# **CRYSTAL CITY INSIDER**

The monthly newsletter of the Crystal City Civic Association



#### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

December 2020

Welcome to our new CCCA Officers. We are already planning for some changes in 2021, including bimonthly virtual meetings live streamed to Facebook. Let us know if you have suggestions for topics you would like to be covered. Do renew your membership now and stay involved.

- Carol Fuller, CCCA President

#### CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND LIVABILITY 22202 ISSUES

# **CCCA Annual Meeting November 11**

The November 11, 2020, Annual Meeting was live streamed on our <u>CCCA Facebook page</u> and can be viewed there.

- 1. <u>Election of Officers</u>: Welcome to our new (and returning) officers. The following were elected by acclamation poll for a two-year term:
- Vice President for Policy and Planning: Christopher Wimbush
- Treasurer: Eric Cassel
- Membership Liaison: Emily Norton
- Communications Director: Idris Clay
- 2. <u>Amendment to ByLaws</u>: The following proposed amendment was approved by vote and will be added to Section 2.1 Members:

Further, residents of Potomac Yards/Arlington, an area that is outside the CCCA boundaries established in Section 1.3 but currently not covered by any civic association, may be considered as non-voting Associate Members, provided that they are not active members of another civic association.

- 3. <u>Updates on Development in Crystal City (from 12th Street to 2525 Crystal Drive):</u> You can see the <u>PowerPoint slides here.</u>
- 4. <u>Updates on Livability22202 Working Groups and Issues:</u> You can see the <u>PowerPoint slides here.</u>

# **Winners of Underground Challenge Announced**

Livability22202 announced the winners of the "Underground Challenge" November 11, 2020. Ideas ranged from suggestions of potential businesses, like a hardware store or library, to more creative suggestions, such as using the space for urban agriculture or STEM-related activities for youth. And participants especially emphasized the valuable role that the Underground serves in transportation and commuting, especially during inclement weather.

**Patricia Heath's** "Underground Energy" won first place in the "Write Underground" category, and Ms. Heath wrote compellingly of all the benefits and uses the Underground provides to residents: "the Water Park may be the outdoor personification of our Crystal City urban village, but the Underground is its beating heart and circulatory system, literally and figuratively."



Runners up in the creative writing category also included **Neena Gupta's** enlightening "In Search of a Protagonist" and **Matthew Mercado's** clever "Dr. Mercado's Diagnosis."

Winner of the video category "Tik Tok Underground" was **Kari Klaus**, who literally envisioned a transformation of the Underground inspired by Las Vegas, with its many interior spaces and fantastical settings. **Emma Benson** and **Eric Cassel** were runners up in this category, with creative videos offering both fond - and satirical - commentary on the existing Underground experience.

Entrants in a third category were invited to submit a "business plan" for how to support the Underground through commercial use of the space. **Matt McKinstry** offered a creative set of ideas for transforming little used Underground spaces, possibly rebranded as the "Under Grange," to support urban agriculture and agritech startups, with indoor farming able to supply local restaurants. Indoor hydroponic farms could be created and harness efficient LED technology,

circulating nutrient-laden water to grow vegetables, greens, and herbs. Runners up in the business plan category included **Michael Hong**, who made a compelling case for an entertainment district with larger vacant spaces converted into entertainment centers. Another runner up for in the business plan category was **John Chapin**, who recognized advantages in the Underground's "unique physical characteristics compared to other publicly-oriented metro-accessible spaces in the DC area," and proffered use of the space for security related enterprises, with Secure Compartmented Information Facilities (SCIF) as a potential asset for multiple businesses.

Winners in each category were awarded gift cards to Ted's Montana Grill, Sweetgreen, and Jaleo, and runners up also received gift certificates. The overall effort (and awards) have been supported by the National Landing Business Improvement District, with additional support from JBG Smith. Judging of the entries was provided by Arlington videographer Eric Courtney, Robert Siegel, former co-host of National Public Radio's All Things Considered, and noted authors and Arlington residents Rick Hodges and Kim O'Connell.

Judges noted the breadth of creative thinking across all categories and felt that a combination of many of these ideas might make for a compelling overall plan for the Underground that is robust across many business cycles.

Community leaders plan to continue sharing the ideas generated in the Underground Challenge entries, to foster further discussion about the overall future of the Crystal City Underground with interested parties. Read the full press release here. And an ArlNow.com article.

# **Working Group Report on Housing Affordability**

After a year of work, two well attended workshops and many meetings of a 10 person working group, the report of the Livability22202 Housing working group on housing livability in 22202 has been published. This report was previously shared in draft form with participants of Livability workshops as

well as presented at meetings for each of the civic associations. This is, of course, part of the greater Livability project and specific recommendations should be taken into account with the other community needs raised by Livability, such as open space and schools.

This report reviews the housing history, data, and recommendations prepared by 22202 residents to address the need for diverse and affordable housing types in the area. Given the upward pressure on rents and housing prices that have already restricted who can live in 22202, this report provides a series of detailed proposals for ensuring the neighborhood can be welcoming to a diverse population. These recommendations were developed through two workshops in early 2020 and written by a group of neighborhood residents. A brief summary of the Livability22202 housing recommendations, explained in detail in the full report.

# **Working Group Report on Open Space**

The summary report of the February Open Space Working Group, and subsequent actions, is in final edit and will be released by mid-December.

# **AFAC Food Drive Very Successful**

The CCCA teamed up with Aurora Highlands Civic Association, the National Landing BID, and Flare Rides to organize a food drive in the National Landing area from October 31 to November 13. A total of 1490 pounds was collected from 14 sites. Great job, folks!

# **HUG Project Bedded down for the winter**



Highlands Urban Garden (HUG) is a collaborative pilot project of Livability22202 with the Arlington Friends of Urban Agriculture (FOUA), the National Landing BID, and Arlington County Department of Parks & Recreation to develop a demonstration urban garden. Thanks to a group of volunteers, the ground is mulched, the rings are filled with soil, the seeds for cover crops sown. In early spring, seed crops will be planted and rain barrels installed. The small-scale Highlands Urban Garden will demonstrate modern sustainable agricultural practices such as modular, low-impact design principles, sustainable water management practices, and incorporate smart technology to collect agriculture metrics. A team of neighborhood volunteers will help install, maintain and

manage the garden. With on-site signage, the Highlands Urban Garden will inform passers-by on the plants, techniques, and principles used to grow a mix of edible vegetative crops, pollinators, and local natives. As a pilot site, the Highlands Urban Garden will serve as a model for future community-driven agriculture features throughout Arlington's urban neighborhoods.

## **CRYSTAL CITY (AND NEARBY)**

# 101 S. 12th Street Site Plan Approved

JBG Smith's site plan was approved at the County Board meeting November 14. This was the most open and participatory community engagement process the County (and Crystal City) has seen. It was a pilot project to go virtual for 2 community engagement meetings, an SPRC, Transportation and Planning Commission meetings, and County Board and was deemed successful from that perspective. We did fight and lose the "community benefit" of the Ball Street extension from 12th to

10th Streets, but hopefully, the County and JBG will look for ways to mitigate cut through traffic. On the good side, the following reflect community input:

- --Ultimately the County will control Gateway Park, more than one acre, and the applicants will contribute \$300,000 to the cost of a public planning process and buildout.
- --The project will achieve LEED Gold a standard which should be the baseline for all projects going forward. Overall the design of the building is acceptable, although it is another example of how the Sector Plan's call for architectural features has been watered down.
- --Stormwater is a problem on both sides of the project, but the applicants now plan to adopt mitigation measures.

# 1550 and 1770 Properties Coming "Online"

JBG has turned over the 1550 and 1770 Crystal Drive Properties to lessees to fit out and occupy their premises. **Amazon** has officially moved into the renovated 1770 Crystal Drive building as of November 16. However, employees who are able to telecommute are not being called back to the office until June 2021. **Mah Ze Dahr Bakery** is coming between the (as-yet-unannounced) grocery and CVS, per the sign. **Morton's** Morton's The Steakhouse, is now open again! www.mortons.com.

#### **Planning Process for Army Navy Drive Changes Nearly Complete**

The updated plans—which are 90% complete—were presented in a virtual public hearing on November 18. County staff are taking public comments via email on this version until **December 4**, and the final plans will be submitted next summer. Construction on the section of road from S. Joyce Street to S. Eads Street is slated to begin in 2022. Community feedback led to two major changes. First, another block of protected bike lane was added to connect the bike lane west of S. Lynn Street with the planned protected bike lane starting at S. Joyce Street. Another change was to align the bumpy pedestrian ramps with the crosswalk. Initially, the ramps were perpendicular to the crosswalk, which advocates said directs vision-impaired pedestrians into harm's way. Read more here.

# **JBG Proposed Changes to Water Park Raise Concerns**

JBG Smith has submitted a site plan amendment to make changes to the Crystal City Water Park, as we have posted previously. At our request, they are holding a virtual public community meeting **December 2** from 6-7 pm to show their revised plans and get feedback from the community. JBG and



Equity Realty own the park, but it is also one of the most well-known symbols of Crystal City. So we will want to be informed and let them know what we do and don't like in their plan. One of the key issues is the proposal to put 8 back-to-back kiosks at the edge of the park with 2 sidewalks on either side--1 between the kiosks and a tree-lined buffer to the street and a larger one open to the park. If the kiosks go in, what do you think they should sell: e.g., only food and

drink? That's a JBG decision, but if you have strong feelings or good ideas, be prepared to suggest them. The link to register for the meeting is <u>here</u>.

#### **Pentagon City PDSP Study**

The first Public Workshop for the Pentagon City Planning Study took place October 15. The meeting materials, including notes from all of the breakout groups, are now available on the study website.

The Public Workshop scheduled for **November 17** has been postponed to **December 9** from 6:30-8 pm. Livability22202 submitted a number of slides during the submit-a-slide exercise by October 31. The slides were requested from a broad audience of Pentagon City stakeholders as a to follow-up on something to discuss further at the workshop or new ideas. The Livability slides are posted on the **Livability22202 website**.

# **LRPC: Study on Crystal City Heights**

On November 12, Arlington County initiated a long-range planning study to consider recommending new maximum building height parameters and associated updates to the Crystal City Sector Plan and amendments to the C-O Crystal City zoning district. The study will consider new height parameters that support the vision and goals of the Crystal City Sector Plan and help achieve additional community benefits, and also identify and mitigate any potential impacts created by increased building heights. The study is not intended to revisit the sector plan's vision, goals, and objectives, which lay a foundation for achieving a long-range vision for Crystal City. The focus of the study will be limited to evaluating the building heights and testing whether changes would result in impacts to other elements of the plan, and if so, whether changes are necessary to those elements to ensure that the plan continues to work well moving forward. This study will occur over several months and is envisioned to be completed in mid-2021.

# The VDOT Route 1 Multimodal Feasibility Study

The first Public Engagement Meeting will be held Wednesday, **December 16** at 6:30 P.M. This virtual meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to:

- Review existing conditions
- Hear about public survey responses
- Ask questions and provide input

The purpose of this feasibility study is to identify enhanced multimodal connectivity and accommodations along Route 1 (between 12th Street to 23rd Streets) to meet the changing transportation needs of the Crystal City and Pentagon City communities. As this area's commercial and residential densities continue to increase, transportation plans will need to address the wideranging needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, motorists, and other users while maximizing the safety, convenience, and sustainability of the system for decades to come. At this time, no construction funding has been allocated, so this study will not set design or construction dates.

See the Study webpage here.

#### What Amazon's Arlington Headquarters means to local small businesses

With Amazon's campus bringing 25,000 jobs to Arlington, Virginia in the next decade, restaurant



owner Freddie Lutz keeps one eye on a better future for his hometown and one eye on bringing joy to his customers during hard times. "Freddie's will be here 20 years in March, and we look forward to the next 20 years, partnering up with Amazon and also glamazon," said Lutz, who champions the rights of the LGBTQ community. "Amazon has made Arlington better by bringing excitement and hope to all of us that work and live here—hope for a better,

more exciting world after this horrible pandemic." See the Amazon article here.

# At Two-Year Mark, Amazon Says HQ2 is On Track for Construction and Hiring Goals

Despite the pandemic, Phase One of construction — on the Metropolitan Park development site in Pentagon City — continues on-schedule. Amazon is also funding the \$14 million renovation of Metropolitan Park, adjacent to the first HQ2 phase. Both Phase One and the park are expected to be completed in 2023, when Amazon expects to open its complex. Until then, it is leasing several temporary office spaces in Crystal City.

The second phase of HQ2 should be ready to present to the community and go through the county's approval process starting in 2021. That phase is expected to include several million additional square feet at the PenPlace development site, one block down from the first phase along S. Eads Street. Amazon recently bought a hotel on the PenPlace block, with plans to tear it down.

Amazon reached the 1,000-employee mark earlier this year, hiring first in Human Resources, Recruiting and Finance. It has 500 open roles currently, and plans to continue its hiring spree for the foreseeable future. Read more here.

# **Long Bridge Park**

Major progress recently. The Esplanade should be done soon. Check out the photos and video on the <u>Long Bridge Park Facebook page</u>.

# **Dec 2 Visual Verse in Crystal City**

The Nation's 23rd Poet Laureate Joy Harjo joins Arlington Poet Laureate Holly Karapetkova and two other regional poets laureate will have their poems projected onto large, highly-visible screens at 2011 Crystal Drive **December 2** from 6 – 9pm. Drivers and pedestrians will see the towering words in a safe socially distance manner. More Information

# **Pentagon Row Now Allowing To-Go Alcohol**

A month after Shirlington Village first allowed it, "sipping and strolling" is now permitted at Pentagon Row. The shopping centers, owned by Bethesda-based Federal Realty Investment Trust, both applied for new Virginia ABC "Commercial Lifestyle Center" permits earlier this year. Pentagon Row's permit was just approved. The permit, which was enabled by a new Virginia law that went into effect on July 1, allows customers to take beer, wine and cocktails to go within a privately-owned shopping center. In the case of Pentagon Row, patrons can buy the drinks at any of a half dozen restaurants, then enjoy them while strolling around the recently-opened ice skating rink or other parts of the retail district. Read more here.

# Pentagon Row Ice Rink Now Open for the Season

The 6,840-square-foot ice rink is the largest outdoor rink in Northern Virginia and the second largest in the state. It features an outdoor dual-sided stone fireplace for lounging during skating breaks. Hours: M-Th: Noon – 10pm; Fri: Noon – 11pm; Sat: 10am – 11pm; Sun: 10am – 10pm. Safety precautions and protocols will be followed, with mask wearing mandatory. Rink capacity is restricted to 50% with expanded seating to allow for social distancing. Read more here.

# **Temporary Dog run in Virginia Highlands Park**

The Virginia Highlands Temporary Dog Run project proposes to develop the space between the baseball diamond and the pétanque courts in Virginia Highlands Park into a temporary dog run.

Originally proposed by Pentagon City Dogs last October, the dog run would include areas for both large and small dogs, fencing with screening in some areas, natural grass surfacing, double entry gates, maintenance gates, repurposed and ADA accessible benches, dog waste receptacles, a message board, The temporary dog park will also be reviewed annually to ensure it is operating safely and in accordance with the County's policies regarding temporary park uses and facilities. More Information

# **Upcoming Signage Plan Could Subtly Shape New Potomac Yard Skyline**

The future of Potomac Yard's building signage may seem overly technical, but the upcoming discussion at the Alexandria December 1 Planning Commission meeting could shape the future of the neighborhood's new skyline. The goal of the signage program, put together by Elkus Manfredi Architects and Roll Barresi & Associates, is to ensure the design of signage throughout Potomac Yard is consistent as new developments are brought forward. Read more here.

# **Marriott Hotel Coming Down**

Now that Amazon has bought the Marriott on Army Navy Drive, interior demolition is underway through the end of the year. Building demolition is anticipated in early 2021. The sidewalk and parking lane will be closed.

#### **Restaurant Updates**

A new Italian market is opening at Pentagon Row with a grab-and-go version of a beloved D.C. restaurant. **Napoli Salumeria** (1301 S. Joyce Street) will have the sandwiches, pastas, salads and desserts of the Michelin Bib Gourmand-rated Napoli Pasta Bar in D.C. (2737 Sherman Avenue NW), but the Pentagon Row location is built around picking up food in the store and taking it home, according to owner Antonio Ferraro. ArlNow.com

# **New Stores Open at Pentagon City Mall**

**Pepper Palace** opened last week on the first floor of the mall. Billing itself as "The Planet's #1 Hot Shop," the Pepper Palace is a chain store that offers "small batch, handcrafted, natural, and award winning products," according to its website. **All Star Sports** opened at the end of October. The retail chain store offers sportswear as well as licensed apparel for men, women and kids. Items include a variety of items from high school jerseys of NFL and NBA players, to movie apparel, to hats, shorts, hoodies, jerseys and more. Finally, **Bonobos** is slated to open Dec. 20, according to the Fashion Centre's website. The New York City-based men's fashion store — noted for its khakis — stakes its claim as a "painless" shopping experience to help men find clothing that "should actually fit." Read more here.

#### ARLINGTON COUNTY ISSUES

# 2020 Election: 4 in 5 Vote by Mail, Drop Box or Early

More Arlingtonians voted in the general election than voted four years ago—although voter turnout this year fell just short of the 2016 percentage. In all, 131,518 voters, or about 79 percent of 166,416 registered voters, cast ballots on Nov. 3. In 2016, turnout was 82 percent (122,023 of 148,032 registered voters). Absentee turnout this year was record-breaking, with more than 108,394

Arlingtonians (65.1% turnout) casting their ballots by mail, drop box, or in person before Election Day. As anticipated due to the COVID-19 pandemic and expected record turnout, more people than ever before voted by mail in Arlington (48,467, 29% turnout). With so many Arlingtonians voting before Nov. 3, turnout remained light throughout Election Day, with only 23,124 people voting (14% turnout). County election officials received no reports of significant technical issues. More than 750 election officers and nearly 100 high school students staffed polling places and the County's Central Absentee Precinct. Read more here.

# **Missing Middle Housing Engagement**

This fall, Arlington kicked off its Missing Middle Housing Study. The purpose of the study is to investigate the possible role of missing middle housing in increasing Arlington County's housing supply and diversifying its range of housing choices. "Missing middle" refers to a range of housing types that fit between single-family detached homes and mid-to-high-rise apartment buildings — duplexes, triplexes, townhomes, and more, such as small apartment buildings and cottage-style development. The CCCA is serving as a community partner on the study and will keep the membership up to date on opportunities to engage and provide feedback as the study continues. The community's first Online Feedback Opportunity is live now until December 31, 2020. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact VP Chris Wimbush. Make sure Crystal City's voice is heard in the study!

# **Arlington Drafting Housing Plan to Guide Federal Dollars in County**

Last month, the County's Tenant-Landlord Commission and Arlington Housing held meetings to review drafts of the FY 2022-2026 Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan provides the strategic framework for the County's housing and community development goals over five years. The plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. It sets the vision for allocating federal resources, including Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program funds, to housing, homelessness, community development, and special needs. Arlington County is the direct recipient of federal CDBG and HOME funds. The draft Consolidated Plan identifies four goals: creating and sustaining affordable housing; Promoting healthy & self-sufficient families; stabilizing households at risk of homelessness; and fostering vibrant and sustainable neighborhoods. Community comments on the draft Consolidated Plan is open until December 4. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact VP Chris Wimbush. Read more and respond here.

# CCCA Participating in County's Dialogues on Race and Equity (DRE) Initiative

On September 19, 2019, the Arlington County Board adopted a Racial Equity Resolution to examine and address racial inequities. Arlington, as well as cities across the nation, are grappling with historical policies and practices that have resulted in residential segregation, which in turn has created racial inequities in food security, housing security, income security as well as gross disparities in access to healthcare, education, and worker protections. While there is strong political will to examine and address racial inequities in Arlington, without a shared understanding and informed examination of the impact of historically unfair systems, new policies supporting racial equity, diversity, and inclusion may remain mostly on paper, no matter the good intentions of the plan. CCCA is a partner organization and will be hosting community dialogues on race and equity in early 2021. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact VP Chris Wimbush. Read more here.

# Community Feedback Sought on Draft Digital Evidence Management Policies

The Arlington County Police Department, Sheriff's Office and Fire Marshals' Office are sought the public's input and feedback on draft Digital Evidence Management System policies, regulating digital audio and video recordings captured by body worn cameras, in-car cameras, and interview room cameras. Deadline was November 29, 2020. The draft policies were developed after an extensive review of model policies by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and policies of police departments across the country with established body worn camera programs. The goal is to create model policies utilizing established best practices and to continue to strengthen community relations and professional standards within the departments by enhancing transparency, accountability and training. Read more here.

# **Arlington Searching for New Police Chief**

Arlington County is hiring a new Police Chief, and Membership Liaison Emily Norton and VP Chris Wimbush participated in a County's organized listening session last month to share their thoughts on the desired background, experience, and capabilities, and character of candidates for the job. CCCA will continue to monitor the search on behalf of our neighborhood, and you can provide your thoughts on the search by completing this survey. If you have any questions or comments, please contact VP Chris Wimbush or Membership Liaison Emily Norton.

# **County Board Accepts Restorative Justice Plan**

The Arlington County Board accepted on November 17 the Restorative Arlington Strategic Plan, which provides a framework for the County to adopt restorative justice practices in our public schools, legal system, and community settings. Arlington expects to receive a \$75,000 grant award from the Annie E. Casey Foundation to help implement the plan. The Restorative Arlington initiative is a Countywide, cross-sector effort to bring the benefits of restorative justice practices to Arlington. Restorative practices help build a supportive community while creating effective responses to conflict and harm. Restorative justice is an alternative to punitive discipline. At its center is community building and repairing not only the harm done, but also relationships.

#### Read more here.

# **Arlington Updating Forestry and Natural Resources Plan**

Arlington is developing the County's Forestry and Natural Resources Master Plan (FNRP). This plan will collectively address the conservation and management of trees and unique ecosystems in the County. Learn more about the process, and participate in the engagement process before **December 10**. The engagement is live and participants can <u>share their thoughts here!</u> Those who'd like to learn more and sign up for updates can do so at <u>projects.arlingtonva.us/fnrp</u>. There is also a <u>short video worth</u> watching.

# **Arlington Cemetery Station Work to Prompt Commute Changes Next Year**

The Arlington Cemetery Metro station is "deteriorating" and Metro's plan to fix it next year will cause some changes for commuters. The platform reconstruction work is currently scheduled to take place from mid-February to May. During that time, those bound for D.C. and Maryland from the Pentagon and stations to the south will be served only by Yellow Line trains and the Yellow Line bridge. The

Arlington Cemetery station project is one of several capital projects Metro has planned for next year. Read more here.

# County Board Focuses on COVID-19 in FY 2022 Budget Guidance

The Arlington County Board has directed County Manager Mark Schwartz to focus on supporting residents and businesses hard-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic as he prepares his Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget. Providing guidance to the Manager during the November 17 Recessed Meeting, the Board asked that his proposed budget reflect "a range of economic forecasts from a worst-case to a best-case assessment." Noting the uncertain times, the Board directed the Manager to use one-time funding, such as additional COVID-19 relief funds from the state and federal governments and the County's Stabilization Reserve, to cover up to half the anticipated budget gap of \$41 – \$56 million. The Board voted unanimously to approve the FY 2022 Budget guidance. To view the staff presentation, visit the County website. Scroll to Item no. 41 on the agenda for the Tues., November 17 Recessed County Board Meeting. View the Board's full FY 2022 Budget Guidance here.

#### **OTHER ISSUES**

# **Project Journey Updates**

Despite all that has happened this year, the COVID-19 pandemic has not slowed Project Journey down. Sign up for email updates.

In the last few months, electrochromic glass installation has begun making its way around the elevated Security Checkpoint buildings. There will be nearly 600 panes per checkpoint – with each



one connected to wires to allow adjustments to the amount of light allowed through. Opacity of the glass will be programmed to the time of day and changing seasons to allow for better interior climate control management, as well as reducing glare. Inside, steel is being painted in the airport's signature color of ochre yellow. Additionally, staircases have been assembled, and preparations to install escalators to the Ticketing level are ongoing.

While work on the new 14-gate concourse remains mostly behind fences and walls, constructing two new security checkpoints above a roadway and attaching them to Terminal B/C has resulted in some changes for passengers. Here's what to expect:

- Curbside drop-offs and pick-ups at Terminal B/C take place upstairs on the Ticketing level. Taxis remain available for passengers departing the airport downstairs outside Baggage Claim.
- One pair of elevators in Terminal B that connects Ticketing, Concourse/Gates and Baggage Claim is out of service for construction inside Terminal B/C. Green-colored signs point passengers to nearby operating elevators.



- One set of exterior doors is closed on the Ticketing level, and three sets of doors at each end of Terminal B/C are closed near Baggage Claim. Signs point to adjacent open doorways.
- There are no major changes to passenger flow in the terminal and to/from all gates.

# **GAO** issues report on Perimeter Rule at Reagan National Airport

GAO has issued its report, entitled Reagan National Airport: Information on Effects of Federal Statute Limiting Long-Distance Flights. This report examined: (1) what is known about the effects of the existing beyond-perimeter flights at Reagan National; and (2) key considerations if additional beyond-perimeter flights are allowed. Overall, we found that while the 40 daily beyond-perimeter flights to or from Reagan National accounted for about 6 percent of flights and 10 percent of passengers at the airport in 2019, the additional flights may have had some limited effects, including further reducing the airport's landside capacity (e.g., ticketing and gates). We also found that several factors—existing slot control rules; capacity at Reagan National; and potential effects on noise, other area airports, passengers, and airline competition—should be considered in any decision to further modify Reagan National's perimeter rule. You can access the full report here.

#### **New Measures to Contain COVID-19**

As COVID-19 cases continue to rise in Virginia, Governor Ralph Northam announced new actions effective November 16 to mitigate the spread of the virus in Virginia, including a limit of 25 individuals for in-person gatherings, expanded mask mandate, on-site alcohol curfew and increased enforcement. Read more here.

#### Here's a Look at the Forthcoming Arlington National Cemetery Expansion

A major project to add 70 acres to Arlington National Cemetery while reconfiguring the eastern end of Columbia Pike is inching forward. The cemetery's southern expansion project will add about 60,000 burial sites, across 37 acres of new burial plots and an above-ground columbarium, allowing the cemetery to continue military burials through the 2050s. It will also bring the Air Force Memorial within the cemetery grounds, and add a parking garage across Columbia Pike.

# **Get Your Holiday Wreath Locally**

The Aurora Highlands Womens Club (AHWC) has a tradition of holding an annual fundraiser for local charities, where its talented members design and decorate custom wreaths. Due to the pandemic, however, they are unable to get together for this work, so they have instead partnered with Lynch Creek Farm to provide the wreaths. This year the funds raised will be go to two charities, the Hume School building, which houses the Arlington Historical Museum and the Arlington Food Assistance Center. Wreaths are delivered directly to you or your friends and family with nationwide delivery. With the wreath sales, AWHC has provided over \$147,000 in donations to local organizations over the past ten years. More Information.

# CRYSTAL CITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD

President Carol Fuller

Vice President for Policy & Planning Christopher Wimbush

Meeting Secretary Patricia Heath

Communications Director Idris Clay

Membership Liaison Emily Norton

Treasurer Eric Cassel

Join on our website: <a href="http://www.crystalcitycivic.org/">http://www.crystalcitycivic.org/</a>

Or Renew Your Membership
Pay through PayPal

Or send a check for \$10 to:
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