



# INSIDENOVA

## PRINCE WILLIAM



\$1

MARCH 3 - 9, 2022

WWW.INSIDENOVA.COM

# Woodbridge Commanders?



The two Prince William County sites reportedly under consideration for a new stadium for the Washington Commanders NFL team are in the Potomac Shores development (left photo) and on undeveloped land near Telegraph and Summit School roads in Woodbridge. Summit School road will eventually be extended to the commuter parking lots shown in the lower part of the photo. The aerial photos were taken last summer. **ROGER SNYDER | FOR INSIDENOVA**

## County leaders mum as NFL team eyes two Prince William sites

» BY NOLAN STOUT  
nstout@insidenova.com

Prince William County leaders aren't talking about two sites in the county that have been identified as potential locations for the Washington Commanders' new stadium and practice facility.

Documents reviewed and first reported by WUSA9 last week and later confirmed by the Washington Post show that the team is considering vacant land off Telegraph and Summit School roads in Woodbridge near Interstate 95 and within the Potomac Shores development east of

Dumfries.

A third site under consideration is in the Sterling area of Loudoun County, just east of Route 28 and north of the Dulles Toll Road, near Dulles International Airport.

Officials of the NFL team, currently based in Ashburn, have been meeting with state legislators and local officials since late last year. The Commanders' lease at FedEx Field in Landover, Md., ends in 2027. The stadium was built in 1997.

The Woodbridge location would be accessible from Telegraph and Summit School roads and border existing

residential development off Summit School Road.

Potomac Shores is an ongoing development off U.S. 1 near Powells Creek. Of the three sites, it is the farthest from Washington.

The Washington Post reported that the Potomac Shores site would include a marina attached to a resort, plus residential developments and a nearby Metro station. A study released by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation in October estimated a Metro ex-

STADIUM » PAGE 14

### INSIDE



#### The Prince William Chamber recognizes top local businesses

» 32-PAGE SPECIAL PULLOUT SECTION

#### First data center rezoning filed for Pageland property

» PAGE 6

#### Battlefield student headed to Paralympics

» SPORTS, PAGE 24



#### Meet the 41 young spellers who will compete in next week's regional bee

» PAGES 16-17

**MAY YOUR CLOVERS HAVE LEAVES OF FOUR and may your LUCK be evermore!**

**\$29** WHOLE HOME ELECTRICAL OR PLUMBING SAFETY INSPECTION

**\$146 OFF** INDOOR UV AIR PURIFIER OR WATER HEATER

SCAN HERE TO SCHEDULE

**APPLETON CAMPBELL**  
PLUMBING • HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING • ELECTRICAL  
Honesty, Integrity & Experience Since 1976

**(703) 454-8072**  
appletoncampbell.com

PRINCE WILLIAM TODAY

8 57144 00400 1

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

INSIDENOVA.COM/SUBSCRIBE

SUBSCRIBE@INSIDENOVA.COM

CALL: 703-318-1386





# INSIDENOVA

## PRINCE WILLIAM



\$1 NOVEMBER 3 - 9, 2022

WWW.INSIDENOVA.COM

# DATA-THON

## Digital Gateway approved after 14-hour meeting

» BY NOLAN STOUT  
nstout@insidenova.com

Well after the sun rose Wednesday, the page turned to the next chapter for Prince William County – for better or for worse.

Around 9:40 a.m. Wednesday, at the end of a meeting that lasted more than 14 hours, the Board of County Supervisors voted 5-2 along party lines to amend the county's Comprehensive Plan to create the PW Digital Gateway data center complex.

Democratic supervisors Ann Wheeler (At-Large), Kenny Boddye (Occoquan), Andrea Bailey (Potomac) and Margaret Franklin (Woodbridge) voted in favor of the plan. Republican supervisors Yesli Vega (Coles) and Jeanine Lawson (Brentsville) voted against it.

"This is a bold plan, and it will change the landscape of Prince William County," Wheeler said before the vote.

Supervisor Pete Candland, R-Gainesville, whose district includes the land in the plan, was barred from voting after he signed onto the proposal nearly a year ago. When County Attorney Michelle Robl announced his absence at the start of the meeting Tuesday night, many people watching the meeting in the atrium at the county government center booed.

The project, which proposes 27.6 million square feet of data centers on 2,139 acres along Pageland Lane, became the most controversial and contentious local land-use proposal in decades. Opponents and proponents launched personal attacks against each other, and it spawned recall efforts against Candland and Wheeler, a federal lawsuit against Candland and a federal lawsuit between landowners and



Prince William County Chair Ann Wheeler and supervisors Andrea Bailey and Margaret Franklin voted in support of the PW Digital Gateway plan during a meeting that began Tuesday night and stretched well into Wednesday morning. TAVAN SMITH | FOR INSIDENOVA

“This is a bold plan, and it will change the landscape of Prince William County.”

— ANN WHEELER, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAIR, SUPPORTER OF DIGITAL GATEWAY

“What I’m fearful of is that Prince William County is going to become the concrete belt.”

— JEANINE LAWSON, BRENTSVILLE DISTRICT SUPERVISOR, OPPONENT OF DIGITAL GATEWAY



Local residents packed into the McCoart Administration Building Tuesday night before the PW Digital Gateway vote. TAVAN SMITH | FOR INSIDENOVA

GATEWAY » PAGE 2



**Election Day nears**  
Four pages of coverage inside  
» SPECIAL SECTION

**Parental notification**  
Board considers new policy  
» EDUCATION, PAGE 4

**Brava for Bravo**  
Female kicker a fan favorite  
» SPORTS, PAGE 16

**BEAT THE RUSH!**

**\$49**

HEAT PUMP / GAS FURNACE SAFETY INSPECTION

call now!  
(703) 454-8072  
appletoncampbell.com

2022 BEST OF PRINCE WILLIAM

**APPLETON CAMPBELL**

PLUMBING • HEATING  
AIR CONDITIONING • ELECTRICAL  
Built on Trust Since 1976

PRINCE WILLIAM TODAY

8 57144 00400 1

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

INSIDENOVA.COM/SUBSCRIBE

SUBSCRIBE@INSIDENOVA.COM  
CALL: 703-318-1386





# INSIDENOVA

## PRINCE WILLIAM



\$1 NOVEMBER 10 - 16, 2022

WWW.INSIDENOVA.COM

### HOW WE VOTED

CONGRESS (7th District)		
	Prince William	District
Abigail Spanberger (D)*	52,409 (67.5%)	140,120 (51.8%)
Yesli Vega (R)	25,002 (32.2%)	129,561 (47.9%)
CONGRESS (10th District)		
	Prince William	District
Jennifer Wexton (D)*	42,730 (51.1%)	152,557 (52.8%)
Hung Cao (R)	40,815 (48.8%)	135,575 (47%)

In 10th District race, Prince William results include the county as well as the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park.



Incumbent Rep. Jennifer Wexton, shown here on Election Day in Warrenton, won a third term in Tuesday's election. Read the full story on Page 6. JAMES JARVIS | FOR INSIDENOVA

### MANASSAS CITY COUNCIL

Three seats open

	Total
Theresa Coates Ellis (R)*	5,314 (18.9%)
Sonia R. Vasquez Luna (D)	4,825 (17.2%)
Ralph J. Smith (D)*	4,699 (16.7%)
Lynn Forkell Greene (R)*	4,523 (16.1%)
Dheeraj "DJ" Jagadev (D)	4,435 (15.8%)
R.E. "Rick" Bookwalter (R)	4,269 (15.2%)

### MANASSAS SCHOOL BOARD

Three seats open

	Total
Lisa Anne Stevens*	4,932 (17.9%)
Sara J. Brescia	4,924 (17.8%)
Jill M. Spall*	4,650 (16.9%)
Samuel S. Gross	4,534 (16.4%)
Abraham A. "Alex" Iqbal*	4,350 (15.8%)
Melony M. "Mel" Kent	4,139 (15%)

### DUMFRIES MAYOR

	Total
Derrick R. Wood*	616 (56.3%)
Ebony E. Lofton	467 (42.7%)

\* - Incumbent

Results as of Wednesday afternoon. Absentee ballots postmarked by Tuesday will be counted if received Friday by noon. Visit InsideNoVa.com for updated results on all races.

# HANGING ON



U.S. Rep. Abigail Spanberger celebrates her re-election in Virginia's 7th Congressional District during a victory party in Fredericksburg Tuesday. TAVAN SMITH | FOR INSIDENOVA

## Spanberger fends off challenge from Vega

» BY NOLAN STOUT  
nstout@insidenova.com

Democratic U.S. Rep. Abigail Spanberger will keep her seat, but she'll be representing a new set of people.

Spanberger narrowly fended off a challenge from Prince William County Supervisor Yesli Vega, R-Coles, in Tuesday's election for the 7th Congressional District.

As of Wednesday afternoon, Spanberger had a 10,815-vote lead, with 140,185 votes to Vega's 129,370, according to unofficial results from the Virginia Department of Elections.

Spanberger declared victory Tuesday at an election night party in Fredericksburg.

"Tonight is a night to celebrate," she said. "So tonight, as we celebrate, I ask that you reflect on how we can serve our communities, how we can bridge divides, how we can show through our actions a commitment to each other, the truth and the future we want to create for our country, our commonwealth and our communities."

Spanberger's win helped Democrats hold two of three tightly contested seats in Virginia in Tuesday's election. The 7th District in particular was seen as a bellwether for whether Republicans would capture a majority of seats in the U.S.



Supervisor and congressional candidate Yesli Vega at her watch party Tuesday. ANDREW FAREWELL | FOR INSIDENOVA

7TH DISTRICT » PAGE 8

### MORE ELECTION NEWS INSIDE

**Dumfries mayor secures new term**

» PAGE 3

**New School Board takes shape in Manassas**

» PAGE 4

**Neck-and-neck race for Manassas Council**

» PAGE 7

**MOUNTCASTLE TURCH** FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.  
A Life Celebration Home

13318 Occoquan Rd., Woodbridge, VA 22191  
(703) 494-2000



Serving our community since 1962

www.mountcastle.net

Voted Best funeral Home Again for 2019



4143 Dale Blvd., Dale City, VA 22193  
(703) 680-1234

PRINCE WILLIAM TODAY



8 57144 00400 1

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

INSIDENOVA.COM/SUBSCRIBE

SUBSCRIBE@INSIDENOVA.COM

CALL: 703-318-1386