

FACT SHEET: North Side Salt Tank Interim Structure

Updated August 2018

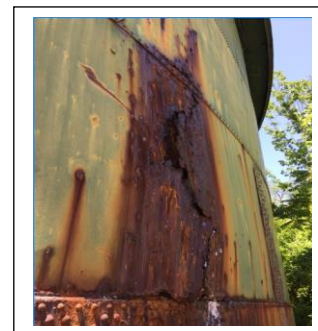
Summary

The North Side Salt Tank on County land at Old Dominion Drive & 25th Street North is a critical piece of infrastructure that provides salt storage and loading to maintain safety on Arlington roads during the winter. A recent structural evaluation determined that the North Side Salt Tank is no longer safe for crews to operate in winter events, and has reached the end of its useful life.

After carefully examining all options and facing pressing operational needs for the upcoming winter, staff is taking steps to build an **interim storage structure adjacent** to the existing tank location on the 25th Street North site.

Background

- Existing tank was **built in the 1930s** as a water tank
- County has used **dual-base** 25th Street North and Trades Center (south side of Arlington) sites for salt storage and snow loading operations since at least the 1960s
- **County stores 9500 tons of salt for use in winter months** - 60 percent of storage and loadings occur on Old Dominion/25th Street North site
 - North Side tank holds 4500 tons + 1500 tons piled under an adjacent tarp
 - Trades Center in Shirlington holds 3500 tons



Operational Issues

The **dual north-south salt storage sites** collectively provide adequate storage and efficient geographical coverage across the County, and the use of two sites is critical for truck loading throughput during storms.

- Risk of operating solely out of Trades is too great for reasons of capacity, efficiency, and safety
- Very few options for interim location in north Arlington
- Old Dominion & 25th Street North location County-owned; long established use for salt storage and winter storm operations
- Staff evaluated leaf/mulch site on 25th Road North location – site presents challenges because the interim structure requires a level platform, and the leaf site has a 10-foot drop front to back. Site also is critical for leaf collection and processing operations, and is fully occupied from November through February – which directly conflicts with the snow operations need.

Proposed Interim Salt Storage Structure

Safe, modern **85-foot x 120-foot canvas-over-steel truss structure on County land**, keeping 6000-ton capacity on site. Height would be approximately 47 feet. For use over a 3-4-year period.

- Asphalt base with stacked concrete block foundations
- Site requires clearing, some tree removal
- Four parcels of property advertised for rezoning; final determination of parcels rezoned will be made by Board in September based upon interim structure siting
- Failing old storage tank to be removed once interim structure erected

Location of structure has evolved based on community input. In response to the community's feedback on the importance of preserving trees and open space, staff has explored ways to minimize tree loss and the area that requires paving. Current siting option is adjacent to existing tank.



Timeline

July 17, 2018: At the July Recessed County Board Meeting, the County Board voted to advertise public hearings in September on the interim structure plan, which includes proposed zoning changes on four parcels. Salt from under the supplementary pile (adjacent to the existing tank) was removed to allow for construction of the temporary storage structure adjacent to the tank.

August 2018: Site preparation begins, including site clearing and tree removal.

November 2018: Target for completed construction of interim storage structure. Beginning of winter storm exposure.

Long-term for Old Dominion Drive and 26th Street Site

County committed to a **long-term engagement process for redevelopment of 7.5-acre site**. At Sept. Board Meeting, staff will share more on scope, community engagement process and timeline. Expected start date: first quarter of 2019.