



UPDATE

THE YEAR THAT WAS 2023

SouthCountyFederation.com

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



Lorton Police Station/ Animal Shelter Opened

The Lorton Police Station and Fairfax County Animal Shelter, Lorton Campus held a ribbon cutting on Oct. 28th. The Shelter is open limited hours Tuesday thru Sunday. The Station will anchor the new Lorton Police District within FCPD, formally launching in 2024.

Other 2023 South County Region Events

- **Captain Morvillo appointed to lead new Lorton District.** He is now working with his first two staff members and will be adding more in 2024. One of his first tasks is forming a Community Advisory Council.
- **New businesses in the area:** Liberty welcomed Lidl, Ledo Pizza, Always Polish'd, Brynmor, and Petite Smiles. Gunston Plaza added Rana Café, Gunston Massage, America's Best Wings, and Sushi Ohayo.
- **Laurel Hill Community Gardens** were completed in July and opened to the public at a discount. There is room for additional plots in the future.
- **Central Green Restrooms under construction:** The Laurel Hill Park pavilion area dedicated a new playground, and the new permanent restrooms will open in 2024.
- **Workhouse Masterplan was completed** with future additions of restaurants (including Bunnyman Brewery) and an amphitheater.
- **Speed cameras on Silverbrook Road** helped reduce the number of speeders during school hours in the zone outside South County High School and Laurel Hill Elementary School.
- **Lorton Road** was repaved from Silverbrook Rd to Rte 1. The Federation adopted the Road between Silverbrook and Workhouse roads and will do two annual cleanups.
- **Local elections were held** with 19 positions on the ballot. The Federation hosted a virtual primary roll call in April and an in-person candidate forum in September at the Lorton Community Center.
- **Design completed for Gunston Fire station;** construction is expected to start in summer 2024 to the west of the existing stationhouse.
- **Federal Transportation funding** brought \$729m for the Long Bridge and other rail projects, which will have an immense impact on travel by 2030.
- **The issue of providing needed recuperation space for the Army's caisson horses** was resolved without transfer of parkland on either Mason Neck or FCPA land. These horses regularly served at Arlington Cemetery.
- **New leadership elected for the Federation** as Wendy Henley assumes the role of President; Nick Firth, Vice President; James Felton, Treasurer; and Keith F. Showlin, Corresponding Secretary, for the next two years.



Join us for our next meeting on Jan. 9th at 7 pm on Zoom