

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS



An update on local, state and federal issues of interest to the real estate industry.

Dulles Area Association of REALTORS® Government Affairs Newsletter

Fall 2017

VOTE WITH THE REALTOR® PARTY ON NOVEMBER 7TH!

On **Tuesday, November 7, 2017**, REALTORS® across Virginia will head to the polls to cast their votes. As one of only two states to hold major elections in 2017, much national attention and political energy will be focused on Virginia this year. The Virginia REALTORS® Political Action Committee (RPAC) announced its endorsements for local candidates running for the Virginia General Assembly. Visit <http://dullesarea.com/2017/09/18/rpac-2017-endorsements> to learn more about the RPAC endorsements.

The deadline to register to vote is Monday, October 16th. **Over 87% of Loudoun County REALTORS® are registered to vote!** Make sure that the REALTOR® Party can count on you to cast your ballot. To verify your registration and precinct information, visit the Virginia Department of Elections website by visiting <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>.



**Vote with the
REALTOR® Party on
November 7th!**

Virginia House of Delegates

Tag Greason (R-32)
Randy Minchew (R-10)
John Bell (D-87)
David LaRock (R-33)

Is YOUR CLIENT IN A FLOOD ZONE?

In early September, DAAR's Government Affairs Committee learned about the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and flood plain regulations in Loudoun County. It is important for REALTORS® to understand this program, especially since flood plains affect nearly 800 properties in Loudoun County. **Millions of home and small business owners in more than 20,000 communities nationwide require flood insurance.** Without the NFIP, homeowners would not be able to obtain insurance to protect their property against flooding! Visit <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/advanceSearch> to find out if your client is in a flood zone. You can learn more about the NFIP at <https://www.nar.realtor/topics/national-flood-insurance-program-nfip>.

DID YOU ANSWER THE CALL?



Take Action and Be the Voice of REALTORS® on Capitol Hill!

- Text the word App to 30644 to get the REALTOR® Action Center mobile app.
- Text the word REALTOR to 30644 to get REALTOR® Party Mobile Alerts.

The timing of the GAC meeting was not an accident – it coincided with **NAR's Call for Action** urging reauthorization and reform of the NFIP. More than 121,000 REALTORS® from across the nation acted and spoke in a unified voice. DAAR's response rate to the Call for Action was 9.17%. This number is less than the Virginia rate of 10.18% and the national rate of 13.88%. **Did you answer the call and participate in the Call for Action?**

The NFIP was extended until December 8, 2017, and NAR will continue to urge a long-term reauthorization and reform bill. There may be another Call for Action on this issue or another that is important to the real estate industry. **Make sure you're ready to respond and sign up to receive automatic alerts about future Calls for Action!**

REALTORS® Help Shape the Future of Loudoun County



As the county continues to work on revising its Comprehensive Development Plan, DAAR continues to make sure the **voice of REALTORS® is being heard**. “I think one of the big questions is, **are we able to accommodate the demand [for housing] for the next 5 to 25 years**,” asked Lars Henriksen, DAAR’s representative to the Stakeholders Committee of the Envision Loudoun process. Henriksen was selected to serve on the Stakeholder’s Housing Subcommittee, which was established to develop information and proposals for housing policies in the county.

Stakeholders will also consider future development in the transition policy area – the area between the eastern and western portions of Loudoun County. County staff presented Stakeholders with two options to ponder – stick with the current plan or allow modifications to include additional residential development. Henriksen and other Stakeholders questioned whether the county should simply stay with the status quo.

Stakeholders meet every other Monday from 6:00-9:00pm and their meetings are open to the public. REALTORS® can help shape the future of Loudoun County by attending these meetings or contacting Contact Lars Henriksen, DAAR Representative on Loudoun County’s Comprehensive Plan Stakeholders Committee via Lars@c21Redwood.com. For more information about the Comprehensive Plan and the Stakeholders Committee, visit <https://www.loudoun.gov/EnvisionLoudoun>.



DAAR Advocacy. DAAR continues to advocate on your behalf with Loudoun County Supervisors, Virginia General Assembly members, and members of the U.S Congress. We appreciate the support of DAAR members and count on your help to advance issues that matter to the real estate industry. Your assistance helps DAAR to have a very active and robust Government Affairs program and to ensure that the REALTORS® voice is being heard.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITIES

October 2—Public Policy Forum: New Sign Rules in Loudoun County, DAAR

October 11—Monthly DAAR Government Affairs Committee Meeting, DAAR (Guest speaker: Leesburg Town Council Member Ron Campbell)

Bi-monthly—Comprehensive Plan Stakeholders, County Government Center (10/16, 10/30, 11/6, 11/20, 12/4, 12/18)

October 16—Board of Supervisors 2017 Housing Summit, County Government Center

October 19—Realtor Recharge! Featuring \$40 Headshots, Embassy Suites

- **Do You Know DARPAC?**
- **Find out how to support the issues that matter most to your business.**
- Visit <http://www.dullesarea.com/darpac/> to learn more!
- **Support the issues that matter to your business. Support DARPAC!**



Elected Officials

United States Congress

Congresswoman Barbra Comstock (R-10)
Senator Tim Kaine (D)
Senator Mark Warner (D)

Governor of Virginia

Terry McAuliffe (D)

Attorney General

Mark Herring (D)

Virginia Senators

• Senator Dick Black (R-13)
• Senator Barbara Favola (D-31)
• Senator Jennifer Wexton (D-33)
• Senator Jill Vogel (R-27)

Virginia House of Delegates

• Delegate Kathleen Murphy (D-34)
• Delegate Tag Greason (R-32)
• Delegate Jim LeMunyon (R-67)
• Delegate John Bell (D-87)
• Delegate Jennifer Boysko (D-86)
• Delegate David LaRock (R-33)
• Delegate Randy Minchew (R-10)

Board of Supervisors

• Phyllis Randall, Chair, at-Large
• Ralph M. Buona, Vice Chair, Ashburn
• Suzanne M. Volpe, Algonkian
• Tony Buffington, Blue Ridge
• Ron Meyer, Broad Run
• Geary Higgins, Catoctin
• Matthew Letourneau, Dulles
• Kristen Umstadd, Leesburg
• Koran Saines, Sterling

Contact Us

For questions or if you would like to get involved in DAAR's legislative efforts:

Brenda Morton
Government Affairs and Communications Manager
(571) 291-9804
bmorton@dullesarea.com

Visit us on the web at www.dullesarea.com

Contributions to Virginia REALTORS® RPAC are voluntary and are used for political purposes; they are not deductible for federal or state income tax purposes. Members may contribute more or less than the suggested amount and may refuse to contribute without reprisal. The National Association of REALTORS® or any of its state associations or local boards will not favor or disfavor any member because of the amount contributed. NAR has established state Federal RPAC Disbursement Allocations based on anticipated National RPAC needs. Thirty percent of all Major Investor contributions are sent to NAR to be applied to the Federal RPAC Disbursement Allocation and are charged against the limits under 2 U.S.C. 441a with the remaining seventy percent maintained for state and local usage. Decisions regarding Virginia REALTORS® RPAC contributions to meet the Federal RPAC Disbursement Allocation will be made throughout the fundraising year.