do. And we work together. And I really appreciate that we will have University Center Lakeview hopefully coming out of the ground soon. I want to address the revenue issue that was brought up. I've sat on the finance committee since 2020, and we know that forecasts show that our revenue will be stable from the data center industry for about five to seven years,

[05:03:46] and then it might start to level off. So I think that that's really a red herring argument to make, even if we don't build one more data center. And I actually think we might see that revenue continue to increase because we know that they're using more powerful and more valuable chips and that's what we tax and they're putting in gpus instead of cpus so i really believe that with the data centers on the ground we will still see growth and revenue um we have not seen any legal challenges in virginia um to these pauses um the the county attorney has told us that this

[05:04:24] is legal and we are well within our rights to do this um i will not be cowed by the threat of lawsuits and intimidation tactics, because I think that we are well within our rights to do this.

[05:04:39] But what I will do is take your calls and take the meetings and have more conversations about what we do moving forward. And Ms. Gillis knows that I will take the meetings. And Mr. Romeo knows that I will take the meetings. And Mr. Leslie knows that I will take the meetings. I take the meetings and we can continue to have conversations. But again, our residents have just said that this is a quality of life issue for them and they want to see us taking some action and taking a breather to pause the legislative applications. And I don't think we can take them one by one because

[05:05:15] as Mr. Turner said, the phase two regulations just won't apply. So I really appreciate everybody coming out. I appreciate the conversations. I look forward to more conversations and I I appreciate my colleagues' support on this. Thank you. Okay, motion was made by Supervisor Bricksman, seconded by

Supervisor DeCrony with a friendly amendment from Supervisor DeCrony on page two, paragraph three, that starts at the word and and ends at the word tax base.

[05:05:47] Is that correct, Mr. DeCrony? Okay. All the people who say aye. Aye. Opposed? Abstained. Abstained? Yes. So that motion will pass 7-1-1 with Ms. Umstead voting against it. Mr. Kirshner abstaining on the motion.

[05:06:03] Supervisors, let's go to the next item. We've done food scraps. Let's do the, let's, of course, do the legislative item. Why don't you all come on up? I'm sorry, Renee, this is taking so long. Supervisors, I actually have a motion on that, on this legislative item as well.

[05:06:25] And let me do, let me do it like this. This motion that I have in front of you is coming from Mr. Kirshner and I. However, Mr. Kirshner may not want to vote on the full legislative agenda. Is that still true, Mr. Kirshner? Do we need to vote on the full legislative agenda?

[05:06:42] We did that last... I know, but it gets added to it. Yeah, I'll vote to add it to it. You're going to get added that to it? Okay, all right, cool, wonderful. Absolutely. How are y'all doing? It's good to see you all the way from D.C. Thank you so much for coming. So mostly, I can make the motion, Mr. Saines can make the motion, and then I can...

[05:07:04] Well, let me do this. Do you have anything you want to tell us that we don't know already? Because I'll make my motion, and then we'll make Mr. Sainz and I'll make the motion for the full package and talk through both of them. So everybody got motions? Everybody got motions? I think we're good, so go ahead. It's motions all over the place.

[05:07:20] Motions, motions. Anything you guys want to tell us? Because I am going to ask you about some of the federal legislation that may be passed to counties. Just so that's why. Thank you for coming, because that's why I asked you to come. But do you have anything you want to say or add or something we don't know or Renee, anything we learned at VACO that we should know?

[05:07:42] Noah's just going to explain the small change that we have in the item for you. If you understand it, I can, we can just move on. Explain the small change that you have in the item for us. Sure. Okay. So this change will, so just a refresher.

[05:08:00] So the draft legislative program was endorsed at the last board business meeting on November 5th. Supervisor Sainz had asked us to change the language around data center generator use. So we are bringing that back tonight. This change will request that we explore legislation giving localities the authority to limit data center's use of generators, including the ability to establish quiet hours in situations that otherwise require or mandate their use.

[05:08:27] use. That's pretty much it. Pretty straightforward. Okay. Wonderful. All right. So let's do this. Let's just go down the line and do the motions first and then we'll do it all as one and I will make that last motion and just include all the motions that we've made and then answer. Well, actually, no, let's not do that. Let's ask questions right now. Does anyone have questions before we start? Because I actually do for our federal lobbyists. No? Question. Yes. You have question. Yes. Yeah, thank you. So position on recommendation number eight, the one about

[05:09:01] that says the word grandfathering. I just want to try and understand it. It says support legislation that gives localities the authority to establish and enforce maximum allowable sound levels for

data center facilities, including using alternative low frequency noise metrics and setting noise rules and enforcement mechanisms in their zoning ordinance separate from existing noise ordinances. Furthermore, support legislation that grandfathers in existing projects. So what does that mean? Does that mean that we're allowing them to be excluded? Because I would want it to

[05:09:39] be retroactive regarding the noise. I didn't understand what that meant. Sure. So that is a recommendation from the JLARC report from a couple years ago. Off the top, I would like to look into it a little bit more and get back to you, if that's okay. Okay. Yeah, that would be great. I was just trying to understand, because I know Mr. Quintine and I spoke about it, and we had different interpretations. Okay, sure. Yeah, I'll look into that and our research on it for you. Okay, wonderful. That was it. Thank you. Ms. Umstead? Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm looking at

[05:10:16] the data center generator use provision in the staff report. So in the first, in the first sentence, it appears that we are defining generator as either a natural gas generator or a diesel generator. Then later on, it talks about use of on-site generators. Are you defining, well,

[05:10:50] Might one expand the definition of generator to include any power source that is providing power to the data center? For example, in about maybe five or six years, a small modular nuclear reactor, would you consider that a generator, or are you very limited in how you are defining generators?

[05:11:19] So I think the wording that's in our program is based on, like, the request that we got to amend, but if you would like to just, if the board would like to expand it to all sorts of generators to, I mean, that would make sense to accommodate any sort of legislation that pops up, we could eliminate those terms, yeah.

[05:11:40] Okay, thank you. Mr. Kirshner? Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you for all the work you guys do. I had a question for our federal program. Specifically, as you well know, we are in a very difficult fight in Western London in terms of whether or not we're going to kind of change the tide from our AC to going to our HVDC.

[05:12:04] And we're working on a lot of things at the state level. We're working with a number of our local players and obviously our residents to bury these lines under a different type of electricity, HVDC, as opposed to AC. which is being used as we well know across the country and other places and we just haven't kind of caught up in this area yet. Are there, have we looked at any options with FERC, Federal Energy Commission, as to what possibilities may be there giving localities and states or changing some

[05:12:38] regulations that would allow or kind of push us in that direction in any way and if not would it be possible to maybe come back at our next business meeting or two and talk about maybe some things that we could we could look at uh clarence williams with the back here very pleased to be here uh yes sir actually we've been looking at things we've started putting together kind of uh almost a smorgasbord of different things that we could potentially look at not specifically with FERC but i will take a look at that and certainly whenever you guys want us to come back uh we'll be ready to kind of uh talk through some of those things and and maybe if it's possible you could maybe email in my office

[05:13:17] on some of those mortgage board ideas because I'm looking for any and all ideas that we possibly can because I think, again, we talked tonight how data center, you know, we're the data center capital of the world and we have come up with a great board that we presented earlier how to talk to other localities and I think it's really important for us to kind of lead the charge on this and how we transmit

electricity to our county and, you know, obviously there's energy policies to be considered, but there's also transmission lines to be considered, and it's something I think that would be very helpful for our legislative agenda to maybe push at the federal level, obviously working on the state stuff, but that would be great if you could email

[05:13:55] my office at Supervisor Kirshner, I'd greatly appreciate it. Absolutely. Thank you. So, okay, Clance, how are you doing? Good to see you. All right, Clance, can we just, to CFR is very disturbing.

[05:14:13] When I read what the National Association of Counties put out about the entire discussion about how this federal legislation could and would impact localities, I was very concerned. Am I wrong to be concerned, especially about things like viewpoint neutrality and losing some of our federal grants?

[05:14:36] And if I am not wrong to be concerned, if I'm not overreacting, how do we, as a board, And I guess I can take this information back to VACO and take this information back to COG and other regional bodies.

[05:14:52] How do we push back on this? And if I am over-concerned, tell me why. You're absolutely not over-concerned. So I'm not wrong. No, no. I've been doing this for a very, very long time.

[05:15:09] and this is intrusive into local government opportunity and the partnership between local governments, the states, and the federal government as there's ever been. The concern is widespread. It is very bipartisan.

[05:15:27] The conversation really throughout the summer has come very loudly from both sides of the aisle that something needs to be done to stop this. As you're probably aware, in the CR that was passed that expires December 11th. There was a prohibition on OMB making any moves to do anything with this rule until such time as Congress had a chance to kind of put its imprint on it.

[05:15:51] That expires on December 11th. As you may know, the Senate just released all 12 of its appropriations bills. There had been a considerable amount of discussion leading up to this release this last few days that that was going to be dealt with in the appropriations bills.

[05:16:11] Now, a bunch of things have happened in the interim, and appropriations is looking a little squirrely about how they're going to deal with things. So the draft bills that were put out over this last little bit don't touch this issue at all. There is a CR being discussed as we speak that would extend from December 11th to whenever they're going to do it.

[05:16:33] It could be a week long to try to actually finish it up, or it could be one that extends into the spring. It is very, very, very likely that the OMB rule is going to be dealt with in appropriation one way or the other. Before the year is out?

[05:16:50] Before the—yeah, they're going to have to do something before the year is out. The moratorium and prohibition lasts through December 11th, so something will happen before we get to December 11th with this OMB piece. Again, I thought it was going to be handled. You have both the chair and the ranking on the Senate side that hate it, that have been on-- Ms. Collins sent a very long letter to OMB saying, hey, I don't like this, this, this, this, this, and this.

[05:17:19] You can do this one thing down here. And you may have seen that NACO just put out a letter again a few days ago. I think that letter had a lot of impact. I've talked to several legislative directors and chiefs that are all-- they're hearing it.

[05:17:34] And so this is something that's going to get dealt with. If it doesn't get dealt with between now and December 11th, it will get dealt with in the CR one way or the other, and then handled whenever the appropriations bill is passed. Colleagues, can I have a 30-second extension to ask, as this body is concerned, how should we message this to Senator Warner, Senator Cain, Congressman Supramaniam, and how can I ask my colleagues on, my colleagues and Ms. Glass's colleagues on the VACO board to message this to their federal officials.

[05:18:12] I think I'm a strong believer in a drumbeat. I think folks discount what it means to hear from not only their constituents, but their local electives about things that are happening at the federal level. When I was on the Hill, we read all that stuff.

[05:18:30] We had three people that their only job was to take in all that information. And when it came from folks like you, it went straight to the member's desk. And we would sit around and talk about these things. So I'm a big believer in a consistent drumbeat. A letter from you all to the senators, to the congressmen, it is not just speaking to the choir, they are on your side, but that letter is something that they will hold up in committee and say, this is what I am hearing from my people, and this is why we've got

[05:19:07] to do something, and some of them will get nice and dramatic and slam it down, have papers flying around all over the place, but it is part of the thing that needs to happen, and I can just about guarantee you there are 100 senators and 435 congressfolk who are getting the same information in, and a vast majority of them are going to be doing the same thing waving it around. I don't know that I've seen something recently that's been so universally panned. It takes a layer of predictability and just blows it out of the water. And so everybody's concerned because they're all hearing from their local governments, their

[05:19:44] universities, their research institutions, that money's being held up as it is. And so to basically authorize it would be terrible for everybody. Colleagues, is it okay if we ask Mr. Quintine as a body to draft a letter that would come from Mr. Saines and I?

[05:20:03] We can send that letter around to you all so you can see that. And if we could do a straw poll vote on the letter so that everyone could write it. Because I don't want to wait until our next meeting to approve a letter. So if Mr. Quintine could help draft a letter working with our federal lobbyists, is that okay if we did that?

[05:20:21] Okay. All right. Everybody good with that? Okay. Wonderful. Thank you so much, and we will start with the motions, and let's go to Mr. Crony's motion first and just work our way down the aisle. Okay, thank you, Chair Randall. You're welcome. So mine is about data center.

[05:20:38] The first one is data center generator use, local limits, and notifications. It's adding a statement at the end. I move that the Board of Supervisors support legislation authorizing localities to find data centers that fail to notify them of diesel generator use during emergencies.

[05:20:59] Okay, so Loudoun County has 6,200 diesel generators. If some or all of these generators are used during an emergency, it will be a public health emergency, not just a grid emergency.

[05:21:16] The public needs to be notified when data centers are using their diesel generators during emergencies. Longer duration of diesel generator use at data center campuses during outages or grid stress raises air quality concerns, especially when considering the cumulative impact.

[05:21:34] I understand PJM notifies the public about emergencies when data centers and other large loads are directed to use backup generators during severe grid stress to reduce grid demand and avoid rolling blackouts for residential and retail customers. However, it is not transparent to the public. Just because PJM directs data centers to use backup generators does not mean that all campuses will operate them. Therefore, it is critical that the data center inform the public when they are operating diesel generators. And it is important to inform the public before

[05:22:12] residents experience air quality and noise impacts. Residents need to be able to take self-protective measures, especially if they're health compromised, and children and seniors could be at risk because of their age. I spoke to Mr. Hemstreet, and he said that the alert, It would be an alert through the Department of Public Affairs, correct?

[05:22:37] If the data centers notify the county, when the data centers notify the county. We would assign it to the proper department. Public affairs would be involved as... As an alert to the public. Yeah. Okay. Mr. Letourneau?

[05:22:53] All right. So what's the current regulation on this? I don't know who can answer this question. I can, if you want me to. Sure, Mr. Sanders. Madam Chair, can I? Do the chair? Do the chair, yeah. So currently, right now, there is no law for the data centers to let localities know when they're getting ready to turn on their backup generators in emergency purposes.

[05:23:14] So that actually speaks to the language that Ms. Renee was talking about earlier, where we added in that language about data center generator use, local limits, notifications. We're asking for that to be a law to give notifications to local localities.

[05:23:31] And that I get the fine part. So how would the local government know whether this was being followed or not? It just seems like it would be impossible. It would be putting a burden on our local staff to understand what the compliance would be of this.

[05:23:48] Well, PJM, you'd know. We've got to go through the chair here. Yes, that's fine. Yeah, PJM puts out a public notice saying you have to use your backup generators, your emergency generators. So, and I'm sure. Wait, wait. So then in that case, shouldn't we just assume everybody's using their backup generator?

[05:24:07] Well, not all the time. I mean, when they put out that alert, I just don't know. I guess my question is probably more to our staff. How would you enforce this? Like, how would you know to find somebody? I will admit, I'm frustrated again.

[05:24:25] And I mean, no personal offense to everybody. But these are all motions that came today when I was at work. And so I really didn't have time to look into any of them. And I really don't like it when we do that, especially in the legislative program, because these things are complicated. If you're involved in making laws, you know there's all sorts of questions you have to ask, and we just throw things in the packet and say, okay, we'll figure it out later, but I want to ask the question.

[05:24:49] So to staff, how would you do this? Do you have any sort of idea? So if the General Assembly were to give us, were to authorize it, we would have to develop an enforcement mechanism while the legislation is being developed by the board.

[05:25:04] Okay. At this moment, you don't know what that would be. Has anybody on the board asked you about that yet? I do not know what the enforcement mechanism would be right now. Okay. So I don't want

to go advocate for something if I can't explain how we would actually do it, right? I mean, we're asking, I'm not, I agree with the notification piece of it.

[05:25:26] I think it should be on the state to, and through the PGM channels to enforce that. I'm not so sure it should be on the locality to then enforce and find something like that because as chair randall often talks about these unfunded mandates that's what it ends up being because we have to have staff who then have some sort of expertise so i'm either going to abstain or just i don't know mr saints thank you madam chair and through the through the chair to mr crony can you clarify so are you because you mentioned pgm a few times so there's two situations one is if a data center

[05:26:04] that's on the grid, for whatever reason, their power connecting the grid stops, that's when the backup generators kick on. Right now, there's law for them to notify DEQ, letting them know that, hey, we're putting our backup generators on because our power source has stopped working, and we now need to run our backup generators for whatever. So to the language that we just spoke about in our legislative package that's why i put that language forward because right now we don't

[05:26:41] get any notification when that happens right and i want to change that because right now like i said it goes to deq then it just stops from there i think if they're going to notify deq it's just the same they can notify us let us know their backup generators are running because we lost power now when you mentioned pg pgm those notifications that we've seen were alert alert hey we might have to tell the data centers to power off the grid and run the backup generators is because of the heat and the strain to the grid.

[05:27:10] So are you getting to that situation, or are you getting to the other situation that I was mentioning before? It could be both. I mean, I didn't bring up DEQ, but it could be both. I just know with PJM, you know, they make that notification, and then the diesel generators go on and I get complaints, but the public doesn't know. The public doesn't know. Well, keep in mind, again, those notifications for BGM are a separate issue regarding, you know, blackouts, brownouts, or whatever the case may be, and thankfully, they actually have not turned on their backup

[05:27:47] generators, because we actually haven't really gotten the 100% go, turn off your power and go to backup generators. So I think, and I agree, maybe there should be some type of fine if they don't notify us but right now there isn't no bill or law for them to even notify us so i think we need to get to that first and then if somebody picks up a bill and says yes we're going to work to to you know craft a bill for them to notify localities then i think we can add on the fine part of it um to it or if you would like to amend what we you know if we take the final vote and say

[05:28:26] you know to what my language that i have already in here that we i think we all agreed to is add in the language saying we put in a fine if it's if this comes to pass then I'm then I'll I can I can support adding it into to my language that I have in um otherwise if it was what it would be to the language that's in the item so well that's not how it's presented here but but if you want to add the language into the to the language that we have in the item then so do you want to give friendly the work worth I would say the friendly would be to add in if the bill comes to pass to

[05:28:59] We presented about notifications for backup generators and turbines usage to also give authority to localities to find data center users if they do not notify the local authority when they're running their diesel backup generators.

[05:29:17] Mr. Crony? Yeah, I accept that. Ms. Bricksman? Yeah. Okay. Ms. Unstead. Thank you, Madam Chair. Sure. So right now, board members find out because the public knows what's happening in their neighborhood. So the public's already notified because they're hearing it or they're smelling it or whatever. So how does this improve upon that situation?

[05:29:50] It gives the public awareness. You know, we heard tonight from a constituent whose house has health issues that they could go somewhere else. It gives them notice so they can protect, self-protect. A lot of people have health concerns, so they may not hear about it until later, you know, and there could be health impacts.

[05:30:12] We have 6,200 generators. Some of these campuses have 114 generators at a campus, so it gives them an opportunity. I understand all of that. I understand the health concerns. What I don't quite understand is how this improves upon the existing situation where the public already knows, and as you said, they contact you because these generators are up and running.

[05:30:42] So you find out from them probably faster than you might find out from a data center. So I don't know. The fine part is separate. But I don't know how this improves upon the current situation.

[05:31:04] Anyway, thank you. So let me say my experience already with this. So I think I've told you all this before. When the Canadian wildfires were happening and the air quality was just so terrible, I put a note out to the data center coalition and to all the data centers to say, could you please not run your backup generators because the air quality is so poor.

[05:31:28] I was sitting at a NACO conference in New Orleans when I did that. NACO conference, right, in New Orleans when I did that. And of the, I don't know how many data centers, companies we have, how many data center buildings, how many data center companies, I'm not sure.

[05:31:45] But I think I got in four hours, I got about 16 of them that said yes. I also got back things like, how dare you ask us this on a Friday evening? And I'm like, it's a Friday evening for me too. and I'm at a conference, and can you just agree not to run your backup generators?

[05:32:03] And I would say, Amazon, right away, we won't run our backup generators. Some of the larger data centers, Equinex, right away, we won't run our backup generators. But I was having a very, very hard time getting them to even agree, even in the worst air quality we've ever had.

[05:32:20] Now, since then, because I have made this request, Mr. Crony, to our data centers at large, I have made the request, if they have to run our backup generators, would they please tell me? The only data center and the only person who I get this from on a very regular basis is Yonder Data Center and Chuck Coon.

[05:32:41] He sends me a text every single time, no matter what, even if it's going to be a half an hour. And I take it and I put it out to my constituents that says, this data center is going to be running their backup generator for the next hour because whatever reason. And the response from the residents is amazing.

[05:32:57] It's basically, thank you for letting us know. So in some ways, I've tried to do this already. And I have, the ones that have cooperated have cooperated, or at least that day. But overall, only one person, and whatever data center he has, Mr. Kuhn, has followed up with me and done that on a regular basis.

[05:33:20] I think, I don't know if any other data centers have had to, because I don't know if they actually have run their backup generous. Maybe they haven't, but I'm sure that Equinex would tell me. I am sure that Digital Realty would tell me, but I don't know if all of them would tell me. So I do think we have to figure out how do we do this, and I don't think this is ready for prime time yet, because we don't know how we do it, and we don't know how we would consequent them or who they would report to. And so I think that those things have to be figured

[05:33:54] out. But I think the base of what you're trying to do is good. And I have tried several times to do this already myself. And so I will support this, but knowing that we are, that we really have to figure it out. And so in some ways, I almost want the staff to come back to us and tell us how to do it, but I understand what you're trying to do, Mr. Crony. Would you like a closing, or would you consider the staff to come back with a plan? Yeah, I think that's a good idea.

[05:34:24] Is that the language you just added? Okay, well, Mr. Sains, say your language again, Mr. Sains. Mr. Sains just added, yeah. Okay, so the packet, we just got the update from staff. We have data center generator use, local limits, notifications, support legislation that limits data center use of natural gas generators, diesel generators, accept and define emergency situations, encourage legislation allowing localities to limit data centers use on on-site generators, including the establishment of quiet hours during situations requiring or mandating their use, support legislation required data centers to notify local governments prior

[05:35:00] to running generators for test purposes and when generators are used in emergency situations and look at ways to find data centers if they fail to notify the locality.

[05:35:15] So would you like to, so Mr. Crony, as you understood Mr. Sains, did you understand him to say he wants us to come back with that information? He wants staff to come back with that information? Is that how you understood that? Yeah, that's how I understood it. Because I don't know if that's what was said, and I'm trying to figure... Well, it's part of the, it was part of the data center generator use, local limits and notifications.

[05:35:35] So it was to be added to Supervisor Sains' initiative. So I agree, just adding it to the end. I don't know if you're going to come back. It sounds like it'll just be added, correct? It just will be added. It'll just be added. Okay, all right, that's fine. Mr. Hemstreet, your finger is one half inch from your button.

[05:35:54] I was waiting for the clarification because I was confused. This legislative item is being added to the legislative agenda. That's one thing. If we're to put together a program, I was going to want to clarify that because the legislation hasn't passed.

[05:36:09] So it's not a program. It's just an ask at the end. It's an ask. Okay. And, Mr. Crony, you're fine with that? Okay. That's fine. All right. I just want to clarify as well because I wasn't sure either, to be honest. All right. So is that it? Mr. Crony, you're good? Okay. Yeah. Motion made by Mr. Crony, seconded by Ms. Bricksman.

[05:36:27] and with a friendly amendment from Mr. Sainz. Madam Chair, can you just repeat the friendly amendment? I know. As it's modified. I will go to, do you have that? Do you want to go ahead and read it? I scribbled. Thank you.

[05:36:44] I'll go back and watch the tape, but you said essentially, and look, so adding on to the end, when generators are used in emergency situations and look at ways to find data centers if they fail to

notify the locality. Okay. Okay. Not necessarily the county has to find them, but someone.

[05:37:02] Point of clarification, Madam Chair. Hold on. Do you have a point of clarification before we take a vote? I would like to clarify. So the friendly is suggesting that the state pass code that requires data centers, A, to notify local authorities when they're going to run their backup generators, and B, find them if they don't notify local authority.

[05:37:27] So the friendly, so Mr. Sainz's original motion included the notification component. And I believe the friendly is the fine. Yeah. Okay. Thank you. Okay. All right. All right.

[05:37:43] All in favor, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? That motion will pass 9-0. Mr. Sainz, you have a motion. I sure do. You sure do. Thank you. Almost forgot. All right. So, what's the, today's Tuesday, last week, Thursday, if I got my dates right, we, we passed the ordinance, you know, update to our ordinance regarding noise enforcement in regards to data centers, noise, be it gas turbines, be it HVAC, you know, whatever the noise is producing from, from those sites.

[05:38:22] And then we discovered that the fines, and staff correct me if I'm wrong, it was only going to be at, I think it was a very minimal amount. I think it was $100 to $250, I believe. Is that correct, Mr. Attorney, through the chair?

[05:38:41] Yes, that's fine. Yes, it was the initial $250 and then up to $500. Sorry, yeah, 250 and then up to 500, which I think we can all agree is very minimal. So this item, this legislation would pretty much change that, and I move that the Board of Supervisors support legislation amending Virginia Code section 15.2-980 to include civil fines or violations occurring from properties using 25 megawatts or more of electricity

[05:39:16] generated either on-site or off-site shall not exceed $5,000 for the first offense, excuse me, and $10,000 for each subsequent offense. Such fines will be paid into the treasury of the locality in which the property is located and must be used for noise control improvements or for the benefit of residential properties located within one quarter mile of the property subject to the violation.

[05:39:44] Second. All right. Thank you. I hope my colleagues can support. Do you want to have an opening on it? Do you want to talk about it? Are you just good? Are you cool? I think we covered, I think you get my point. And I think a lot of us during our conversation on Thursday were saying, hmm, yeah, I wish the fines were higher.

[05:40:01] So this is getting to that. And again, it's only going to be at, with the 25 megawatts, we check with staff, that's only going after our data centers. I know there was some heartburn with some of the language from the ordinance where you felt people felt it was too broad, but because we can't specifically call out data centers in the ordinance, but at least with here, we can call out data centers specifically with that 25 megawatts or more electrical power generating, you know, on-site or off-site. Mr. Rogers, you had your light on. You were good? I just hadn't turned it off. Okay. All right. Ms. Umstead? Thank you,

[05:40:37] Madam Chair. So, so the fines go into the Loudoun County Treasury and they must, that money must be used for noise control improvements for the benefit of residential properties, which means Loudoun County is making improvements on data center property.

[05:41:03] Is that what this envisions? Is that to Mr. Sainz directly? Bless you. Is that to Mr. Sainz? For Mr. Sainz. Mr. Sainz? No, it wouldn't be for us. My intent would not be for us to do the improvements, but we

can figure out a mechanism to get those funds to residents, if they can show that they're in close proximity, i.e., I'll just use Vantage on Davis Drive, so we have Mr. Greg Pirio, who is in a stone's throw away from there.

[05:41:33] Obviously, you can go to the site, you'll see he's in stone's throw. If he's having the issues, we do the zoning enforcement officers come out, do the testing inside of his home with the windows, doors, and all that closed. I still hear the noise. start issuing the fines, then I'm sure we can work with our tax folks or whatever have you, a mechanism to get him the revenue from the fines if that's in place for him to do some improvements possibly.

[05:41:58] So he has to do the improvement on his property. Okay. So he gets the $5,000 or the $10,000 to plant trees or a concrete wall or something like that.

[05:42:17] I don't know if that's solving the problem. The problem is that you don't want, ideally you would want the improvements to be made on data center property. And what I don't know about that approach is whether when we passed some ordinance changes that made it more difficult for businesses, especially data centers, to put improvements on their property.

[05:42:53] I don't know if our zoning ordinance would now conflict with this, but we would hold the money temporarily. we would then give it to the private property owner, the resident, and he would have to use that $5,000 or $10,000 for noise mitigation. I'm not sure this is workable. I can understand if the requirement were to have the data center make some kind of improvements, but then we'd need to make sure that our ordinances allow them to make those improvements without going through another

[05:43:30] special exception. So I'm going to vote no at this time. I think it does have potential and maybe I could support it under a different wordy. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Mr.

[05:43:46] Kershnyk? Thank you, Madam Chair. To the Chair, if I could, well, I don't know who I want to ask this question to, but I know when we talked about this, I think it was last week or two weeks ago, I can't remember at this point, these meetings all run together. But we, I mean, the big thing about this noise was to get to the point where we could actually come into court and get an abatement, essentially.

[05:44:06] So, I mean, 250, 500 versus 5 and 10,000, I don't think that really makes a whole lot of difference. I think it's the process by which we get there. So, I mean, I'll support this, but this doesn't change anything in terms of what we're trying to do in terms of get to court to abate the noise. Is that fair, Mr. Sains?

[05:44:23] Correct. Yeah, this is not going to change that process. It's just adding, you know, hopefully adding the fines to be a little bit more, well, just higher in general. No, and I understand that. I honestly don't think it's more, I think the idea is that we, you know, there's a warning one, there's a warning two.

[05:44:40] Then we've got to get to court and try an abatement. If I could, through the chair, ask the county attorney a question, Madam Chair. Sure. Mr. Rogers. Mr. Rogers, your understanding as well that in terms of how we would get there, that has not changed with this, if this were to go forward. We're still seeking, on our original, I guess, motion, an abatement, ultimately an opportunity to come in for an abatement?

[05:45:02] Yes. I look at this and say, maybe we could have a grand program to help several property owners, but truly the issue is the noise. And so we'd be looking at abatement. All right. Thank you. Okay.

Mr. Turner?

[05:45:19] Yeah. Thank you, Madam Chair. The question I had on this was, and I've lost my place here, I'm sorry. But the question I had was, what kinds of violations? Does the reference paragraph specifically talk about noise because we don't specify in the language of the motion that it's noise violations?

[05:45:42] We just say violations. And I assume that the underlying code is talking about noise and therefore it fits. But if it doesn't, we ought to say noise violations. I'll defer to the county attorney for that one.

[05:46:01] Thank you, Mr. Sainz. Yes, I'm looking at it as well. It should say noise because we are talking about noise violations. Yeah, otherwise it's just a generic violation. Correct. Are we friendly, then, to add the word? That would be civil fines for noise violations. Noise in front of the word violations. Correct.

[05:46:17] Yes, sir. Mr. Sainz? I'll accept that. Thank you. As we'll lie as a seconder, anything else, Mr. Turner? Yeah, the second point is to Supervisor Umstead's point. I think, I don't know how, first of all, I don't think we can use the money to mitigate noise on individual properties.

[05:46:38] Aren't we then improving an individual homeowner's property with county money? Yes, and I have that concern as well. The only thing I could say is if the General Assembly authorized this, then I could see us having the ability to do it.

[05:46:54] I think that's problematic from the General Assembly standpoint. Like, how would we do this? How would we figure out whose home in that quarter mile gets improved? Exactly. Yeah. And if, you know, Mickey Bitsko here gets his home all improved with the fine money and Bill Scrammer right next door is hearing the same sound and doesn't get it fixed.

[05:47:14] Correct. We got problems. So I'm thinking the objective here is to raise the fine amounts. And I think that's, I totally agree with that. Five and $10,000 is going to get somebody's attention. They're either going to continue to violate and get charged $10,000 a day or they're going to fix the problem on their property.

[05:47:32] And I think we've achieved what we wanted to achieve. So I really want to support this. I just can't support it with the language that we have right now. It's just too imprecise, I think. Okay. All right. Thank you to Mickey Bitsko and Bill Scrammer. That's really good.

[05:47:51] No, I have no comments. Mr. Sainz, would you like a closing? Thank you, Madam Chair. And to Supervisor Turner's closing point, I understand that. And as we all know, sometimes we'll send a bill down, And once it gets down there, it gets, you know, there's conversations and it kind of goes from like this to it gets narrowed down to a little bit focused.

[05:48:11] So I would like to keep it kind of broad right now. And once it gets down, we know it's going to get narrowed a little bit. But ultimately, the heart of this is to change the amounts from $250,000 and $500,000 to $5,000 and $10,000 for the fines. And then we can, you know, see where it goes.

[05:48:28] And if we need to change it again from, you know, this broad base to something narrow, then we can work with our legislators to get it done. Okay. All right. Wonderful. All right. Mr. Sains made the motion. I second the motion with a friendly, to add the word noise from Mr. Turner.

[05:48:46] All in favor, please say aye. Aye. Any opposed? That motion will pass 8 to 1. All right. And then I have one. I actually did cue you all on this both at the last meeting and you got this from Tom Donahue and

you got the email.

[05:49:03] So this, to Mr. Letourneau's point, Ms. Letourneau, I really do hear your point that when you're at work, you can't be checking all these emails as these things come in. But this has been, so Mr. Kirshner and I have been talking to the community so I will make this motion. I'm just going to read the top issues and not all the corresponding language unless you need me to.

[05:49:24] I move the Board of Supervisors amend the policy statements for transmission infrastructure electric utility in the 2000 Legislative Program to read as follows. Support legislation to shift the cost of new energy transmission infrastructure to the rate classes of high energy customers. Support legislation to protect conserved lands and historic landmarks from new transmission infrastructures.

[05:49:44] Support legislation to protect land owners from new transmission infrastructures. Support legislation to increase electric utility providers' Transparency and applications for additional electrical transmission lines and associated facilities. Support legislation pertaining to the following.

[05:50:02] Quarter priority for existing right-of-way, large load transmissions causation, conserve land and historic landmarks, landowner protection and transmission takings, load forecast integrity and participation, underground pilot for sensitive segments, Utility Acquisition and Transmission Affiliates, Large Load Interconnection Service, and Demand Management.

[05:50:29] Motion made and seconded by Mr. Kirshner. So I put that correspond, I put that, oh, discussion on the motion. I put all that language in there just so you all would have that language to give you more flavor, if you were, and a little bit more meat on the bones of what we're talking about.

[05:50:46] But as the legislation goes forward, it would just be the top eight things that we're talking about. So the community, basically in rural Loudoun County, as Mr. Kirshner and I have talked to them at length about the valley transmission lines, and as Mr. Kirshner and I have already brought some BMI forward, what we're trying to do is put legislation into the General Assembly.

[05:51:14] And I will tell you, the community and I have reached out to John McAuliffe, and I've reached out to Senator Perry, and we'll have this discussion on this at our legislative meeting. Mr. McAuliffe did come to the meeting.

[05:51:32] Ms. Perry, I think she's out of the country. She's on vacation, so she hasn't had this discussion yet. But what we're obviously trying to do is protect that part of the county, well, all of the county, but in this moment, this part of the county, of which the Valley North Transition Lines is going to come through, by having some, I don't know what you call it, regulations, guidelines put in place.

[05:52:01] things, especially as it concerns large load transmission lines conserved and eased land. I mean, if you put your land in conservation easement, you do not expect that you're going to get a transmission line through your land. That's the point of going in conservation easement.

[05:52:17] A lot of protection from, as we talked about earlier, landowners from having takings on their land. That is a big deal. I am, and I know I speak for Mr. Kirshner, I am very hesitant to do a taking. So all these things, and again, you have seen this in your email, but these are the things that I'm trying to, we're trying to respond to, and this would just go into the General Assembly's, our let's package for the General Assembly, and I don't imagine Mr.

[05:52:49] McCullough and Ms. Perry could carry these one at a time, because they only get 15 bills, but I think they can carry it as an omnibus, which is why I'm putting it forward as an omnibus. Mr. Kirshner. Thank you, Madam Chair. And yes, thank you for bringing this forward.

[05:53:04] I'm very proud to second it. I have been working close with Mr. Dunn, who helped craft this, who has also been working with our Representative McAuliffe, and I will be reaching out to Ms. Perry as well as soon as she's back in the country. But the truth of the matter is, I've been doing a lot of work on our power line issue.

[05:53:22] I think, quite frankly, there's a lot of issues you can point to, but one of the things that has become very evident to me is our power, how we manage and carry power in the United States, certainly on the East Coast here and here in Loudoun County, is a little bit antiquated.

[05:53:43] And one of the things that I had a really good meeting with PJM and their attorneys and representatives the other day, and kind of the long and the short of that meeting was that, yes, we can bury, for example, power lines in Loudoun County. We can do this if the state tells us to look at it. And of course, there's a delta to be paid in terms of the cost and that sort of thing. But that is the first that I've heard that this could actually be done. And I think we are making progress. I think we have made ourselves known very loud and clear. And

[05:54:21] this is just another step in the process of, okay, let's reinvent ourselves. Let's relook at how we're providing power, especially to these large, uh, areas where power, where a lot of power use is coming in, how are we going to bring in this electricity? Um, I reminded, um, a number of our, our power line people, because there was more than BJM and others on the line on a number of other meetings, that this, uh, here in Northern Virginia, uh, and in the Western part of the county, this is essentially the Napa Valley of the East. I said, you're bringing 765k, uh, uh, lines through the Napa Valley of the East.

[05:54:58] And there was kind of silence on the other line. And I don't think really anyone had ever really thought about it that way. But I can tell you this, that this really is beginning to change the conversation. I think we're about two years behind, and we really need to try to reverse course on this. It's going to be a very difficult part. But this is just one big step in the process.

[05:55:13] I'd really appreciate my fellow supervisors' support on how we are managing power, how it's coming in, power lines specifically. And obviously, this is a big project that's going on in Western Loudoun. And we need to get it done right because it's going to set precedent, as we even talked about in terms of the data center portal that we've opened to the public.

[05:55:33] We need to set a precedent and example to other communities as we go forward. And this is just one in many steps that we are working here as a board. Wonderful. Mr. Crony. Yeah, thank you, Chair Randall. I'm happy to support this, but I also think this applies to other Greenfield transmission lines.

[05:55:53] It's not just Valley Link North. Oh, yeah, no, yeah. You know, Golden to Mars is also a huge issue. And, you know, they don't have conservation easements, but a lot of these other criteria apply to Golden to Mars.

[05:56:11] So I think it's just, yeah. This is not specific to, I mentioned Valley Link North, but Valley Link North is not specific in this motion. Okay. Yeah. All right, great, because that's, it needs to be all green fields. We heard tonight about phase two, the electrical infrastructure, and that was very concerning.

[05:56:29] So, you know, I think we do need to get it right. We do need to be looking at strategies to do this right, because it will impact communities, for sure. Thank you. Ms. Umstead. Thank you, Madam Chair.

[05:56:44] Okay, I'm looking at the paragraph, the more generic paragraph that says support legislation. and in there, there is a generic statement, support legislation to protect landowners from new transmission infrastructure. I'm assuming that generic statement is then number four, what you are talking about in greater detail. And it's through pre-approval

[05:57:19] land disturbance limits, and appraisal-based offers, plus enhanced compensation, buyout and condemnation, protections for 500 KV or more new corridor lines. Okay, so is there a scenario in which you don't get, you're better off if they're going to put a really big line through your property than if they're going to put a smaller one, something under 500 KV, because you don't get

[05:57:56] the enhanced protection if it is less than 500 KV. You only get the enhanced compensation and condemnation protection if it's 500 KV or more. Is that the intent? And is there a fundamental difference for the landowner. You're taking my land regardless of what the charge be carried is. Is that a question to me or Mr. Kirshner? Yeah. Okay. So that's a really good question. And no, I did not see that sentence of protect legislation to protect landowners for

[05:58:31] new transmission infrastructure to necessarily mean number four. I mean, it could mean number four. Four would certainly fall under that, but it didn't have to mean just that. That is, as you said, a generic statement to protect landowners in general. It doesn't have to be land that is in conservation easement or a historic landmark. It certainly should include that, but didn't have to just be that. To your question, I don't know. That's a great question, and I don't know. I think

[05:59:10] I like the language as it is. And I would like to talk to whomever carries this to see how they feel about it and would they change anything. But as of now, I think I would leave it as it was. But it's a great question. Okay. Thank you so much. Thank you. Ms. Bricksman.

[05:59:27] Thank you, Chair. Sorry for the late light. So I just want to be clear, this is just policy language. It's not an initiative where we're asking bills to be written. Because you mentioned omnibus bill, but this is just policy language where we would support bills that do X, Y, Z.

[05:59:49] Well, I mentioned omnibus because it's eight things in here and under one motion, right? And so many things under one is why I mentioned omnibus. But we actually want to see these eight things be done. This is not just if we, I mean, that's why I mentioned Ms. Perry and that's why we mentioned Mr. McAuliffe we want them to carry this specifically and I also mean I'm sorry doesn't that fall then under a different part of the legislative package if these are actually

[06:00:25] initiatives and not just supportive policy language shouldn't it fall under a different part and then that kind of changes the scenario and the workload for staff if we're asking for these bills to actually be carried as initiatives.

[06:00:42] And that's a lot. That's eight. That's, as you said, an omnibus bill. So I would support it just being like, we will support, we want, I would support if it said something like, we want language in our legislative agenda that we would support, like policy language, that we would support X, Y, Z.

[06:01:00] But I don't know if I can support having staff work on actual bills and initiatives that with with I mean this is just like really heavy it is heavy but it's a heavy issue so if you I'll you're in your time I'm sorry

I think I think that's that's my only question I'm kind of torn maybe I don't know if anyone else has a comment from staff or well I would probably ask if you don't mind in your time to ask staff Renee how do you how would you miss Vanderbilt how would you feel about this okay so as it's written now the language with the like sort of

[06:01:34] vaguer statements at the top. This is in a priority statement section of our program right now. So if you want to move it as to an initiative, we can do that tonight, but that's not how it's drafted right now as I read it. You know, we will do what you want. If you already have patrons in mind, that helps us a lot. And do what you think is best. That's all I have to say.

[06:02:00] Jillian, your time. Okay, so if it's simply policy language, I can support it. I think it's too much for me to digest all of this to kind of vote yes on having eight bills or a huge omnibus bill worked on by our staff.

[06:02:20] Like, generally, I'm supportive of the concept, and that's why I wouldn't mind it just being in the policy language. But if the idea is that we're trying to get someone to carry a big omnibus bill, I think that's a lot of work. I think it's a lot of work, too, and with respect to staff and members of the General Assembly, that's exactly what I want.

[06:02:42] And it is also why we have talked to our senator, well, not to our senator, but to our delegate. And the community itself is making phone calls to other people as well to see if they can be supportive of our co-patronate.

[06:03:00] So it is meant to be, each one of these items is meant to be something that I want to see as legislation that goes forward. So I understand what you're saying. I respect staff. I respect how much work this would be. But that's how I saw this.

[06:03:18] Mr. Kirshner, how did you see it? I would agree with the chair, if at all possible, that we could move in that direction. Obviously, this is a policy statement, but it is also a policy statement we would like to see become legislation. So how that plays out, I think, is kind of to be determined.

[06:03:34] Yeah, that's a great way to say. It's a policy statement I want to see become legislation. And the reason I want to carry it by one person, because it would be really harder to try to follow these eight different initiatives from eight different legislators at eight different times and follow those all over the place versus having all this in one place.

[06:03:53] And for someone that's going to carry it, if we did it like that, they only have 15 pieces of legislation that they can carry. And so if we do this as an omnibus, and is that the right term for many things at one time? That's the right term, right?

[06:04:09] Then they can carry this as one and not have eight different, take up eight different spots. So that's where I'm at on this. And so I understand what you're saying. I respect what you're saying. But that's how I'm answering that. So, all right, I made the motion, and Mr. Kirshner seconded the motion.

[06:04:29] All in favor, please say aye. Aye. Opposed? That motion will pass 7-0-1 with one abstention. Now, this is the question I was asking earlier, Mr. Kirshner. So now we go back, and we have the, you have a second motion?

[06:04:44] Mr. Crony, well, why don't you just make both at one time? Why don't you just do both together? Okay, so she has a policy statement that is being carried that I wish he had done all at one time. But yes,

Mr. Brony. Excited for Supervisor Sainz to do his.

[06:05:04] Was I excited? Okay. Yes. Okay. So this is just changing because I was surprised to see this in our program. So this is just changing the policy. It's not something that anybody would carry.

[06:05:19] I move that the Board of Supervisors strike the language, support legislation that extends the expiration date for the state's sales and use tax exemption for data centers from 2035 to 2050. I further move that the Board of Supervisors add the following language.

[06:05:36] Support legislation that allows the state's sales and use tax exemption to be conditional based on environmental and efficiency standard and energy efficiency as prescribed by the locality until it expires in 2035. So I'll second this, but let me first ask Renee, this is a point of clarification, this whole discussion was had this past year about sales and use tax versus consumption tax. Where did that end? Because I thought we ended with out a sales and use tax, but with a consumption tax. So is this, I mean, I'm happy to second it and support it if it's needed, and if we're still doing a sales and use tax.

[06:06:15] Yes, so all the sales and use tax, there was no, it was not touched. The change was there was a consumption tax placed on data centers. I believe the amount is 600. So basically, they will pay an extra tax on their electric bills.

[06:06:31] $600 million collections. But that is for two years only. So with the idea that the sales and use will be revisited. Okay, I'll second that then. Thank you, Mr. Crony. You want to have an opening? Yeah, I just think extending it to 2050 seems kind of ridiculous.

[06:06:47] That's 25 years. Clearly, the data centers want to be here. And no incentive will change that. Incentive worked in Loudoun County, and we don't need to continue it for another 25 years until 2050. And I do think it makes sense to place environmental and energy efficiency conditions to continue receiving it until 2035.

[06:07:10] Data centers need to be incentivized to innovate and use new technologies like battery energy storage and Tier 4 generators. And there was a House Bill 897, I think Sullivan, Delegate Sullivan did it, to condition eligibility for Virginia's sales and use tax exemption for data centers on clean energy and environmental standards.

[06:07:32] It passed the House of Delegates, but it didn't pass the Senate. So I just think we need to update our policy in our legislative program. Okay. Wonderful. Thank you, Mr. Letourneau. Yeah, can we split this motion? Sure, you can always put a motion.

[06:07:48] So let's take the first part from the I moved to 2050 and have that discussion first. And I'm going to assume that Mr. Kranz already had her opening. So that's this part you want to talk. Yeah, so I'm okay with this only because this is a much broader, bigger discussion than the county at this point with a lot of political angles to it.

[06:08:12] And if I'm reading this right, we're not taking a position per se. we're just removing a position and sort of being agnostic on this, right? The first one? Yeah. We're just removing it. Yeah, we're just removing it. We're just taking it out.

[06:08:27] We're not saying they should repeal it. We're just saying they're taking it out. We're just taking out the 2050 to 2050. At this point, I don't, again, no offense to us, I don't think anybody in Richmond cares

what we think. And so if you ask me, you guys know this, I would take a big red pen to this whole legislative program up and down because they don't care what we think on most of these things.

[06:08:47] But this is a step in that direction, so I'm okay with it. Hi. You're completely inconsequential, but I'll support you. That's what you just said. Thank you.

[06:09:05] Our confidence is boosted. Thank you so much, Mr. Teleturneau. Ms. Umstead? Thank you, Madam Chair. So I have some concerns about the second paragraph. I think we're just doing the first one right now. Okay.

[06:09:21] Hey, guys, let's just take one meeting. I'm good. We're just doing the first paragraph right now. Good. You're good with the first paragraph. All right. Anybody else for just the first paragraph? No? Seeing none. Madam Chair. Yes. Mr. Coney, I mean, I'm sorry, you're good because your light's still on.

[06:09:37] Okay. Mr. Turner? I'm not sure where I am. I mean, so this strikes the language extending it from 2035 to 2050. I'm okay with it.

[06:09:53] Thank you. I'm trying to figure out, I have an alternative motion, but I think it's an alternative motion to the second part. The second part. Okay. All right. So this is just the first part right now. All right. The first part, Mr. Crony made the motion. I seconded it. All in favor, please say aye.

[06:10:12] Any opposed? All right. There you go. Okay. Now the second part, Mr. Crony has made the motion and spoke on it. Mr. Laterno asked to split that. So who would like to speak on the second part of the motion? Thank you, Madam Chair.

[06:10:28] So my concern is that we're mixing up local authority and state authority. So it's a state sales and use tax exemption. But then we are saying that we are going to tell the state that we are going to determine when they can impose a sales and use tax exemption.

[06:10:57] And the criteria by which we are going to determine their use of that exemption is environmental and energy efficiency as prescribed by the locality. So I cannot imagine the state's going to go along with this.

[06:11:18] But I also have concerns about who's in the better position to decide what is energy efficient and environmentally efficient. And the state certainly has DEQ, which deals with that.

[06:11:39] And it looks like we are trying to take over that duty of DEQ. So maybe somebody can tell me why I shouldn't be concerned about this conflict within this section.

[06:11:55] Are you asking Mr. Crony to the chair? Yes, ma'am. Mr. Crony? I am willing to get rid of, as prescribed by the locality, maybe just keep based on environmental and energy efficiency standards until it expires in 2035. So leave it that way because that was what Delegate Sullivan did.

[06:12:14] He had it as, you know, just that way the state could do it through DEQ. That would make it a little less complicated. Will you read that one more time then? Okay. With what you just said? Thank you, Supervisor Umstead, for bringing that to my attention. Okay. So I further move that the Board of Supervisors add the following language.

[06:12:31] Support legislation that allows the state's sales and use tax exemption to be conditional based on environmental and efficiency standards until it expires in 2035. Okay. That's fine. that's a friendly and

I'll take it as such as well. Mr. Turner? Okay. I don't think we can do this. And now I'm reading it again for the fourth or fifth time. And here's why I don't think this,

[06:13:04] this is legal. We are supporting legislation that allows the state sales and use tax exemption to be conditional based on environmental and energy efficiency as described by each locality. So that means each locality can negate a state sales tax exemption.

[06:13:23] She just took that out. That's the part that Ms. Supervisor Umstead, the attorney down there, just took out herself. Okay. I'm sorry I tuned all that out. Never mind. Never mind. I build around and you say, never mind.

[06:13:40] And that was your issue too, Mr. Letourneau? Yeah. The locality part in there? All right. I will So I will say this. I just got a text from Anthony Bedell, and he says, hey, how's Clarence doing?

[06:14:00] And I said, he's in front of us right now. He's doing a great job. And he said, well, of course he is. We have a great team. Just so you know, Anthony thinks you're great, Clarence. Well, I think you're great, too, so it's wonderful. All right. Mr. Can I make the motion?

[06:14:17] I second the motion with a friendly amendment. Accept it from Ms. Amstead. I'm people who say aye. Aye. any opposed. That motion will pass 7-0. Now we have to go back and do the final motion as amended tonight. 7-0? I'm sorry, 9-0. The final motion as amended tonight, which is why Mr. Kirshner and Mr. Letourneau, I was kind of trying to get you all to have that discussion. So you all have been fine adding these things tonight, and that's good, no matter what you do with this vote. Okay, All right, so that's fine.

[06:14:52] And Mr. Saines will, as the ledger team, if you'd make the second, I'd appreciate it. I'm with the Board of Supervisors to endorse the draft 2027 legislative program providing attachment 1 to the November 17th, 2026, Board of Supervisors' business meeting action item as amended at the November 17th, 2026, Board of Supervisors' business meeting.

[06:15:12] Motion's made and seconded. I don't think we need to have any discussion on the motion. I think everyone kind of understands what just happened tonight. Discussion is not necessary. Any discussion on the motion? Madam, just to be clear, we're voting on the entirety of the package, not just the addition. We are. That's what I was saying to you guys earlier. So, yeah. So, all of them say aye.

[06:15:31] Aye. Opposed. No. Exactly. So that motion will pass 7-2. Mr. Kirshner and Mr. Letourneau, is there anything you all want me to do differently in these ledge programs updates so you all, in the end, are not voting against the entire package?

[06:15:49] I'm happy to do it. No, I'm serious, because I don't want you to, I mean, because you just voted to say yes to all the things we put in, yet didn't say no to the entire package. So, because we do, because we added things to the package.

[06:16:07] No, but it does, because that's how it works, Mr. Kirshner. It does, I promise. So, let's just have this discussion, because, you know. All right, let's go on to the next item. Supervisors, we have not yet done board comments, and we have not yet done nominations, and we have not yet done disclosures.

[06:16:35] So, I'm sorry? We have EDAC nominations. We have all of it still. Are you making the EDAC nominations? I have several. Because as finance chair, are you doing that? If you can, I don't care. Sure, I can. Okay, so how about let's do this.

[06:16:51] First, if you have nominations for Julyta. Mr. Kirshner? Thank you, Madam Chair. I have three nominations. I nominate William Stewart as the at-large representative on the Agricultural District Advisory Committee. Nomination two, I nominate Tolga Bakke as the at-large representative on the Agricultural District Advisory Committee.

[06:17:08] Oh, he's good. And nomination number three, I nominate Olga Harvey as the at-large representative on the Agricultural District Advisory Committee. All right, thank you. Mr. Letourneau? Yeah. I nominate Daphne Hart to fill a recently vacated term as an at-large representative on the Economic Development Advisory Commission.

[06:17:32] Hmm. Wait a minute. So this is, this one I think is different than the other ones because in this case, and this is at the request of EDAC, there's one year left on the term and they have somebody to fill it. So I think it's different than the other ones that are being made.

[06:17:51] Hmm. okay that's what i was told by okay you're supposed to pick the ones that they they came up with okay all right uh i think the others are for the full term like a new term but i think this one is just is that right mr parker yes i don't know he is a dullest district resident and so okay that was the recommendation okay and that was recognition from from eda okay reviewed and recommended this Okay. Okay. All right. Mr. Sains. Yes. I have a nomination. I'd like to nominate Robert Saltzman

[06:18:29] for the at-large representative on the board of equalization. He was a alternative, alternate member, but he's been participating a lot. So I'd like to, and there's a spot open, so I'd like to get him as a permanent member on the board. Okay. And Mr. I'm sorry, that was on the, that was.

[06:18:51] Oh, Dr. Baird doing regular nominations. I'm sorry. Yeah, we are. Oh, yeah. So that was, yeah, for a representative of the Board of Equalization. Oh, okay. All right. Mr. Turner. Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd like to nominate Brent Campbell for the at-large seat for the Loudon Water Board at the completion of his current term, which ends on 12-31-26.

[06:19:15] Okay. And I'd like to nominate Jay Shamwell. Is that the name you have for EDAC, Mr. Saynes? No. I'm sorry, Madam Chair. We have two different items on the agenda. One is the regular nominations and then a separate one just for EDAC.

[06:19:32] Yeah. So we were doing the regular nominations just now. Yeah. Okay. Okay. I have one. Well, you didn't have your light on. Yes, I did. Did you? I did it the whole time. Okay. Okay. Okay. I'm sorry. Yes, Mr. Crony. Okay. These are regular nominations. These are not EDAC. This is regular nominations. Okay.

[06:19:47] Okay. Katie Coe to the Disability Services Board. Okay. Do we have any more nominations that are not EDAC nominations? Mr. Turner. I just made one. You're my son. Okay. All right. All right. Now EDAC nominations. Mr. Sains. Okay. So the EDAC I have here, and everybody keep me honest, I have David B. Bott, Peter Lazare Rich, I have Andrew McGarry, and I have a Christian

[06:20:24] Lazarno, thank you, and those are the nominations I have for EDAC. And I have a Jay Shamwell for EDAC as well.

[06:20:40] A Jay Shamwell? He's not on the list, he's in the nomination, not on the list. Yeah, he's not on the list. He's not in the list, but I'm still making a nomination. Yeah, because we have... I understand. I just said he's not in the list, so you don't see him. Okay, so then we have also a Daphne Hart.

[06:20:56] Is that what I heard from Mr. Luterno? Yeah, but again, can I ask staff to clarify if they know? Which staff would that be? I don't know. I was told that this one is different. It doesn't belong in the category of the rest because it's filling an existing term, and these other ones are a new term.

[06:21:15] Does that make sense? It does. Who's the term, but it's filling the term that you want to have filled. Do we want to? Because if that's the case, if it's filling the existing term that somebody's left right now, it's probably the best thing to suspend the rules and nominate and endorse her right now, if it's filling the term of somebody who's left, and then put the rest up for nominations.

[06:21:35] That would make the most sense to me. Okay, so would you like to make that motion? Sure, I move to suspend the rules. Second. Discussion on suspension of the rules? All in favor say aye. Aye. Any opposed? That motion will pass 9-0. And now, Mr. I nominate Daphne Hart to fill a recently vacated term as an at-large representative on the Economic Development Advisory Commission.

[06:21:55] And I will second that. Discussion on that? Just that. This is a recommendation of the chair of EDAC, as well as Mr. Reiser and his staff. They both requested that this individual be appointed to this particular slot. Yep. Sounds good. Sounds good. For that reason, sounds good. All right. All in favor, please say aye.

[06:22:12] Aye. Any opposed? That motion will pass 9-0 as well. Okay, supervisors, let's do both disclosure and public comments. Let's do both. Mr. Kirshner. Disclosures, I met with the applicants for the Western Loudon Recreation Complex on November 11th.

[06:22:32] In terms of comments, I just want to extend my condolences on the passing of Susan Milbourne and to the county attorney's office and to her family. I know Mr. Rogers took that pretty personally and hard, and I know that's a very tremendous loss, and we were fortunate to have her in the county service for so long and truly sorry for the loss.

[06:22:52] I also wanted to just a couple of events coming up in the Catoctin District. We have the Latin County Wine Festival. It will be held at the Old Farm Winery in Heartland on November 21st and 22nd. And if you've never attended, it's great food, drinks, live music, et cetera.

[06:23:07] We also have the Dirt Farm Brewing, and we will hold the annual Christmas market that will hold the annual Christmas market on November 28th and 29th. Visitors can enjoy dirt farms, beer, and signature craft beverages while you browse handmade items from local artisans and vendors. And in Percival, we are going to have monthly nature walks starting on November 29th.

[06:23:30] You can join the Percival Parks and Rec Advisory Board at the Chapman de Marry Trail and learn about how animals prepare for winter. And finally, I do want to extend a big thank you to Janet Kernan for her leadership on REDC.

[06:23:46] She has been dedicated, has dedicated an immense amount of time and care and support for Loudoun's rural businesses and agricultural community. It's been a pleasure to work with her, and I'm super grateful for what she has done and for her service on REDC. And that's the news from Catoctin.

[06:24:03] Madam Chair, I toss it back to you. Thank you, sir. Ms. Bricksman. Ms. Bricksman. I got all my disclosures. Okay. Oh, you guys use disclosures. On November 16th, I met with Mike Romeo and his applicants on the Foxgate mixed-use application.

[06:24:23] Same day, we met with Curata and other representatives on the Dulles Tech Park applications. I really enjoyed the Leesburg Veterans Day event that happened on Wednesday and appreciate George C. Marshall Center for all of their leadership in the community.

[06:24:39] I also want to congratulate Bishop Michelle and the Loudoun Freedom Center on the grand opening of the Union Street School in the Black History Museum. I was sad not to make it because of illness, but I hope to visit soon. I'm extremely troubled by some recent actions by our Sheriff's Department.

[06:24:56] A while back, it was somehow deemed that the department could investigate itself in an officer-involved fatal shooting that the CAO then declared justified. And it is also investigating itself in the unfortunate death of a teenager in October where a deputy did fire a weapon, but before investigative findings were released, it was deemed the teen committed suicide.

[06:25:20] We now have an officer-involved fatal shooting of a resident's dog a few days ago. While LCSO claims the dog was aggressive, Loudoun County Animal Services was also there and has no record of the aggressiveness of the dog. In each of these cases, body cam video was requested via FOIA by the media and even the dog owner.

[06:25:41] LCSO is refusing to release it, claiming it is part of an investigation. The county has invested millions to have our law enforcement officers wearing body cams to protect themselves, but also to protect our citizens from potential inappropriate behavior by deputies and investigators.

[06:25:58] Also, the county has invested millions in radio operations and equipment for LCSO. But now all traffic has been encrypted, so residents and media can no longer listen to police scanner traffic. As a former reporter, I find this highly offensive.

[06:26:15] But it is county-owned equipment, and I intend to see if we can order the radios be unencrypted and the scanners go live again. I will also be speaking with folks from our state delegation to the General Assembly on bills to assist with public accountability, Independent investigations when we have an officer-involved shooting, and also the police scanner issue and also any adjustments we might make to our FOIA laws so that even when an investigation is over, those body cam videos cannot be still held confidential.

[06:26:54] As far as the gun violence archive goes, we've lost 11,427 lives to gun violence so far this year. We've had 416 mass shootings, 768 deaths were ages 12 to 17, 198 were under the age of 11, and I want to pass my condolences for the horrific shooting event in D.C. last week.

[06:27:16] Thank you. They left two dead. Thank you. Mr. Crony. Chair Randall, so my disclosure is on November 10th, I met with Colleen Gillis, Ben Wales, Bill Junda, Todd Pearson, and others regarding the three applications with the Dulles Tech Park.

[06:27:35] I wanted to let everybody know that I attended the Loudoun Cemetery Conservancy annual meeting on November 6th with Al Van Huyck. He was fabulous. He has started this foundation to preserve and promote historic cemeteries throughout Loudoun County, And he offers training courses to provide skills to volunteers in cemetery rehabilitation, management, landscaping, and gravestone repair.

[06:28:06] So I know he offers grants, and he wants to put all cemeteries in conservation easement, which I think is a great idea. Last Friday, my team and I volunteered at Loudoun Hunger Relief to help with

Thanksgiving, which is coming up.

[06:28:23] and I wish everyone a wonderful holiday. We are doing a cricket town hall with Chair Randall and Senator Sri Avasin on November 30th at 6 at Light Ridge High School right after the holiday. We're going to have Parks and Rec staff there and members of the Parks and Rec board to discuss adult and youth cricket leagues and the need for fields, you know, what is needed.

[06:28:52] And then I have office hours on December 10th at the Arcola Fire Station. And all are welcome to come by and give their concerns and ideas and just to meet us. Thank you. Thank you very much.

[06:29:08] Did you do disclosures? Did I miss your disclosures? You get the one. Thank you very much. Ms. Umstock. Thank you, Madam Chair. I have two disclosures on November 6th.

[06:29:23] I met with Ben Wales, Bill Junda, Andrew Eitler, Colleen Gillis, John Culloch, and Brian Downey on Dulles Technology Park. And on the 16th of November, I met with Ben Rose, Aaron Swishelm, Chris Meyer, Josh Elkins, and Anna Ritter on Berwick Energy.

[06:29:53] Board comments. At the last meeting, we had a speaker at the end who accused Israel of committing a holocaust, which is untrue, at the very least, and slanderous.

[06:30:18] On a more positive note, and the problem with statements like that is they encourage anti-Semitism in this country, which we saw in Philadelphia a couple weekends ago as a group of bike riders tried to shut down Jewish businesses in Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia.

[06:30:44] I want to thank the people of Philadelphia who came out to protect those businesses and to patronize those businesses. And that support in Philadelphia for Jewish-owned businesses extended past that one weekend into a second weekend.

[06:31:06] So I hope that if that kind of heinous attempt to shut down Target and shut down Jewish-owned businesses in Loudoun County ever occurs, I hope that we will all be there to stand in defense of our Jewish friends and neighbors.

[06:31:26] Everybody have a happy, happy Thanksgiving. Thank you. Thank you, ma'am. Ms. Glass? Thank you, Madam Chair. On November 16th, my staff met with representatives of Tritec to discuss a Concora site plan application.

[06:31:45] Last week, I was in Bath County for the annual Virginia Association of Counties Conference, where I was elected to represent Loudoun for Region 8 on VACO's Board of Directors. I look forward to serving Loudoun in this new capacity.

[06:32:03] Clap quiet. As a member of VACO's Education Steering Committee, I also attended the committee meeting where we discussed several legislative positions and priority statements that were incorporated into VACO's 2027 Legislative Program.

[06:32:21] These priorities include advocating for full state funding for public education, supporting changes to educational programs and standards that rely less on standardized testing and more on critical thinking skills in addressing the special education region tuition reimbursement program. We also discussed the need for better salary and labor cost calculations for school personnel. I also attended sessions focused on school construction and modernization as schools face aging facilities and changing enrollment patterns as well as regional opportunities

[06:33:00] and challenges within the health and human services system. This was a great opportunity to connect with other elected officials across the Commonwealth and discuss shared issues across our communities. Oh, and you know what, when we're talking...

[06:33:20] We can go forever because your time's not running that way. So Amanda does not care how long you go. Am I done? I have no idea, but it feels pretty close because I'll go on and finish up. Okay. When we were talking about the food scrap composting program, and I could not remember the restaurant, it was called Cowbell Kitchen.

[06:33:46] Oh, that place is great. Right down the street. That place is great. Yeah, so they had started the program, and I was with Derek Clark, who had recognized them for starting that program there. Derek is fantastic. He's a good person. Yep. Wonderful, wonderful. Mr. What?

[06:34:04] Oh, I was just trying to get Ms. Glass to sign that. Mr. Letourneau. Disclosure, on November 12th, I spoke with representatives of JLB and Walsh Colucci to discuss Foxgate mixed-use Leji 2025-0008.

[06:34:22] To the multitude of people who are out here and the millions watching at home, I did just want to address a couple of recent news articles about data centers in the Dulles District, one involving a purchase of property by Amazon on Wade Drive in Chantilly that was reported by various local sources, and another news articles about Dulles or the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority making land elabable for lease for data centers

[06:34:55] that is Dulles Airport property. In the case of the Amazon purchase, given the timing of that following the board's or the announcement regarding University Center, there's some that have linked these things together. So, I stated publicly on social media, which I will once again say here, which is that I had no knowledge whatsoever that Amazon was purchasing this land in Loudoun County for data centers, and I have made absolutely no assurances or deal as it relates to the University Center or anything else, nor do I think any of my colleagues

[06:35:31] have regarding this property. This will have to go through a special exception process like data centers do now since they are not by right, and we will evaluate it at that time separately. Regarding the Dulles Airport property, this has been actually an interesting question.

[06:35:51] um loudon county has long asserted zoning ordinance authority over non-aviation uses at the airport for instance when dominion has the project leasing land to build the solar farm dominion chose to apply for that authority to build that through loudon county and we did a I think a comprehensive plan amendment even, I don't remember exactly, but rezoning to allow that use.

[06:36:26] The airport's authority does not necessarily agree with that interpretation. So this is going to be a discussion if that does in fact move forward and if they have leases for data centers on airport property in Loudoun County, that would then become, I think, potentially a dispute between the airport's authority and the county.

[06:36:47] I support the county's position that we do, in fact, have local land use authority on non-aviation uses, which I believe to be those things that do not support the operation of the airport. Not just the airport itself, but the things around it, hotels and so on.

[06:37:07] This is pretty clearly outside of that. So just want to get that on the record for those who are wondering, because I have gotten questions about this. Thank you. Mr. Sains. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Manitory disclosures. On November 12th, I spoke with representatives of BFSOL regarding their application for the Dulles Technology Park and Dulles North Technology Park applications.

[06:37:30] I would like to thank everybody, as always, that came out to speak. You could have chosen to be anywhere. You came out to speak about something that's near and dear to your heart, so we appreciate that. Colleagues, as you see me frantically having these guys sign some last minute resolutions for Eagle Scout I got a last minute request there Eagle Scout court is this Sunday so we'll have you sign it and then we will go to the proper process hopefully it's not anything controversial I don't think to do a resolution for Eagle Scout so sorry for that last minute like to

[06:38:07] remind the county thank you the county that I'm actually very happy to say this This started as a BMI from during my first term way back in 2016 that the street light program is now up and running.

[06:38:27] Folks can go to the website beginning of November 2nd until the deadline of January 4th, 2027 to sign up for street lights to get it into your neighborhood or on streets that you feel need some street lights. There will be two sign-up periods. This is the very first one.

[06:38:43] Then the second period will start in the fall. So I encourage everybody to please check out that site that we have on our website to learn more about street lighting and getting it done in your community. If you see fit, our hypothermia site is up and running as well.

[06:39:02] So please, if you know somebody or you feel you're out in the elements, please know that Loudoun County has some resources and support for you, so please take advantage or share that information with folks that need it. And also the Dulles Town Center now through, which I can't even believe I'm saying this, due to December 24th, you can go and take pictures with Santa Claus at the Dulles Town Center. But let's first enjoy Thanksgiving and then we can definitely roll into the holiday season. And then the Loudoun Symphony Youth Orchestra

[06:39:39] is having a Chambers Strings Concert Saturday, November 21st at St. David's Episcopal Church. That's starting at 2.30. So go on and support our youth who are in music in the county.

[06:39:57] And that is it for me. So thank you, Loudon. Thank you. Mr. Turner. Thank you, Madam Chair. On November 3rd, November 16th, my staff spoke with Kathleen Niner from Dominion to discuss the Cyrus One application on November 6th. My staff and I met with Mike Romeo, Adam Steiner, and Graham Brock from JLB Partners to discuss the Foxgate mixed-use application.

[06:40:19] On November 12th, my staff and I met with Tommy Roche, Brian Downey, John Kolick, Bill Junda, Andrew Eitler, Ben Wales, Colin Gillis, and Todd Pearson to discuss the Dulles Tech Park applications. On Veterans Day, I put on my Class A uniform and went down to the Desert Storm Memorial, which is brand new downtown.

[06:40:39] It's just they cut a ribbon on it just a few weeks ago, and it is between Constitution Avenue and the Lincoln Memorial. And I was on the first airplane that landed in Riyadh in Desert Shield. And there's not a lot of people in our society that even remembers Desert Storm at this point.

[06:40:56] And the reason is because it was not controversial. It was perfectly executed. We put together a coalition starting in August of 1990 and culminating with the war in January of 1991. of 500,000 multinational troops involving well over a dozen of countries in the Middle East and executed an absolutely flawless military operation.

[06:41:19] I believe the total number of deaths, American deaths, the invasion of, the invasion, it wasn't really invasion, restoration of Kuwait, I think was 135, which is tragic, but it's 135 after an operation of 500,000 troops.

[06:41:40] And I remember vividly, I briefed every day in the war room, I briefed the general staff, Dick Cheney and General Schwarzkopf and General Powell, and I remember vividly one day in the war, somebody suggested we should invade Iraq, and the CIA representative said, absolutely not.

[06:41:57] That would be an absolute disaster if we invaded Iraq. And we had all the forces there. Saddam Hussein had been injected from Kuwait, it would have been the easiest thing to do, and all the senior power leaders said, don't do this. And I came back, and in 2003, when there was President George W. Bush was beating the drums that we were going to go invade Iraq, and was pulling troops out of Afghanistan to invade Iraq, I wrote a commentary for National Public Radio, which aired, and I said, this is a disaster.

[06:42:29] It will bog us down in Iraq for years. It will destabilize the entire region. It will make Iran a regional hegemon, and Tony Blair will get voted out of office. Every single one of those things happened. It ended up being the longest war in American history.

[06:42:46] And what is amazing about Desert Storm is how effective it was. That whole memorial was put together by one guy named Scott Stump, who'd been working by himself for 10 years to raise the money and get congressional approval. It was an honor to go down there, and the response from people in the community to that, and to me being in uniform, surprising, it was really heartwarming, and I really appreciate it.

[06:43:09] Thank you. Thank you. So I have one disclosure of my staff with applicants on Foxgate mixed-use property on 11-6. Mr. Turner, thank you for saying that. I actually didn't even know that had been a question, but obviously you were correct, and any applicant has to come for legislative approval.

[06:43:28] So it doesn't really make sense that that would even be true anyway, because I would think that most data centers right now, if they're reading the room, would know where they're probably going to land when they come for legislative approval. So, of course, that is true, and thank you for saying that. And anyone who says anything's different is purposely spreading falsehoods.

[06:43:47] I also say that I say this all the time, that public office is a calling, and it is one that I am deeply, deeply grateful to have and one that I absolutely love. And evidently there were two Loudoun County employees who feel the same way. Because we have two Loudoun County employees, Ms. Jenny McDonald, who was elected to the Winchester City Council, and Dr. Megan Cox, who was elected to the Lovitzville Town Council.

[06:44:13] So they have two employees of Loudoun County who are now local elected officials. It's really, really exciting. And I'm sending them both the, what I often give to new elected officials is the quote by Theodore Roosevelt called The Arena.

[06:44:32] It is, when it talks about how easy it is to throw stones from the side, but how hard it is to be in the arena. And it's a very good quote, but congratulations to both of them for being now in the arena. And public office is, it really is a wonderful calling.

[06:44:47] I also want to say happy birthday to the good, good men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated, established on November 17th, 1911. at Howard University. If you know anything about

them, they are sometimes called the Qs. Their motto is friendship is essential service to the soul.

[06:45:07] Their founders, we all often say, I just love Cooper Coleman because they just love Cooper and Coleman, who were their founders. And their four cardinal principles are manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift.

[06:45:24] But the Qs are very, very good people, and I am very, very proud to be, well, I'm very, very proud to be D-9. I'm very, very proud to be a Delta, and I'm very, very proud to be, with the Qs, to be my frat brothers. And finally, I would say Thanksgiving is coming.

[06:45:42] Mr. Kirshner's favorite holiday is coming up. And I wish everyone, one, travel safely to wherever you're going to have time with friends and family. Try to get some rest, try to regroup. I don't actually start the holiday season to after Thanksgiving, no.

[06:46:00] There's no Christmas songs, there's no tree, nothing to after Thanksgiving. We do Thanksgiving, and I do Black Friday. So happy Thanksgiving to everybody, and everyone travels safe and back. And I think that is it for the evening, and we are adjourned.