

NORTHROCK & THE AMAZON DATA CENTER ON BLACKWELL ROAD

September 15, 2022

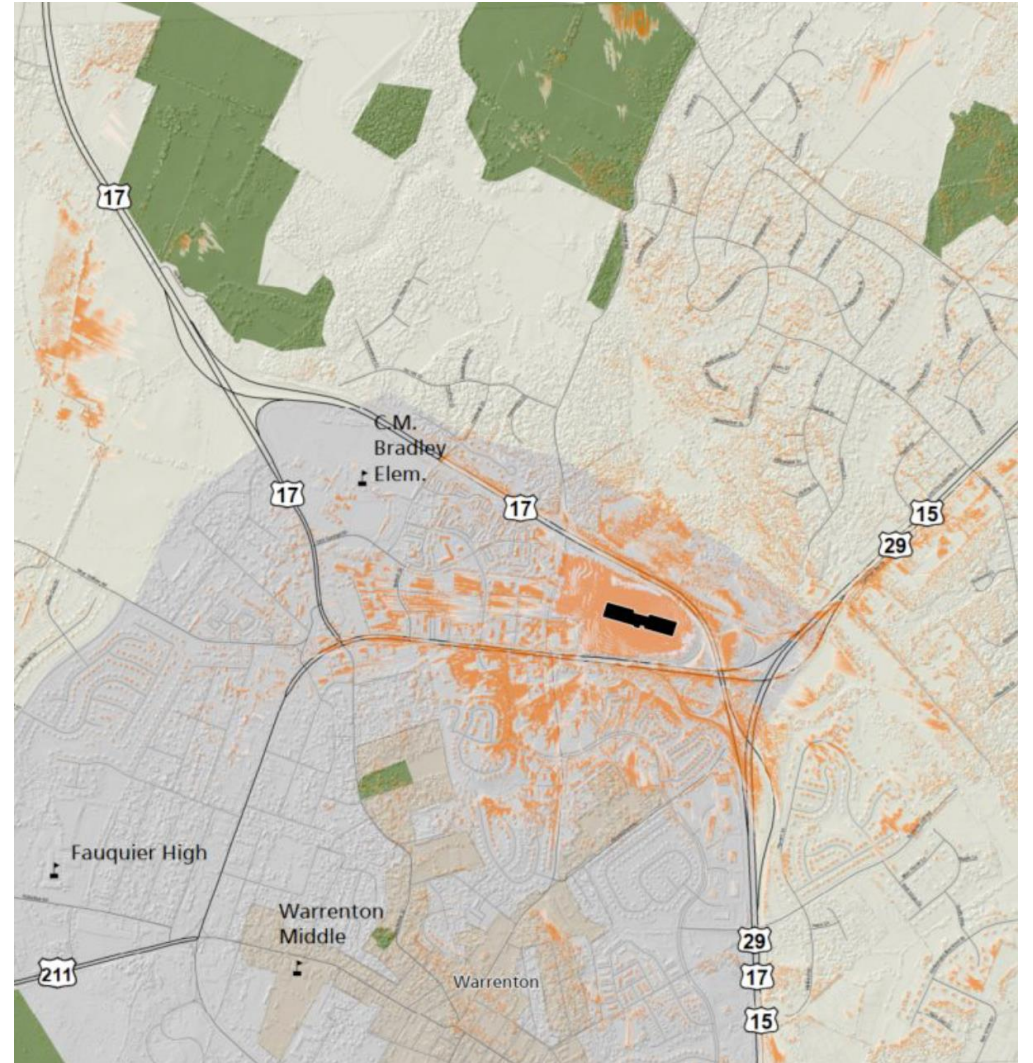
Cindy Burbank, “Protect Fauquier”

Dave Gibson, Citizens for Fauquier County

The Amazon Data Center

- Computer processing warehouse
- 220,000 square feet
- 52 feet high, incl AC units on top
- On 42 acre site on Blackwell Rd
- ½ mile from Northrock

- Proposed
- Requires Town Council approval



Credit: Piedmont Environmental Council

Data Centers



Data Center in Loudoun County Photo Credit: Hugh Kenny, Piedmont Environmental Council

Also: 8-acre Substation

This is the current substation near the Fairgrounds

A larger version of this is planned to go on Blackwel, next to Giant Grocery – in full view of Northrock



Also: Transmission Lines



- 110 foot tall metal poles
- 100 foot ROW clearance
- Destruction of trees & vegetation
- Tarnishes Fauquier's rolling agricultural landscape
- Reduces property value
- Massive energy increase to accommodate more data centers

Blackwell: Wrong site, Wrong use

- Visual blight on gateway to Town
- Noise impacts on 657 nearby homes
- AC units on roof operate 24/7, 365 days/year
- Conflicts with Town Comp Plan – which calls for mixed use “New Town” neighborhood
- 50,000 gallon diesel containers on site
- 8’ prison type fencing all around perimeter

Data centers should not be near neighborhoods

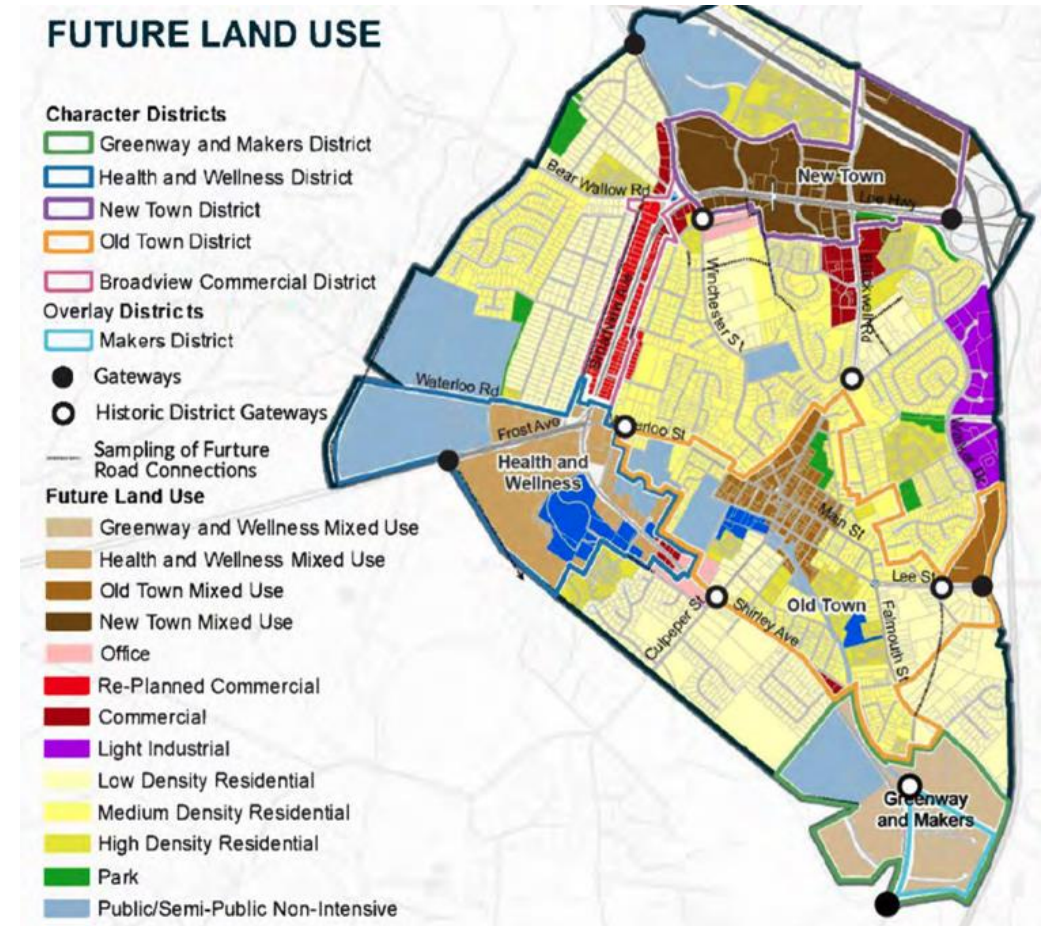
Warrenton's 2040 Comprehensive Plan

“A guiding document for future decisions regarding development, preservation, public facilities and other key components of community life”

Zero mention of data centers

Adopted by Town Council 4/13/21

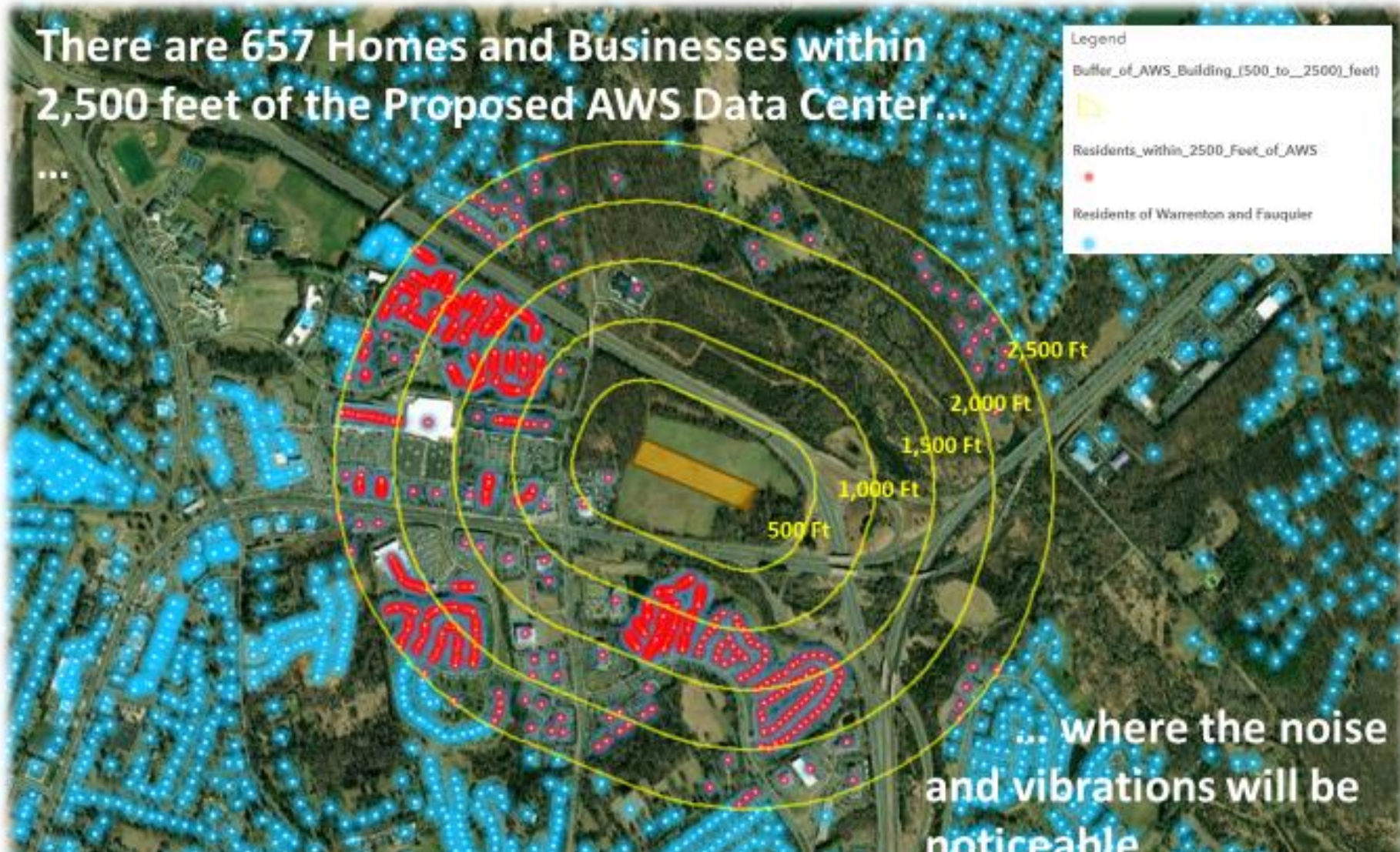
The same day Town Council initiated zoning amendment for Amazon data center



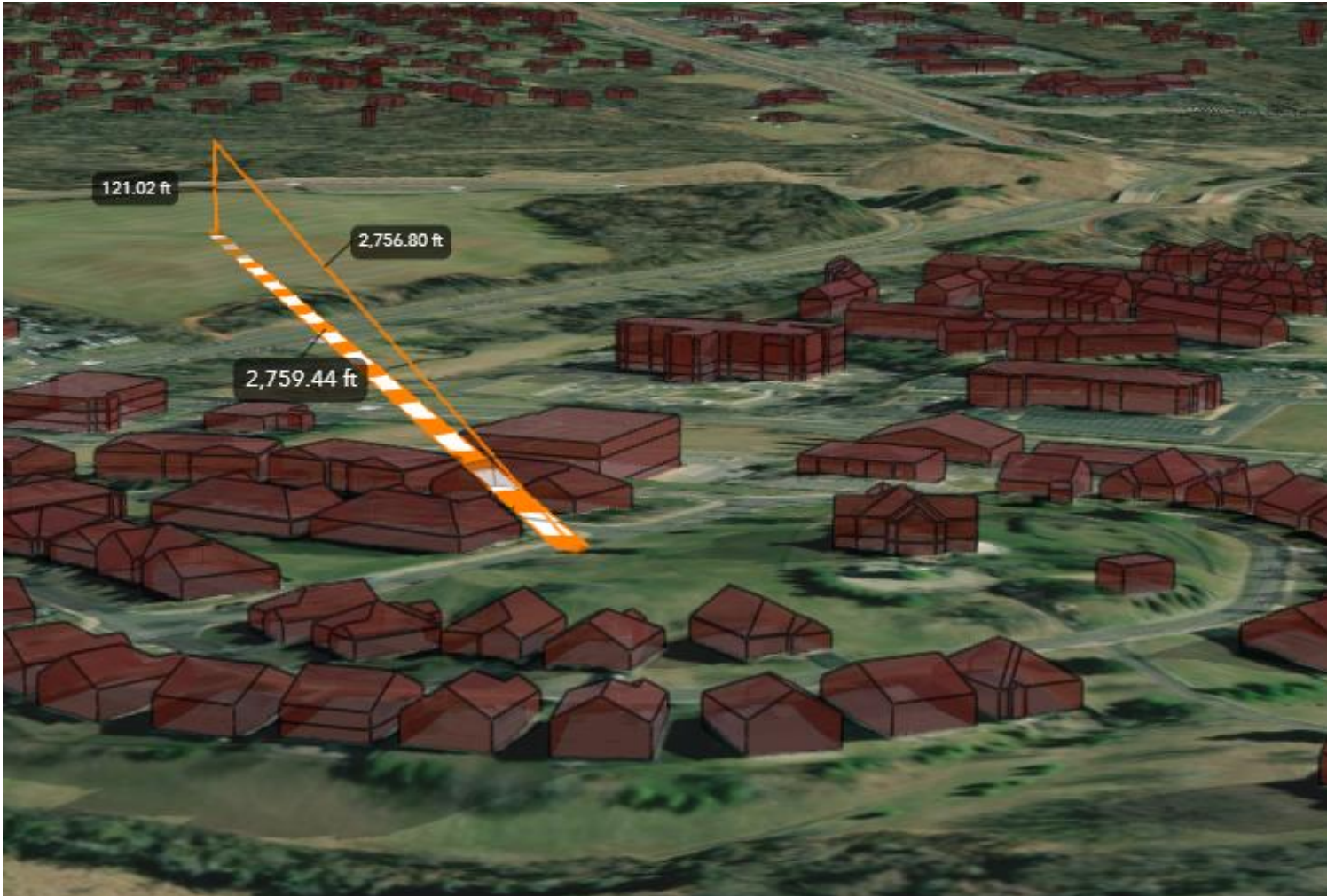
Noise & Vibration

There are 657 Homes and Businesses within 2,500 feet of the Proposed AWS Data Center...

...



Noise & Vibration



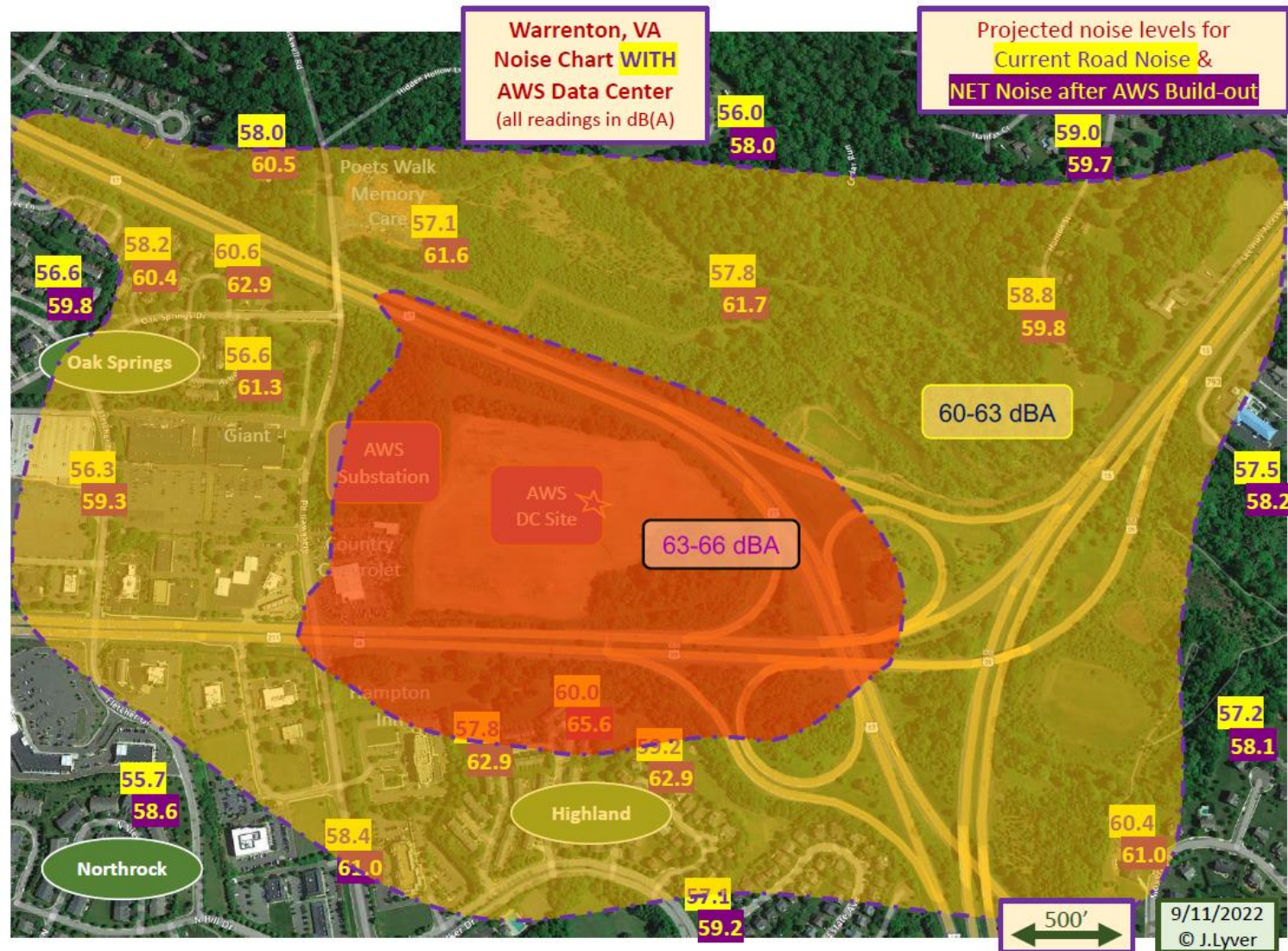
**Northrock
Will Likely
be the Most
Visually and
Sonically
Impacted
Community**

Noise & Vibration

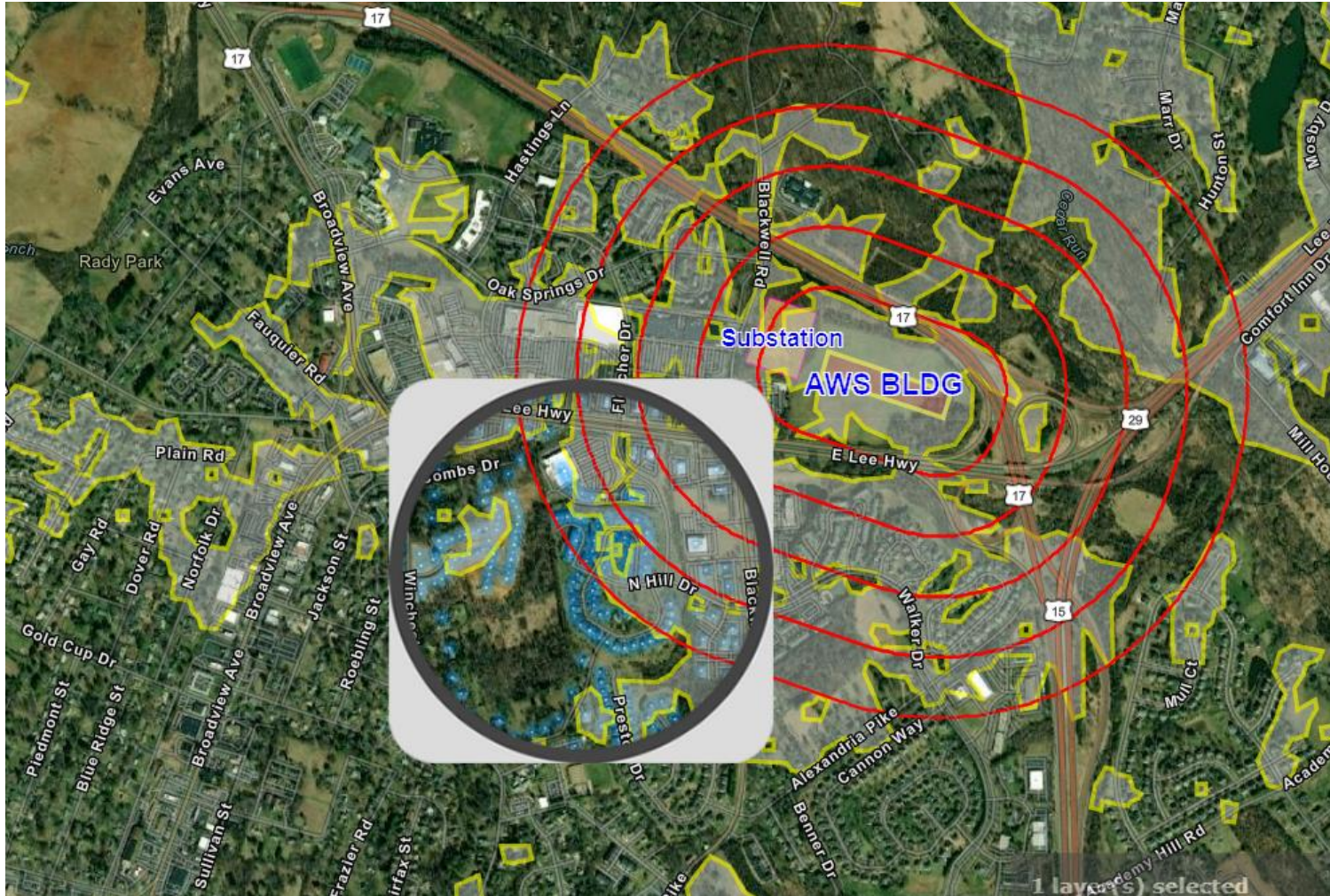
- Measured 58.60 dBA at Northrock border
- This included ambient roadway noise
- This is raw Total dBA using International Standard
- Using Warrenton Frequency-based Standards likely to be higher
- Low Frequency (63 Hz to 2,000 Hz) likely to be audible and perceptible



Noise & Vibration

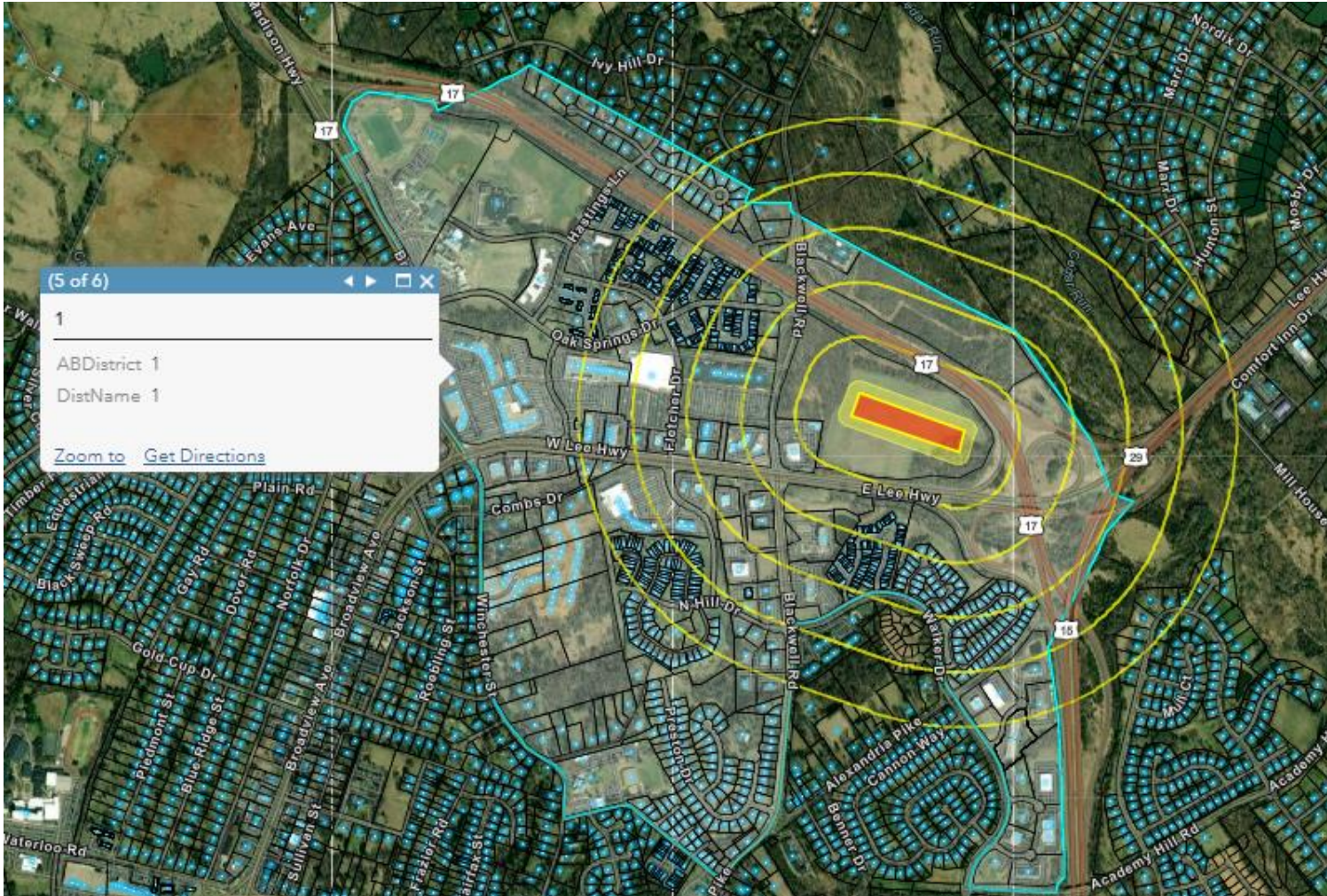


Visual Impacts



Few Will Be Spared
By AWS – If You Liked
CubeSmart You're
Gonna Love AWS

Noise & Vibration & Visual



All But 14
Residences are in
Ward 1 –
Town Councilwoman
Heather Sutphin
needs to HEAR from
you!

A View of AWS From North View Circle



How did this come about?

BEFORE 2021:

Data centers not in Town econ dev or Comp Plans

IN 2021:

Amazon & Town staff began meeting quietly

Public was in the dark

Amazon helped Town Manager write zoning amendment to allow data center on Blackwell – contrary to Comprehensive Plan

Town Manager “dropped it on the consent agenda”

Town staff sign “nondisclosure agreements” with Amazon

No public outreach, no effort to inform citizens

Town Council votes to adopt zoning amendment for Amazon

IN 2022:

Amazon submits SUP application

Application grossly deficient, fails to address all criteria

Town staff deem it complete anyway

Planning Commission starts review

Mid July: Town Manager resigns to spend time with family

2 weeks later Town Manager is working for Amazon

Nov-Dec: Town Council vote expected

Why?



\$ Profits for Amazon
\$ Profits for Dominion
\$ Tax revenue for the Town

At the expense of:

- VA electricity ratepayers
- Lost property value
- Health & wellbeing of citizens

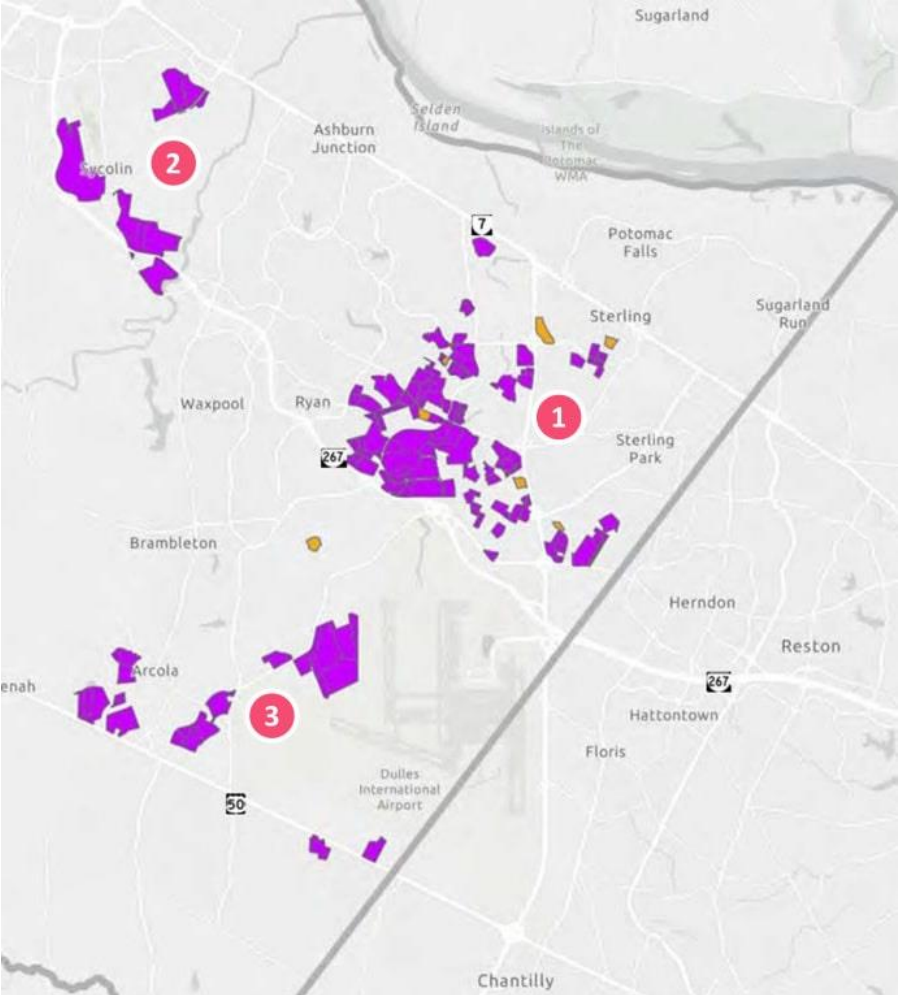
Will the Town Council Approve It?

- Observers predict a 4-2 vote to approve Amazon
- Vote is likely to occur in November or December
- Citizen input is having some effect
- Major citizen pushback – vocal, numerous, sustained can turn this around
- Every voice is important

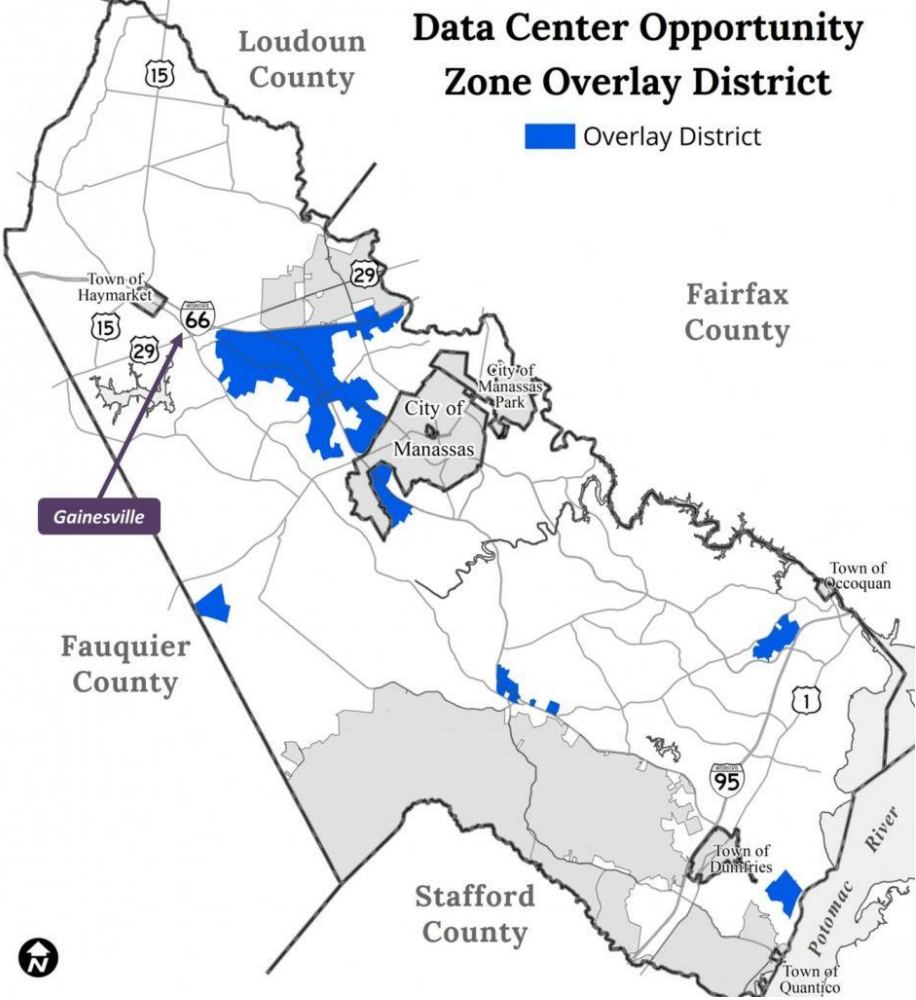


Once Approved, Data Centers Multiply Rapidly

Loudoun



Prince William



What can you do?



Sign our petition

<https://arcg.is/vW49T>

Talk to neighbors & friends

Email your Town Council members

Join us at Oct 11 Town Council meeting

“Time and time again, we've seen that one person can make a difference.

There is no reason why that person can't be you.”



— Wayne Gerard Trotman

Feel free to contact us

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