

January 2022



Hello!

Happy New Year from the Roanoke County Planning Department!

Planning staff at Roanoke County are in the process of analyzing results from our fall 2021 community meetings for the 200 Plan and preparing to host more community meetings this spring. If you are not already following this effort you can [sign up for email updates](#) or follow us on our [Facebook page](#).

Planning & Zoning Update

**Dec.
6th**

The Planning Commission held 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. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of this request to amend the proffered conditions

Dec.

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the [petition of the Lawson Companies](#). The Board voted to postpone action on the

14th

application until January 25th in order to review a traffic study.

Jan.

4th

The Planning Commission will hold a work session at 6:00 p.m. to elect new officers, receive an update on the Roanoke County 200 Plan and to discuss potential zoning ordinance amendments.

Jan.

18th

The Planning Commission will hold a work session on zoning ordinance amendments, review its 2021 annual report, and discuss its 2022 work plan.

News

Roanoke County Receives Four VATI Broadband Grants

On Dec. 13, 2021 Governor Northam announced \$2 billion in grants awarded to localities across Virginia to achieve near-universal access to broadband and high-speed internet. Roanoke County has been awarded four Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) grants totaling more than \$3.7 million to fund broadband expansion for residents.

[Learn More](#)



Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committee

Planning staff have been appointed to the CTE committee whose purpose is to advise the Board of Supervisors and the School Board regarding the size, site and potential incorporation of solar technology relating to the construction of a new career and technical education center for Roanoke county. CTE provides students with the academic and technical skills, knowledge and training necessary to succeed in future careers and to become lifelong learners by introducing them to workplace competencies, and making academic content accessible by providing it in a hands-on context.

[Learn More](#)



Events & Activities

[Check Out New Businesses at Tanglewood](#)

Chipotle Mexican Grill is now open at Tanglewood! They will be followed soon by Panda Express, Jersey Mike's Subs, Blaze Pizza, Aspen Dental, Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen and Chili's Grill and Bar. All of these are now linked by new sidewalk along Electric Road!

[Learn More](#)



Check Out New Businesses in Vinton

Did you know that RND Coffee opened in December in Downtown Vinton? They were preceded by Our Daily Bread and several other restaurant and brewery expansions and additions.

[Learn More](#)



Stormwater News

Household Disposal Guide

This guide for Roanoke County residents explains how to save money, limit waste, conserve natural resources and properly dispose of hazardous wastes.

[Learn More](#)



Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

[Visit our Website](#)

February 2022



Hello!

Roanoke County held a community meeting on January 13, 2022 in conjunction with a Route 460 Land Use and Connectivity Study. The meeting was attended by over forty area residents, property owners and business owners. County staff, consultants from Timmons Group and VDOT representatives reviewed aerial images of the study area with meeting participants and discussed a variety of topics including funded transportation projects on Route 460, roadways that can be improved, potential areas for development as well as possibilities for future greenway and trail connections. 220 participants also completed a survey available at the meeting that was available online for over three weeks in January.

The purpose of the study is to guide future decisions and actions in the Route 460/Challenger Avenue corridor over the next 15 to 20 years. The goals of the Study are to:

1. Recommend ways to travel around the Bonsack community that are alternatives to Route 460/Challenger Avenue;
2. Consider existing zoning classifications and future land use designations to determine potential changes to match desired development types; and
3. Examine existing at-grade railroad crossings for potential improvements that may create development opportunities between the railroad and the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Community meeting feedback, survey results and stakeholder group comments will be compiled into exhibits for consideration at a second community meeting to be held in May 2022.

Planning & Zoning Update

**Jan.
4th**

The Planning Commission held a work session to elect new officers, receive an update on the Roanoke County 200 Plan and to discuss potential zoning ordinance amendments. Mr. Kelly McMurray will serve as Chair of the Planning Commission for 2022.

**Jan.
24th**

The Board of Supervisors held a second reading on the petition of the Lawson Companies to amend existing proffered conditions on approximately 12.15 acres on property zoned R-3C (Medium Density MultiFamily Residential) District with conditions, to construct 216 apartments located in the 5000 block of Cove Road, Catawba Magisterial District. The Board approved the request.

**Feb.
1st**

The Planning Commission will hold a work session to discuss potential Zoning Ordinance amendments, the 2021 Planning Commission Annual Report, and the 2022 Planning Commission Work Plan.

**Feb.
15th**

The Planning Commission will hold a work session. The agenda has not yet been determined.

News



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AEP Transmission Line Rebuild Project

Appalachian Power plans to rebuild 43 miles of 138-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and upgrade two substations in Roanoke, Bedford and Lynchburg. There will be 3 in-person open house meetings held in February. For more information contact: Nicole Hodges, Project Outreach Specialist 833-313-3743, APCO_Outreach@aep.com

[Learn More](#)

New and Improved CORTTRAN

Over the past year, Roanoke County has made some improvements to the CORTTRAN program. RVTY recently made a video about the new services. If you are a County resident over 70 years, or disabled and in need of local transportation, find out how to take part in

this program. [Read more](#) about CORTRAN improvements.

[Learn More](#)



VDOT Clears County Roads

Did you know that Roanoke County's roads are maintained by VDOT? If you are concerned about the state of your street during a winter weather event, contact VDOT at 1-800-367-7623 or [report an issue](#) online. You can also [track the progress](#) of VDOT's snow plows during winter storms.

[Get Updates on Facebook](#)

Diuguids Lane Bridge Project Rescheduled

During construction of the Diuguids Lane Bridge replacement traffic will be detoured for 45 days. VDOT had notified residents at a meeting in November 2021 that the detour would start in January or February 2022. The 45-day detour is now expected to begin this summer due to a delay with fabricating the pre-stressed concrete beams needed to construct the new bridge. Signs and message boards will be posted prior to the closure and signs will be in place to alert drivers to the detour route. Direct questions to Tony Handy: Tony.Handy@VDOT.Virginia.gov or (540) 352-9050.

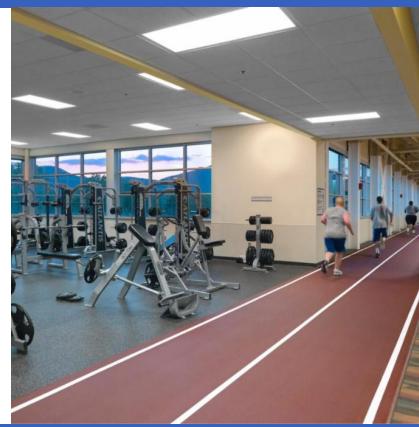
[Learn More](#)



Events & Activities

Winter Recreation Opportunities

From athletics to the arts, there are plenty of fun activities to enjoy this winter with [Roanoke County Parks, Recreation and Tourism](#). Check out the [Winter Brochure](#) for planned activities or drop by a park or recreation center for a workout!



Looking for something to do?

Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge maintains [up to date information](#) about activities, events, trips and other suggestions for ways to delight in our region! Check out their [Top 5 Reasons for a Winter Visit to the Blue Ridge Mountains](#).



Stormwater News

Hold on to Those Balloons!

Did you know that it is illegal to release balloons outdoors? Balloons come back down to Earth as litter, which can become deadly for wildlife, among other problems.

[Learn More](#)



Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

[Visit our Website](#)

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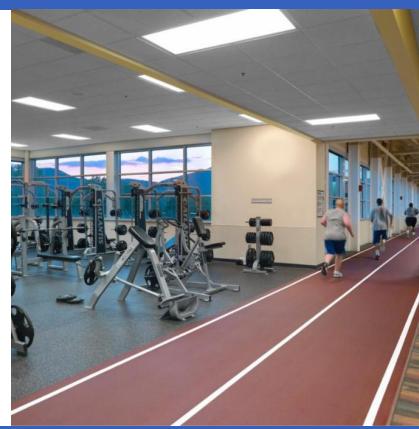
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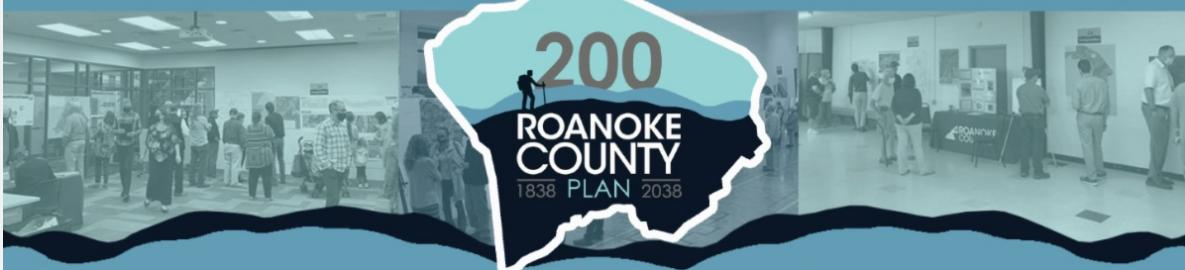


Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

[Visit our Website](#)

April 2022

ROANOKE COUNTY **200** PLAN



Hello!

We are back with 7 more community meetings for the Roanoke County 200 Plan! The purpose of these open houses is to reveal draft objectives that were developed from the community input that we received from over 1,000 people throughout 2021.

Join us to review and comment on the draft objectives that will shape your community over the next 15 years! The 200 Plan will impact future land use, natural and cultural resources, community facilities and services, and transportation infrastructure for the next 15 - 20 years.

Join us for your community's open house meeting this Spring

All meetings are from **4:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

Catawba & Masons Cove: **Masons Cove Elementary School** - Monday, April 4

Glenvar: **Fort Lewis Elementary School** - Thursday, April 7

Peters Creek: **Green Ridge Recreation Center** - Monday, April 11

Bonsack/Vinton & Mount Pleasant: **Charles R. Hill Community Center** - Thursday, April 14

Back Creek & Bent Mountain: **Bent Mountain Center** - Monday, April 18

Windsor Hills: **Oak Grove Elementary School** - Tuesday, April 19

Cave Spring & Clearbrook: **Cave Spring Elementary School** - Thursday, April 21

Learn more: www.RoanokeCountyVA.gov/200Plan

(540) 772-2065 | planning@roanokecountyva.gov

Planning & Zoning Update

**March
15th**

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

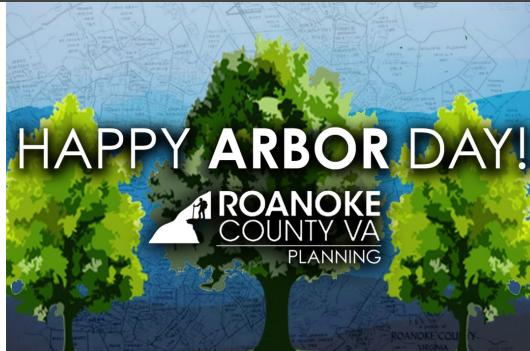
**April
4 - 21**

**April
5th**

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

1. The petition of WECO LLC to obtain a special use permit to operate a short term rental on approximately 2.28 acres on property zoned R-1, Low Density Residential District, located at 910 Paint Bank Road, Catawba Magisterial District.
2. The petition of Ronald Moran and Michael Boynton to rezone approximately 3.145 acres from R-1, Low Density Residential District, to I-1, Low Intensity Industrial District, located at 4038, 4056, and 4066 Crossmill Lane, Catawba Magisterial District.
3. The petition of Wild Partners to obtain a special use permit to operate a car wash on 1.03 acres on property zoned C-2C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions, located at 3250 Electric Road, Cave Spring Magisterial District.
4. **This public hearing has been postponed by the applicant.** The petition of ABoone Real Estate, Inc., to rezone approximately 32.32 acres from R-1, Low Density Residential District, to C-2 High Intensity Commercial District, and R-3 Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District, to construct a hotel, professional/medical offices, and townhouses located in the 1300 and 1400 blocks of Edgebrook Road, Catawba Magisterial District.

News



Arbor Day

Roanoke County is celebrating Arbor Day 2022 at Mountain View Elementary School. Stay tuned through our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages for details on the April 29 event.



Welcome BB Rierson

BB Rierson joined the Development Services Department in March as a Building inspector. He is a master electrician with previous experience in private industry and with Roanoke County Public Schools, and a National Electric Code instructor at Virginia Western Community College. A Virginia native living in Roanoke County, BB enjoys being a musician and guitar luthier.

Events & Activities

GIVE Roanoke to Elevate Local Nonprofits

GIVE Roanoke is an opportunity to elevate nonprofits, recognize the work done locally, and leverage dollars to improve the Roanoke Valley! The Council of Community Services, in partnership with local nonprofits, hosts giving day for the Roanoke Valley. For 24 hours, on April 20th you can invest in your community by donating to Roanoke Valley nonprofits! [Sponsorship opportunities](#) are also available.



Volunteers needed for IRONMAN

The [IRONMAN 70.3](#) Virginia's Blue Ridge is back again for a second year on June 5, 2022! [Volunteers are still needed](#) to make this a successful event. There are many options spanning Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Come on out and see the excitement and meet athletes from all over the world enjoying the Roanoke Valley!



Farmers Market Season Opening Soon

The 13th season of Catawba Valley Farmers Market begins May 5th at 3:00 p.m! You can expect high quality produce, plants, flowers, meats, baked goods, kettle corn and more from returning vendors. Visit the [website](#) or [facebook](#) page for updates each week.



Treetop Quest Opens April 2

Are you ready for a family adventure? [Treetop Quest](#) is for ages 4 and up, with progressively challenging aerial obstacles guaranteed to provide a thrill like you've never experienced! Adventurers soar through the forest on Tarzan swings, traverse cargo nets, balance on tightropes and fly across zip-lines. [Sign up online](#) for a 2.5 hour experience, or stop by the [Explore Park](#) Visitor Center for walk-in registration if space is available.



Stormwater News



Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

[Visit our Website](#)

May 2022



Route 460 (Challenger Avenue) Land Use and Connectivity Study SECOND COMMUNITY MEETING

Hello!

Roanoke County is hosting a second open house community meeting for the [Route 460 Land Use and Connectivity Study](#) on May 18, 2022, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Bonsack Elementary School. Attendees will comment on recommendations that address input from the January community meeting, survey and stakeholder group.

All [materials and a survey](#) will be available from May 2 to May 31.

The first community meeting was held January 13, 2022, at Bonsack Elementary School. Over 40 residents, property and business owners attended. County staff, consultants from Timmons Group, VDOT representatives and meeting attendees discussed aerial images, funded projects on Route 460, roadways that can be improved, potential areas for development and possible future greenway and trail connections. Over 200 surveys were completed in January. Questions? Contact [Megan Cronise](#), Transportation Planning Adminstrator (540) 772-2106.

[Learn More](#)

Planning & Zoning Update

May
3rd

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

1. The petition of [Om Shree Hospitality](#) LLC to obtain a special use permit to allow a multi-family use to account for more than 50 percent of the gross floor area on the site of approximately 9.99 acres zoned

C-2, High Intensity Commercial District, located near the 2700 block of Wildwood Road and the 1700 block of Skyview Road, Catawba Magisterial District.

2. 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 on approximately 42.08 acres, located at 2875 Timberview Road and the 2400 block of Loch Haven Drive, Catawba Magisterial District.
3. The petition of Chyrel Gregorieff to obtain a special use permit to operate a short-term rental on approximately 0.5 acre, on property zoned R-1, Low Density Residential District, located on 4309 Cresthill Drive, Windsor Hills Magisterial District.

**May
10th**

The Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors will hold a joint work session to review the draft recommendations on the 419 Town Center Design Guidelines.

The Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings on the following land use petitions:

1. The petition of WEKO LLC to obtain a special use permit to operate a short term rental on approximately 2.28 acres on property zoned R-1, Low Density Residential District, located at 910 Paint Bank Road, Catawba Magisterial District. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the special use permit request.
2. The petition of Ronald Moran and Michael Boynton to rezone approximately 3.145 acres from R-1, Low Density Residential District, to I-1, Low Intensity Industrial District, located at 4038, 4056, and 4066 Crossmill Lane, Catawba Magisterial District. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the rezoning request.
3. The petition of Wild Partners to obtain a special use permit to operate a car wash on 1.03 acres on property zoned C-2C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions, located at 3250 Electric Road, Cave Spring Magisterial District. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the special use permit request with four (4) conditions (conformance with the concept plan, conformance with the landscaping plan, conformance with the architectural renderings, dumpster enclosure masonry materials and colors match those on the building facade).

**May
17th**

The Planning Commission will hold a work session to consider potential zoning ordinance amendments.

**May
24th**

The Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings on the following land use petitions:

1. The petition of Om Shree Hospitality LLC to obtain a special use permit to allow a multi-family use in the Catawba Magisterial District.
2. The petition of Zye Reinhardt and Gaven Reinhardt to obtain a special use permit for a special events facility in the Catawba Magisterial District.
3. The petition of Chyrel Gregorieff to obtain a special use permit to operate a short-term rental in the Windsor Hills Magisterial District.

News

200 Plan Surveys Still Open



The Planning Department hosted 7 community meetings in April for the [Roanoke County 200 Plan](#). Staff presented proposed recommendations based on public input received throughout 2021. Residents and business and property owners came out to give input on the 15-year future of their community. Surveys are available through **May 15**. Each community planning area has links to **2 surveys** found on [each planning area webpage](#).

[**Take Surveys**](#)



Arbor Day

Roanoke County celebrated [Arbor Day](#) 2022 at Mountain View Elementary School. 4 Red Maples were planted in the front school yard, and the ASK (After School for Kids) program participated by reciting a poem and displaying their watercolor paintings of trees. Students learned how [planting trees today](#) makes for a better tomorrow.

[**Watch the Video**](#)



Interested in Transportation?

The Commonwealth Transportation Board is hosting meetings and online comment forms for transportation projects that are recommended for funding in Fiscal Year 2023-2028 [Six-Year Improvement Program](#) (SYIP), and new projects valued in excess of \$25 million. The [Salem District](#) meeting is May 12, 4:00 pm at Holiday Inn, 3315 Ordway Drive NW Roanoke, VA 24017.

[**Online Comment Form**](#)

Welcome Paula Benke

Paula Benke began working for Roanoke County's [CORTTRAN](#) program in 2019, in the Department of Social Services. With CORTTRAN moving to the Planning Department in April, we welcome Paula to the planning team! Paula has a background in Human Resources, Office

Management and nonprofit work.



Originally from the Midwest, Paula is married with two boys, ages 22 and 21. Her oldest will soon graduate from the University of South Florida with a degree in Economics. The family has a German Shepherd named KC. In her spare time, Paula enjoys painting, reading and hiking.

Events & Activities

Still Looking for Volunteers

The [IRONMAN 70.3](#) Virginia's Blue Ridge is back again for a second year on June 5, 2022! [Volunteers are still needed](#) to make this a successful event. There are many options spanning Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Come on out and see the excitement and meet athletes from all over the world enjoying the Roanoke Valley!



Support Local Farmers Markets

The farmers market season is in full swing with local plants, produce, eggs, meat, flowers, arts and crafts and more! Check out the [multiple opportunities](#) around the Roanoke region to buy local and support local farmers and small businesses.



Time for Summer Camp Fun!

Roanoke County is providing 10 weeks of summer camp offerings at Camp Roanoke, Explore Park, Green Ridge Recreation Center, Brambleton Recreation Center and Cave Spring Elementary School. Our energetic, experienced staff will lead your children in daily activities, crafts, games, and FUN! [Online registration is available](#).



Stormwater News



Did you know that Roanoke County Stormwater Management has a wealth of information available online for residents, contractors and businesses? Technical information for MS4 permits, education, stormwater resources materials and more can be found on our website. Contact [Cindy Linkenhoker](#), Stormwater Program Manager for any questions or concerns: (540) 772-2036.

[**Learn More**](#)

Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

[**Visit our Website**](#)

June 2022



Route 460 (Challenger Avenue) Land Use and Connectivity Study SECOND COMMUNITY MEETING RECAP and NEXT STEPS

Hello!

Roanoke County hosted a second community meeting for the Route 460 Land Use and Connectivity Study at Bonsack Elementary School on May 18, 2022. Ninety-eight people attended the meeting. Attendees reviewed and provided feedback on draft land use and connectivity recommendations for the Route 460 (Challenger Avenue) corridor.

Public feedback from the second community meeting will be incorporated into final recommendations for the corridor, which will be presented at a third and final community meeting later this year. The draft Plan will then be reviewed with the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors.

Please contact Megan Cronise, Assistant Director of Planning, with questions by phone at (540) 772-2106 or by email at mcronise@roanokecountyva.gov.

[Learn More](#)

Planning & Zoning Update

May 3rd

The Planning Commission held public hearings on the following land use petitions:

1. The petition of Om Shree Hospitality LLC to obtain a special use permit to allow a multi-family use to account for more than 50 percent of the gross floor area on the site of approximately 9.99 acres zoned C-2, High Intensity Commercial District, located near the 2700 block of Wildwood Road and the 1700 block of Skyview Road, Catawba Magisterial District. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the special use permit with three conditions (concept plan conformance, limiting the number of apartments to 128, and building rendering conformance).
2. 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 on approximately 42.08 acres, located at 2875 Timberview Road and the 2400 block of Loch Haven Drive, Catawba Magisterial District. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the special use permit with five conditions (concept plan conformance, Loch Haven Drive access only, evergreen tree buffer along property line where guest parking is proposed, screening of any outdoor portable restrooms, and limiting the number of guests to 250).
3. The petition of Chyrel Gregorieff to obtain a special use permit to operate a short-term rental on approximately 0.5 acre, on property zoned R-1, Low Density Residential District, located on 4309 Cresthill Drive, Windsor Hills Magisterial District. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the special use permit with one condition (limiting the short-term rental to the basement apartment).

The Commission canceled the May 17th and June 7th meetings; the next scheduled Planning Commission meeting will be Tuesday, July 5th.

May 10th

The Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors held a joint work session to review the draft recommendations on the 419 Town Center Design Guidelines.

The Board of Supervisors held public hearings on the following land use petitions:

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2. The petition of Ronald Moran and Michael Boynton to rezone approximately 3.145 acres from R-1, Low Density Residential District, to I-1, Low Intensity Industrial District, located at 4038, 4056, and 4066 Crossmill Lane, Catawba Magisterial District. The Board voted to approve the rezoning.
3. The petition of Wild Partners to obtain a special use permit to operate a car wash on 1.03 acres on property zoned C-2C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions, located at 3250 Electric Road, Cave Spring Magisterial District. The Board voted to recommend approval of the special use permit request with four (4) conditions (conformance with the concept plan, conformance with the landscaping plan, conformance with the architectural renderings, dumpster enclosure masonry materials and colors match those on the building facade).

**May
24th**

The Board of Supervisors held public hearings on the following land use petitions:

1. The petition of Om Shree Hospitality LLC to obtain a special use permit to allow a multi-family use in the Catawba Magisterial District. The Board approved the special use permit with three (3) conditions - concept plan conformance, limit the number of apartments to 128, and building rendering conformance.
2. The petition of Zye Reinhardt and Gaven Reinhardt to obtain a special use permit for a special events facility in the Catawba Magisterial District. The Board approved the SUP with five conditions - conformance with concept plan, access only from Loch Haven Drive, buffer along eastern property line (where cars will be parked), screening of outdoor restroom facilities, and limiting the number of guests to 250.
3. The petition of Chyrel Gregorieff to obtain a special use permit to operate a short-term rental in the Windsor Hills Magisterial District. The Board approved the SUP with one condition - limiting the short-term rental to the basement apartment.

**June
7th**

The Planning Commission canceled the June 7th meeting at its May 3rd meeting; the next scheduled Planning Commission meeting will be Tuesday, July 5th.

News



Update: VDOT's Hanging Rock Roundabout Project

A new roundabout will replace the signalized intersection of Route 311 and Route 419 to improve safety and traffic flow. Road closings and detours will be in place this summer, beginning June 13. Please direct questions to Tony Handy at (540) 352-9050.

Events & Activities

VBR IRONMAN on June 5

The IRONMAN 70.3 Virginia's Blue Ridge is back again for a second year on June 5, 2022! Come on out to cheer on athletes from all over the U.S., and many international participants, as they test themselves on Roanoke Valley terrain in the heat. Check the maps and information to plan where and when to spectate.



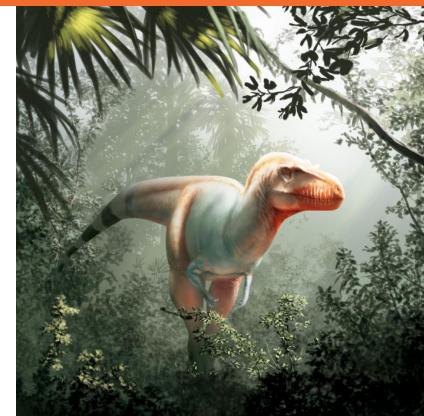
Roanoke Outside Events

Looking for some fun activities to enjoy with fun people? [Roanoke Outside Foundation](#) has a variety of fun outdoor events scheduled throughout the summer! From star gazing to cycling, there is something for everyone. [Check the calendar](#) to find fun ways to get outside, socialize and explore the Roanoke Valley!



Dinosaurs at Explore Park

Travel back-in-time this summer at [Explore Park's T-Rex Trail](#)! The half-mile wooded path will feature 18 animatronic dinosaurs from four time periods, Triassic, Jurassic, Early Cretaceous and Late Cretaceous. The event will last 64 days, May 28 to August 14. Visitors will experience the sights and sounds of dinosaurs including a stegosaurus, velociraptor, triceratops and tyrannosaurus rex, as well as a dino dig pit and more!



Roanoke Young Women Day Crew

The Appalachian Conservation Corps is offering an exciting new program for girls! Young women ages 16-18 can be part of an all-female conservation crew that will work with the U.S. Forest Service on critical conservation and recreation access projects including trail maintenance and construction, habitat improvement, sign installation, and recreation area maintenance. There are [two sessions to choose from](#).



Stormwater News



The May 2022 Roanoke County Stormwater Guide for Homeowners is now available online! Learn the importance of the Roanoke River and ways you can protect surface water and ground water quality and improve streambanks. Learn about actions the County is taking to improve our important natural resources.

[Learn More](#)

Sincerely,
Cecile Newcomb
Planner II

Visit our Website

July 2022



Hello!

Happy Independence Day!

However you plan to spend the fourth of July holiday, the Roanoke County Planning Department wishes you and your loved ones a fun, happy and safe July 4th!

Planning & Zoning Update

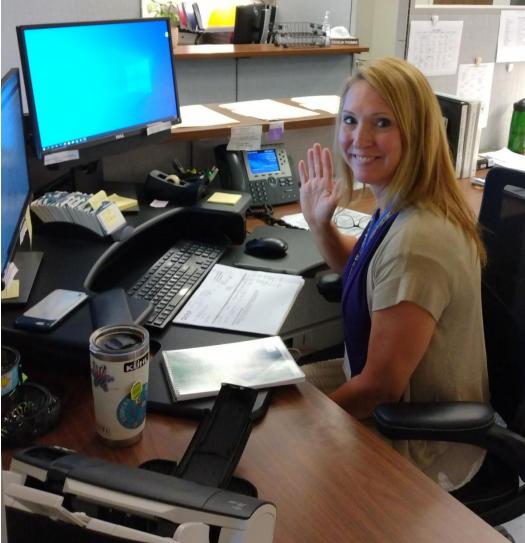
**July
5th**

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

News

Welcome Katie Curfiss

We welcome Katie Curfiss to our team as Business Coordinator! Katie is a graduate of Northside High and Virginia Tech. She



transitions to Roanoke County after working as a Nursing Home Administrator and Registered Dietitian.

Katie is from a big family and is married with 3 sons of her own, one in college and 2 at Glenvar High. The family has a German Shepherd named Akira. When not busy with soccer she enjoys the outdoors, hiking, being near the water, yardwork, home projects and cooking.



Greenway Meeting & Survey

Please attend today's community meeting to learn about a potential route for the East Roanoke River Greenway between the WVVA Water Pollution Control Plant and the Blue Ridge Parkway. A greenway survey will be open from July 1 until July 15 on the project webpage. Community meeting details are below:

June 30, 2022, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Open house-style where you can come and go. Location: Explore Park Visitor Center, 56 Roanoke River Parkway, Roanoke, VA 24014



Route 311/419 Roundabout Construction Underway

Detours are in place for the construction of a new roundabout in Hanging Rock. This VDOT project also includes adding paved shoulders for bicycle use and pedestrian crosswalks to connect to Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail. Work is expected to be completed in late fall 2022. Traffic impacts, closures and detours, and contacts are listed on the project website.

Diuguids Lane Bridge Closure

Beginning July 5, a section of Route 760 (Diuguids Lane) in Roanoke County will be closed for replacement of the bridge over the Roanoke River. Traffic will be detoured for approximately 45 days. The bridge replacement project will be completed this fall. Please contact Brian



Blevins, VDOT Salem Resident Engineer, with questions by phone (540) 387-5502 or email.

Events & Activities

Economic Development in 2022

This year is off to a great start in Roanoke County with 14 new project announcements, over \$66 million in new investment and 418 new jobs during the first half of the year. [Check out the new businesses](#) under development around the County, and stay up-to-date on economic development in Roanoke County by [signing up](#) for the monthly Business Partners newsletter.



Treetop Quest at Night

Have you ever wanted to soar through the trees at night? Treetop Quest's summer Twilight Zipline event at [Explore Park](#) is coming up on Saturday, July 16th! Book your quest with [time slots available](#) every 20 minutes from 6:00 PM to 8:40 PM for a two hour experience.



Dinosaurs at Explore Park

Travel back-in-time this summer at [Explore Park's T-Rex Trail](#)! The half-mile wooded path will feature 18 animatronic dinosaurs from four time periods. The event will last May 28 to August 14. Visitors will experience the sights and sounds of dinosaurs including a stegosaurus, velociraptor, triceratops and tyrannosaurus rex, as well as a dino dig pit and more!

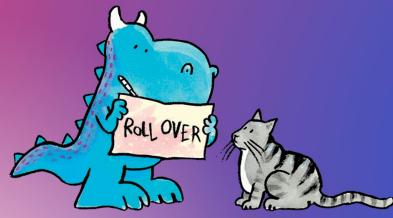


Summer Programs at the Library

There's something for everyone this summer with [Roanoke County Libraries](#) summer [programs](#) and [events](#) designed for all ages!

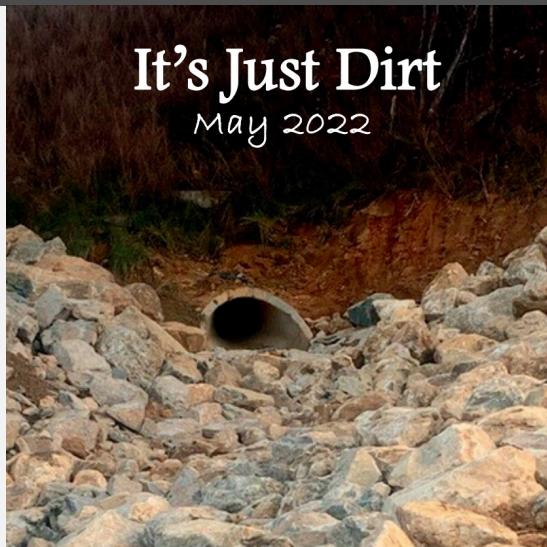
SUMMER READING

Events for All Ages



Development News

It's Just Dirt May 2022



Are your steep slopes wearing socks and wattles? Learn about best practices in the May 2022 Roanoke County Contractor Newsletter, "It's Just Dirt," now available online. This edition features channel protection, the Stormwater Clean Award winners, construction site waste management and stream buffers.

[Learn More](#)

Sincerely,
Alex Jones
Principal Planner

[Visit our Website](#)

August 2022



Hello!

Coming Soon: McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle!

The popularity of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail's McAfee Knob Overlook has led to challenges with parking at the trailhead in recent years. To help reduce demand on the trailhead parking lot, Roanoke County is excited to launch the new McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle Service on September 2, 2022.

Transportation will be provided from the Interstate 81 Exit 140 Park and Ride in Salem to the McAfee Knob Trailhead on Fridays through Sundays, along with holidays that fall on a Monday.

We are excited for locals and tourists alike to come and enjoy our the beautiful views without the stress of worrying about getting to the trailhead. We will continue to announce more details as we approach opening day.

Planning & Zoning Update

**July
5th**

The Planning Commission held a work session on transportation project updates and discussed upcoming land use petitions and potential zoning ordinance amendments.

**August
2nd**

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on the following land use petition:

1. The petition of Insite Real Estate Investment Properties, L.L.C. to rezone approximately 0.93 acre from R-2, Medium Density Residential District, to C-2, High Intensity Commercial District, to construct a drive-in or fast food restaurant (quick-serve coffee shop) located at 7515 and 7517 Friendship Lane, Hollins Magisterial District.

August

The Board of Supervisors will hold a work session following their 3:00 p.m. meeting to receive an update on the Roanoke County 200 Plan's Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 community engagement.

News



Image: RVT-3



Image: RVT-3

Opening of New Roundabout at Route 311 & Route 419 in Hanging Rock

Roanoke County is excited to announce the new roundabout at Route 311 and Route 419 has opened ahead of schedule. The roundabout opened on the afternoon of July 15.

Some tips to consider when using the roundabout: 1.) Pay attention to signs and pavement markings. 2.) Yield to the vehicles already in the roundabout as they approach from the left, merge into traffic in the roundabout when safe. 3.) Navigate the roundabout at a slow, steady pace, and do not stop once in the roundabout. 4.) Use turn signals correctly to not confuse other drivers. 5.) Be aware of the speed and position of nearby road users.

Additional paving and pavement marking will be scheduled over the next few months. The project is expected to be completed this fall.

Watch this [video](#), produced by Roanoke Valley Television RVT-3, on how to maneuver the new roundabout safely.



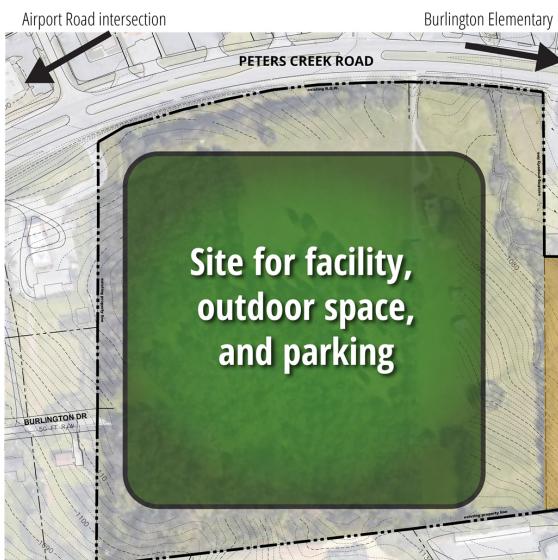
Route 419 & Colonial Avenue Construction Lane Closures

Nighttime road work to lengthen the left turn lane from Route 419 onto Colonial Avenue began on July 24.

Drivers should expect nighttime lane closures, Sunday night through Friday morning between 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., in both directions of Route 419 at Colonial Avenue.

In addition, there may be daytime lane closures on Route 419 for paving outside of peak travel times.

Work is expected to be completed in mid to late August.



Roanoke County Public Schools New Career & Technical Education Center Site Announced

The Roanoke County School Board has announced the purchase of land adjacent to Peters Creek Road between Airport Road and Burlington Elementary School. This site will serve as the location for the new Roanoke County Public Schools Career & Technical Education (CTE) Center and will replace the existing CTE facility that houses the Burton Center for Arts & Technology (BCAT).

The site was selected based on the recommendations of the Roanoke County CTE Citizen's Advisory Committee.



Business Community Input wanted on Career and Technical Education needs in the region

Career and Technical Education (CTE) provides students with the academic and technical skills, knowledge and training necessary to succeed in future careers and to become lifelong learners. CTE prepares these learners for the world of work by introducing them to workplace competencies, and makes academic content accessible to students by providing it in a hands-on context.

Two Business Community Input Meetings have been scheduled to discuss CTE and business training needs for the new Roanoke County Public Schools CTE Center.



North County
Wednesday, August 17 at 6:00 p.m.
RCPS Central Office Gymnasium
5937 Cove Road, Roanoke

South County
Wednesday, August 24 at 6:00 p.m.
South County Library Auditorium
6303 Merriman Road, Roanoke

Please contact Jason Suhr, RCPS Director of CTE, at jsuhr@rcps.us or (540) 562-3900 ext. 10331 with any questions.

Events & Activities

National Night Out

The Greater Williamson Road Area Business Association is sponsoring National Night Out at Williamson Road Plaza (5301 Williamson Road) on August 2nd from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. The event is free and is a great way to meet and celebrate Roanoke County and Roanoke City first responders with food, music, games, and more!



'The Williamson' Ribbon Cutting & Open House

The Greater Williamson Road Area Business Association's new co-working office space, called The Williamson, has opened its doors to small businesses. The Williamson, located at 5301 Williamson Road Suite B at Williamson Road Plaza, will have its official ribbon cutting and open house on Tuesday, August 16th at 11:30 a.m. Contact Valerie Brown, Executive Director of the Greater Williamson Road Area Business Association, at valerie@williamsonroad.org for more information and to RSVP!



Explore Park's T-Rex Trail

Travel back-in-time this summer at Explore Park's T-Rex Trail! The half-mile wooded path will feature 18 animatronic dinosaurs from four time periods. The event will last through August 14th. Visitors will experience the sights and sounds of dinosaurs including a stegosaurus, velociraptor, triceratops and tyrannosaurus rex, as well as a dino dig pit and more!



Beat the heat at Splash Valley Water Park!

There is still time this Summer to visit Splash Valley's two 34-foot high slides, current river, and children's sprayground! The water park will be open through Labor Day weekend. Visit the Splash Valley website to view their remaining Summer 2022 operating calendar.



SplashValleyWaterPark.com

Sincerely,
Alexander Jones
Principal Planner

[Visit our Website](#)

September 2022



Hello!

McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle

Just in time for peak leaf season, Roanoke County is excited to partner with Ride Source to launch a new McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle Service on September 2, 2022. Transportation will be provided from the Interstate 81 Exit 140 Park and Ride to the National Park Service's McAfee Knob Trailhead parking lot along the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

The shuttle service will be available starting September 2, 2022, through November 27, 2022, on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day Monday.

Shuttle hours will vary with Daylight Savings Time with the last shuttle departing from the trailhead 15 minutes prior to service ending.

September: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

October: 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

November: 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The shuttle has capacity to seat 20 riders along with two ADA accessible spots for wheelchairs. Tickets are available to purchase online at www.McAfeeShuttle.com and cost five dollars plus processing fees for a one-way ticket. Please note that no cash will be accepted by the drivers.

The McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle service will resume March 3, 2023, and will run through November 26, 2023.

The shuttle is possible thanks to funding from anticipated fares, the Department of Rail

and Public Transportation and Roanoke County. We are excited for locals and tourists alike to come and enjoy the beautiful views from McAfee Knob.

To learn more, visit www.roanokecountyva.gov/McAfeeKnobShuttle.

Planning & Zoning Update

August 2nd

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the following land use petition:

1. The petition of Insite Real Estate Investment Properties, L.L.C. to rezone approximately 0.93 acre from R-2, Medium Density Residential District, to C-2, High Intensity Commercial District, to construct a drive-in or fast food restaurant (quick-serve coffee shop) located at 7515 and 7517 Friendship Lane, Hollins Magisterial District. The Commission voted to recommend approval of the rezoning request.

August 23rd

The Board of Supervisors held a work session to receive an update on the Roanoke County 200 Plan's Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 community engagement.

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the Insite Real Estate Investment Properties, L.L.C. application. The Board approved the rezoning with one proffered condition.

September 6th

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

1. The petition of ABoone Real Estate, Inc., to rezone approximately 32.32 acres from R-1, Low Density Residential, District, to C-2, High Intensity Commercial District, and R-3 , Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District, to construct a hotel and townhouses located in the 1300 and 1400 blocks of Edgebrook Road, Catawba Magisterial District.
2. A proposed amendment to the Roanoke County Comprehensive Plan. The proposed amendment would amend the 419 Town Center Plan, which is a component of the Roanoke County Comprehensive Plan, by incorporating the Roanoke County 419 Town Center Design Guidelines into the 419 Town Center Plan.

September 20th

The Planning Commission will hold a work session on zoning ordinance amendments and to receive an update on the Roanoke-Valley Regional Commission's Roanoke Valley Local Food Plan.

September 28th

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing at 3:00 p.m. on the the Roanoke County 419 Town Center Design Guidelines amendment to the Roanoke County Comprehensive Plan and a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on the ABoone Real Estate, Inc. application.

Save the Date! Route 460 Community Meeting



Please Save the Date for the third and final Route 460 Land Use and Connectivity Study Community Meeting to review the updated Potential Transportation Improvements and Future Land Use exhibits that reflect the feedback obtained at the May community meeting and through the online survey:

Thursday, September 29

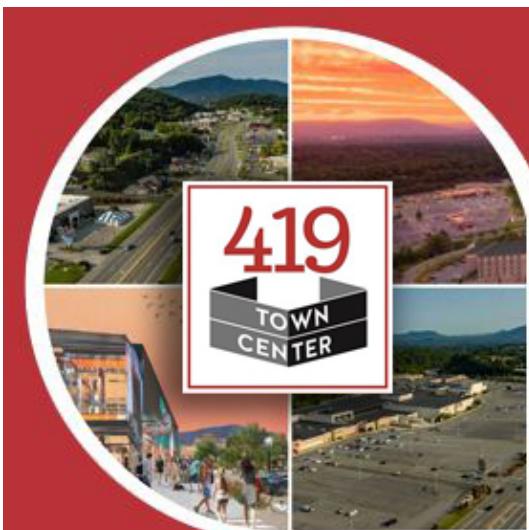
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

with a presentation at 5:30 p.m.

Bonsack Elementary School

5437 Crumpacker Drive

Details will follow through U.S. Mail and email. For additional information, visit www.RoanokeCountyVA.gov/460Study



419 Town Center Plan Updates

Review the proposed 419 Town Center Design Guidelines [online](#)

419 Town Center Design Guidelines Public Hearings

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Supervisors

Wednesday, Sept. 28, at 3:00 p.m.

Both public hearings will be held at the Roanoke County Administration Center, 5204 Bernard Drive

Burlington, Skechers, Popeyes, and Chilis are under construction at Tanglewood Mall! Learn more about recent developments on the [419 Town Center website](#)

Events & Activities

Adventure Saturday at Explore Park

Explore Park will host a full day of expanded family activities on Saturday, September 17. [Adventure Saturday](#) features many family activities including Treetop Quest, nature activities, disc golf demos, outdoor gear vendors, live music compliments of Friends of the Blue Ridge, Roanoke Valley Chapter, and a Twilight Zipline experience at Treetop Quest.

Saturday, Sept 17 at Explore Park

Recreation fun this Fall!

Roanoke County Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department's Fall 2022 recreation program lineup is now available! Pick up a copy of the Fall RecLife Brochure at Green Ridge Recreation Center, Brambleton Recreation Center and Explore Park. Visit their [website](#) to view the digital version of the Fall publication.



ExploreRecreation.com

Catawba Valley Farmers Market

The **Catawba Valley Farmers Market** is celebrating its 13th season of bringing you locally grown produce, meats, crafts, baked goods, canned goods, ceramics, and even the Roanoke County Library for all your book needs. The farmers market is held at the Catawba Community Center, located at 4965 Catawba Creek Road. The farmers market is held each Thursday from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., through mid-October, rain or shine.



Development News



The Department of Development Services has released two new infographic posters to assist developers:

Common Mistakes That Cost Time & Money

Pathway for a Successful Project

Sincerely,
Alexander Jones
Principal Planner

[Visit our Website](#)

October 2022



Hello!

It's National Community Planning Month!

Planners across the United States work to improve the well-being of all people living in our communities by taking a comprehensive perspective. This approach leads to safer, resilient, more equitable, and more prosperous communities. We celebrate the role that planning plays in creating great communities each October with National Community Planning Month!

The **Roanoke County Department of Planning** helps shape our community by:

- + Informing citizens about land use and planning initiatives
- + Administering the zoning ordinance and land use codes
- + Preparing planning studies for neighborhoods, community planning areas, transportation corridors, and other special study areas

Join the conversation all month on our Roanoke County Planning [Facebook page!](#)

Learn more about #PlanningMonth from the [American Planning Association](#).

September 6th

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the following:

1. The petition of ABoone Real Estate, Inc., to rezone approximately 32.32 acres from R-1, Low Density Residential, District, to C-2, High Intensity Commercial District, and R-3 , Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District, to construct a hotel and townhouses located in the 1300 and 1400 blocks of Edgebrook Road, Catawba Magisterial District. The Commission voted to recommend approval of the rezoning request.
2. A proposed amendment to the Roanoke County Comprehensive Plan. The proposed amendment would amend the 419 Town Center Plan, which is a component of the Roanoke County Comprehensive Plan, by incorporating the Roanoke County 419 Town Center Design Guidelines into the 419 Town Center Plan. The Commission voted to recommend approval of the proposed amendment.

September 20th

The Planning Commission held a work session on zoning ordinance amendments and received an update on the Roanoke-Valley Regional Commission's Roanoke Valley Local Food Plan.

September 28th

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the the Roanoke County 419 Town Center Design Guidelines amendment to the Roanoke County Comprehensive Plan. The Board voted to approve the proposed amendment. The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the ABoone Real Estate, Inc. application. The Board voted to approve the rezoning request.

October 4th

The Planning Commission will hold a work session at 4:00 p.m. and a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on the following:

1. The petition of the Gallery at South Peak, LLC, to rezone approximately 10.83 acres from C-2C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions, and R-4C, High Density Multi-Family Residential District with conditions, to R-4C, High Density Multi-Family Residential with amended conditions, to construct 260 apartments located in the 5000 block of The Peaks Drive, Cave Spring Magisterial District.

October 17th

A community open house will be held at the Roanoke County Administration Center, 5204 Bernard Drive, from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. on the Barnett Properties, LLC application. The rezoning application is for retail sales use at Brambleton Avenue and Old Cave Spring Road.

October 19th

The Planning Commission and Roanoke County Economic Development Authority will host a joint meeting on the Route 460 Land Use and Connectivity Study at 9:00 a.m. at the Roanoke County Administration Center.

October 20th

A community open house meeting will be held at North County Fire Station #1, 150 Hershberger Road, from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. on the First Four Petroleum Group, LLC application. The special use permit application is for equipment sales and rental at

October 25th

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing at 3:00 p.m. on the Gallery at South Peak, LLC application. Following their 3:00 p.m. meeting the Board of Supervisors will hold a joint work session with the Roanoke County School Board and Roanoke County Career and Technical Education (CTE) Citizen Advisory Committee to discuss the potential incorporation of solar technology relating to the construction of a new career and technical education center for Roanoke County.

News



Road Projects Recently Completed

Ridge Top Road

Roanoke County continues to implement the 419 Town Center Plan and the latest project is now open to traffic. Ridge Top Road can be driven between Route 419/Electric Road and Elm View Road. Ridge Top Road and Almond Road provide access to El Mezcal, Southwest Medical Clinic, Chuck E. Cheese and the Slate Hill Baptist Church Cemetery. Remaining final touches include establishing grass and installing handrails on two retaining walls. When those items are complete the sidewalk will be open for pedestrians.

The new public road and sidewalk also facilitates access to undeveloped land that is zoned for multifamily development. Roanoke County and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) partnered in the project, which began in 2017 and was funded through the Secondary Six-Year Program and the Revenue Sharing Program. AECOM provided design and construction engineering services and A.R. Coffey and Sons constructed the improved roadway and sidewalk. Many thanks to VDOT Salem District and Salem Residency staff for assistance throughout the project duration and to the local businesses for their patience during construction.

Route 311/Route 419 Intersection Safety and Congestion Improvements

A new roundabout is complete and has replaced the traffic signal located at the intersection of Route 419/Electric Road, Route 311/Thompson Memorial Drive and Route 311/Catawba Valley Drive. Roanoke County applied for and received SMART SCALE funding in 2016 to improve safety and traffic flow at this intersection. The VDOT Salem District managed the design and construction of the project. E.C. Pace was awarded the construction contract for the roundabout. Roanoke County thanks VDOT, area businesses and the traveling public for their cooperation during construction of the roundabout.

Diuguids Lane Bridge Rehabilitation

Construction is complete on the Diuguids Lane bridge over the Roanoke River. The existing bridge superstructure (horizontal parts of the bridge) was replaced over the summer while the bridge was completely closed. The VDOT Salem District managed the design and construction of the project. Roanoke County appreciates the patience of area residents and Green Hill Park users during the bridge closure and detour.

necessary to complete the project.



Route 460 Land Use and Connectivity Study Meeting

Roanoke County hosted 107 attendees at Bonsack Elementary School for the third Route 460 Land Use and Connectivity Study community meeting on September 28, 2022. Consultants and County staff reviewed a presentation with the group which included previous transportation work on Route 460 as well as the history of this Study. Revised exhibits were available for review that incorporate comments received from the May community meeting and survey. All meeting materials are available at www.RoanokeCountyVA.gov/460Study. A survey is available until October 7th to comment on the revised recommendations. Next steps include a meeting with the Roanoke County Planning Commission and Economic Development Authority, a work session with the Board of Supervisors, followed by public hearings with both the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. Development Services staff also attended the community meeting to answer questions about a new development underway adjacent to Bonsack Elementary School on Huntridge Road.



Save the Date! West Roanoke River Greenway Feasibility Study Community Meetings

Please Save the Date for two West Roanoke River Greenway Feasibility Study Community Meetings. These will be open-house style meetings, where attendees can come and go as they please. The content of the two meetings will be identical, there is no need to attend both.

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Fort Lewis Baptist Church
4215 West Main Street
Salem, VA 24153

Wednesday, October 20, 2022

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Spring Hollow Water Treatment Plant
6200 West Main Street
Salem, VA 24153

Details will follow through U.S. Mail and email. For additional information, visit



McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle October Service Hours and Live Tracking

The leaves are changing and Fall is upon the Roanoke Valley. What better way to view the seasonal changes at the iconic McAfee Knob than to enjoy an outdoor hike?

The McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle wants to make your trip to McAfee Knob a breeze by taking the worry out of finding a place to park at the trailhead parking lot.

The McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle provides service to individuals or groups from the I-81, Exit 140 Park and Ride to the trailhead parking lot on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays currently until November 27, 2022. For the month of **October**, the shuttle will run a continuous loop from the Park and Ride to the trailhead parking lot starting at **7:00 AM to 6:30 PM**, with the last shuttle departing the trailhead at **6:15 PM**.

Roanoke County partners with Ride Source to provide the service as a great way to assist locals and visitors to the Roanoke Valley with a simple solution to take the shuttle to the parking lot and start their hike without worrying about where to park.

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is supporting this project with state funding. The program is also funded through the fares received by riders and funds from the Roanoke County budget.

To reserve your spot on the shuttle, visit www.McAfeeShuttle.com. Live tracking of the shuttle is available at the website and walkups are welcome to book at the I-81, Exit 140 Park and Ride or the trailhead parking lot.



CORTTRAN Lowers Age Requirement for Eligibility

Starting October 1, 2022, Roanoke County residents age 65 will be eligible for the County of Roanoke Transportation Program (CORTTRAN). This change was made possible by a unanimous vote of the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors to meet the needs of an underserved population that did not have access to transportation. Prior to the change, the minimum age requirement was 70.

CORTTRAN provides transportation to Roanoke County residents that are age 65 or better or that have a disability. Trips may be taken throughout Roanoke County, Roanoke City, the Town of Vinton or Salem City.

Roanoke County partners with Via to provide the rideshare service Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Trips may be scheduled using the CORTTRAN APP, website or by calling Via directly.

CORTTRAN is supported by state and federal funding from the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), along with Roanoke County budget funds. This funding has made it possible to continue to provide this valuable service to citizens so they may stay active within the community and have a sense of independence. Providing citizens transportation to get to medical appointments, the grocery store or their job.

To learn more about the program and to download an application for the service, visit the [CORTTRAN website](#).

Events & Activities

Grand Opening Ceremony: Fallowater Square near Tanglewood

On Thursday, October 13, at 4:00 PM Roanoke County Economic Development invites you to join them for the grand opening of the newly constructed Fallowater Square in the [419 Town Center](#) area. Fallowater Square is a two-story office building redeveloped from residential properties, now fully-leased with tenants Long & Foster and National Spine & Pain Centers.



Glow Night is making a return for Spooky Season at Green Ridge!

Splash, swim and slide in the indoor pool as Green Ridge turns the lights down, turns the music up and throws some glow sticks into the pool! Glow Night at

Green Ridge Recreation Center is on Friday, October 14 from 6 PM - 8 PM. Cost is \$5 per person and pre-registration is required. Learn more about the event on the [Green Ridge Recreation Center website](#).



Treetop Quest at Explore Park!

Soar into Fall at Explore Park's Treetop Quest! The aerial adventure and zipline course is open weekends from 10 AM to 6 PM through October 30. Strap on a headlamp and soar through the trees at night on Saturday, October 29 for the final Twilight Zipline event of 2022. Learn more and book your quest on the [Explore Park website](#).



Development News



Roanoke County's MS4 [Stormwater] Annual Report

Roanoke County is subject to the requirements of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, as issued by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). This program is designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the County's regulated MS4 area to the maximum extent practicable (MEP) and to satisfy the appropriate water quality requirements of the State Water Control Law and its attendant regulations.

The County's MS4 program addresses six Minimum Control Measures (MCMs), as follows:

- MCM-1: Public Education and Outreach
- MCM-2: Public Involvement and Participation
- MCM-3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- MCM-4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control
- MCM-5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management for New Development and Development on Prior-Developed Lands
- MCM-6: Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

The Annual Report is submitted to DEQ each year by October 1, and it summarizes the actions taken by the County to satisfy the permit requirements under each of the aforementioned MCM categories.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Annual Report

Supporting Documents

Sincerely,
Alexander Jones
Principal Planner

Visit our Website

November 2022



Hello!

Last call this Fall! McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle November Hours

There's still time to check out the McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle this season before it wraps up service on November 27, 2022.

The McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle provides service to individuals or groups from the I-81, Exit 140 Park and Ride to the trailhead parking lot on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. For the month of **November** and to account for Daylight Savings Time, the shuttle will run a continuous loop from the Park and Ride to the trailhead parking lot starting at **7:00 AM to 5:00 PM**, with the last shuttle departing the trailhead at **4:45 PM**.

The purpose of the shuttle is to provide visitors interested in hiking McAfee Knob a safe and convenient way to park their vehicle at the Park and Ride and take a short drive up Catawba Mountain to the trailhead parking lot and start their hike without the hassle of finding a safe and legal place to park. The trailhead parking lot fills up very quickly and overloading the parking lot is a danger to everyone.

As a reminder, the striped shuttle pull off area is designated for the McAfee Knob Trailhead shuttle only. The area is a safe place to load and unload passengers from the shuttle. No vehicles should block or touch the striped area and drivers should adhere to the No Parking signs that are posted.

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is supporting this project with state funding. The program is also funded through Roanoke County and the fares received by riders.

To reserve your spot on the shuttle, visit www.McAfeeShuttle.com. Live tracking of the shuttle is available at the website and walkups are welcome to book at the I-81, Exit

140 Park and Ride or the trailhead parking lot.

Check back in early 2023 for details on service hours, as the shuttle service will resume in March 2023.

Planning & Zoning Update

October 4th

The Planning Commission held a work session and a public hearing on the following:

1. The petition of the Gallery at South Peak, LLC, to rezone approximately 10.83 acres from C-2C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions, and R-4C, High Density Multi-Family Residential District with conditions, to R-4C, High Density Multi-Family Residential with amended conditions, to construct 260 apartments located in the 5000 block of The Peaks Drive, Cave Spring Magisterial District. The Commission voted to recommend approval of the rezoning request.

October 19th

The Planning Commission and Roanoke County Economic Development Authority held a joint meeting on the Route 460 Land Use and Connectivity Study.

October 25th

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the Gallery at South Peak, LLC application. The Board voted to approve the rezoning request. The Board of Supervisors hosted a joint work session with the Roanoke County School Board and Roanoke County Career and Technical Education (CTE) Citizen Advisory Committee to discuss the potential incorporation of solar technology relating to the construction of a new career and technical education center for Roanoke County.

November 1st

The Planning Commission will hold a work session at 5:00 PM and a public hearing at 7:00 PM at the Roanoke County Administration Center on the following:

1. The petition of Neil Aneja to obtain a special use permit to operate a short-term rental on approximately 0.30 acre on land zoned R-1, Low Density Residential, located at 2726 White Pelican Lane, Cave Spring Magisterial District.
2. The petition of First Four Petroleum Group, LLC to obtain a special use permit for equipment sales and rental (storage container yard) on approximately 14.82 acres on land zoned C-2S, High Intensity Commercial, located at 4855 Hollins Road, Hollins Magisterial District. **(APPLICATION WAS WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT)**
3. The petition of Barnett Properties, LLC, to rezone approximately 9.38 acres from R-3C, Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District with conditions; R-1, Low Density Residential District; I-1C, Low Intensity Industrial District with conditions; C2-C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions; and C-1, Low Intensity Commercial District; to C-2, High Intensity Commercial District, for retail sales located in the 4400 block of Brambleton Avenue including 4449 and 4457 Brambleton Avenue, and the 4500 and 4600 blocks of Old Cave Spring Road, Windsor Hills Magisterial District.

November 9th

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing at 3:00 PM at the Roanoke County Administration Center on the Neil Aneja and Barnett Properties, LLC applications.

News



West Roanoke River Greenway Feasibility Study Community Meetings

56 people attended a West Roanoke River Greenway Feasibility Study community meeting on October 19 at Fort Lewis Baptist Church. 44 people attended the second meeting on October 20 at the Spring Hollow Water Treatment Plant. The open house-style meetings included history exhibits, status updates on Roanoke River Greenway completion efforts and exercises to ask where the greenway should be routed between Green Hill Park and Montgomery County. A survey is available on our [website](#) until Friday, November 4, 2022. For additional information, please visit their contact Isaac Henry at (540) 772-2140 or jhenry@roanokecountyva.gov.

An illustration of a person riding a bicycle. The person is wearing a pink shirt and blue shorts. To the right of the person are three speech bubbles. The top bubble is blue and says "WE WANT". The middle bubble is green and says "TO HEAR". The bottom bubble is yellow and says "FROM YOU". Below these bubbles is the text "COMPLETE THE SURVEY".

 Roanoke Valley Transportation
PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Staffed by the
REGIONALcommission

Public Comment Opportunity

View and comment on the draft Roanoke Valley Transportation Plan, including the FFY 24-27 Transportation Improvement Program.



For any accessibility assistance, visit the website or contact Bryan Hill (540) 434-4417 or bhill@rvarc.org.

RVTPO's Roanoke Valley Transportation Surveys

Our friends at the Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission have asked for our help!

The Regional Commission staffs the Roanoke Valley Transportation Organization (RVTPO). The RVTPO is a Metropolitan Planning Organization that supports transportation projects in the Cities of Roanoke and Salem, the Town of Vinton, and the urbanized portions of the Counties of Bedford, Botetourt, Roanoke, and Montgomery.

For the next month the RVTPO is inviting citizens to participate in the Roanoke Valley Transportation surveys. These three surveys cover roadway, pedestrian and bicyclist safety and transit access projects and services.

This is a great opportunity for the public to learn about current projects and share their priorities for the transportation efforts within the region. Thank you for your time and interest in the betterment of our community.



Roanoke County Public Schools New Career & Technical Education (CTE) Center and CTE Citizen Advisory Committee Updates

The Career & Technical Education (CTE) Citizen Advisory Committee and Planning staff presented at the Board of Supervisors and Roanoke County School Board work session on Tuesday, October 25. The CTE Committee presented its Phase III work and recommendation on the potential incorporation of solar technology relating to the construction of a new career and technical education center for Roanoke County, which was: Consider solar application in the design and development of the new proposed CTE Center, with consideration to be given to leasing, build-to-suit, and build-to-own as delivery methods to build the project.

Following the CTE Committee's recommendation presentation, Roanoke County Public Schools staff presented on the August 2022 Business Community Meetings feedback and BCAT Student Survey results. Private consultants hired by RCPS then presented the due diligence report of the proposed site, a conceptual site plan, and cost estimates for the 6251 Peters Creek Road site.

The [Career & Technical Education \(CTE\) Citizen Advisory Committee](#) has concluded its charge of advising the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors and the Roanoke County School Board regarding the size, site, and potential incorporation of solar technology relating to the construction of a new career and technical education center for Roanoke County.

Planning staff would like to thank the committee for their dedication and service over the last 15 months. Alexander Jones, Principal Planner, and Cecelia Thomas, Planning Administrative Assistant, represented Roanoke County Government working closely with the committee and Jason Suhr, Roanoke County Public Schools Director of CTE, throughout the entire process hosting 24 committee meetings, two business community meetings, and two site visits.

Learn more about the proposed CTE Center from [Roanoke County Public Schools](#).

Events & Activities

29th Annual Brambleton Center Craft Show!

Get a jump start on your Christmas shopping! Join Roanoke County Parks, Recreation & Tourism at their 29th Annual Craft Show held on Saturday, November 5, from 8 AM - 2 PM, at the Brambleton Center - 3738 Brambleton Ave, Roanoke, VA 24018. They will have lots of crafts, goodies and gifts. Be sure to come out and support your local artists! Learn more on their [website](#).

29th Annual Brambleton Center Annual Craft Show

Saturday, November 5, 2022
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

FREE Admission!

3738 Brambleton Ave. SW
Roanoke, VA 24018

Have a meeting at our RoCo Libraries!

Roanoke County Public Library Meeting Rooms are available by reservation at a nominal charge for community, nonprofit, commercial, and parties. Please inquire at your preferred library in person or make your reservation on their [website](#). Also, Computer Labs are available for reservation at Glenvar, Hollins, South County, and Vinton by request. Glenvar, South County, and Vinton also offer study rooms available for free.



Have a meeting
AT THE LIBRARY

Illuminights returns to Explore Park!

Brighten your nights and explore your holiday spirit at Illuminights Winter Walk of Lights. Illuminights is back and bigger than ever at Roanoke County's Explore Park! 2022 ticket sales begin on Tuesday, November 1st. The 2022 event begins on Saturday, November 19th and will feature over 650,000 lights, new displays, trail enhancements, and family activities. Visit the Illuminights [website](#) for more information!



2022 Event Begins Saturday, November 19

Development News

IRON-OXIDIZING BACTERIA FACTS



Iron-oxidizing bacteria actively growing.

[Learn about iron-oxidizing bacteria from RoCo Development Services!](#)

Sincerely,
Alexander Jones
Principal Planner

[Visit our Website](#)

December 2022

Happy Holidays!



419 Town Center
Appalachian Trail
Bent Mountain
Blue Ridge Parkway
Bonsack
Bradshaw
Brambleton Avenue
Camp Roanoke
Carvins Cove
Catawba

Cave Spring
Clearbrook
Downtown Vinton
Explore Park
Glenvar
Green Ridge
Hanging Rock
Hidden Valley
Hollins Center
McAfee Knob

Mount Pleasant
Northside
Oak Grove Center
Poages Mill
Poor Mountain
Read Mountain
Roanoke River
Starkey
William Byrd
Williamson Road

Hello!

Happy Holidays!

Our Roanoke County Planning team wishes you peace, joy, and prosperity throughout the holiday season. It has been an exciting year for our department and we're looking forward to a productive New Year!

Planning & Zoning Update

November 1st

The Planning Commission held a work session and a public hearing on the following:

1. The petition of **Neil Aneja** to obtain a special use permit to operate a short-term rental on approximately 0.30 acre on land zoned R-1, Low Density Residential, located at 2726 White Pelican Lane, Cave Spring Magisterial District. The Commission voted to recommend approval of the special use permit request.
2. The petition of **First Four Petroleum Group, LLC** to obtain a special use permit for equipment sales and rental (storage container yard) on approximately 14.82 acres on land zoned C-2S, High Intensity Commercial, located at 4855 Hollins Road, Hollins Magisterial District. (**APPLICATION WAS WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT**)
3. The petition of **Barnett Properties, LLC**, to rezone approximately 9.38 acres from R-3C, Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District with conditions; R-1, Low Density Residential District; I-1C, Low Intensity Industrial District with conditions; C2-C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions; and C-1, Low Intensity Commercial

District; to C-2, High Intensity Commercial District, for retail sales located in the 4400 block of Brambleton Avenue including 4449 and 4457 Brambleton Avenue, and the 4500 and 4600 blocks of Old Cave Spring Road, Windsor Hills Magisterial District. The Commission voted to table the rezoning request until December 6, 2022.

November 9th

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the Neil Aneja application. The Board of Supervisors voted to deny the Neil Aneja special use permit application.

December 6th

The Planning Commission will hold a work session at 4:00 PM and an evening session at 7:00 PM on the following:

Action Item:

1. The petition of **Barnett Properties, LLC**, to rezone approximately 9.38 acres from R-3C, Medium Density Multi-Family Residential District with conditions; R-1, Low Density Residential District; I-1C, Low Intensity Industrial District with conditions; C2-C, High Intensity Commercial District with conditions; and C-1, Low Intensity Commercial District; to C-2, High Intensity Commercial District, for retail sales located in the 4400 block of Brambleton Avenue including 4449 and 4457 Brambleton Avenue, and the 4500 and 4600 blocks of Old Cave Spring Road, Windsor Hills Magisterial District.

Public Hearing:

1. Proposed amendments to the Roanoke County Zoning Ordinance. The proposed amendments would: amend the definition of halfway house in Article II (Definitions and Use Types); change halfway house from a special use to a permitted use in the AV (Agricultural/Village Center) and C-2 (High Intensity Commercial) Districts, add halfway house as a permitted use in the C-1 (Low Intensity Commercial), I-1 (Low Intensity Industrial) and I-2 (High Intensity Industrial) Districts, and add halfway house as a special use in the R-1 (Low Density Residential), R-2 (Medium Density Residential), R-3 (Medium Density Multi-Family Residential), and R-4 (High Density Multi-Family Residential) Districts in Article III (District Regulations); and add use and design standards for halfway house in Article IV (Use and Design Standards).

The Planning Commission public hearing on the Panda Storage Rentals and Sales application has been rescheduled from Tuesday, December 6, 2022 to Tuesday, December 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

December 13th

The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing at 3:00 p.m. on the Barnett Properties, LLC application.

The Board of Supervisors public hearing on the Panda Storage Rentals and Sales application has been rescheduled from Tuesday, December 13, 2022, to Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

December 20th

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 PM on the following:

1. The petition of **Panda Storage Rentals and Sales** to obtain a special use permit for equipment sales and rental (storage containers) and to obtain a special use permit for mini-warehouse on approximately 4.82 acres on land zone C-2, High Intensity Commercial District, located in the 5300 block of West Main Street and the 5400 block of Pleasant Run Drive, Catawba District.

December 23rd & December 26th

Roanoke County Offices will be closed on Friday, December 23, 2022 in observance of Christmas Eve and Monday, December 26, 2022 in observance of Christmas Day.

January 2nd

Roanoke County Offices will be closed on Monday, January 2, 2023 in observance of New Year's Day.

January 3rd

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 PM on the following:

1. The petition of **Greg and Amanda Speiran** to obtain a special use permit to operate a short-term rental on approximately 0.1608 acre on land zoned R-1, Low Density Residential, located at 3113 Fleetwood Avenue, Windsor Hills Magisterial District.

News



McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle Gift Certificates now available!

Looking for a quick and easy stocking stuffer idea for the holiday season?

Grab a gift certificate for the McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle by visiting www.McAfeeShuttle.com to check off your shopping list. Gift certificates have no expiration dates and are easy to deliver to someone's inbox for last minute gift ideas. Gift certificates may also be printed to add to a stocking or card.

The McAfee Knob Trailhead shuttle season wrapped up service for the season on November 27, 2022. During the season the shuttle transported 488 riders with 716 reservations over 37 days of service. Riders for the shuttle were individuals that live locally, as well as, international travelers from far away as Turkey.

The shuttle will launch again on March 3, 2023 and run through November 2023. Check back often for more details about the new 2023 season on our [website](#)!



Now Open: Burlington at Tanglewood!

The new Burlington store is now open at Tanglewood in the former Stein Mart space. View the [WDBJ7](#) coverage on the Burlington grand opening coverage and other 419 Town Center updates.

Also, Chili's and Popeyes are both currently under construction on the Tanglewood property. Stay up to date on other recent projects in the Tanglewood area on the [419 Town Center website!](#)

Coming in 2023: A Reimagined Oak Grove Park!

Oak Grove Park will experience some park improvements over the next few months. The following projects are expected to be completed by Spring 2023:

Park Amenity
1. New Picnic Shelter
2. New Nature Education Trail
3. New Restrooms
4. New Playground
5. Pickleball Court Conversion
6. Expanded Parking
7. Enhanced Walking Path



Learn more about the planned Oak Grove Park improvements [here](#). Stay up to date on other recent projects in the Oak Grove area on the [Oak Grove Center website!](#)

Meet our new Planners!

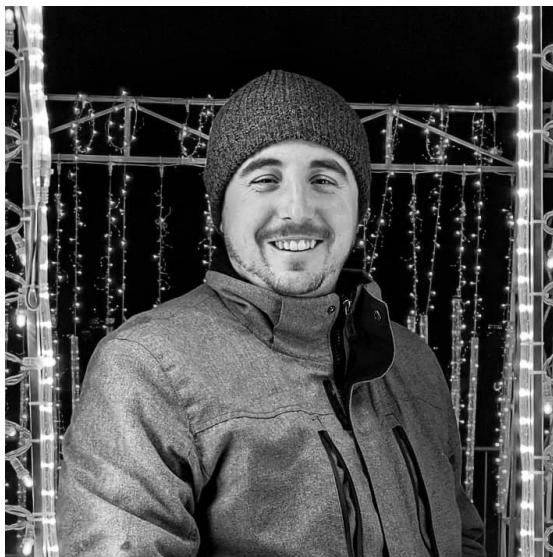


Lionel Cruz-Cruz, Planner I

"I am originally from Ingold, NC, a small rural farming town in South Eastern NC. I graduated from East Carolina University in Spring of this year majoring in Community and Regional Planning and minoring in Technical Drafting. After graduation I took my partner of six years and got married on the sandy beaches of the outer banks. We chose to move to Roanoke for its vast outdoor recreation options and the beautiful scenery that comes with it. I love the outdoors, cooking, volunteering, and sporting events. I look forward to meeting new people and making real connections with the Roanoke community."

Lionel Cruz-Cruz joined our Zoning Division on June 27.

Jake Harding, Planner II



"I moved here to Roanoke about a year and a half ago from my hometown of Spanish Fork, Utah to attend graduate school at Virginia Tech. I got my undergraduate in Urban and Regional Planning at Brigham Young University in 2019. Before working for the county, I was a Planner I for a community back in Utah for about a year. The pandemic caused me to rethink about my career path a bit, which led me to graduate school out here. I love the outdoor amenities here and intend to stick around for a while. Some of my hobbies include pickleball, racquetball, playing music, camping, and playing board games."

Jake Harding joined our Long-Range Planning Division on September 12.

Ross Hammes, Planner II



"I grew up in Roanoke County and went to school at Cave Spring prior to enlisting in the Navy which was cut short due to health complications. I then went to Virginia Western before going to Virginia Tech to study geography and GIS. After completing my undergraduate degree, I stayed around for a Master's in Community Planning as a Hokie. I then started working for a Planning and Architecture firm in Downtown Roanoke called Hill Studio where I gained four years of professional experience prior to joining the Roanoke County Planning Department this Fall. I have a wide range of experience working with private and public planning organizations across the state of Virginia and look forward to bringing that to Roanoke County. I enjoy exploring the many outdoor assets we have in the region with my dog Esri and I also enjoy working on wood projects in my free time such as tables, cabinets, shelves, and many more!"

Ross Hammes joined our Long-Range Planning Division on September 26.

Follow Roanoke County on our new Instagram page!
@officialroanokecounty

CHECK OUT ROANOKE COUNTY'S NEWEST HUB FOR MEDIA!

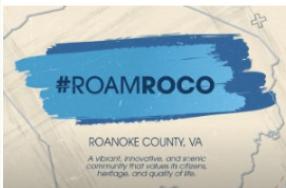
VISIT: <https://www.roanokecountyva.gov/rocollection>



RoamRoCo

Roam around Roanoke County with Kaelyn and learn more about our community, your local government, and the many destinations you'll only find in Roanoke County, Virginia. See our [entire playlist](#) or choose a video segment below to get started.

 [SUBSCRIBE](#)



Fire Station Tour at Cave Spring Station #3
Join Kaelyn Spicker as she tours Cave Spring Fire Station #3. [Read on...](#)



Hello From the Top of McAfee Knob
Join Kaelyn and Keara as they hike to the most photographed spot on the Appalachian Trail! [Read on...](#)



Conquering Treetop Quest
Treetop Quest is fun for the entire family - unless you're afraid of heights! Join Kaelyn and Keara on the aerial course at Explore Park, and see that Treetop Quest is truly fun for all ages. [Read on...](#)



First Time Camping at Explore Park
Come along as Kaelyn learns about camping at Explore Park, how to properly set up a tent, and create a campfire to roast delicious smores! [Read on...](#)



**FOLLOW US ON
INSTAGRAM**
[@officialroanokecounty](#)

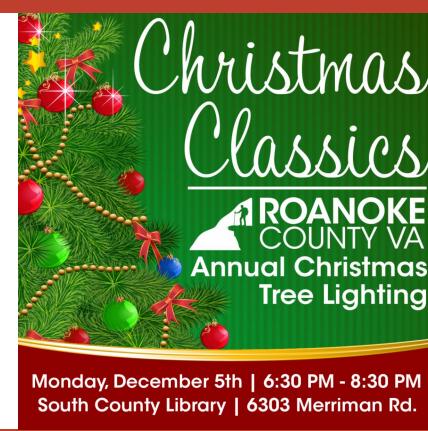


[Visit the new RoCo Collection website!](#)

Events & Activities

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting!

The Roanoke County Annual Christmas Tree Lighting will take place at South County Library on Monday, December 5th at 6:30 PM! This year's theme "Christmas Classics" will feature visits with Santa, live music, children's crafts, teen activities and more! The event kicks off with a ceremonial tree lighting at 6:30 PM. Visit roanokecountyparks.com or rocolibrary.org for more details!



Illuminights at Explore Park!

Brighten your nights and explore your holiday spirit through a dazzling world of over 650,000 lights

at **Illuminights Winter Walk of Lights** at Explore Park. Purchase tickets [online](#)! Travel down the half-mile wooded path and experience 50,000 new lights, new displays, trail enhancements and family activities. While you're there, shop for artisan crafts and roast marshmallows!



Tickets On Sale Now at ExplorePark.org/Illuminights

Santa at the Libraries!

Santa will be coming to the library for fun events this holiday season. Register [online](#)!

Santa at the Library: Mt. Pleasant Library (Dec. 3), Glenvar Library (Dec. 10), and Bent Mountain Library (Dec. 13)

Breakfast with Santa: Vinton Library (Dec. 9), South County Library (Dec. 15), and Hollins Library (Dec. 16)



Development News

Calling all volunteers for Storm Drain Stenciling!

A great way to serve your community is by making fellow citizens aware of stormwater runoff pollution by stenciling storm drain inlets. Many people mistakenly believe that stormwater runoff is treated before emptying into nearby waterways. These painted messages on the storm drain inlets remind residents of the link between streets and a waterway's health. It's a community effort with lasting effects. For more information or to sign up, please visit our [website](#).



Sincerely,
Alexander Jones
Principal Planner

[Visit our Website](#)