



## Loudoun County, Virginia

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Office of Supervisor Tony Buffington, Blue Ridge District

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

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Dear Rural Economic Development Committee,

Protecting western Loudoun's rural, historic and scenic character for future generations is one of my top priorities and I believe a strong rural economy is one of the most effective means for doing so. That said, it is critically important that we strike an appropriate balance between having a strong rural economy and ensuring a high quality of life for residents.

Over the past year it has become evident to me that many western Loudoun residents are uncomfortable with the current balance. This has proven to be the case on issues such as maintenance and improvement of our rural roads, location and conditions of approval for breweries and banquet/event facilities, and even the mere definition of the types of businesses that should comprise our rural economy.

As such, I believe it would be in the best interest of the future of western Loudoun County for the REDC to lead a collaborative effort resulting in the submission of mutually agreed upon recommendations designed to:

- Define the types of businesses that should comprise our rural economy.
- Improve the balance between maintaining a strong rural economy and ensuring a high quality of life for residents.

I believe this collaborative effort should be inclusive of western Loudoun residents, Visit Loudoun, current business owners, and other groups, organizations and stakeholders interested in the future of western Loudoun County.

I am aware that there has been some level of informal discussion regarding such an effort. Please accept this letter as formal notification of my support and encouragement for the REDC to actively lead and engage in such an effort forthwith, as the County is currently in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan.

As always, I thank you for your dedication to western Loudoun County. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

All my best,

Tony R. Buffington, Jr.

Blue Ridge District Supervisor