



January 2021

Happy New Year from the Department of Planning!



Happy New Year
From: Roanoke County Planning

2021

Hello!

We hope that you enjoyed a healthy holiday season and found meaningful ways to connect with loved ones despite the pandemic. If you would like more regular updates about Roanoke County planning and projects please [follow us on facebook](#). Here's to a healthy, productive start to 2021!

Planning & Zoning Update

**Dec.
15th**

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing for the [petition of Michael H. Fielder](#) to rezone approximately 9.03 acres from AG-1, Agricultural/Rural Low Density District to I-1, Low Intensity Industrial District, located at 4053 Aerospace Road, Vinton Magisterial District.

2021

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, all are encouraged to view and participate in meetings through electronic means. Meetings may be viewed live on RVT, Channel 3, or on the County's website <https://roanokecountyva.gov>; click on "Watch Board Meetings Online." Prior to and during meetings, citizens may email comments to planning@roanokecountyva.gov. When submitting comments, please include your name and address. Comments will be read aloud during meetings, subject to reasonable time limitations. Additionally, if you would like to call in your comments, please call 540-776-7278 and provide your comments, which will be read during the meeting.

If you desire to attend the meetings in person, please be advised that seating modifications and limits have been established in order to facilitate social distancing; attendees who are not of the same household must sit six feet apart, and attendance at meetings will be limited to 25 individuals.

**Jan.
5th**

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the petition of Kent Wheeler to rezone approximately 13.023 acres from R-1C, Low Density Residential District with conditions to I-2, High Intensity Industrial District and to rezone approximately 14.483 acres from I-2, High Intensity Industrial, District to AG-1, Agricultural/Rural Low Density, District, located at and near 5454 Aerospace Road, Vinton Magisterial District.

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Roanoke County Zoning Ordinance that would: amend application requirements, and time limitations in Sec. 30-19 Special Use Permits in Article I (General Provisions); add definitions for temporary construction yard and short-term rental, and amend the definition for home beauty/barber salon in Article II (Definitions and Use Types); add religious assembly as a permitted use in AG-3 Agricultural/Rural Preserve District, add commercial indoor amusement as a permitted use in C-2 High Intensity Commercial District, and add short-term rental as a permitted use in AG-3 Agricultural/Rural Preserve District, AG-1 Agricultural/Rural Low Density District, AR Agricultural/Residential District, AV Agricultural/Village Center District, R-1 Low Density Residential District, R-2 Medium Density Residential District, C-1 Low Intensity Commercial District, and C-2 High Intensity Commercial District in Article III (District Regulations); add use and design standards for short-term rental, and amend the use and design standards for home beauty/barber salon, and multi-family dwelling in Article IV (Use and Design Standards); and amend Sec. 30-100-2 dealing with yard, setback, coverage, and height requirements, and add a new section on temporary uses including standards for temporary construction yards in Article V (Development Standards). The proposed amendments would also amend various sections in Articles I, III, IV, and V changing "department of community development" to "department of development services" and/or "department of planning."

**Jan.
19th**

The Planning Commission will hold a work session on proposed zoning ordinance amendments.



New CORTRAN Provider

Starting January 12, 2021, Via is partnering with the [Roanoke County CORTRAN program](#) to provide transportation services. Eligible riders are County residents who are at least 70 years of age, or those who have a disability.

Riders may continue to travel to destinations within Roanoke County, the Town of Vinton, the City of Roanoke and the City of Salem for \$5 per trip, Monday through Friday, between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Upgrades to the CORTRAN program include:

- Booking your rides through a mobile app, which lets you track your ride;
- New wheelchair-accessible Toyota Sienna minivans;
- New ways to pay for your ride; and
- Safety measures in accordance with social distancing guidelines.

For additional information call (540) 776-7271 or email CORTAN@roanokecountyva.gov



Effective January 1, 2021, it is illegal to hold smartphones and other electronic devices while driving a moving motor vehicle on Virginia highways. Help keep our roadways safe for all users by leaving your phone stowed. A person who violates the new law is

subject to a fine of \$125 for the first offense and \$250 for the second and subsequent offenses. [Drive Smart Virginia](#) provides details about the new law. [Ride Solutions](#) reminds us that what we are doing with the device is irrelevant, it is the act of holding it while driving that is illegal.

New Vinton Town Manager

Congratulations to Richard "Pete" Peters! Vinton officially appointed Peters as Town Manager in December, 2020. Peters is not a new face in Vinton; he has worked for the town since 2015 as Assistant Town Manager/Director of Economic Development. Since August 1, 2020 Peters has served as Acting Town Manager, after Town Manager Barry Thompson announced his plan to retire on December 31, 2020. Peters has already been instrumental in successful [economic development projects](#) and grant funding. We wish him well as he takes the lead in Vinton!



Events & Activities



The Gauntlet Now Taking Applications

Cash, prizes and grants are available for entrepreneurial and business development through this [Advancement Foundation](#) competition. The 7th Annual Gauntlet begins Feb. 2021! Early bird rates apply until Jan. 10.

[Learn More](#)

What's Happening on I-81

The construction on I-81 is part of a comprehensive improvement program that has only just begun. VDOT is maintaining a website to keep everyone informed about the program, timeline, and improvements planned throughout the interstate corridor.

[Learn More](#)



Take the No Love for Litter Pledge



Join VDOT's *No Love for Litter Pledge* by promising to keep your trash to yourself. "Litter and love don't mix, so make the choice to keep Virginia litter-free. Be a lover, not a litterer."

[Learn More](#)

Trail Enthusiast Articles, Webinars and More

Are you a trail lover? American Trails has a variety of free webinars and resources galore related to trails!

[Learn More](#)



Stormwater Tips



Flood Insurance: Myth or Fact?

MYTH: NFIP flood insurance does not cover basements.

FACT: Yes, it does, but coverage is limited. The [NFIP](#) defines a basement as any area of a building with a floor that is below the ground level, on all sides. Basement coverage under NFIP policy includes cleanup expenses and items used to service the building such as elevators, furnaces, water heaters, washers and dryers, air conditioners, freezers, utility connections, circuit breaker boxes, pumps, and tanks used in solar energy systems. The policy does not cover the contents or improvements such as finished walls, floors and ceilings.

Septic System Know-How

Did you know that your septic tank needs to be inspected every 3 years and pumped every 3 to 5? Septic systems are the homeowner's responsibility, and their condition affects property values. [Learn how](#) to maintain your septic system to keep it in good working order.

Conventional Septic System



Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II



February 2021



ROANOKE COUNTY VA PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, February 2 | 6:00 p.m.

View on Roanoke Valley Television (RVTV3)

or www.RoanokeCountyVA.gov

Hello!

The Roanoke County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to incorporate the Oak Grove Center Plan into the Roanoke County Comprehensive Plan. *The City of Roanoke Planning Commission will hold a separate public hearing in March, to be announced.*

During the public hearing, citizens may share comments by email or by phone (540-776-7278). Please include your name and address. Comments will be read aloud during the meeting, subject to reasonable time limitations.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all are encouraged to view and participate in meetings through electronic means. The public hearing will be broadcast live, so members of the public may view the meeting on Roanoke Valley Television (RVTV3) - Channel 3 or online on the Planning Commission website.

Read the Draft Plan

Reimagine Oak Grove on RVTV

Check out our recent interview with RVTV for the Oak Grove Center Plan. Find out what we heard from the public and the Plan's 20-year vision for the area!



Planning & Zoning Update

2021

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**Jan.
5th**

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the [petition of Kent Wheeler](#) to rezone approximately 13.023 acres from R-1C, Low Density Residential District with conditions to I-2, High Intensity Industrial District and to rezone approximately 14.483 acres from I-2, High Intensity Industrial, District to AG-1, Agricultural/Rural Low Density, District, located at and near 5454 Aerospace Road, Vinton Magisterial District. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the rezoning request.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on [proposed amendments to the Roanoke County Zoning Ordinance](#). The proposed amendments include: corrections and updates to various sections of the zoning ordinance; amended or new regulations on home beauty/barber salons, short-term rentals, temporary construction yards, yard encroachments, and changes from requiring a special use permit to allowing a use by right use for Religious Assembly in AG-3 and Commercial Indoor Amusement in C-2. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the amendments.

**Jan.
19th**

The Planning Commission held a work session on proposed zoning ordinance amendments and reviewed its 2020 Annual Report and its 2021 Work Plan.

**Jan.
26th**

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the [petition of Kent Wheeler](#). The Board voted to approve the request.

**Feb.
2nd**

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on a proposed amendment to the Roanoke County Comprehensive Plan. The proposed amendment would incorporate the Oak Grove Center Plan into the Roanoke County Comprehensive Plan (see above).

The Planning Commission will hold public hearings at 7:00 p.m. on the following:

The petition of Mark Reinhardt to obtain a special use permit in an AR, Agricultural/Residential, District for a special events facility on approximately 31.32 acres, located at 2875 Timberview Road, Catawba Magisterial District.

The petition of R. P. Fralin, Inc. to rezone approximately 41.85 acres from I-1, Low Intensity Industrial, District to R-1, Low Density Residential, District to develop a 124-lot single-family home subdivision located at 5524 Old Mountain Road, Hollins Magisterial District.

**Feb.
9th**

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing at 3:00 p.m. on proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments.

**Feb.
16th**

The Planning Commission will hold a work session at 6:00 p.m. on the Oak Grove Center Plan and hear a presentation on CORTTRAN services.

**Feb.
23rd**

The Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings at 7:00 p.m. on the petition of Mark Reinhardt and the petition of R.P. Fralin, Inc.

News

Energy Sparked by New Businesses in Oak Grove



Tacos Rojas has opened their third Roanoke Valley location in Keagy Village. Starbucks has also announced a new location on Electric Road at a former bank, expected to open late this year.



The new family owned and operated Keagy Village Veterinary Hospital opened in January 2021, offering pet care, pharmacy and a full-service hospital.



Belle Sante day spa is now open at 1906 Electric Road. Roanoke County Economic Development interviewed Tribal Rug Gallery about their relocation to Oak Grove Plaza.



Valley Nutrition smoothie and juice bar has opened in Southwest Plaza, and Hanover Insurance Group, Inc. will be opening in Metis Plaza.

Keep up With Recent Developments in Oak Grove

More New Locally-Owned Businesses to Support



New businesses in The Shoppes at West Village, at 3555 Electric Road, include the new restaurant Cast Plates & Pints and Mathnasium The Math Learning Center.



Vinton has news about three restaurants: Our Daily Bread Bakery & Bistro has opened a new location, while Farmburguesa and Dogwood Restaurant are expanding and adding outdoor dining.

VDOT Seeks Input on the Next Section of Interstate 81 Widening



Find out about the next phase of the I-81 widening project which extends from south of Exit 137 (Wildwood Road) to north of Exit 141 (Electric Road). VDOT will host a virtual public hearing on Feb. 9, 2021, 5 - 7 p.m. Complete information about the project and

Public Notices

Matching Funds For Park Improvements

Have you ever wanted to make improvements to a public park? This year Roanoke County's Capital Improvement Incentive Fund is providing matching funds for park improvement projects. Part of the match can even be counted in labor or volunteer hours! Grant applications must be received by Friday March 5.

[Learn More](#)

Cluster Analysis – helping employers get employees to work

RIDE Solutions can assist employers (free of charge) who want to better manage parking, offer a valuable employee benefit, build their wellness programs, or meet sustainability goals.

[Learn More](#)

RoCo Mobile App Puts County Services in Your Hand

Roanoke County's new RoCo Mobile app for iPhone and Android devices puts County services and information at your fingertips!

[Learn More](#)

Your Input Needed for Recreation Survey

AEP needs public input from recreational users for the relicensing of the [Niagara Hydroelectric Project](#). Related resources include Tinker Creek, the Roanoke River and Rutrough Canoe/Kayak Ramp among others. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey.

[Take the Survey](#)

Thinking About Hiking the AT?

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Appalachian Trail Conservancy is urging hikers to wait until next year to plan their long-distance trips. Unfortunately, aspiring thru-hikers will not be recognized for the completion of the Appalachian Trail in 2021.

[Learn More](#)



Stormwater Clean Award

Contractor Appreciation Program Recognizes First Project in 2021

Peter Fields, of Fields Construction, Inc. earned the Roanoke County Stormwater Clean Award for a single family residential project in Old Mill Plantation. The County's Contractor Appreciation Program recognizes contractors who conduct exemplary work to protect receiving waters from sedimentation.



Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II



March 2021



PUBLIC HEARINGS

Planning Commission
Tuesday, February 2 | 6:00 p.m.

Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, March 23 | 3:00 p.m.



PUBLIC HEARINGS

Planning Commission
Monday, March 8 | 1:30 p.m.

City Council
Monday, March 15 | 7:00 p.m.

Hello!

Are you following along with our Oak Grove Plan? We've gotten great feedback so far, and there are three more public hearings this month! You can find out about the [next steps](#) and ways to give your input for the [Oak Grove Center Plan](#), which includes areas in both Roanoke County and the City of Roanoke. The Plan will be considered for adoption into the Comprehensive Plans of the City of Roanoke and Roanoke County this month.

[Read the Plan Summary](#)

Planning & Zoning Update

2021 Public Notice

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Feb. 2nd

The Planning Commission approved its 2020 Annual Report and its 2021 Work Plan.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing and recommended incorporating the Oak Grove Center Plan into the County's Comprehensive Plan.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the petition of R. P. Fralin, Inc. to rezone approximately 41.85 acres to develop a 124-lot single-family home subdivision located at 5524 Old Mountain Road. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the rezoning request.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the petition of Mark Reinhardt to obtain a special use permit for a special events facility located at 2875 Timberview Road. The Planning Commission voted to approve the special use permit with conditions.

Feb. 9th

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing and voted to adopt several proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments.

Feb. 23rd

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the petition of R. P. Fralin, Inc. The Board voted to rezone the property to R-1 Low Density Residential District.

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the petition of Mark Reinhardt to obtain a special use permit for a special events facility. The Board voted to table this request to see if the applicants can provide access via Loch Haven Road versus Timberview Road.

March 2nd

The Planning Commission meeting was cancelled.

March 9th

The Board of Supervisors will hold a work session at 3:00 p.m. on the Oak Grove Center Plan.

March 16th

The Planning Commission will hold a work session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss an upcoming comprehensive plan update and zoning ordinance amendments.

March 23rd

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing at 3:00 p.m. to adopt the Oak Grove Center Plan into the County's Comprehensive Plan.



Virginia Flood Awareness Week March 14-20, 2021

Do you live near a water source or floodplain? Do you know if you live in a [dam break inundation zone](#)? Flooding is the most common and costly natural disaster in Virginia. Virginia Flood Awareness Week encourages you to learn about your flood risk and protect your property with flood insurance. Homeowner's Insurance does not cover flooding. Roanoke County maintains additional [local resources for residents](#) and [RVTV3's video](#) about the flood of 1985 reminds us of the devastating power of floods. [Learn more about how to protect yourself](#) from flooding.



In December of 2020, the VDOT Salem Residency completed a project to reconstruct part of Harmony Lane for acceptance into the State-maintained secondary system of roadways. The first 0.16 miles has been reconstructed with concrete culvert, pavement and a cul-de-sac. The final 0.19 miles of Harmony Lane will retain its gravel surface and private ownership. Learn more about the project [on our blog](#).

Events & Activities

Park Grant Applications due March 5

Have you ever wanted to make improvements to a public park? This year Roanoke County's Capital Improvement Incentive Fund is providing matching funds for park improvement projects. Part of the match can even be counted in labor or volunteer hours!

[Learn More](#)



Spring is Just Around the Corner!

Just when you thought winter would last forever, Roanoke County's spring 2021 recreation program lineup is available! The ReCLife brochure comes in both printed and digital formats.

[Learn More](#)

Thinking About Hiking the AT?

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Appalachian Trail Conservancy is urging hikers to wait until next year to plan their long-distance trips. Unfortunately, aspiring thru-hikers will not be recognized for the completion of the Appalachian Trail in 2021.

[Learn More](#)



Reinvigorate Your Nutrition



Improve your nutrition plan this month with the four week March Nutritional Series at Green Ridge Recreation Center, taught by Certified Nutrition Coach Lori Fadorick.

[Learn More](#)

Explore Park

ADVENTURE DAY!

Select Saturdays



Sat., April 3
10am to 5pm

Located at:
Blue Ridge Parkway
Milepost 115



Join us for our Adventure Day event series! Explore Park will have expanded activities from 10 AM to 5 PM on select Saturdays!

Saturday, April 3

Soar through the trees at Treetop Quest's opening day! Watch local artisans demonstrate their craft and enjoy FREE family activities.

Visit ExplorePark.org for more info!

Zoning Tips



Spring Cleaning?

Check out Roanoke County's garbage and debris collection services and other helpful information, including how to bearproof your trash container.

[Learn More](#)

Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II



Hello!

The Route 419 corridor is abuzz with activity! New businesses are springing up and multi-modal transportation projects are progressing. Did you hear that Carilion Children's has announced an early October opening? Also, several new restaurants and businesses including BKT Uniforms, Mathis Uniforms, Chipotle Mexican Grill, Aspen Dental, Panda Express, Jersey Mike's Subs, Blaze Pizza, Chicken Salad Chick, Michaels, and Kroger Fuel Station are either open now or coming soon to Tanglewood. More developments in the area include El Mezcal Grill on Electric Road (now open), and Fallowater Square, a two-story office building on Fallowater Lane that will house Long & Foster and other commercial enterprises. Stay tuned for updates as we celebrate #RoCo419Day on April 19!



Carilion Children's



Fallowater Square



El Mezcal Grill

Take a peek at new and future businesses in the 419 Town Center on our website!

Planning & Zoning Update

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**March
23rd**

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing at 3:00 p.m. and voted to adopt the [Oak Grove Center Plan](#) into the County's Comprehensive Plan.

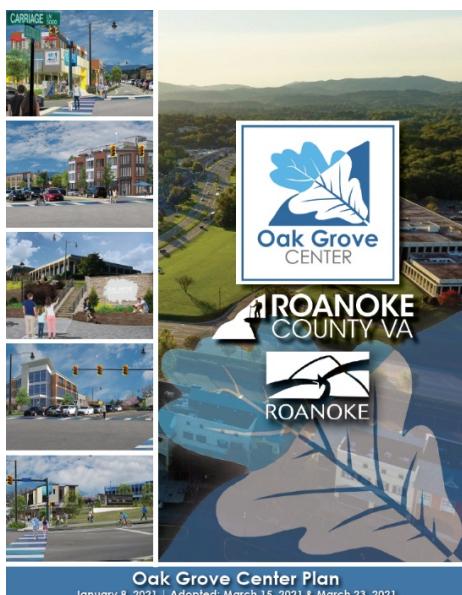
**April
6th**

The Planning Commission will hold a work session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss zoning ordinance amendments and receive an update on transportation projects.

**April
20th**

The Planning Commission will hold a work session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss zoning ordinance amendments.

News



Oak Grove Center Plan Adopted

We are excited to announce that the Oak Grove Center Plan has been adopted by the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors and the City of Roanoke City Council!

Check out the easy-to-read [Plan Summary](#), which highlights the key components of the complete Plan (and Appendices) with graphics, maps, tables and charts.

The Plan will be implemented over the next 20-plus years. Successful implementation of the Plan depends on regulatory tools, continued community engagement and appropriate financing policies that can encourage and guide private development along with strategic public investment.

The plan recommendations are derived from public input and aim to provide a structure for implementation that will serve the health, safety, prosperity and welfare of the

Progress continues on the Route 419 Widening, Safety and Multimodal Improvements project.

The Kanawha Stone Company, Inc. is installing storm sewer and a water main along the Wendy's side of Route 419 and is currently working near Copper Croft Apartments. The shoulder will continue to be closed for construction activities but entrances to the businesses are open. Crews are now operating overnight along the corridor as well, as weather permits.

The project will be complete by the end of this year and will include a third travel lane between Ogden Road and Route 220, sidewalks, bike lanes, pedestrian signals and crosswalks, and a bus shelter. For updates check the [Salem District Facebook](#) page or the VDOT [Salem Projects](#) website.



VDOT Photo

Events & Activities

Your Input Needed for Recreation Survey

AEP needs public input from recreational users for the relicensing of the [Niagara Hydroelectric Project](#). Related resources include Tinker Creek, the Roanoke River and Rutrough Canoe/Kayak Ramp among others. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey.

[Learn More](#)



Is Walking and Bicycling Important to You?

We are looking for new members! The Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee facilitates regional collaboration to improve walking and bicycling in the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Region and is accepting applications for new members until April 30, 2021.

[Learn More](#)

Camp Roanoke is Back!

Discovery camp returns for summer 2021 after taking a break last year due to COVID-19. Check out the variety of outdoor activities and education available for kids!

Also, take a look at the Kids in Camp programs at Green Ridge and Brambleton Center.

[Learn More](#)



Treetop Quest Opens April 3!

Treetop Quest at Explore Park opens on Saturday, April 3 for Spring 2021 operation! [Book your quest](#) today to soar through the trees this spring! Check the website for discounts and season passes.

[Learn More](#)

Zoning Tips



It's Almost Pool Time!

Do you have a swimming pool or hot tub? Please read our Pool Maintenance Facts sheet to prepare yourself for this year's pool season.

[Learn More](#)

Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II



Hello!

Are you looking for fresh, locally grown and prepared food and homemade products? Farmer's Market season is kicking off in Roanoke County!

The **Catawba Valley Farmers' Market** opens May 6 to October 21, every Thursday, 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm. Local produce, meats, eggs, baked goods, arts and crafts are for sale in an open air venue at the Catawba Sustainability Center.

The **South County Seasonal Farmers' Market** is now open from April to December, Thursday through Saturday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Located at the Shoppes at West Village on Electric Road.

The **Vinton Farmers' Market** is open Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm and Saturday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. The market features local produce, handmade gifts and crafts, plants and artwork. It is also the site for many community events such as Shake, Bake and Sprout, Art Markets, Craft Shows, and Mingle at the Market. The convenient parking, canopy and stage (featuring live music on occasion) are located on Lee Avenue in Downtown Vinton.

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April 6th

The Planning Commission held a work session to discuss potential zoning ordinance amendments regarding home occupations, shopping center signage, agritourism, shared parking and sight triangles; and to receive an update on transportation projects.

April 20th

The Planning Commission held a work session to discuss zoning ordinance amendments regarding slaughterhouse/food processing, shared parking and minimum parking standards.

April 27th

The Board of Supervisors will hold a work session on an update to Roanoke County's Comprehensive Plan.

May 4th

The Planning Commission meeting has been cancelled.

May 18th

The Planning Commission will hold a work session to discuss zoning ordinance amendments for minimum parking requirements, food processing, development standards in R-3 and R-4, shopping center signage, and home based businesses.

June 1st

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on the [petition of Secure Store, LLC](#) to remove proffered conditions on approximately 10.064 acres zoned C-2C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions, and to obtain a Special Use Permit for a mini-warehouse, located adjacent to and south of 925 North Electric Road.

News

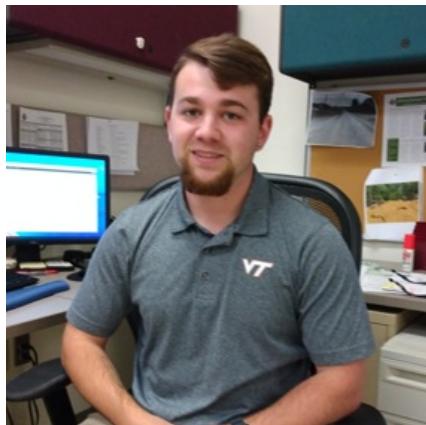


Welcome Alina Herron

Alina Herron joined Roanoke County's Development Services in February as a Compliance Inspector. She has a masters degree in Environmental Science from the University of North Carolina Wilmington. Some of her favorite hobbies are knitting, playing board games, and hiking with her dog, Hagrid.

Welcome Nathan Amick

Born and raised in Roanoke County, Nathan graduated from Radford University with a bachelors degree in Geology. After several years with the Forest Service, Nathan joined Roanoke County as an Erosion and Sediment/Stormwater Inspector in February of 2020. He enjoys spending his free time outdoors fishing, hiking, and being on the lake. Nathan is also active at the gym and participates in Cross Fit.



Welcome Chriss VanEeckhout

Originally from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, Chriss graduated from Longwood University in 2019 with a bachelors degree in Environmental Science. He joined Roanoke County in February 2020 as an Erosion and Sediment/Stormwater Inspector. Prior to working for the County Chriss worked in stream restoration with a private environmental company. In his free time Chriss likes to golf, fish and kayak.

Old Virginia Outpost Now Open in Hollins

Old Virginia Outpost, Inc. has opened their premier automotive customization facility at 7432 McConnell Road in Hollins Center. The new company location features a design studio where clients can visualize vehicle modifications on screen to aid in the decision making process. The facility also features an updated customer lounge, and increased shop floor capacity.

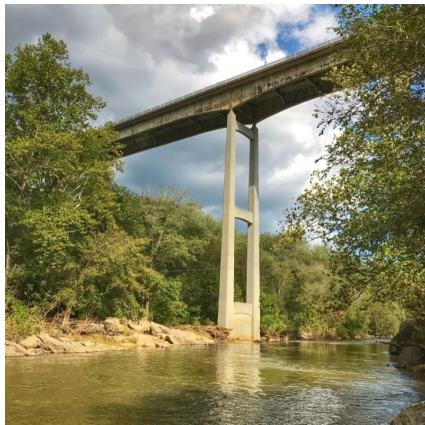


LewisGale Groundbreaking

LewisGale Medical Center broke ground on April 26, 2021 for their new Blue Hills ER on Route 460/Challenger Avenue. The freestanding emergency room will be staffed with board-certified emergency room physicians and nurses 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Track updates on the [project website](#).

Give Input on Transportation Projects

You are invited to share comments about transportation projects that have been recommended for funding in the FY2022-2027 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP). Comments will also be accepted for new projects over \$25 million. The program allocates public funds to highway, road, bridge, rail, bicycle, pedestrian and public transportation projects. The public hearing for the Salem District will be held virtually on May 5th at 4:00 p.m.



Blue Ridge Parkway Closure

National Park Service officials have announced the full closure of Roanoke River Bridge, beginning May 9, 2021, at Milepost 114.7, on the Blue Ridge Parkway for a major rehabilitation project. The closure is expected to be in place through spring of 2022. Detour routes have been planned during the closure. Access to Explore Park will be available from the south via U.S. 220 and via Mill Mountain Parkway. Alternative access is available via Rutrough Road.

Events & Activities



Carilion Clinic Ironman Needs Volunteers

Our region is excited to host the Carilion Clinic Ironman 70.3 Virginia's Blue Ridge on June 6, 2021. 1500 volunteers are needed to welcome athletes from around the world. Sign up as an individual or a group.

[Learn More](#)



Explore Park is in Full Swing!

Come on out to Explore Park and discover the exciting variety of adventures and leisure activities for all ages and skill levels! Stay for the day, or choose your favorite camping accommodations to stay overnight.

[Learn More](#)

Looking for something to do?



Many activities that were cancelled last year are back for 2021! Check out Virginia's Blue Ridge Calendar of Events for regional activities, restaurant week specials, festivals, outdoor concerts, theatre, and more.

[Learn More](#)



Go Outside & Play Guide

Are you looking to venture a little farther from home? Blue Ridge Outdoors magazine has already planned some regional excursions for you! Check out their Spring/Summer 2021 Guide.

[Learn More](#)

Zoning Tips

Grass is growing, time for mowing!

Roanoke County's [Code of Ordinances](#) requires weeds and grass to be mowed before they reach 12 inches in height.



Mosquitos love warm weather too

Roanoke County's [Mosquito Fact Sheet](#) provides ways to limit mosquitos on your property, how to prevent bites and best practices for ponds.



Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II



Hello!

We have a new segment of greenway in Vinton! On May 25, 2021, Roanoke County celebrated Arbor Day with the Town of Vinton by cutting the ribbon on Phase II of the Glade Creek Greenway! The project included planting 30 trees. The new segment begins at Glade Creek Park, 401 Gus Nicks Boulevard in Vinton, and follows Glade Creek for approximately a half mile toward the existing Phase I Glade Creek Greenway. A future segment will link Phase I and II to each other, connecting Glade Creek Park all the way to the Roanoke River Greenway!

Pictured above: Top - Phase II Glade Creek Greenway, Roanoke County Supervisor Phil North, Vinton Mayor Bradley Grose, Greenway Commission Chair Frank Simms, Roanoke County Supervisor Jason Peters. Bottom - Mayor Grose, Greenway

[Watch RVTM's Video of the Event](#)

Planning & Zoning Update

2021 Public Notice

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, all are encouraged to view and participate in public hearings through electronic means. Public hearings may be viewed live on RVTM, Channel 3, or on the [Planning Commission webpage](#); click on "Watch Planning Commission Meetings Online. Prior to and during meetings, citizens may email comments to planning@roanokecountyva.gov or call 540-776-7278. When submitting comments, please include your name and address. Comments will be read aloud during meetings, subject to reasonable time limitations.

If you desire to attend the meetings in person, please wear a face covering and be advised that seating modifications and limits have been established in order to facilitate social distancing; attendees who are not of the same household must sit six feet apart, and attendance at meetings will be limited to 25 individuals.

**May
18th**

The Planning Commission held a work session to discuss zoning ordinance amendments for minimum parking requirements, food processing, development standards in R-3 and R-4, shopping center signage, and home based businesses.

**June
1st**

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on the [petition of Secure Store, LLC](#) to remove proffered conditions on approximately 10.064 acres zoned C-2C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions, and to obtain a Special Use Permit for a mini-warehouse, located adjacent to and south of 925 North Electric Road.

**June
8th**

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing at 3:00 p.m. to receive public comments on the [Secondary System Six-Year Improvement Plan](#) for Fiscal Years 2022-2027 and the estimated allocation of funds and construction priority list for Fiscal Year 2022.

The Board of Supervisors will hold a [second reading](#) at their 7:00 p.m. meeting to consider the petition of Zye Reinhardt and Gaven Reinhardt to obtain a special use permit in an AR, Agricultural/Residential District for a special events facility at 2875 Timberview Road. The public hearing was closed during the February 23, 2021, meeting. However, comments can still be submitted via email to: [Debbie Jacks](#) prior to the meeting.

**June
22nd**

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on the [petition of Secure Store, LLC](#) to remove proffered conditions on approximately 10.064 acres zoned C-2C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions, and to obtain a Special Use Permit for a mini-warehouse, located adjacent to and south of 925 North Electric Road.

**July
6th**

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on [proposed amendments](#) to the Roanoke County Zoning Ordinance.



This fall, **Roanoke County is launching the Roanoke County 200 Plan**, a major update to the Comprehensive Plan. The plan belongs to every citizen of Roanoke County. **We invite you to [sign up for our email list](#) to stay in the loop about upcoming public input opportunities!**

The plan:

- Expresses an overarching community vision as well as unique goals for 11 community planning areas within the County and the Town of Vinton!
- Provides guidance for public policies about land development, public services and resource protection.
- Allows decision makers to study the long-term consequences of current decisions and recognize that today's actions will impact the county for many years to come.

The last update was in 2005; the Roanoke County 200 Plan is a 15-year plan to mark the County's bicentennial in 2038. Fall meetings will be held online and/or in-person dependent on COVID-19 public safety recommendations at that time.

[Learn More](#)

New Bike & Driving Laws in Virginia

Did you know that Virginia has new laws concerning bicyclists and drivers? [Ride Solutions](#) produced a [short video](#) to clearly explain the new laws, which pertain to cyclists and motor vehicle drivers beginning July 1, 2021. Please watch the video to find out what the new laws mean for you!

NHTSA has also [produced a video](#) with important safety information for bicycle drivers.



Traffic Alert June 3 - 6: Ironman Race Traffic Impacts

Starting Thursday, June 3, drivers can expect traffic impacts associated with the Ironman 70.3 Virginia's Blue Ridge event to be held on June 6. Message boards will be in place to communicate changes to drivers. Temporary [road closures](#) are planned for specific routes.

County Libraries Expanding Hours

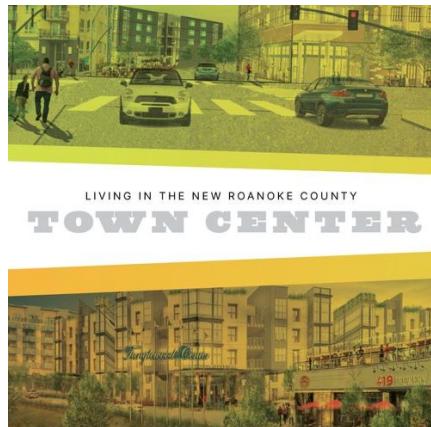
We are excited to announce [we're adding more hours](#) at Glenvar, Hollins, South County and Vinton libraries starting June 1. Hours include in-

person visits, curbside, and drive-thru (where applicable).

10am-8pm | Monday-Thursday

10am-5pm | Friday & Saturday

Reservations are no longer required.



419 Town Center Plan In The News

Did you know that the [419 Town Center Plan](#) was chosen by readers as the "Best Idea For the Valley's Future" in the [Roanoker Magazine Best of 2021](#) contest?

The Roanoker also published a [story about the Plan](#) in the May/June 2021 issue. The story is set in 2049. "A (fictional) young family is looking for a suitable home in its newly-adopted city. It seems to have found one at the 419 Town Center."

Williamson & Plantation Road Sidewalk Projects to Begin Shortly

Construction is beginning on two long-awaited sidewalk projects that help implement the [Hollins Center Plan](#), adopted by the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors in 2020.

1. Sidewalk along Williamson Road from Peters Creek Road to North Roanoke Assisted Living. Crosswalks and pedestrian signals at the Williamson/Peters Creek intersection.
2. Sidewalk along Plantation Road from Walrond Drive to Gander Way. Walrond Drive intersection will be widened. Crosswalks and pedestrian signals will be installed at the Gander/Plantation/Friendship intersection.



For more information please view the [Transportation Story Map](#) or contact Megan Cronise, Transportation Planning Administrator, by [email](#) or by phone: (540) 772-2106.

Events & Activities

Carilion Clinic Ironman on June 6

Our region is excited to host the [Carilion Clinic Ironman 70.3](#) Virginia's Blue Ridge on June 6, 2021! Come on out to the course to cheer on the contestants and give them a warm welcome to the Roanoke Valley! Be sure to check [traffic alerts](#) before heading out.



New Activities at Explore Park

Did you know that this year at Explore Park you can rent mountain bikes, paddle boards and kayaks? These are only a few of the exciting recreational activities designed and available for everyone at Explore Park!

[Learn More](#)



June 5th is National Trails Day

Do you love trails? National Trails Day is a day of service for hometown trails sponsored by American Hiking Society. Here in the Roanoke Valley you can join Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club or Pathfinders for Greenways to help support and maintain trails.

[Learn More](#)



Your Input Need for Recreation Survey

AEP needs public input from recreational users for the relicensing of the Niagara Hydroelectric Project. Related resources include Tinker Creek, the Roanoke River and Rutrough Canoe/Kayak Ramp among others. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey.

[Take the Survey](#)

Stormwater Tips

Roanoke County's Department of Development Services has selected the Saint Francis Service Dogs Pavilion project, located at 8232 Enon Drive, Hollins, VA, as the next recipient of the Stormwater Clean Award.



Stormwater Guide for Homeowners

Please do your part to keep our water resources clean and healthy! Roanoke County's 2021 Stormwater Guide for Homeowners provides important information and helpful tips about balloons, rain gardens, septic systems, flood insurance and more!



Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II



July 2021



Hello!

Do you want to learn how to mountain bike? The Blue Ridge Bike Center is now open at Explore Park! The Bike Center is a place where individuals and families can learn to ride, practice trail techniques, and build their mountain bike skills. Trail design, engineering and construction for the first phase of the new bike center was partially funded through the Recreational Trails Program grant. The project connects to 14 miles of existing trails at Explore Park with a skills loop of natural features, trail improvements and a parking lot. Come on out and test your skills!

Planning & Zoning Update

2021 Public Hearings

Public hearings may be viewed live on RVT, Channel 3, or on the Planning Commission webpage; click on "Watch Planning Commission Meetings Online. Prior to and during meetings, citizens may email comments to planning@roanokecountyva.gov or call 540-776-7278. When submitting comments, please include your name and address. Comments will be read aloud during meetings, subject to reasonable time limitations.

June 8th

The Board of Supervisors held a second reading at their 7:00 p.m. meeting to consider the petition of Zye Reinhardt and Gaven Reinhardt to obtain a special use permit in an AR, Agricultural/Residential District for a special events facility at 2875

Timberview Road. The Board postponed for one year from the completed application date, with an option to appeal for additional time.

June 22nd

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on the petition of Secure Store, LLC to remove proffered conditions on approximately 10.064 acres zoned C-2C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions, and to obtain a Special Use Permit for a mini-warehouse, located adjacent to and south of 925 North Electric Road. The Board approved the petition.

July 6th

The Planning Commission will hold a work session at 5:00 p.m. for discussion of the Comprehensive Plan update.

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on proposed amendments to the Roanoke County Zoning Ordinance.

Wishing Susan McCoy a Fond Farewell

Susan McCoy retired at the end of June after 27 years working for Roanoke County. Susan worked in both the Commissioner of the Revenue and Community Development/Planning Departments. Planning Director Philip Thompson said that "Susan is one of the nicest and most caring people you will ever meet. She worked behind the scenes and coordinated with many people to ensure that projects and applications were kept on schedule and that meetings ran smoothly. Susan was always willing to help others and go the extra mile." Susan looks forward to spending more time with her "sweet boy Milo," reconnecting with old friends, and taking fun trips with her family. "Susan will be greatly missed. Her easygoing demeanor with staff and citizens was truly a blessing to our department and will be impossible to replace" - Zoning Administrator, Becky James. We all wish Susan a long, fun and happy retirement!



News



Beat the heat at Splash Valley!

Have you visited Splash Valley Water Park yet? This is an outdoor aquatic facility featuring two 34-foot high slides, a current river, children's sprayground and more! Operated by Roanoke County Parks, Recreation and Tourism, this facility provides a great place to cool off during the summer months. Splash Valley is located directly adjacent to Green Ridge Recreation Center, but requires a separate admission.

Construction at Wood Haven Technology Park

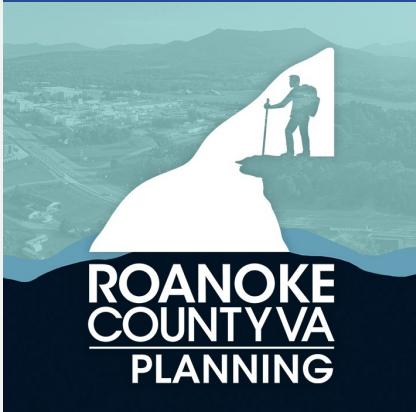
You may have noticed a lot of grading and tree removal near the I-581 exit on I-81 and wondered what is happening. The site is home to [Wood Haven Technology Park](#), which is being constructed for high technology manufacturing.



Roanoke Valley Resource Authority

Following a lengthy analysis and decision by the RVRA Board to stop hauling garbage by train to Smith Gap Landfill, and instead haul by trucks, construction is underway to convert the rail spur to a road. Approximately 100 dump truck loads of stone are currently being hauled daily to the [project site](#). Updates are available on the [Roanoke County website](#).

Events & Activities



Roanoke County Planning Updates

Did you know that our Planning Department maintains a Facebook page with all types of interesting information? The page is constantly updated with fun things to do, local government information, traffic alerts and more.

[Follow us here](#)



Independence Day Celebrations

There are [many opportunities](#) for fireworks and Independence Day celebrations throughout the Roanoke Valley. The Town of Vinton will host their fireworks display at the Vinton War Memorial on July 4, 2021.

[Learn More](#)

More Ways to Have Summertime Fun



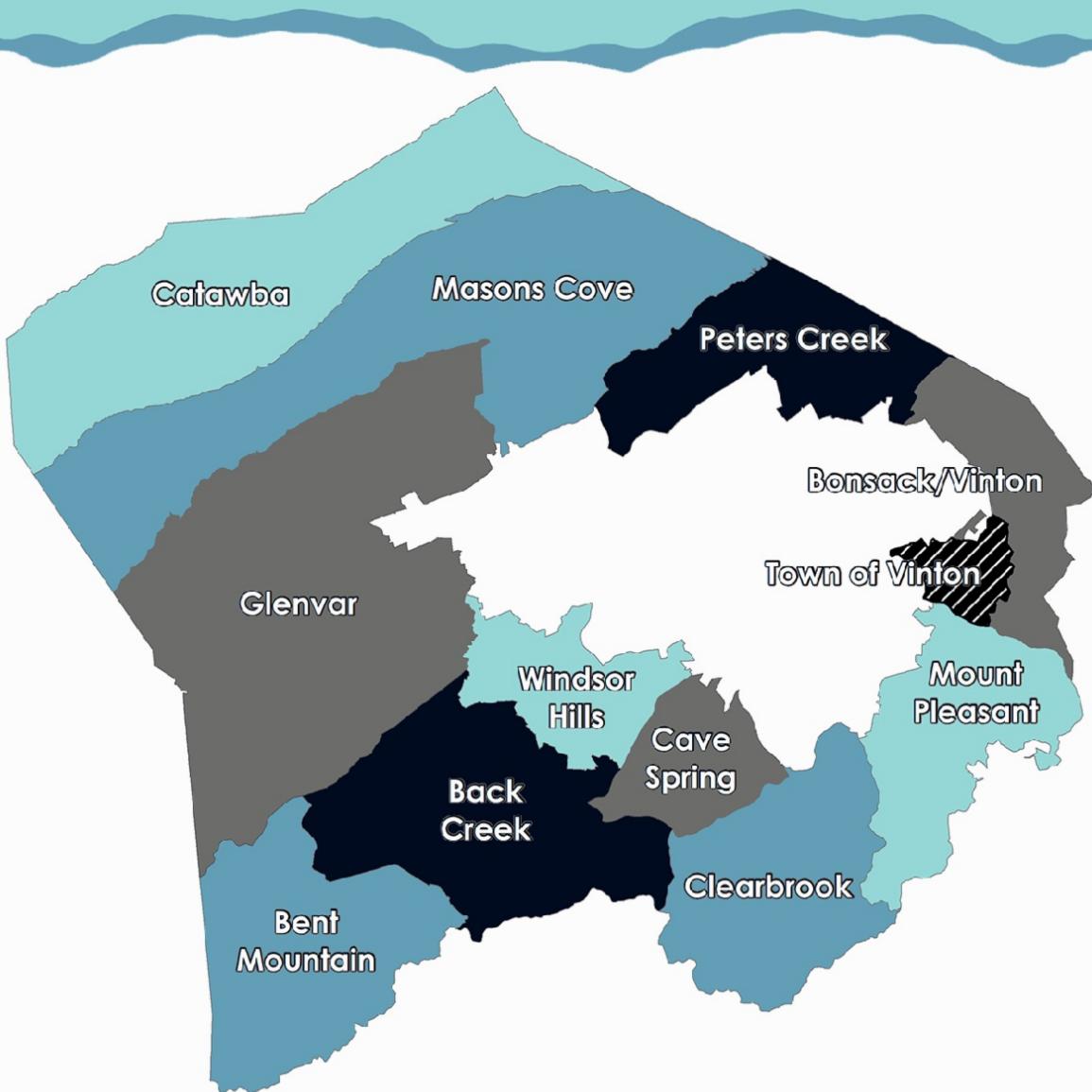
Step outside of everyday life and enjoy what our beautiful area has to offer so close to home! [Blue Mountain Adventures](#) at Explore Park provides a variety of riverside camping sites along with tubing, kayaking, paddle boards, mountain biking rentals and more!

[Learn More](#)

Roanoke County 200 Plan



The [Roanoke County 200 Plan](#) is launching this fall. This Comprehensive Plan update will involve every citizen of Roanoke County! We invite you to sign up early for our email list to stay in the loop about upcoming public input opportunities. Learn more on [our website](#) and [find your planning area](#) by following the instructions below:



COMMUNITY PLANNING AREAS

The Roanoke County 200 Plan expresses an overarching community vision as well as unique goals for **11 community planning areas** (CPAs) within the County and the Town of Vinton. Find your CPA at: oneview.roanokecountyva.gov

1. Insert/type your address into the "Search" bar at the top
2. Click on **Map Layers**  at the top
3. Click **Layers**
4. Check:

- Additional Mapping Layers**
- Planning And Zoning**
- Planning Boundaries**
- Planning Area Boundaries**

Complete! Your Community Planning Area will be displayed.

Your Community Your Voice



Stormwater Tips

It's Just Dirt!

The July 2021 newsletter [It's Just Dirt](#) features Digging In Dollars: Common Sense Erosion and Sediment Control. This is a valuable resource for contractors as well as homeowners. The issue includes: 1) information about riprap channels (used to stabilize and protect the soil surface against erosion); 2) the cost of erosion vs. prevention; and 3) articles about proper, cost effective prevention methods.



Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II



August 2021



Hello!

Roanoke County is currently engaged in a yearlong process to develop the County's five-year strategic plan for economic growth, entitled **ELEVATE Roanoke County 2026 Plan**. This Plan will serve as the County's guide for strategically growing Roanoke County's tax base, retaining, expanding, and attracting businesses, and providing a sustainable economy for the business community and high quality of life for our residents.

On July 21, the Roanoke County Planning Commission held a joint meeting with the Economic Development Authority to discuss the strategic plan. This meeting was part of a series of focus groups organized to gather critical input from stakeholders over the month of July. The discussion included questions about ways to strengthen Roanoke County's overall economic climate, support small business growth and development, attract and retain new workforce and talent, and address current conditions which impact economic growth. The plan is anticipated to be complete in November 2021.

Please give us your input! The public survey is closed, but you can still share your thoughts on the County's 5-year economic development by email.

[Learn More](#)

Planning & Zoning Update

The Planning Commission held a work session for discussion of the

**July
6th**

Comprehensive Plan update.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Roanoke County Zoning Ordinance including Article I (General Provisions), Article II, (Definitions and Use Types), Article III (District Regulations), Article IV (Use and Design Standards) and Article V (Development Standards).

**July
27th**

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on a proposed Ordinance amending Article I (General Provisions), Article II, (Definitions and Use Types), Article III (District Regulations), Article IV (Use and Design Standards) and Article V (Development Standards) of the Roanoke County Zoning Ordinance. The Board adopted the proposed ordinance.

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing and adopted changes to the Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance. The changes take effect immediately; however, plans that are currently under review are exempt from the new requirements.

**August
3rd**

The Planning Commission public hearing has been cancelled.

**August
31st**

The Planning Commission will hold a work session for discussion of zoning ordinance amendments and the Comprehensive Plan update.

News

Are you interested in adding solar energy to your home?

Roanoke County residents are eligible for Solarize Virginia, a program that reduces the cost and complexity of going solar! Through August 30, 2021 you can sign up for a free satellite assessment to find out if your home is a good fit for solar energy. Questions can be directed to Katie VanLangen at katiev@leap-va.org.



New Roanoke River Greenway Connection Complete

A ribbon cutting was held on July 20, 2021 for an important Roanoke River Greenway connection between the Cities of Roanoke and Salem. The new bridge over Barnhardt Creek is near Peters Creek Road and Apperson Drive.



Moncap Trail Improvements



Moncap Trail is located in the Poage Farm area, not far from Route 221/Bent Mountain Road. The road was added to the Secondary Six-Year Plan in 2004 as a Rural Rustic project to reconstruct and surface treat the VDOT-maintained, 0.2-mile-long roadway, while also constructing a turnaround. Funds were steadily added to the project for several years and, when drainage easements were obtained from adjacent property owners, VDOT contractors completed the work earlier this year (before and after photos above). Thank you to the VDOT Salem Residency for improving this roadway.

ROCO 200 PLAN EMAIL UPDATES!

Sign up for email updates at www.RoanokeCountyVA.gov/RoCo200Plan to learn about upcoming public input opportunities coming this Fall!



Events & Activities



Do you love hiking?

The Appalachian Trail Conservatory in Roanoke, VA is looking for volunteers who love hiking, the Virginia Triple Crown, and helping fellow hikers. It's a great way to meet people from all over the U.S. and to help protect what you love in the great outdoors!

[Learn More](#)



Ready to Get Out and Mingle?

Roanoke County Parks and Recreation offers activities ranging from group exercise classes to aquatics programs to cooking to dog obedience! Choose from an array of offerings to add some fun to your routine!

[Learn More](#)



Your Input Needed for Recreation Survey

AEP needs public input from recreational users for the relicensing of the Niagara Hydroelectric Project. Related resources include Tinker Creek, the Roanoke River and Rutrough Canoe/Kayak Ramp among others. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey.

[Learn More](#)



Do You Know About TRS?

This partnership between Roanoke County, Salem City and Roanoke City has been serving the Roanoke Valley for over 40 years! Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS) of the Roanoke Valley empowers children and adults with disabilities to gain the knowledge and skills to create a quality leisure lifestyle that meets their interests and needs.

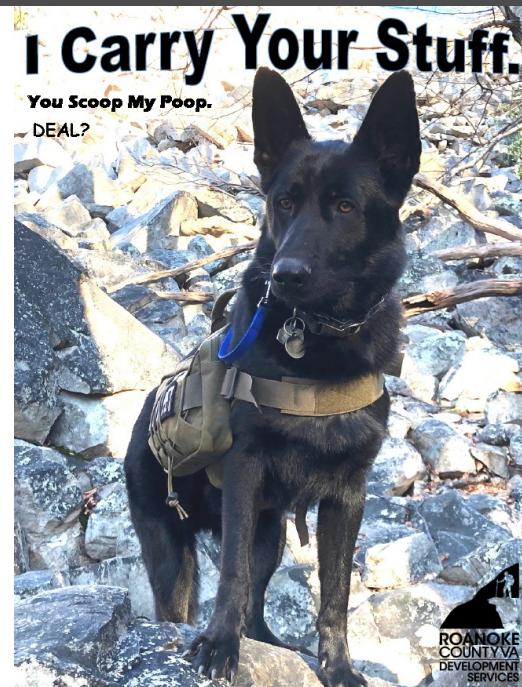
[Learn More](#)

Development Services Tips

Development Services Reminders

The Roanoke County Stormwater website has [links to report](#) construction site or land disturbing concerns or complaints.

Please remember that when taking your dog off of your own property you are required to scoop their poop and deposit it into a trash can.

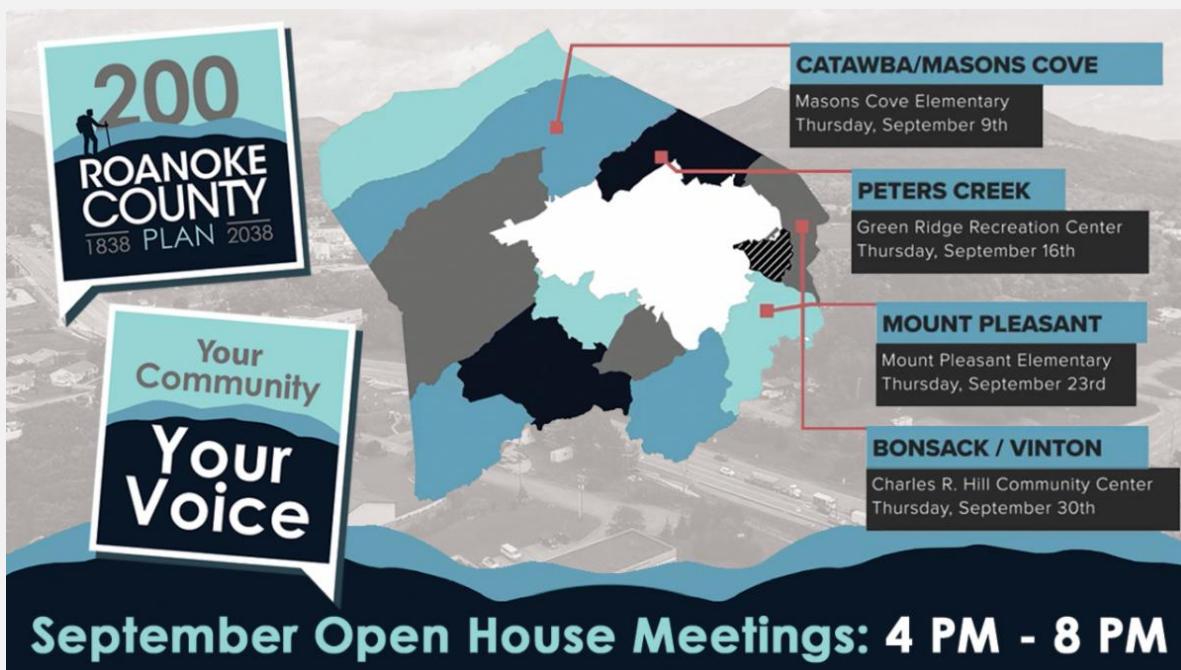


Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

[Visit our website](#)



September 2021



September Open House Meetings: 4 PM - 8 PM

Hello!

Community meetings for the Roanoke County 200 Plan are kicking off this month! We will be hosting twelve (12) community meetings between now and Thanksgiving! In September there will be four (4) meetings, shown above. For each community planning area the meeting will focus on information and feedback about that particular area. Catawba and Masons Cove will be combined into one meeting. Two (2) meetings will be held from a countywide perspective in November.

If you are too busy to attend, or you are uncomfortable with in-person meetings, all of the information and public input exercises are available electronically on our website. Additionally, if COVID-19 restrictions do not allow in-person meetings, these meetings will be held virtually. Staff are always available for discussion by phone as well at (540) 772-2065. Please share your issues, concerns, ideas and vision for the future of Roanoke County!

[Roanoke County 200 Plan Video](#)

Planning & Zoning Update

**August
31st**

The Planning Commission held a work session for discussion of zoning ordinance amendments and the Comprehensive Plan update.

**Sept.
7th**

The Board of Supervisors will hold a work session to discuss the Comprehensive Plan update and potential development standards for the 419 Town Center.

Sept.

The Planning Department will be hosting four Comprehensive Plan public input meetings for the following communities in September:

1. Catawba and Masons Cove: Masons Cove Elementary School - Thursday, September 9
2. Peters Creek: Green Ridge Recreation Center - Thursday, September 16
3. Mount Pleasant: Mount Pleasant Elementary School - Thursday, September 23
4. Bonsack/Vinton: Charles R. Hill Community Center (Vinton) - Thursday, September 30

**Sept.
20th**

The Planning Commission will hold a work session to discuss potential development standards for the 419 Town Center.

News



Sidewalk Construction in Glenvar

The Glenvar Community Plan, adopted in 2012, included significant public feedback. The community indicated a strong desire for streetscape improvements along the entirety of West Main Street, to include bicycle lanes, sidewalks, community identification signs and landscaped medians.

Once the Route 11/460 Widening Project was complete, County staff applied for grant funding in 2015 and 2016 to construct sidewalks along West Main Street between the City of Salem and Technology Drive, the entrance to Roanoke County's Valley Tech Park. The grant applications were successful and VDOT has been administering the project. Virginia Infrastructure, Inc. from Lexington, Virginia, began construction activities in August. When complete, new sidewalk will extend from Alleghany Drive/Garman Road to Technology Drive along the south side of West Main Street. Pedestrian crosswalks and signals will also be installed at Alleghany Drive/Garman Road and at Daugherty Road.

Drivers in the area can expect lane closures and flagging operations between 9 a.m.

and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. The project is anticipated to be complete in December 2021.



Slope Repair on Route 220 South

VDOT is repairing a slope along Route 220S near the intersection with Crossbow Circle. Heavy rains in recent years have caused this slope to move. The repairs entail removing about 1.5 acres of trees and debris, using soil nails to stabilize the slope and constructing a retaining wall at the base of the slope. Drivers can expect short-term lane closures with flaggers directing traffic. Work on the \$1.4 million project is expected to be completed this fall, weather permitting.

Direct questions to [Ray Varney](#) (540) 387-5488.



419 Town Center News

Tanglewood announces Chili's and Popeyes

Lots of activity is happening in the [419 Town Center](#) and Tanglewood area! [Chili's Grill & Bar](#) and [Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen](#) are the latest to [announce](#) that they will be building new restaurants in outparcels at Tanglewood, near T.J. Maxx and Staples, along Route 419!



Cecelia Monnin

Cecelia is excited to be joining us as a Planning Administrative Assistant. When she's not working Cecelia loves movies and reading, and enjoys discussing them with others. She will be marrying her best friend in October, who she met at Liberty University. Cecelia looks forward to getting to know Roanoke County's staff and citizens.



Jeffrey Scott

Jeffrey is a Combination Code Compliance Inspector with 23 years experience in inspections and plan review for residential, commercial and industrial projects. A Certified Building Official, Jeffrey also teaches electrical classes at VWCC and VA Tradesmen Continuing Education. He lives in Rocky Mount with his wife Heather and son Nate.

Events & Activities



The Indoor Pool is Open

Do you like swimming laps, the water slide or floating in the current river? The indoor pool is open at Green Ridge Recreation Center every day except Wednesday, and also offers aquatics classes.

[Learn More](#)



Fall 2021 RecLife Brochure Available

Roanoke County's fall 2021 recreation program lineup is now available! Pick up a copy of the *Fall RecLife Brochure* at Green Ridge Center, Brambleton Center and Explore Park, or download the digital version to see the variety of activities available this fall!

[Learn More](#)

Go Fest is Moving Downtown!



This year Roanoke's signature outdoor event, the [Anthem Go Outside Festival](#), will stretch between Elmwood Park and the City Market Building. Streets will be closed for vendors, stunt shows, activities, beer gardens, live music and more, October 15 - 17.

[Learn More](#)



Time for Fall Hiking

Trails are one of the Roanoke Valley's best outdoor amenities. Whether you like hiking, biking or paddling, or all three, there are many places to explore. As the weather and leaves transition into fall explore the trails for some fresh air and exercise!

[Learn More](#)

Stormwater Tips

Only Rain Down the Storm Drain

[Roanoke County Stormwater](#) has a few [car washing tips](#) to protect the Roanoke River and its streams from harmful oil and gas, sediment, soap chemicals and heavy metals. Wash and rinse water should be collected into the sanitary sewer system rather than being discharged onto the street, driveway or yard. Find out what other ways to wash your car responsibly in your own front yard.

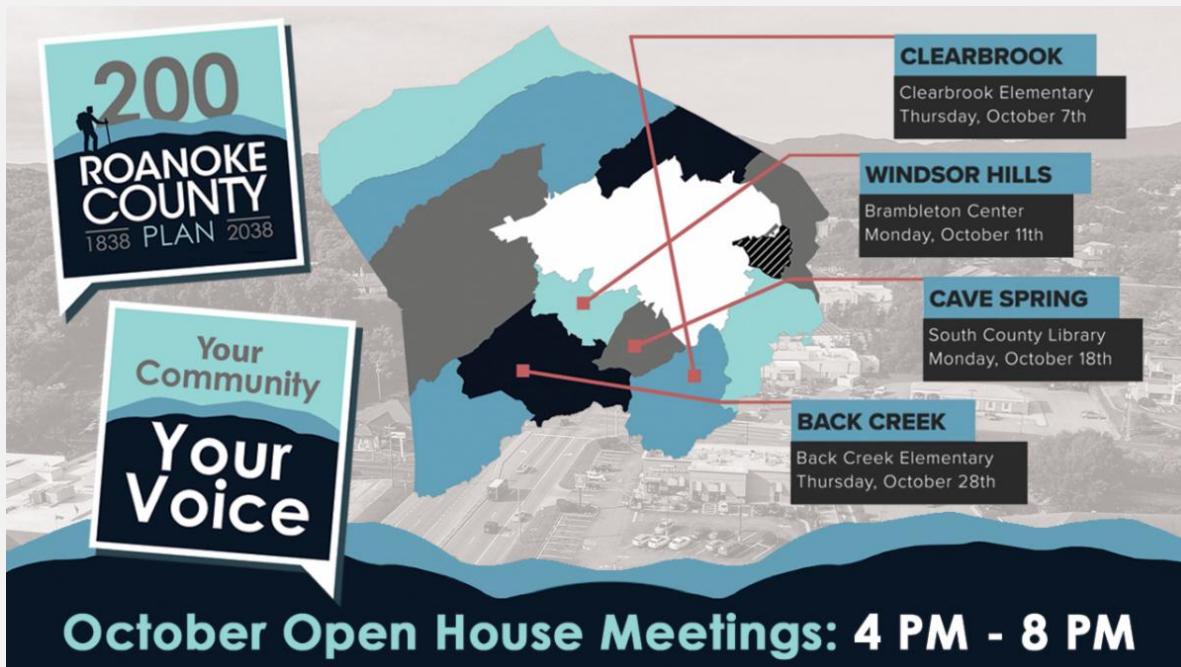


Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

[Visit our website](#)



October 2021



Hello!

Community meetings for the Roanoke County 200 Plan are continuing this month! We are hosting twelve community meetings that began in September and will end before Thanksgiving. In October there will be four meetings, shown above. For each community planning area the meeting will focus on information and feedback about that particular area. Also, two meetings will be held from a countywide perspective in November.

If you are too busy to attend, or you are uncomfortable with in-person meetings, all of the information and public input exercises are available electronically [on our website](#). Additionally, if COVID-19 restrictions do not allow in-person meetings, these meetings will be held virtually. Staff are always available for discussion by phone as well at (540) 772-2065. Please share your issues, concerns, ideas and vision for the future of Roanoke County! Keep up with the process by following our [Facebook page](#).

[Roanoke County 200 Plan Video](#)

Planning & Zoning Update

**Oct.
4th**

The Roanoke County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. on Monday, October 4, 2021, in the Board Meeting Room of the Roanoke County Administration Center, 5204 Bernard Drive,

Roanoke, VA, on the petition of the Economic Development Authority of Roanoke County to rezone approximately 30.5 acres from AR, Agricultural/Residential District, to I-2, High Intensity Industrial District, located at 5832 West River Road, Catawba Magisterial District.

**Oct.
5th**

The Board of Supervisors will hold a work session on Planning for Economic Development.

**Oct.
7th**

The Planning Department will host a Comprehensive Plan public input meeting for the Clearbrook Community Planning Area. The meeting will be open house from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Clearbrook Elementary School.

**Oct.
11th**

The Planning Department will host a Comprehensive Plan public input meeting for the Windsor Hills Community Planning Area. The meeting will be open house from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Brambleton Center.

**Oct.
18th**

The Planning Department will host a Comprehensive Plan public input meeting for the Cave Spring Community Planning Area. The meeting will be open house from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the South County Library.

**Oct.
19th**

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the petition of the Economic Development Authority of Roanoke County to rezone approximately 30.5 acres from AR, Agricultural/Residential District to I-2, High Intensity Industrial District, located at 5832 West River Road, Catawba Magisterial District.

**Oct.
28th**

The Planning Department will host a Comprehensive Plan public input meeting for the Back Creek Community Planning Area. The meeting will be open house from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Back Creek Elementary School.

News

Please share your ideas!

Each community planning area in the County has a survey for the Roanoke County 200 Plan. Whether or not you're able to attend a meeting, please spend a few minutes taking the survey to help us understand your community's needs.



Find the Survey for Your Area

New Employees

Nicole Dyer

Nicole joined Roanoke County as a Civil Engineer I in Development Services in



August 2021. Nicole holds a degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Maine. Nicole previously worked in landfill permitting with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and as a design engineer in North Carolina. She is excited to be back in the regulatory field. Outside of work Nicole enjoys spending time outdoors with her dogs and exploring the Roanoke Valley.



Abbey Knouff

Abbey Knouff joined the Department of Development Services in August 2021 as a Permit Technician. A native of Bedford County, she now resides in Roanoke County. Having worked for one of Roanoke's largest construction companies for the last 4 years, Abbey's background will be valuable in serving the public in the Office of Building Safety. In her free time, Abbey enjoys relaxing at home with her two dogs.

Events & Activities

It's Fall Market Time

Catawba Valley Farmers Market is selling fall vegetables, meats, baked goods, mums, artisan crafts and more - all handmade and home grown! Check the [facebook page](#) for more information.

[Learn More](#)



Recreation Programs Available

Fall recreation programs are still available through Roanoke County Parks and Recreation. From dietary health to exercise classes to naturalist education to outdoor excursions, there are many opportunities to



[Learn More](#)

GoFest is This Month

This year Roanoke's signature outdoor event, the [Anthem Go Outside Festival](#), will stretch between Elmwood Park and the City Market Building. Streets will be closed for vendors, stunt shows, activities, beer gardens, live music and more, October 15 - 17.

[Learn More](#)



Stormwater Tips

Fall Foliage Guidance

People often improperly rake or blow leaves into the street, drainage swales or ditches, curb and gutter system, or nearby creeks. This results in clogged drainage structures and drainage-ways, and increased street flooding. Please read [Fall Foliage Facts](#) to find out how to manage leaves on your property.

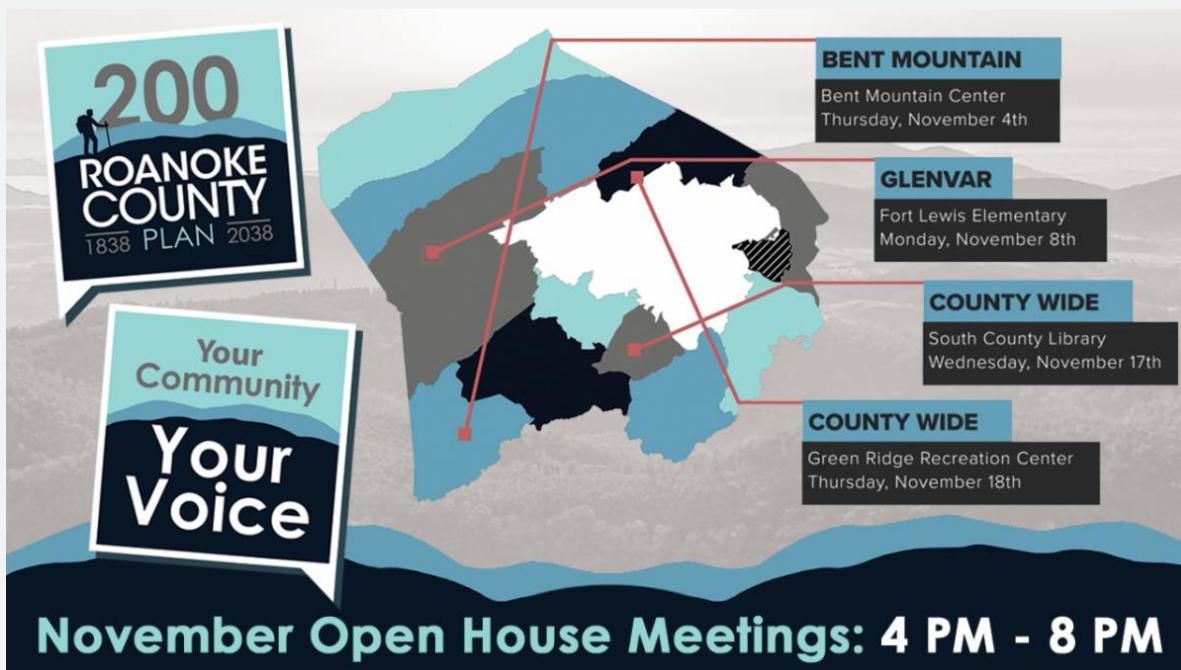


Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

[Visit our website](#)



November 2021



Hello!

As November begins we are thankful that over 300 people have attended our Roanoke County 200 Plan community meetings, and many more have participated online! Public input is vital to this important plan! November is the final month of our fall community meetings.

We are hosting twelve community meetings that began in September and will end before Thanksgiving. In November there will be four meetings, shown above. For each community planning area the meeting will focus on information and feedback about that particular area. Two meetings will be held from a countywide perspective; the meeting locations are convenient to north or south county residents.

If you are too busy to attend, or you are uncomfortable with in-person meetings, all of the information and public input exercises are available electronically on our website. Staff are always available for discussion by phone as well at (540) 772-2065. Please share your issues, concerns, ideas and vision for the future of Roanoke County! Keep up with the process by following our Facebook page.

[Roanoke County 200 Plan Video](#)

Planning & Zoning Update

**Oct.
4th**

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the Economic Development Authority of Roanoke County's request to rezone approximately 30.5 acres from AR Agricultural/Residential to I-2 High Intensity Industrial located at 5832 West River Road. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the rezoning request.

**Oct.
19th**

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the Economic Development Authority of Roanoke County's request to rezone approximately 30.5 acres located at 5832 West River Road, Catawba Magisterial District. The Board voted to approve the rezoning request.

**Nov.
1st**

The Roanoke County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the petition of New Millennium Building Systems, LLC, to rezone approximately 2 acres from R-1C Low Density Residential District with conditions, to I-2 High Intensity Industrial District, located at 3878 Garman Road, Catawba Magisterial District.

**Nov.
4th**

The Planning Department will host a Comprehensive Plan public input meeting for the Bent Mountain Community Planning Area. The meeting will be open house from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Bent Mountain Center.

**Nov.
8th**

The Planning Department will host a Comprehensive Plan public input meeting for the Glenvar Community Planning Area. The meeting will be open house from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Fort Lewis Elementary School.

**Nov.
17th**

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the petition of New Millennium Building Systems, LLC, to rezone approximately 2 acres from R-1C Low Density Residential District with conditions, to I-2 High Intensity Industrial District, located at 3878 Garman Road, Catawba Magisterial District.

The Board of Supervisors will hold a work session on the draft Strategic Plan for Economic Development.

**Nov.
17th**

The Planning Department will host a Comprehensive Plan public input meeting for the southern portion of the County. The meeting will be open house from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at South County Library.

**Nov.
18th**

The Planning Department will host a Comprehensive Plan public input meeting for the northern portion of the County. The meeting will be open house from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Green Ridge Recreation Center.

News

Please share your ideas!

Each community planning area in the County has a survey for the Roanoke County 200 Plan. Whether or not you're able to attend a meeting, please spend a few minutes taking the survey to help us understand your community's needs.

Take the Survey



Take the Survey

Events & Activities

Pickleball In Roanoke County

Did you know that Walrond, Garst Mill and Stonebridge Parks now have pickleball courts? Check out the Stonebridge Park Ribbon Cutting video, and learn more about playing Pickleball in Roanoke County!

[Watch Video](#)



New Developments in the 419 Town Center

Chicken Salad Chick opened a new restaurant in Tanglewood on October 19. The 419 Town Center Plan continues to move forward with implementation as new businesses, road improvements and developments progress in the area.

[Learn More](#)

New Catawba Greenway is Open

Do you know about the new greenway at Virginia Tech's Catawba Sustainability Center? Walk the new greenway loop and enjoy the farm, or connect to the Appalachian Trail to McAfee Knob and beyond for a much longer, challenging hike!

[Learn More](#)



Brambleton Center Craft Show November 6

Get a jump start on your holiday shopping at the 28th Annual Brambleton Center Craft Show! Crafts, goodies and gifts made by local artists are sure to please. Come on out on November 6, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

[Learn More](#)

Upcoming Project: Diuguids Lane Bridge

VDOT will hold a public meeting to discuss an upcoming project to replace the Diuguids Lane bridge over the Roanoke River. The meeting will be open house format on Tuesday, Nov. 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Fort Lewis Elementary School in Salem.

[Learn More](#)



From All of Us to All of You



Stormwater Tips

Do Not Feed Wild Animals

Roanoke County Stormwater Management reminds us that it is better for wildlife and for humans if we let animals forage for themselves. Please prevent drawing unwanted critters and potential diseases, and reduce pollution in our waterways by refraining from feeding the wildlife.

[Learn More](#)



Sincerely,

Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

Visit our website

**Hello!**

Thank you to everyone who engaged in the Roanoke County 200 Plan during 2021! Here's the wrap-up from this year's community engagement:

- Nearly 500 people attended 12 community meetings or participated virtually.
- 289 people have taken the survey.
- 37 stakeholder meetings and interviews have been held, with 170 participants.
- The [200 Plan email list](#) grew to over 3,000 people.
- Staff held a comprehensive planning workshop with the Roanoke County Public Schools Student Advisory Committee, pictured above.
- Staff gave presentations to County decision makers, local business groups, civic leagues and other organizations.

Public input is vital to this important plan! We will be hosting more community meetings and adding new information and exercises to our website in spring of 2022. This information will show you the results and recommendations that have been received thus far, and ask for your opinions and ideas. Meeting Summaries from every Community Planning Area meeting will be available online later in December.

Planning & Zoning Update

Nov. 1st The Roanoke County Planning Commission held a public hearing on the petition of New Millennium Building Systems, LLC, to rezone approximately 2 acres from R-1C Low Density Residential District with conditions, to I-2 High Intensity Industrial District, located at 3878 Garman Road, Catawba Magisterial District. The commission voted to recommend approval of the petition.

Nov. 17th The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the petition of New Millennium Building Systems, LLC, to rezone approximately 2 acres from R-1C Low Density Residential District with conditions, to I-2 High Intensity Industrial District, located at 3878 Garman Road, Catawba Magisterial District. The Board voted to approve the petition.

Dec. 6th The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the petition of the Lawson Companies, to amend existing proffered conditions on approximately 12.15 acres zoned R-3C, Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District with conditions, to construct 216 apartments located in the 5000 block of Cove Road, the 2700 block of Peters Creek Road, and south of Beacon Ridge subdivision, Catawba Magisterial District.

Dec. 14th The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on the petition of the Lawson Companies, to amend existing proffered conditions on approximately 12.15 acres zoned R-3C, Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District with conditions, to construct 216 apartments located in the 5000 block of Cove Road, the 2700 block of Peters Creek Road, and south of Beacon Ridge subdivision, Catawba Magisterial District.

New Employee

Brandie Yalniz

Brandie joined the Department of Development Services in Nov. 2021 as a Development GIS Data Specialist. A native of West Virginia, she now resides in Franklin County. After graduating from Marshall University, Brandie worked with the WVDOT and Prince William County, VA. In her spare time Brandie can be found relaxing with a good book or learning how to sail with her husband.



Events & Activities

Happening now through December 30! Brighten your holiday season by exploring a dazzling world of new lights, new displays, trail enhancements, artisan crafts and family activities. Advance tickets are necessary.

[Event Information](#)



Holiday Guides by VBR

Looking for fun things to do this month? Virginia's Blue Ridge has compiled guides of [Holiday Events & Festivals](#), [Holiday Light Displays](#) and a [Holiday Shopping Guide](#).

[Event Information](#)



ROANOKE COUNTY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

**Monday, December 6, 2021
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
South County Library
6303 Merriman Rd. Roanoke, VA**

- ★ Tree Lighting Ceremony
- ★ Holiday Crafts & Activities
- ★ Marshmallow Roasting
- ★ Sing-a-long with Santa
- ★ Live Music & Merriment
- ★ Refreshments

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT (540)387-6078 ext. 0



From All of Us to All of You



Stormwater News

New Stream Buffer Requirements

As of July 27, 2021 Roanoke County requires a 25 foot wide protected stream buffer along perennial streams. The purpose is to prevent degradation of properties, stream channels, waters and other natural resources.

[Learn More](#)



Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

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