

## Insist That Community Meetings Be In Person!

### **Nomination CPN22-LE-001**

**According to the [Track a Nomination](#) page (under "Community Meeting Info), the County has designated the community meetings as VIRTUAL!**

The County will most likely argue that virtual (online) meetings save time and money, and that they *may* allow more people to take part.

We say...

- Talking in person is more efficient and effective than talking over a webcam or via instant messenger.
- A virtual meeting keeps everyone separated (divide and conquer) and there is no visible or audible "response" by participants to demonstrate a quorum.
- In a virtual meeting, there is no opportunity for participants to interact with each other.
- Tech challenges at a virtual event are common and not everyone is tech-savvy. Many might not be able to access the online meeting because they don't have the skills or resources to do so.
- If a tech fail lasts a significant length of time, the opportunity to engage is lost.
- Not being able to establish a full human connection is problematic for high-stake meetings where negotiations rely on personal connections.
- A virtual conference can't guarantee the exclusive attention of the participants because there are too many distractions. When you're attending an event in person, there is much less to distract you.
- The average "no-show" rate for virtual events is 35%, much higher than in-person events.

In-person meetings are the best forum for our community to express its concerns about the Rose Hill Plaza rezoning nomination.

***We must strongly insist on an in-person meeting.***

### **Contact Today!**

**Franconia (formerly Lee) District Supervisor Rodney Lusk**

Call: 703-971-6262 | TTY 711 (Monday–Friday, 9 am–5 pm)

Email: [LeeDist@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:LeeDist@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Supervisorlusk](https://www.facebook.com/Supervisorlusk)

Mail: Franconia Gov Ctr, 6121 Franconia Rd, Alexandria VA 22310

## Franconia Planning Commissioner Dan Lagana

Email: [Plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov)

## Director Tracy D. Strunk, Department of Planning and Development

Call: 703-324-1380 | TTY 711 (Monday–Friday, 9 am–4 pm)

Email: [Plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Website: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development/>

Mail: 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 801, Fairfax, VA 22035

## Fairfax County Site-Specific Plan Amendment Process

### **SCREENING PHASE** (December 2022 - March 2023)

Community engagement during the Screening Phase will consist of community meetings, which will include County Staff and nominator (Combined Properties) presentations and community discussion. Community meetings will take place in **January 2023**. These are currently designated as virtual meetings.

The Planning Commission also will hold a public workshop in **February 2023** on the nominations, during which staff and the nominators will share presentations, and the public may provide comments. The Planning Commission will offer a *recommendation* to the Board.

### **2023 WORK PROGRAM PHASE** (Begins March 2023)

Nominations added to the Work Program by the Board will be evaluated in greater detail as **Plan Amendments**. The community engagement model and timeline for each Plan Amendment will vary based on the unique circumstances of each amendment, including its level of complexity, the intended development timeline, prioritization with other Plan Amendments currently on the Work Program, and the availability of staff and community resources.

(Source: [https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development/sites/planning-development/files/assets/documents/compplanamend/sspa/countywide/2022\\_2023\\_sspa\\_nominator\\_guide.pdf](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development/sites/planning-development/files/assets/documents/compplanamend/sspa/countywide/2022_2023_sspa_nominator_guide.pdf))

## Coalition In The News!

### **12/19/22: Formal Pitch to Redevelop Rose Hill Shopping Center Emerges, Sparking Neighbor Opposition**

“The pitch by owner Combined Properties—submitted as part of the county’s ongoing Site-Specific Plan Amendment (SSPA) process—argues that the current shopping center reflects an `outdated, auto-oriented concept that contradicts Fairfax county’s goals and objectives.’

If the proposal is approved, the developer would time the overhaul with the end of several leases in 2027.”

Read the full article at <https://www.ffxnow.com/2022/12/19/formal-pitch-to-redevelop-rose-hill-shopping-center-emerges-sparking-neighbor-opposition/>

**Happy Holidays!**

**Share if you care!**

(This email was sent to 84 recipients on the Coalition email list.)

<https://rosehillcoalition.org>