



VIRGINIA: A SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE SURRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
HELD IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM OF THE SURRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT
CENTER ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024, 6 PM.

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY

ABSENT:

ALSO

PRESENT: MS. LOLA PERKINS, COUNTY ATTORNEY
MS. MELISSA ROLLINS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MR. DAVID HARRISON, DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MS. DOREATHA PIERCE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
MR. DELON BROWN, NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR, IT DIRECTOR
MR. HORACE WADE, PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
MR. RAY PHELPS, CHIEF OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
MR. STEVEN MORRIS, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
MS. RENEE CHAPLINE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MR. MATT WESTHEIMER, BUILDING OFFICIAL
SHERIFF CARLOS TURNER, SURRY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Invocation

The invocation for tonight's meeting was given by Co-Pastor Saretha Washington, of First Baptist Church Spring Grove.

Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance/Adopt Agenda

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Elliott, who then asked for a moment of silence. Following the moment of silence, he asked those present to stand and recite the pledge of allegiance. Chairperson Elliott advised the following two changes to the agenda:

- *Sycamore Cross Solar, LLC appeal has been deferred to the October Board of Supervisors meeting.*
- *Utility Easement to Prince George Electric Cooperative at Luther P. Jackson Middle School & Surry County High School for Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) was removed for further clarification.*



With no further changes, Supervisor Hardy made a motion to adopt the agenda along with the proposed changes mentioned. Supervisor Drewry seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	AYE
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN	AYE
SUPERVISOR AMY DREWRY	AYE
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	AYE

Consent Items

1. Approval of Draft BOS Minutes - August 1, 2024
2. Approval of Draft BOS Work Session Minutes - August 15, 2024
3. Resolution: Senior Recognition Mr. Proverb Henry Judkins
4. Resolution for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, October 2024
6. Budget Amendment FY 24-25 Victim Witness Grant
7. Accounts Payable - August 2024 - \$1,123,845.33

Supervisor Elliott read the items listed for consent and asked that item three, Resolution: Senior Recognition Mr. Proverb Henry Judkins, be removed to be read aloud. With no additional changes, Supervisor Drewry made a motion to approve the consent items as enumerated. Supervisor Calhoun seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

Resolution: Senior Recognition Mr. Proverb Henry Judkins

Supervisor Drewry read aloud the resolution recognizing Mr. Proverb Henry Judkins reaching the age of ninety years old.

Public Hearing

Public Hearing to Consider Adopting an Ordinance to Establish Twice-a-Year Tax Billing for Real Estate and Personal Property



A public hearing was held to consider an ordinance to establish a twice-year billing cycle for real estate and personal property taxes. This means that the current annual tax payment due on December 5th each year, will be split into two payments, dividing the yearly tax payment into smaller increments (June 5th and December 5th). If approved, this will be effective for Tax Year 2025, which means the first 1/2 payment will be due in June 2025 and the second 1/2 payment will be due in December 2025. The December 2024 full year payment already assessed (Tax Year 2024) will be due as scheduled on December 5, 2024.

Order of Public Hearing -

Chair Elliott opened the public hearing.

- I. Presentation by Staff – Melissa Rollins, County Administrator
- II. Open the Floor for Public Comments –
 - a. Henry Goodrich, Dendron District – Opposed Farmer
 - b. Glenn Slade, Bacon’s Castle - Opposed Farmer / Landowner
 - c. Brad Monahan, Dendron District - Opposed Farmer
 - d. Michael Drewry, Dendron District – Opposed Landowner
 - e. Mike Eggleston, Dendron District - Opposed
 - f. Charlome Pierce, Bacon’s Castle - Opposed
 - g. Susan Corvello, Carsley - Opposed
 - h. Elva Clayton, Claremont – Support
 - i. Helen Eggleston, Dendron District -Opposed
 - j. Chelsie Skinner, Surry District – Opposed Landowner
 - k. Thomas Maynes, Surry District - Opposed
 - l. Robert Chandler, Bacon’s Castle - Opposed
 - m. Dr. Danielle Shay, Surry District - Opposed
 - n. Kathleen Weidner, Dendron District – Opposed
 - o. Kim Hayes, Dendron District – Opposed
 - p. Bill Etchison, Surry District – Opposed



- q. Dwayne Perry, Claremont District - Opposed
- r. Marvin Thorton, Dendron District – Opposed

III. Close the Public Hearing – Chair Elliott closed the public hearing

IV. Comments from Board Members

- a. Supervisor Hardy motioned to table this item for further discussion.
- b. Supervisor Drewry seconded the motion.
- c. Supervisor Elliott provided a tentative date for Monday, September 17, 2024.

V. Close the Public Hearing – Chair Elliott closed the public hearing

Presentations

AES Update on Cavalier Solar - Ben Saunders

County Administrator's Report

Economic Development Update – Renee Chapline, Director of Economic Development

- Farmers Feed the World App
- Love Sign Project
- EV Infrastructure
- Main Street Program – October 22, 2024, at Parks & Rec
- 2024 Tribal Powwow September 21 -22, 2024, at Parks & Rec
- Surry Marketplace Soft Opening – Saturday, September 14, 2024
 - Cherly White
 - Michelle Brown



New Business

1. Landscaping & Mowing Contract Award

The county has received quotes for landscaping and lawn mowing services at various county sites. Funding was included in the FY 2025 maintenance budget for this service. Four contractors responded to the Request for Proposal. Based on the lowest and most responsive bids, the total cost to maintain County grounds for the various sites is \$62,103.32 from Williams Landscape & Design. Additional scope of services includes but is not limited to leaf and debris removal, mulching (removal and replacement), and tree limb trimming.

Supervisor Hardy made a motion to approve the mentioned contract with Williams Landscape & Design as presented. Supervisor Pierce seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

2. Payment to HRSD Marina Drive to Town Extension of Sewerage System Per Agreement

In October 2019, the County entered into a cost-sharing agreement with the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) to extend the sanitary sewer collection system serving the Town of Surry to the Marina to convey and transport wastewater from the Marina and points in between to HRSD's sanitary sewer collection system. The Surry Hydraulic Improvement & Forcemain Project was not completed until 2023. The agreement stipulated that the County would reimburse HRSD 20% of the costs, not to exceed \$320,000. The Project Total was \$2,065,193. The 20% Reimbursement Rate = \$413,038.60, which exceeds the \$320,000 per agreement.

Supervisor Pierce made a motion to approve the reimbursement to HRSD for 20% of the costs, not exceeding \$320,000 as presented in the agreement. Supervisor Hardy seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)



3. Reassessment Appraisal Service Contract Award

Prior Board Action: During the August 2024 meeting, the Board of Supervisors authorized the County to perform a limited-scope reassessment for 2025 based on data received from the Commissioner of Revenue that followed a presentation from Wingate Appraisal Services.

Movement in the real estate market reflects a downward trend in the media ratio to a point that it negatively affects public service values and creates a loss in revenue without a real estate tax rate adjustment.

The County received quotes for Reassessment Appraisal Services. Three contractors responded to the Request for Quotes, with only one contractor submitting a bid (See Bid Tabulation). Wingate Appraisal Services responded with a cost to perform the work of \$180,000.

Breakdown of costs: \$18,000 allowance for assessing, photographing, and entering the property characteristics and data for the 2024 building permits (typically about 400 permits at \$45 each). \$6500 is for the 325 +/- Manufactured Homes (\$20 each). The remaining \$155,500 is for the 6,400 parcels or about \$24.30 / parcel for market analysis, data stratification, model calibration, owner notification of assessment change, administrative hearings, and other assessment functions required by statute and or agreement. The funding source is fund balance.

Supervisor Hardy made a motion to approve the Reassessment Appraisal Service Contract Award to Wingate Appraisal Service. Supervisor Pierce seconded the motion. Supervisors Elliott, Pierce, Calhoun, and Hardy all voted affirmatively. Supervisor Drewry voted Nay. (Approved)

Public Comments

- 1 Robert Chandler, Bacon's Castle District – Meeting Times



2 Susan Corvello, Carsley District – Transparency

3 Dr. Danielle Shay, Surry District - Public Engagement/Citizen Engagement

Board Comments

- Supervisor Hardy – Remarks on Surry Market Place, Birthday wishes to Melissa Rollins, County Administrator, Visited Elementary School, Seniors in at Dendron Community Center, Appointment to Commission Committee, Community Economic and Workforce Development policy
- Supervisor Calhoun – Thanked citizens for their engagement, Thanked AES for their presentation, Stated EV stations would be great for the county. Thanked Ms. White and Ms. Brown from Surry Marketplace.
- Supervisor Drewry – Thanked farmers and citizens for their attendance, Meeting Times, Opposed to Twice per Year
- Supervisor Pierce – Remarks on 55+ Initiative, Thanked County staff for greeting students on their first day, Schools are running out of Chromebooks/shows an increase in enrollment. Congratulated Surry Marketplace on its opening,
- Ms. Rollins – Congratulated Boards Members on their new appointments as a byproduct of their attendance at the NACo Conference.
- Supervisor Elliott Assured citizens that, as a Board Member, his aim is to improve the County as a whole. Clarified that the county is not experiencing any kind of cash deficit.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, Supervisor Hardy made a motion that the Board adjourn their meeting tentatively until Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 6 p.m. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Pierce. All present voted affirmatively. (Approved)

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the Surry County Government Website: <https://www.surrycountyva.gov/387/Watch-A-Meeting>

Twice a Year Tax Billing Public Hearing

9/12/24

Why is this Being Considered?

- Increased citizen satisfaction
 - In response to requests to reduce the burden of paying annual real estate taxes during the December holiday season, leading to higher citizen satisfaction
 - Twice a Year Billing can make it easier for residents to manage their payments, potentially reducing the number of delinquent accounts and improving overall collection rates.
- Citizens can still have the option to pre-pay taxes or at all once; the Treasurer accepts payments throughout the year if a taxpayer desires to prepay – this applies to current taxes only without incurring penalties and interest.

Question: How can this option be further made known to citizens?

Prepayment Notice

[Home](#) › [Government](#) › [County Officials](#) › [Treasurer's Office](#) › Prepayment of Taxes

Prepayment of Taxes

Tax payers who are current on their real estate and/or personal property taxes can make prepayments on their upcoming tax bills. Citizens may pay any amount at any time toward the forthcoming bill. Payments should reference a tax map number for real estate payments or an account number for personal property payments.

When taxpayers receive their bills, prepayments will appear as credits. Citizens may even pay the bill in its entirety long before the due date.

Contact Information

For additional information, taxpayers may contact the Treasurer's Office by calling 757-294-5206.

PREPAY TAXES

- Citizens can prepay real estate or personal property taxes at any time. **ONLY ESTIMATED/CURRENT TAXES**
- Payments should include the tax map or account number.
- Prepaid amounts will appear as credits on the final bill.
- Full payments can be made early.

Contact the Treasurer's Office for More Information

☎ 757-294-5206

🌐 www.surrycountyva.gov



Prepaying at anytime applies to current taxes only. If you pay anytime on delinquent taxes, you will incur penalties and interest on all overdue balances.

Fact: If you pay your taxes after the due date, you will incur penalties and interest. The PREPAYMENT AT ANYTIME WITHOUT PENALTY & INTEREST ONLY APPLIES TO CURRENT TAXES.

Example: I know my December 2024 payment will be coming, so I decided to start paying early. I am not receiving a bill from the Treasurer, I am walking in or sending in a payment at my discretion. I estimated my tax payment and when December 5th hits, I have paid in full or will pay any amount due.

(may require inquiry with Commissioner to estimate tax)

Fact: The credits from making prepayments will reflect on the upcoming bill, and if there is a remaining balance it will show on the bill when you receive it. If a taxpayer is delinquent on any year of taxes, they are not able to prepay towards the upcoming tax cycle.

Requirements

- ❑ **Advance Budget Adoption** – The switch would mean earlier adoption in April or setting of tax rate in April prior to Budget Adoption)
- ❑ Budget calendar revision (drafted)
- ❑ Considerations – Limited scope Reassessment with budget projections
- ❑ **Tax Relief for the Elderly application** will have to coincide with the new billing schedule (currently due May 1 – suggested date – April 1st)
- ❑ **Staff Resources** – mailing costs, options for what resources are needed
- ❑ **Effective Communication-** Early Education of the Change
- ❑ The implementation of a **new tax billing system** could take anywhere from 6 – 12 months. Staff has explored viable options (i.e. current system, a new system that could accommodate the change in time for the billing cycle change, or transitioning to a new tax system into late FY 26.

New Software Is Needed With or Without A Billing Cycle Change

Fact: The county is currently undergoing a new financial software system implementation that **REQUIRES** a change in the billing software for assessing and billing taxes.

Fact: Regardless of the a twice a year tax billing cycle change, the County will still incur this costs
Current system -obsolete

Fact: Options are still being explored with the most recent option costing:
\$330,000

What would the new billing cycle look like?

FY 2024-2025 - Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes Due December 2024 (Full-year taxes already assessed)



FY 2024-2025 – First ½ of the real estate and personal property taxes will be due (June 5th 2025)

Creates a one-time cash influx



Takes getting used to - For the first time change, the date can be extended by the Board via a resolution without penalty and interest for an established time frame



FY 2025-2026 – Second ½ of real estate and personal property taxes will be due (December 5, 2025)



FY 2025-2026 - First ½ of the real estate and personal property taxes will be due (June 5, 2026)

The Community has many needs, the county and schools have aging infrastructure to upkeep, maintain and replace; fostering dialogue as to use of one-time funding sources with the assistance of the Financial Advisor could occur

[illegible]

Final tips & takeaways



Decide whether to adopt an ordinance implementing twice a year tax billing.

Cavalier Solar

Surry County, VA
Board of Supervisors

Construction & Traffic Management Updates



Thursday, September 12, 2024



Construction Update

Civil Work 97% complete

- Landscaping efforts to re-commence in October for planting veg buffers

Deliveries 99% complete

- Staging area at Mount Nebo has been decommissioned
- Spares and replacements only deliveries remaining

Energization

- All arrays energized by end of September
- Commercial Operations Date targeted for October 31, 2024



Traffic Update

Site Traffic

- Currently 65 employees on site
- Expected to decrease to less than 50 employees on site daily by end of September
- Majority of workforce focused on northern arrays along Whitemarsh Road

Coordination with Sheriff's Office

- Patrolling Monday through Friday, since August 19
- 6:00AM – 9:00 AM & 3:00 PM – 6:00PM
- Dependent on availability



Ditch repair, seeding, and shoulder work along Bellevue Road

Road Repairs

Complete

- Shoulder repair on Bellevue Rd. and Mullet Dr.
- Ditch work and grassing in select areas of Bellevue and Mullet Dr.
- Culverts exposed and cleaned out at Whitemarsh and Beechland intersection

Remaining Repairs and Proposed Timing

- Beechland / Jones Drive to be milled and resurfaced from Burwells Bay through Whitemarsh intersection, expect to complete in 45 days
- Intersection of Whitemarsh and Beechland to be resurfaced, expect to complete within 45 days
- Whitemarsh shoulders and surface to be addressed upon completion of construction



*Additional
shoulder repair on
Bellevue Rd*

Thank you...

For updates, please visit.....

→ www.aes.com/virginia/project/cavalier-solar-project



AES' Cavalier solar project, which is currently under construction, incorporates the most advanced solar energy technologies to support the Commonwealth's goal to transition its electric grid to 100% clean energy by 2050. AES developed and will own and operate the Cavalier Solar facility when construction is completed in late 2024.

SURRY COUNTY BUILDING OFFICIAL'S OFFICE

MONTHLY REPORT

Building Permits Issued for the Month of **July 2024**

Total Permits Issued for Surry County Va.

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>FEES</u>
New Construction	2	\$ 390,800.00	\$ 1,180.42
Manufactured Homes.Doublewide			
S-F Dwelling	2	\$ 390,800.00	\$ 1,180.42
Two Family Dwelling		\$ -	\$ -
Singlewide Mobile Homes			
Commercial			
Additions/Renovations	6	\$ 403,168.80	\$ 2,839.60
Garage	2	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 550.72
Additions	2	\$ 35,168.80	\$ 427.38
Commercial Addition	2	\$ 228,000.00	\$ 1,861.50
Renovations			
Storage Building/Shed	0	\$ -	\$ -
Electrical	6	\$ 5,900.00	\$ 856.02
Electrical Commercial			
Plumbing	2	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 346.02
Mechanical	5	\$ 11,050.00	\$ 565.10
Demolition	1	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 147.90
<u>TOTAL</u>	22	\$ 825,918.80	\$ 5,935.06

INSPECTIONS

Number of inspections performed 65

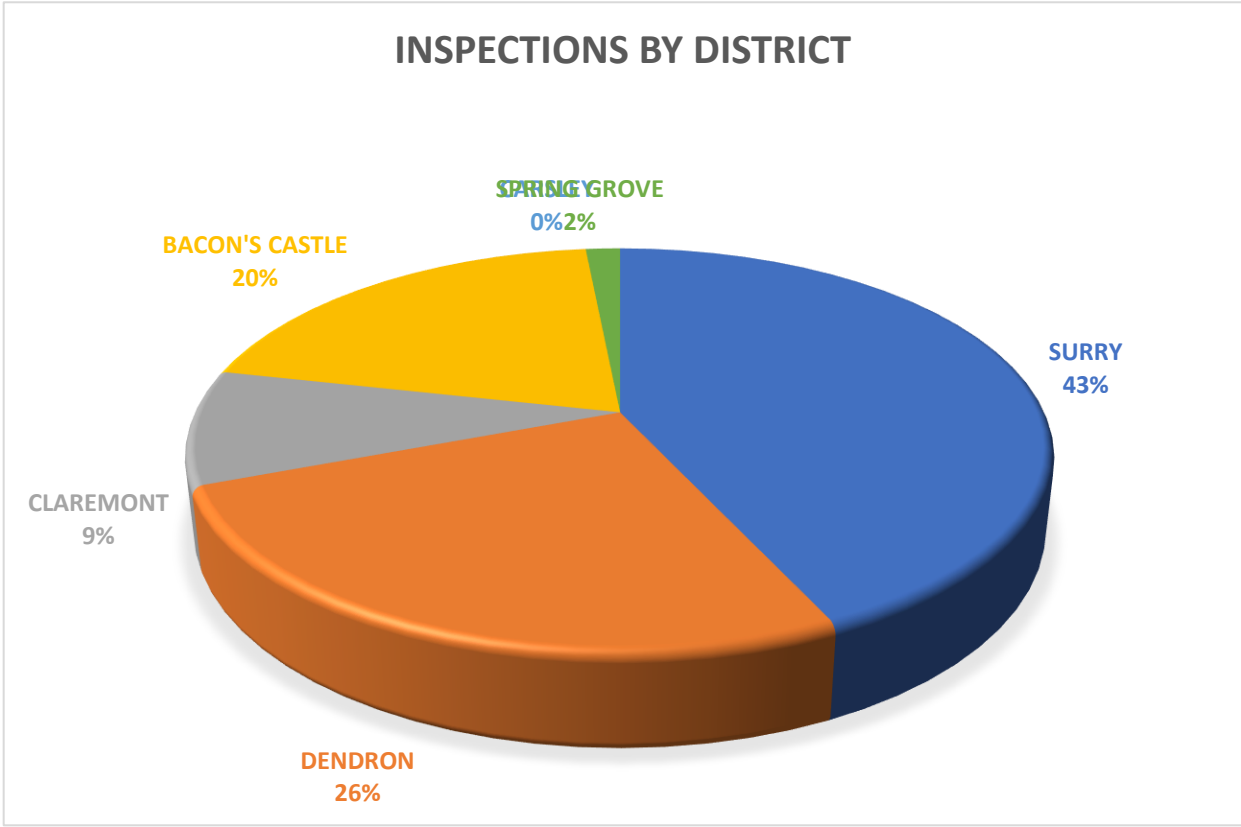
Plans Reviewed within 10 business Day 100%

Inspections conducted within 24 hrs. 100%



SURRY COUNTY
INSPECTIONS PERFORMED BY DISTRICT
JULY 2024

DISTRICT	INSPECTIONS
SURRY	28
DENDRON	17
CLAREMONT	6
BACON'S CASTLE	13
CARSLEY	0
SPRING GROVE	1





CONSTRUCTION NOTICE
Spring Grove
September 2024

Lebanon Road Sewer Repair

--Utility Work to Begin--

- HRSD, your regional wastewater treatment utility, is undertaking a project to repair a section of the sanitary sewer piping along Lebanon Road (Route 626), near Sycamore Road. This work will take place primarily between 8am-5pm.

HELPFUL INFORMATION:

- **Beginning as early as September 9th, HRSD's contractor will begin sewer pipeline repair work in the vicinity of your home/business along Lebanon Road (Route 626).**
- **Lebanon Road (Route 626), between Sycamore Road and 315 Lebanon Road will be closed to through traffic for 24-hours per day for the duration of this work. Through traffic will be detoured utilizing Rocky Bottom Road (Route 620) and Rolfe Highway (Route 31).**
 - **Residents between Sycamore Road and south to Rolfe Highway can access their residence via the Rolfe Highway entrance to Lebanon Road.**
 - **Residents on Sycamore Road and residents between Sycamore Road and north to Rocky Bottom Road can access their residence via the Rocky Bottom Road entrance to Lebanon Road.**
- Local traffic should be aware that traffic patterns will shift and will include partial street closures. Traffic control measures will be in place. Access to homes/businesses will be maintained.
- This work should not affect your water or sewer services.
- This work is expected to be completed within 5-8 weeks. Work is weather and situation dependent, and dates are subject to be extended.

While our project team works diligently to minimize impacts, you may notice increased noise, traffic, work crews and equipment (with back-up safety alarms) entering and exiting the site associated with this work. Please take care when traveling around the construction area and for your safety, do not enter the site.

Thank you for your support of this effort to help achieve HRSD's vision: ***Our communities will have clean waterways and reliable water resources for generations to come.***

Should you have any questions or comments, you may contact:

HRSD Public Information Specialist:
Lisa Bolen
(757) 460-7000
projects@hrsd.com

Onsite Inspector
(Emergent Concerns):
Craig Pearson
(757) 497-2643



Traffic Advisory

Media Contact:
Leila Rice, APR – 757.460.7056
Director of Communications
lrice@hrsd.com

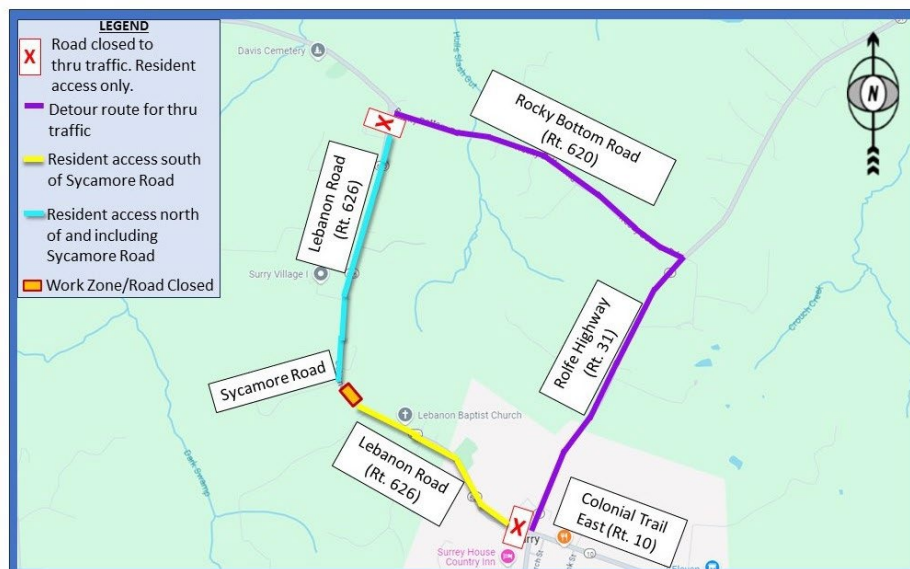
For Immediate Release
September 5, 2024

ROAD CLOSURE SCHEDULED ON LEBANON ROAD (ROUTE 626) NEAR SYCAMORE ROAD FOR UTILITY WORK

SURRY – Motorists are advised that [HRSD](https://www.hrsd.com) crews will be performing a sanitary sewer pipeline repair on Lebanon Road (Route 626) near Sycamore Road that requires a road closure between Sycamore Road and 315 Lebanon Road. During this work, through traffic will follow a signed detour using Rolfe Highway (Route 31) and Rocky Bottom Road (Route 620) as indicated on the map below. The detour is scheduled to begin as early as September 9 and is expected to remain in place 24 hours a day through mid-October. Local traffic will continue to have access to homes/businesses:

- Residents between Sycamore Road and south to Rolfe Highway can access their residence via the Rolfe Highway entrance to Lebanon Road.
- Residents on Sycamore Road and residents between Sycamore Road and north to Rocky Bottom Road can access their residence via the Rocky Bottom Road entrance to Lebanon Road.

This work is weather dependent and subject to change or require additional time. Please visit the [Newsroom](https://www.hrsd.com/newsroom) on [HRSD.com](https://www.hrsd.com) for schedule changes.



HRSD's promise is to treat wastewater and recover natural resources to protect public health and the environment. A political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, HRSD was created by public referendum in 1940 and currently serves 20 cities and counties in southeast Virginia, an area with a population of 1.9 million.

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