

# Civic Pride

Newsletter of the Yorktown Civic Association

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## January 16 Meeting to Focus on Yorktown High and Marymount Project Concerns

On Tuesday, January 16, the Yorktown Civic Association will hold its winter meeting at Yorktown High School beginning at 7:30 p.m. in room 1B. At the meeting, the membership will take up a civic association resolution opposing the parking element of the design for the new Yorktown High School building that will be presented by Superintendent Robert Smith to the Arlington School Board on Thursday, January 18. The School Board will hold a public meeting on the project at the school on Tuesday, January 23, and is currently scheduled to vote on the building design at its meeting on February 1.

The meeting agenda also includes a discussion of the County Board's decision in December to defer approval until its March 17 meeting of the use permit for a major dormitory, classroom, auditorium and parking garage project on the campus's 26<sup>th</sup> Street site. The County Manager is in the process of selecting a facilitator to help identify potential changes to the project prior to the Board's March meeting.

More information on each of these issues is included inside this newsletter.

At the meeting, the membership will also be voting on the civic association's annual budget.

The final agenda for the meeting, along with the resolution on the Yorktown High parking issue, the annual budget and other materials for the meeting will be posted in advance on the civic association website at <http://www.YorktownCivic.com>.

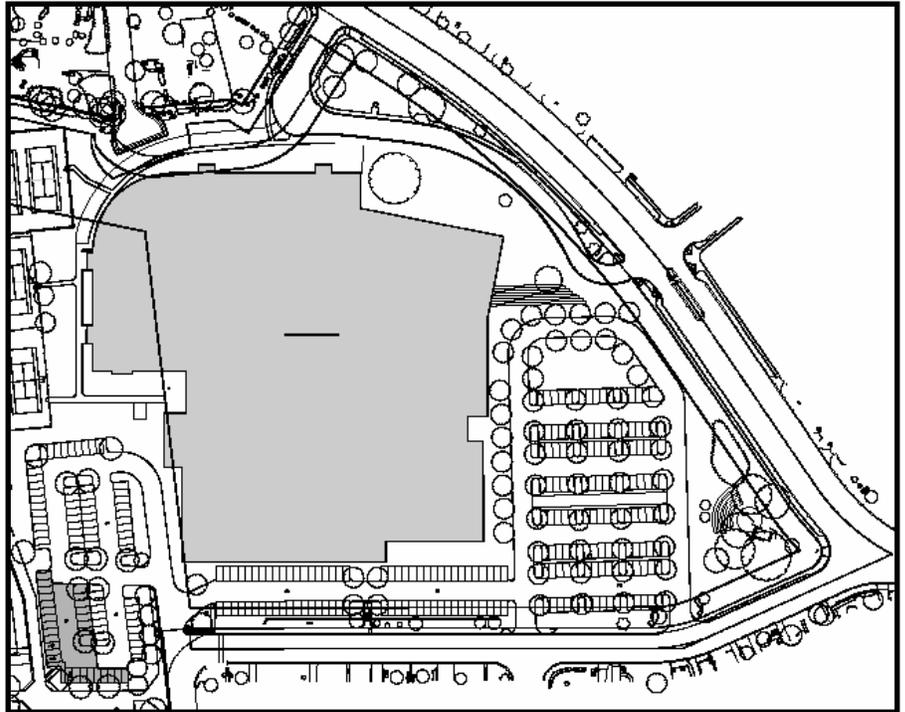
### Annual Membership Drive for 2007

Enclosed please find the annual civic association membership form for 2007. We need a majority of the neighborhood's 1050 households to send in the \$10 membership "fee" to help cover the annual costs of printing, postage and website maintenance. Also, clearly print your email address on the form so we can update our civic association email lists.

## School Board to Hold Public Hearing on New Yorktown High School Building on January 23

With approval by Arlington Voters of the 2006 School Bond in the November election, the design for the \$100 million rebuilding of Yorktown High School has been placed on the School Board's agenda at its January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. The School Board has also scheduled a public meeting on the project at the school beginning at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, followed by a final vote on the project at the February 1 School Board meeting.

The design that is being presented to the board by Superintendent Robert Smith, however, will provide far less off-street parking than was agreed to by the County Board when the master plan for Yorktown High and Greenbrier Park renovations was agreed to in 2002. At the civic



**Yorktown High Parking Plan with 259 Spaces**

association meeting on January 16, a resolution will be taken up to formally oppose the parking element of the school design. The master plan called for a combined 346 off-street parking spaces for the school and Greenbrier Park, while the superintendent's plan is expected to provide only 259 to 268 spaces.

### Contacting the School Board

If you are unable to attend the Jan. 23 public meeting on the Yorktown High project, but want to express your concern about the need to provide adequate parking for the school and park, please contact the school board at:

**[schoolbd@arlington.k12.va.us](mailto:schoolbd@arlington.k12.va.us)**

At a neighborhood meeting held on this issue on December 7, there was a clear consensus among residents living near the school that there needs to be at least 400 off-street spaces for the combined school/park facility in order to provide relief to the existing parking problems around the school and to provide adequate parking for the expanded

Greenbrier Park fields that will be opening soon. The four fields at Greenbrier Park alone will include seating for 2400 spectators. Attendees at the neighborhood meeting indicated that structured parking should be considered as part of the school project, with a possible location where the swimming pool is currently located.

\$24.8 million was included for the project in the 2006 bond election, with an additional \$75 million to be included as part of the 2008 bond election. Current plans call for construction to begin around July 2008. Students are not expected to be moved off-site during the construction. The construction is expected to take place in 3 or 4 major phases, and may take as long as five years. The expected height of the new building is expected to be 3 stories.

## County Board Defers Action on Marymount University Project Until March 17th

Marymount University went before the County Board on December 12<sup>th</sup> with its plans to construct a dormitory, classroom and auditorium building and an underground parking garage on the site of the current surface parking lot at the Old Dominion Drive and 26<sup>th</sup> Street intersection. After hearing testimony from 34 speakers, the Board adopted a recommendation from County Manager Ron Carlee to select a facilitator that would work with Marymount and surrounding neighbors to hammer out changes to the current project plans for



consideration by the Board at its March 17 meeting.

The adjoining Yorktown and Donaldson Run civic associations both voted to oppose the project in its present form citing concerns about the project density and impacts on surrounding residents. The Yorktown Civic

Association recommended that only the dormitory and parking structure be approved for the site.

The building plans as presented to the County Board in December included the following: dormitory bed count of 250; a 265 seat theater/lecture hall; 47,000 square feet of academic (classroom and office space); and a 374 space parking garage. The current surface parking lot accommodates 169 spaces, for a net increase of 205 spaces. A new pedestrian bridge would also be built across Yorktown Boulevard to connect the site to the rest of the campus

The average height of the proposed building does not exceed the county's limit of 45 feet. However, on Yorktown Boulevard, where the full height of the building would be exposed, the project would be seven stories tall.

At its January 16 meeting, the civic association will discuss its priorities for possible modifications to the project during the upcoming facilitation process by the County Manger.

### Your Civic Association Executive Committee for 2007

Position	Name	Phone
President	David Haring	703/241-8111 (h) 703/208-5660 (o)
V.President	David Friedman	703/241-2091 (h)
Secretary	Cate Mueller	703/237-4706 (h)
Treasurer	Bob Littell	703/534-3826 (h)
At large	Ted Weihe	703/533-2815 (h)
At large	Sally Lopez	703/534-0530 (h)
At large	Bill Nary	703/538-6132 (h)
At large	Bob Gatewood	703/533-8906 (h)
At large	Eileen Colton	703/534-7445 (h)
At large	Terry Costello	703/534-0408 (h)
At large	Dustin Anderson	703/534-0059 (h)

**Yorktown Civic Association  
2827 N. Harrison St.  
Arlington, VA 22207**

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**Please attend the Civic Association Meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. at Yorktown High School, Room 1B.**

For additional information about the Yorktown Civic Association and the issues covered in this newsletter, check out our website at <http://www.YorktownCivic.com>.

## **Synthetic Field at Greenbrier Park to Open Soon**

The year-long construction of a new football stadium at Greenbrier Park is expected to be completed this month. However, while most aspects of construction are on schedule or ahead of schedule, installation of the polyurethane track coating may be delayed until warmer weather arrives. The rubberized coating requires temperatures above 40 degrees for proper installation. The contractor will be preparing a plan in conjunction with community use and Yorktown High School that allows the track to be opened and closed at a later date even if the football field and bleachers are opened in January as expected.

The park renovation also includes construction of a new baseball stadium and 2 new softball fields. While the entire project is scheduled to be completed by July, the baseball stadium and one of the softball diamonds are expected to open sooner, although an exact date is not currently available.

Prior to construction, an agreement was hammered out between the neighborhood and the County limiting the number of evenings during the peak spring and fall seasons to no more than three times per week of scheduled usage until 10:30 pm. On the other nights of the week during the prime seasons and during the off-peak winter and summer seasons, scheduled use will end by 10:00 pm. In addition, there will be staff assigned to the park to lessen the operational impact on the neighborhood, and a standing committee, comprised of neighborhood, Sports Commission, County and Yorktown High School representatives will be appointed to monitor operational and scheduling issues and provide a forum for the resolution of periodic and ongoing community concerns. That committee is scheduled to hold its first meeting in early February. The neighborhood representatives are Bob Littell and Frank White.

