



BIZVOTES QUESTIONNAIRE



INFORMING THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND ENCOURAGING
POLITICAL AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT.

2011 Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce Board of Supervisors Candidate Questionnaire Ashburn District

1. What is the biggest issue/challenge you believe Loudoun faces in the upcoming term? Please use list format.

Ralph Buona (R)

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Providing necessary infrastructure such as schools and transportation, while keeping already high local taxes under control is the biggest challenge facing the next BOS. This must be accomplished while maintaining the County's AAA credit rating to ensure the lowest costs of capital. We must think differently about how we provide/fund these requirements, reprioritize County spending, and shift County revenue sources through economic development efforts. This not only creates local jobs but also provides new revenues, alleviating our over-reliance on residential property tax revenues.

Valdis Ronis (D)

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Our greatest challenge for the next Board will continue to be growth management, which for me consists of several intertwined issues; economic development, tax rates, land use planning, getting our much-needed Capital Facilities built, and solving our transportation problems. The challenges we face today as a result of 84% population growth over the past decade cannot be easily solved. I'm a strong advocate for sustainable solutions, which means that I'm a proponent of thinking big picture and long term, and avoiding politically expedient quick fixes that may create additional future problems.

2. How do you propose to address this challenge?

Ralph Buona (R)

As mentioned in the previous response, a big part of meeting this challenge is to change our tax mix. We must redouble our efforts on economic development moving into new target sectors amongst other initiatives. This will increase the commercial tax base which at this time only comprises approximately 18% of Loudoun's local revenues. We must continue to focus County spending on core government services while still investing in economic development initiatives to stimulate commercial growth. Please reference my website (www.ralph2011.com) for a detailed position on economic development.

Valdis Ronis (D)

Bringing constituencies together is a core theme of my campaign. None of our problems can be solved without dialogue and collaboration between stakeholders. My approach has always been to facilitate dialogue between stakeholders, find common ground, identify the root issue(s), build collaboration and consensus, and then implement the agreed upon plan. I've enjoyed a lot of success through this process. As Supervisor, I'll work closely with members of the School Board, Planning Commission, advisory boards, county staff, citizens, and local business leaders to identify solutions to our problems.



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3. Please detail the specific opportunities or regulatory measures that, if elected, you will work to see implemented to support the private sector's efforts to create jobs and make commercial investment in Loudoun County.

Ralph Buona (R)

We must make it easier for businesses to do business and make investments in Loudoun. A common issue I hear is that new requirements "pop up" late in the application process. We must change our culture to view business investment as a positive. We must streamline processes and we must strive for predictable processes for applicants. For key prospects, we must assign an advocate to them to shepherd them through the County's processes. As a Supervisor, I would be involved in all major applications especially those in my District ensuring that the investor is treated fairly and consistently.

Valdis Ronis (D)

As Supervisor, I will prioritize expansion of our commercial tax base. To be successful, we must compete with neighboring jurisdictions. I'll work to keep Loudoun competitive by maintaining the quality of our school system, improving our transportation options, and work with state officials to invest locally-generated tax dollars back into Loudoun. I'll also work to help make Loudoun more business-friendly by reviewing and where possible smoothing and simplifying approval processes for forward-thinking, environmentally-responsible businesses wishing to locate in or expand within Loudoun.



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4. What is your vision for supporting and growing the tourism industry in Loudoun County, and what changes do you feel are necessary to improve the infrastructure in the County to better support the success and growth of tourism and related economic development that can come with it?

Ralph Buona (R)

Tourism generates outside TOT and other revenues for the County while helping our local industries (e.g., hospitality, retail). Marketing both leisure and business tourism is key so we must continue or accelerate our investment in the LCVA. On the leisure side we must promote our wineries, weddings, proximity to D.C., and events. We have significant conference facilities to promote large business conferences and educational/training events. Metro completion and proximity to Dulles also create a significant opportunity for greatly increased tourism potential even from international sources.

Valdis Ronis (D)

With an abundance of natural beauty and history, and proximity to Dulles International Airport and our nation's capital, Loudoun is well positioned for business travel and tourism. A comprehensive economic development strategy for Loudoun must leverage these assets and encourage more business and leisure travel to the county. A tangible goal could be increasing business travel, particularly meetings and conventions, within Loudoun which would generate sales revenue for local businesses and valuable exposure for our county as a business and travel destination.



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5. It is clear that Northern Virginia will not be able to count on the state or federal government to fully meet its transportation needs. As a rapidly growing jurisdiction, Loudoun County has unique challenges in the area of transportation. What actions do you believe Loudoun County should take at the local level to ensure citizens and businesses have an efficient multimodal transportation system?

Ralph Buona (R)

A holistic approach focusing on multimodal transportation options is required to ensure efficient transportation throughout our region/Loudoun. While funds have been non-existent from the Commonwealth for some time, local elected officials must work with our representatives in Richmond to promote long-term, sustainable funding options. We must think regionally and preserve right-of-ways for corridors that flow through multiple jurisdictions. This is key to unlocking the economic potential of Dulles Airport and harvesting the economic potential of any future river crossing. Locally, we can make incremental improvements that are low cost yet yield substantial results. Accelerating proffers, facilitating bonding requirements, using low cost funding to finance cash in lieu of arrangements can allow us to finish many grid segments such as Gloucester, Loudoun County, Riverside, and Claiborne Parkways, Tall Cedars, and Russell Branch to name a few. Phase 2 of Metro is key to economic growth but this must be done at the lowest cost possible to minimize taxes/tolls. Finally, we must complete key segments of biking/walking trails (e.g., to the W&OD Trail), particularly in Eastern Loudoun.

Valdis Ronis (D)

Northern Virginia continues to be an economic engine for both the Commonwealth and the metropolitan DC region. As residents, we must demand that a fair share of taxes generated within our region be invested locally. An example of this would be state and federal assistance for locally-prioritized transportation improvements. While significant road improvements are needed in critical areas such as the Route 7, 15, 28, 50, and 606 corridors, simply continuing to add more pavement is not a sustainable solution. A sustainable solution would provide us a variety of transportation options as alternatives to single-occupant vehicles. Those options could include Metro, express buses, carpools and vanpools, circulator buses, and bicycle and pedestrian paths. As Supervisor, I'll be a strong advocate for interconnections between new and existing developments.



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6. It is the Chamber's view that the County's commercial tax base should be grown through expanded economic development, not through increasing taxes on existing businesses. Balancing the commercial tax base with the residential tax base is essential to the continued growth of Loudoun County and the stabilization of its tax base. In your view, what is the optimal ratio of commercial to residential tax base in order to achieve a balanced fiscal structure in the County and how would you propose to achieve this goal?

Ralph Buona (R)

Excluding funds from Richmond, Loudoun's current revenue mix is 82% residential, 18% commercial. Residents consume \$2.00 of services for every \$1.00 of taxes paid. Businesses consume \$0.33 of services for every \$1.00 of taxes paid. While an optimum ratio depends on what target is set for a tax rate for assessed values, a mix of 65-70% residential with the rest commercial would provide greatly reduced residential taxes, new jobs, and adequate monies for services and projected growth. We can achieve this through some simple restructuring of the DED to focus on business development in new sectors and target geographies, leveraging the EDC to a much greater extent, exploring a transition to an EDA, leveraging assets such as Dulles Airport and MAE East, and streamline business-related ordinances. We must also build out infrastructure that will increase economic development such as Metro and regional transportation corridors. Finally, we must look at possible incentives to bring in large prospects. Loudoun's competitors do this, so we must be able to respond in kind. Short term incentives will yield long term results in jobs and revenue gains.

Valdis Ronis (D)

The optimal ratio of commercial versus residential tax base for our county has yet to be determined, but it's obvious that the present imbalance of approximately five parts residential tax revenue to one part commercial tax revenue is not sustainable. Increasing taxes on existing businesses is not the solution. Retaining and attracting additional commercial tax base to Loudoun is critical. We must empower our economic development authorities to be more aggressive in their pursuit of businesses wishing to relocate to or expand within our county. We must leverage resources such as Dulles International Airport, and Loudoun's unique status as a global internet hub. As Supervisor, I'll work closely with our economic development authorities and local businesses to develop and implement sustainable economic development strategies. I will personally engage and advocate to targeted businesses to encourage them to relocate to, expand within, or remain in Loudoun. A key aspect of my economic development policy will be attracting forward-thinking, environmentally responsible businesses with 21st century jobs to Loudoun.



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7. Reliable, affordable energy is required to support the needs of Loudoun's businesses and to sustain our community's high quality of life. Please discuss/explain what specific initiatives you would propose or support to develop a long-term, County-wide energy plan which emphasizes energy generation, transmission and conservation.

Ralph Buona (R)

The current BOS passed a county energy strategy. It should be noted that this is a "strategy" not an ordinance. Given Loudoun's position in the IT, particularly data center market, our reliance on energy, particularly electricity is critical. Our successes include a water treatment plant that provides non-potable water for cooling at greatly reduced prices and LCPS continued awards for energy-efficient, sustainable school construction. For commercial and residential development we should set desired standards but we must let the market determine what is implemented. Incentives which can come in many forms can induce developers to achieve these desired standards. Our next step is to translate the current energy strategy into a County-wide energy plan. Sources of generation, transmission methods, and conservation strategies must be addressed and actual incentive types must be defined. Sustainable building is a goal, but the return must not be over the life-cycle of the development as energy technology will advance quickly. It is paramount that financial burdens on businesses and consumers be minimized, while advancing the state-of-the art in energy efficiency.

Valdis Ronis (D)

Loudoun's continued status as a global internet hub relies upon the availability of reliable and affordable energy. This is an important facet of our comprehensive economic development strategy which cannot be discounted. As Supervisor, I'll work collaboratively with state, regional, and federal authorities to ensure that adequate sources of energy, and requisite transmission infrastructure, are maintained and improved to match pace with our county's growth. Efficient use of our scarce energy resources is critical. As our economy grows and demand for energy increases, our efforts to conserve and increase efficiency cannot be neglected. As a LEED AP, I'll be a strong advocate for increased energy and resource efficiency among all consumer groups: civic, institutional, business, and residential. Simply drilling for more oil or building more power plants is not a sustainable strategy.



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8. Loudoun has a diversity of land uses from urban and transit-oriented nodes, to suburban communities and rural uses in the west. Various proposed environmental regulations, such as the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act and the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process, have been extensively discussed and debated in recent months and will impact these uses in different ways. What is your position on these proposals and what would you do to make these or any other proposed environmental regulation or strategy "Loudoun-appropriate"?

Ralph Buona (R)

Let me say up front that I strongly support efforts to achieve a clean environment for myriad reasons. As with many issues, this is an issue of balance. I opposed the CBPO publicly as the LCCC Chairman and I continue to do so. Any approach must be Loudoun-specific, be based upon science which defines the problem, minimizes impacts on property owners, has measurable results, be affordable, and be based on a clear ROI. I support voluntary measures first and incentives second. I do not support mandates. TMDLs are Federal unfunded mandates pushed on the Commonwealth who flows down requirements to localities. Simple, low cost measures should be implemented first to determine positive impacts before mandating draconian measures. An example is recent State legislation to ban phosphorous-based fertilizers in Virginia (with certain exceptions). Any solution must differentiate point versus non-point pollution sources as well as land uses and focus on locations where an actual problem has been identified versus putting a tourniquet over the entire County. In the end, any solution must be a balanced consensus with business, agricultural, and environmental non-profits at the table.

Valdis Ronis (D)

Protecting our environment should not be viewed as an economic burden on our businesses and families. It's our responsibility. While the cost of preserving our environment may seem high at times, the cost of passing along that burden to future generations is both incalculable and unconscionable. What gives us the right to do as we wish today with no regard to the impacts to our children and their children? While I'll always be a strong advocate for sustainability and environmental protection, I'm also a pragmatist. "Canned" solutions appropriate in other parts of the Commonwealth, may not be appropriate for Loudoun. Common sense and dialogue must replace the rhetoric and misinformation we all experienced during the CBPO debates. Effective, fair, and workable solutions can be found if we're willing to collaborate to develop them. I understand that we don't live in a perfect world and I'll work side-by-side with the business community and other stakeholders to find ways to mitigate the financial impacts of environmental protection while always strongly advocating that we all do the right thing by both our environment and future generations.



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9. Virginia and especially Northern Virginia is predicted to attract both significant numbers of jobs and residents over the next 20 years. What tools and policies would you seek to implement in the County to address both the benefits and challenges of this anticipated growth?

Ralph Buona (R)

Due to our proximity to the Nation's Capital and its economic engine, growth remains inevitable. Past planning which has zoned protected areas in Western Loudoun and created a transition zone between Loudoun's economic centers and the west will buffer the effects of much of this growth. We must up-zone corridors such as Route 28, and portions of Routes 7 and 50 where economic development is appropriate. This creates local businesses which places jobs near residences reducing traffic loads. In the end, our biggest challenge from growth is infrastructure. Loudoun's school system is starting to build out in Ashburn with the last three schools on the ballot this fall. Requirements certainly continue to exist in other portions of the county. Transportation will likely remain our biggest long-term challenge although great strides have been made on Route 28 and now Route 7. From a policy perspective, we must maintain our zoning in the west, be judicious about transition zone uses, and provide keynote employment in the east. We must also revitalize some of the eastern portions of the county soon, primarily through incentives to ensure we aren't "starting over" in twenty years.

Valdis Ronis (D)

Our 84% growth rate over the past decade is not sustainable. I would like to see our growth rate slowed to a manageable pace. Emphasizing growth of our commercial tax base will yield us the best results. A balance between commercial and residential development is critical. As Supervisor, I will work side-by-side with our economic development staff and local businesses to develop and implement sustainable economic development strategies that create high quality local jobs and reduce the need for long-distance commutes. I want to see more compact and interconnected development, especially near metro stations and along major transportation corridors. I would like to see our inventory of approved but un-built housing decrease significantly. I would do so by discouraging approval of additional, predominantly residential projects (in favor of mixed-use projects), and encouraging developers to buy out the rights of already approved projects in lieu of seeking new land use approvals. This could be accomplished through a form of TDR (Transfer of Development Rights) mechanism.



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10. Affordable housing isn't only housing for low-income, homeless or unemployed – it's housing for vital workers in our community whose work is essential to a strong and vibrant business community in Loudoun County. What programs do you propose to develop affordable and/or workforce housing in the County?

Ralph Buona (R)

To address the issue of affordable housing, I support a mix of state, local, and private-sector initiatives directed at increasing the availability of housing options, both rental and for-sale, to meet the needs of our growing population/workforce.

Locally, options to consider are: 1) continuing support for the recommendations of the Housing Advisory Board, including efforts to support a single housing trust fund, 2) promoting the use of County-owned assets to be used/exchanged for the creation of affordable units, 3) improvements to the County Affordable Dwelling Unit ordinance that would provide a higher number of units available for sale, 4) reselling revitalized foreclosed properties through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, 5) use of tax credits, down payment programs, low interest loans, and an expedited approval process, to increase home ownership to low-income households, 6) use of the Industrial Development Authority to investigate alternative solutions, provide financing alternatives for potential projects, and potentially act as a housing authority, and 7) alignment of County policies as incentives to landlords to keep rental housing available to the workforce.

Valdis Ronis (D)

Loudoun County presently sponsors a mix of affordable housing initiatives through the Department of Family Services. As a business leader, I recognize that a broad mix of local housing options and price points is necessary for businesses to have access to nearby workers. Our economic development and job creation efforts will be unsustainable unless an adequate supply of workforce housing is provided. As a Planning Commissioner, I've encouraged applicants to proffer a percentage of affordable dwelling units, particularly in proposed mixed-use developments. At this time, I have no specific recommendations for changes to any of the county programs currently in place and recognize that part of my homework as Supervisor will be to learn more about local, State, and Federal affordable housing policies and initiatives. I remain open to suggestions and will continue to encourage land use applicants to provide a mix of housing options and to proffer a share of affordable dwelling units in their proposed developments.



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11. In recent years, Loudoun County has allocated much of the cost and responsibility for providing school sites, parks and recreational opportunities to the development community through the imposition of proffered obligations and capital facilities fees, which are among the highest in the country, in connection with rezoning applications. The Chamber is opposed to any tax policies or capital facilities fee increases that will inflate the cost of housing to the point of creating a disincentive for businesses to locate in Loudoun County. How do you propose to ensure that there are adequate schools, parks and recreational opportunities for current and future residents without unduly burdening the business community?

Ralph Buona (R)

This is an issue of balance. On one side is the requirement to finance infrastructure needed to serve our growing community. On the other side is the need for new projects to remain financially viable, keep taxes in check, and keep homes affordable. Whether we receive proffered sites or purchase them, the county's service plans must be updated to ensure that we are defining our needs within a framework of what is affordable from debt service and availability standpoints. The land studies conducted by the current board point out limitations we face, particularly in Eastern Loudoun. Land is the one thing we cannot create more of so we must deal with what is available prudently. We must continue to work with the School Board, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and others towards this goal. We must continue the work already done to scale back the size of parcels, encouraging continued use of multi-story facilities, reevaluating parking, setback and other requirements to further reduce the cost of obtaining sites and make use of more constrained parcels. We must also work with the School Board to revisit the unresolved land use issues raised by the 2007 MGT efficiency review.

Valdis Ronis (D)

Proffers are a necessary and positive aspect of economic development. When developers invest in our communities, they do so not for altruistic reasons, but in search of a profit. As good corporate citizens, they understand that their development plans impact our communities. These impacts must be mitigated. It's a cost of doing business. As an Architect who works with developers on a daily basis, I'm highly sensitive to the financial burden proffers can place on projects. At the same time, as a taxpayer in Loudoun, I understand that the proffer system benefits me by moderating property taxes. A fair and effective proffer system benefits the developer by ensuring that the infrastructure (roads, parks, schools, public facilities) necessary to support a successful development project will in fact be provided, and benefits the average taxpayer by not placing the burden of financing these infrastructure improvements back on homeowners in the form of increased taxes. In any event, proffers should be fair and balanced with the goal of benefiting both developers and taxpayers, and should not be wielded as a punitive tool to thwart or financially cripple much-needed economic development.



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12. Please briefly describe what traditional and innovative policies or initiatives you support to ensure Loudoun's children have access to a K-12 system that will allow them to achieve competitive levels of proficiency in science, technology, mathematics, engineering and the arts, and how you would fund these policies or initiatives.

Ralph Buona (R)

The School Board ultimately makes the line-item decisions for LCPS once they receive an appropriation from the BOS. I strongly support such initiatives as a priority and will work with my School Board counterpart when providing their final budget, to ensure they understand our county's need to promote excellence in these fields, to train our future workforce, and to attract quality businesses to Loudoun. LCPS has been recognized for its successful use of technology in the classroom, and we must build upon this to provide students with an education that prepares them for the global economy. Our current Academy of Sciences can only accept about 15% of applicants. As such, internet access is critical to this as we must think virtual. We must work to incentivize broadband access to all areas of the county. We must continue our efforts to adjust Virginia's Composite Index to return more dollars to Loudoun – I have visited Richmond a number of times to lobby the General Assembly on this issue. Working with our legislative delegation (which may have a new tilt towards NOVA) will be a high priority, as modifying the Index will provide additional resources to meet our STEM needs.

Valdis Ronis (D)

One of the many reasons my family and I chose Loudoun County as our new home when we moved here from the Seattle area was the quality of the LCPS system. I'm impressed with the quality and dedication of our educators and how LCPS keeps up with innovations in curricula and technology. My youngest daughter began kindergarten at Seldens Landing ES last week. I'm looking forward to being an active PTA member and Watchdog Dad. I encourage all parents to participate actively in our children's education. As a Supervisor, I'll encourage continuation and expansion of the many existing partnerships between local schools and businesses. These are critical in building and maintaining community support for our world-class school system. I'll encourage focusing our tax revenues on attracting and retaining the best educators, maintaining a high-quality classroom experience, and developing curricula that emphasize science, technology, engineering, mathematics as well as the arts and language/communication skills to fully prepare our children for 21st century careers.



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13. Small business access to affordable health care continues to be a top priority of the Loudoun County Chamber. Please describe what specific policies/initiatives you would support to help address the significant changes facing businesses related to implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Please also share any other ideas that may be implemented from a policy standpoint that may help businesses to reduce their healthcare costs and improve the health of their workers.

Ralph Buona (R)

Despite tax premium credit penalties and mandates on employers with over 200 employees, a recent national poll showed that 20% of employers will drop health benefits once ACA is invoked. This is a national issue and even state governments are wrestling with how to implement ACA including health insurance exchanges. As a Supervisor I will work with our Federal/State elected officials to find broad solutions. There are limited things that can be done locally but the County must partner with the business community (e.g., the LCCC, health providers, non-profits) to create programs that aid employers in understanding the ACA and how it applies to them, and what their options are. We can also advocate that companies implement certain strategies such as wellness programs and employee cost sharing based upon enhanced choice. There is confusion in the marketplace and a need exists for businesses to receive mentoring in these areas. Even with ACA, a need for safety nets will still exist, therefore local government must continue support to our non-profits. I oppose unfunded mandates. I support controlling healthcare costs, maximizing choice, increasing accessibility, and tort reform.

Valdis Ronis (D)

Access to affordable healthcare remains a critical national problem and flashpoint issue. Regardless of our personal or partisan opinions regarding healthcare reforms enacted by Congress in 2009, the fact remains that the majority of personal bankruptcies in the US are caused by an inability to pay for healthcare services. Millions of Americans still don't have access to affordable healthcare or health insurance. The costs of providing healthcare to American workers have traditionally been borne by businesses. As a business leader myself, I recognize that this can be a tremendous burden to profitability and the ability to create jobs, particularly on small businesses. The relentless pace of annual healthcare cost increases is unsustainable and will eventually cripple any economic development we implement. This is a national problem. As Supervisor, I'll work with local business and community leaders to encourage our state and federal leaders to develop and fully implement fair and equitable reforms, especially with regards to paperwork requirements.



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14. The Loudoun County Chamber and the County's business community has made effective contributions to several important public policy issues in Loudoun in recent years, such as the processes created to revise the County's sign regulations and on the adopted Route 28 Comprehensive Plan Amendment. How would you assess the County's efforts to engage the Loudoun business community on important public policy issues and how would you improve or otherwise change those efforts?

Ralph Buona (R)

I give mixed reviews to the County's efforts to engage the business community on public policy issues. While I won't criticize the current BOS, a lack of leadership and a sometimes adversarial relationship has existed. One success story is the strong stakeholder process that was employed to amend the County's sign ordinance. This yielded an outcome that was acceptable to all constituents as a willingness to listen/ compromise was apparent. The Route 28 CPAM effort was very inclusive and led to a strong amended CPAM. Work remains though in the area of rezoning the corridor. One conspicuous failure was the CBPO stakeholder process. This process was created abruptly, stakeholders were poorly defined, little guidance was given, and the group had inadequate time to work out solutions. I am a staunch supporter of the stakeholder process to the maximum degree practical. I would improve the process by defining stakeholders up front and involving them early, providing well defined guidance as to the work product desired, ensure they are conducted properly as differences of opinion will exist, and attend as many of the stakeholder sessions myself as possible to listen to all inputs.

Valdis Ronis (D)

As part of my goal of bringing constituencies together, I'm happy to see the active participation of our business community and other stakeholders in any policy deliberations. As a Planning Commissioner, I'm proud to have been an active participant in both the Route 28 CPAM process and in re-writing the county Sign Ordinance. These are excellent examples of what we can accomplish together collaboratively. As Supervisor, I'll continue to strongly encourage more opportunities for active stakeholder participation through formal and informal public input, workshops, and interactive charrettes.



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15. Please briefly describe what best qualifies you to hold the office for which you are running.

Ralph Buona (R)

What best qualifies me to serve is my significant experience with public policy issues. I have served on the LCCC's Public Policy Committee focusing on local, regional, and State-level issues. As the Immediate Past Chairman of the LCCC, and a member of the Loudoun CEO Cabinet, I have dealt with issues such as economic development, tourism, business development, regulatory reform, governance, employment/ labor issues, tax/revenue policy, infrastructure investment, environmental issues, K-12 and higher education, workforce development/housing, health-care reform, and immigration.

Valdis Ronis (D)

I have a strong mix of skills, experience, and insight. During my nearly 30 year professional career, I've lived in many places and have experienced both what does and what does not work in local government. I hold Masters' degrees in Architecture and Business Administration. I'm a licensed Architect in 17 different jurisdictions, a LEED AP (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional), and I presently serve as a Loudoun County Planning Commissioner. I'm an experienced business and civic leader and have held a variety of leadership positions over the past 30+ years.

16. What is the chief factor that differentiates you from your opponent(s) (if you have one)?

Ralph Buona (R)

Proven leadership with results plus experience in the public policy arena on behalf of Loudoun County across a spectrum of issues locally, regionally, and at the state level distinguishes me from my opponent. I have extensive experience advocating public policy issues to Loudoun, State, and Federal officials. I have strong ties to the local business community via my recent Chairmanship of the LCCC and my membership on the CEO Cabinet. I have a unique perspective on what needs to be done to rapidly increase economic development efforts through my recent tenure as a Commissioner on the EDC.

Valdis Ronis (D)

I'm the only candidate for Supervisor who is simultaneously a licensed design professional, experienced urban planner, LEED AP, experienced business and civic leader, and Planning Commissioner. As a Planning Commissioner, I've gained invaluable knowledge of and experience with our county's land use policies and practices. I'm proud to have co-authored the Route 28 CPAM. I've also participated in deliberating several mixed-use development proposals, and re-writing the county Sign Ordinance. Philosophically, I'm fiscally conservative, socially progressive, and environmentally sustainable.

17. Do you have a web site where more information about you is available? What is that web site address?



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Ralph Buona (R)

Yes. My campaign website is: www.ralph2011.com

Valdis Ronis (D)

I encourage you to visit www.ronisforloudoun.com to learn more about me and my positions on various issues.

If you have any questions regarding this questionnaire, please contact Tony Howard at 571-209-9020. This questionnaire has been sent to the list of candidates provided by the Board of Elections. Thank you.