

News to know for the area from Ox Road to Mason Neck, Fairfax County Parkway to the Occoquan River.

Central Green Restrooms under construction

The Fairfax County Park Authority broke ground on the permanent restrooms at Laurel Hill Central Green in late May. The structure will be maintained by the Authority and replace the numerous portable toilets currently in use. Construction is expected to be finished by this Fall. All are welcome to use this beautiful park off Lorton Road, which now includes a playground and community gardens.



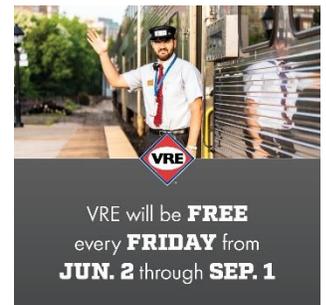
Sign(s) of Progress: Liberty shops begin build

Construction has begun on six of the seven shop locations in the new Liberty Market. By early June, Ledo Pizza, Petite Smiles, and Taco Rock installed their signs and Always Polish'd put up a coming soon banner. Yafa Grill posted on Facebook that they have received their keys and signs of construction are underway. Build out is expected to take four to six months with the restaurants expected to take the longest. The seventh spot is in negotiation, though a letter of intent was signed.

Virginia Railway Express is Free on Fridays

The VRE Board is offering free rides every Friday on both the Fredericksburg and Manassas lines this Summer. Facing sagging ridership post-pandemic, the service hopes to entice new riders travelling to downtown DC from stations such as Lorton, which offers free parking and connection to other public transit. In other train news:

- VRE Management is holding Wednesday pop ups to meet riders and show planned updates to stations such as Alexandria, Crystal City, and L'Enfant. They will be at Franconia/Springfield on July 12th. No Lorton date is planned.
- The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority hosted a webinar and pop-ups for the new third track from Franconia to Lorton, expected to be completed in 2027.



What the South County Federation is doing this summer:

- Our first Adopt-A-Highway cleanup of Lorton Rd was completed with a second planned for September.
- The Federation is reviewing living shorelines legislation passed by the General Assembly and considering a resolution on behalf of our residents on Mason Neck and along the Potomac.
- Congress is debating the transfer of land at Meadowood from the Bureau of Land Management to the Army for care of the horses who pull the caissons at Arlington National Cemetery. If adopted, the property would no longer be accessible to the public.

Join us at our next SCF meeting on Tuesday, July 11th at 7 pm