

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

Summer 2018



What Does the Future Look Like in Loudoun?

The answer may be in Loudoun County's draft Comprehensive Plan – Loudoun 2040. The 231-page draft outlines the vision for the county's future and includes recommendations on where new housing developments could be built, what infrastructure improvements is needed, and how we can make better use of the land that's available for development.

The draft Plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisors July 19, at which time DAAR will deliver our position and recommendations for improving the Plan. A special thank you goes out to Lars Henriksen, Century21 Redwood Realty, for dedicating countless hours during the past two years to help ensure that REALTORS® had input into the Plan! Read DAAR's Talking Points about the Plan at: <https://tinyurl.com/ybc7yagg>. Visit www.loudoun.gov/EnvisionLoudoun to learn more about the Plan.



County Plans for More Broadband Service

The Board of Supervisors recently adopted a new plan to bring more broadband service into the county! The plan outlines five (5) strategic goals and some of the steps needed to achieve those goals. While benefitting all of Loudoun County, two of the five goals include a focus on western Loudoun: attract more broadband investment to expand coverage; and improve coverage for public safety and first responders. The other county-wide goals are to: leverage county and school communications services to maximize the amount of shared infrastructure; encourage "smart" technology, such as expanding broadband infrastructure along major corridors; and provide student access to high-speed broadband. Some of the strategies are already underway including the Broadband Infrastructure Study and the Broadband Infrastructure Expansion capital project with LCPS. Visit <https://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=2826> to learn more about broadband availability in Loudoun County.

COMING SOON! Public Policy Forum Health Care Options for REALTORS®

Join us for a roundtable discussion on options REALTORS® have for accessing health care. This Public Policy Forum will be held on October 12, from 8:30-10:30 am. NAR legislative and regulatory experts will describe their efforts at the national level to help get affordable health care for REALTORS®. We will also hear from a health care expert and learn about local and regional options for health care. Be on the lookout for more information about this DARPAC exclusive event.

What the Association Health Plan Rule Means for REALTORS®

The U.S Department of Labor (DOL) has finalized its long-awaited Association Health Plan (AHP) rule to expand the definition of "employer" to include "working owners." This change allows real estate professionals and other self-employed individuals to participate in association health plans. A key provision, forwarded for inclusion in the rule by NAR, will allow many REALTORS® who have access to coverage through a spouse to be eligible to choose an AHP option. Visit <https://www.nar.realtor/health-care-reform> to learn more about health insurance availability.

ROOM for RENT

It's Time for Non-Exempt Short-Term Rental Owners to Register their "Rooms for Rent"

Non-exempt short-term rental owners are now required to register their short-term rental units in Loudoun County. A short-term rental is a residential room or space that is rented out for under 30 days at a time. While it will be free to register, there is a penalty for noncompliance of \$500 per violation, up to \$5,000 total. **Real estate licensees and people represented by a real estate licensee are exempted from this registration process.** Learn more about implementation of the registry by visiting www.loudoun.gov/ShortTermRentals



Time for Action: National Flood Insurance Program. On June 18th, NAR issued a Call for Action regarding reauthorization and reform of the National Flood Insurance Program. We encourage all DAAR members to respond to the Call and sign up for mobile text alerts. Learn more about the program and to respond to the call by visiting [https://tinyurl.com/ycxpdhc4!](https://tinyurl.com/ycxpdhc4)



Invest in DARPAC. Did you know that you can invest in DARPAC when you renew your DAAR membership? Just click on the Edit Investment button to learn some of the many reasons why your investment matters from Phyllis Stakem, 2018 DARPAC Fundraising Chairman and Mike Wagner, 2018 Government Affairs Committee Vice Chairman. The more you invest, the more we can help the preserve and strengthen the real estate industry.



DULLES AREA REALTORS® POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

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.

**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

Ralph Northam (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 David Reid (D-32)
- Delegate Karrie Delaney (D-67)
- Delegate John Bell (D-87)
- Delegate Jennifer Boysko (D-86)
- Delegate David LaRock (R-33)
- Delegate Wendy Gooditis (D-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 Umstatted, Leesburg
- Koran Saines, Sterling

Contact Us

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

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Visit us on the web at
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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.