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CIVIC PRIDE

September 2019

Newsletter of the Yorktown Civic Association

The Yorktown Civic Association (YCA) represents residents living in north Arlington, Virginia, bound by Lee Highway on the south, Old Dominion Dr./Columbus St. to the east, Little Falls Rd./Rock Spring Rd. on the north, and N. Jefferson St. to the west. <http://YorktownCivic.org>

A Report from the President's Desk...

by Mike Cantwell, President
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At our June Yorktown Civic Association (YCA) meeting we held a robust "roundtable" discussion. I asked the over 25 residents in attendance, "What do you like about the Yorktown neighborhood?" and "What do you dislike about the Yorktown neighborhood?" Key themes that emerged in the "like" column included: walkability, neighbors, and a multigenerational community. A few things residents did not like included: traffic, speeding, and unsafe intersections. Several residents shared stories of their "near hit" experiences at the 26th St. & Harrison St. intersection. After consulting with the YCA Executive Committee, I have decided to write a letter to the County Board requesting that a traffic light be installed at this intersection. I welcome your input at the September YCA meeting.

Continuing with the theme of public safety, many North Arlington neighborhoods experienced a rash of car larcenies this summer. During a 60 day

period this summer, residents reported 189 car larcenies --- an increase of 133 percent over the same period in 2018. After viewing dozens of posts on Nextdoor, I decided to arrange a meeting with the Arlington County Police to discuss issue. On Friday, July 12th, I met with four Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) officers at the Caribbean Grill. We discuss various strategies for preventing car larcenies and ideas for apprehending the perpetrators. They mentioned their "9 PM Routine" signs and thier social media campaign. We also discussed the importance of residents reporting car larcenies (no matter how small), the value of video surveillance systems, and the importance of residents reporting anything that doesn't seem right, especially in the early hours of the morning. Remember, "see something, say something."



The July 8th flood caused extensive damage to dozens of homes in the Yorktown neighborhood. The YCA Executive Committee will continue to ask the County Board what they are doing to improve the storm water infrastructure and reduce flash flood risks to property owners.

In Lee Highway news, the Lee Highway Alliance (LHA) and the county government continue to make progress on Plan Lee Highway (PLH) process. The slogan for the PLH is Local Ideas/Liveable Future. County planners will be holding Open Studio sessions at LHA office every other Friday from 12-3:30 PM. Natasha Alfonso-Ahmed, the Plan Lee Highway Project Manager, will be available to discuss the project and answer questions. This fall, planners will be developing ideas and evaluating land use scenarios. Please google, "Lee Highway Alliance" for more information.

The Yorktown Civic Association Executive Committee continues to move
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Next Meeting! Wednesday, September 18 • 7:30 pm • Yorktown High School Patriot Hall
Enter Door #8 on 28th St. N. (near basketball courts). Agenda: Harrison & 26th Intersection + Car Break-ins

Lee Highway Update

By Dustin Anderson
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This past summer has been a busy one for the Plan Lee Highway team and Working Groups. The Plan Lee Highway effort is currently in Phase One – the information-gathering stage. Phase One commenced with the publication of a Kick-Off Meetings Report and the initiation of work on the Existing Conditions Analysis Report. This work included a series of Neighborhood Focus Group meetings at the Lee Highway Alliance (LHA) office. The Existing Conditions Analysis Report will provide a baseline understanding of the Lee Highway corridor's current conditions and will be used to inform development.

Throughout the summer, the County conducted interviews with property owners, developers, and land use attorneys to document existing conditions, potential housing types, and best practices in the corridor. As the team explored the nine key planning elements, they concurrently presented material to the Working Group on June 19th and July 10th for feedback. The nine planning elements include:

- Land Use
- Urban Design & Building Form
- Housing
- Transportation
- Public Spaces
- Historic and Cultural Resources
- Schools, Community Facilities & Social Hubs

In July, historic preservation specialists began surveys of historic and cultural resources along the Lee Highway corridor including businesses, homes, apartment buildings, and community resources 50 years of age or older.

How can the Yorktown Civic Association Stay Involved?

The Open Design Studios, forums available to anyone interested in asking questions about the Plan Lee Highway effort and hosted by the Country's Project Manager, will be held on September 27th, October 11th and 25th and November 2nd. They run from Noon - 3:30PM @ the LHA office (Russell Building, 4620 Lee Hwy, Suite 208).
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Join the Yorktown Civic Association!

Your Annual or Lifetime Membership supports the cost of the *Civic Pride* newsletter, website management, and other outreach. If you have already joined in 2019, you should see that on your newsletter address label.

2019 Annual Membership: \$20
YCA Lifetime Membership: \$100

By PayPal, send your name + address to yorktowncivicassociation@gmail.com.
By check, make payable to Yorktown Civic Association and mail to:

Dustin Anderson, YCA Treasurer,
5104 23rd Road N.,
Arlington, Virginia 22207.

Include your name, address, phone number, email and indicate an annual or lifetime membership when you renew.

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Report from the President's Desk

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toward incorporating the civic association as a 501(C)4 non-profit corporation. The draft bylaws are almost done and will be posted on the Yorktown Civic Association website soon. If you have any expertise in bylaws for non-profit organizations, please contact me.

Please pay your dues. Annual membership dues are \$20 and lifetime membership dues are \$100. The Yorktown Civic

Association newsletter reaches over 2000 local households. If you own a local business, please consider purchasing an ad in the YCA newsletter. Contact Dustin Anderson for more information.

Follow all the Yorktown Civic Association news on our yorktowncivic.org website, Facebook, and Nextdoor.

Lee Highway Update

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A Community Forum, with Yorktown Civic Association Executive Committee members in attendance, will meet to discuss the report on Nov. 2nd. A Public Workshop is planned for early 2020.

The YCA will continue to update the neighborhood on progress as the Plan Lee Highway effort transitions to Phase 2. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mike Cantwell or Dustin Anderson.

Arlington County Numbers & Resources

Street Flooding, Water, Sewer emergencies: 703-228-6555

Traffic Signals/Street Light Outages: 703-228-6511

Fallen Trees: 703-228-6525

Signs, Potholes, Trash, Sidewalks: 703-228-6570

Retail Code Enforcement: 703-228-3232

Non-emergency Police #: 703-558-2222

Power Outages: Dominion Va Power 866-366-4357

Natural Gas: Washington Gas 703-750-1400

Arlington Alert: A great way to stay informed:

www.arlingtonalert.com

Police reports can be made online:

<https://police.arlingtonva.us/online-police-reporting-system/>

Additional Resources are available at <https://yorktowncivic.org/resources/>

