

CRYSTAL CITY INSIDER

The monthly newsletter of the Crystal City Civic Association



October 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I enter my last month as CCCA President, I want to thank everyone for their support and kind words. It's been very tiring, but at the same time invigorating and enlightening. I encourage everyone to consider stepping forward to help out on civic engagement.

- Carol Fuller, CCCA President

CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND LIVABILITY 22202 ISSUES

How to Attend CCCA Meetings in the Future

In response to our survey, members voted overwhelmingly for a hybrid approach that would allow members to decide if they want to attend a CCCA meeting in person or on Zoom. The Executive Committee is testing out the options at the Aquatic Center community rooms in the hope of trying it out for our Annual Meeting November 17.

September 22 CCCA General Meeting

Another good meeting. See the details and links to all of the presentations on the agenda on the [CCCA website](#):

1. Presentation by JBG on minor changes to the Water Park due to repositioning of trees
2. Presentation by Dweck on its new development strategy and outreach to the community on its 6 buildings in Crystal City– Andy Van Horn, new Senior VP for Development
3. Presentation by Virginia Tech on its plans and operations for the Innovation Campus at Potomac Yard

Save the Date: November 17 Annual CCCA General Meeting

So far, we've confirmed that we will have our annual CCCA elections and a presentation by Amazon on its operations in 22202 and its plans for PenPlace. Stay tuned for details in early November.

November CCCA Elections

Our ByLaws call for elections at our Annual General Meeting in November, whereas vacancies during the year are appointed by the Executive Committee. So it's time to start thinking whether you would be willing to serve a two-year term as one of our officers. Our ByLaws only permit officers to serve two back-to-back terms in the same office, so your President is ending her second term. So far, we know we will have elections for President, Vice President, and Meeting Secretary and possibly Treasurer. We have lots of wonderful folks who help out on the Executive Committee, but we need officially elected volunteers to make decisions and run the CCCA. Nominations will open by October 17, so there's plenty of time to think about this. Consider stepping forward.

Proposed Change to CCCA ByLaws

When the CCCA was founded in 2014, we created ByLaws based on what we projected would be most appropriate for our community. We've had minor changes twice and now propose a third. The position of Vice President for Policy and Planning was created with the specific purpose of handling both issues. We have found this description to be too limiting, as many Executive Committee members participate in this process and attend the numerous Site Plan Review Committees (SPRC) and other planning meetings. Our sister civic associations use a more general description which we are going to propose for the CCCA as well, essentially: "The Vice President shall act in the stead of the President in his or her absence and shall perform any additional duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution and Bylaws." A final ByLaws amendment will be proposed at the November 17 Annual Meeting and voted on by all eligible CCCA voting members.

VDOT Route 1 Multimodal Feasibility Study Update

The VDOT draft report was issued September 1 with a 30 day comment period to September 30 and a final report due mid-October. It shows some improvements, including plans for a number of studies to be done during a Phase 2, expected to begin in late October or November. Following intensive study of the draft report, the Livability22202 Working Group submitted a detailed reply to VDOT with a letter September 29, an Appendix 1 on suggestions for Phase 2 studies, and an Appendix 2 with a potential plan and a sketch for a ped/bike underpass under Route 1 at 18th Street. See the updates, letter and plan/sketch on the [Livability22202 website here](#).

In our letter, we note specifically that "The Commonwealth's commitment to Amazon is to improve safety, accessibility, and the pedestrian experience crossing Route 1." The stated purpose therefore of the VDOT study was "to identify enhanced multimodal connectivity and accommodations along and across Route 1 in Crystal City, to meet the changing transportation needs of this growing urban activity center." **The proposal in the draft study fails on all accounts: it will compromise both safety and connectivity and affect negatively the pedestrian experience crossing Route 1. Moreover, much depends on the proposed TDM that may or may not mitigate traffic sufficiently. Given the potential for TDM, it isn't clear why immediate implementation wouldn't be appropriate. Therefore, if VDOT's Phase 2 Study fails to support its Phase 1 recommendation, we believe the Phase 1 recommendation will have to be modified or abandoned.**

COVID UPDATES

Booster Shots: Arlington County Public Health is now offering COVID-19 vaccine boosters for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to certain people at least 6 months after their Pfizer primary series. Appointments are required at [Arlington Public Health Clinics](#). Visit vaccinate.virginia.gov to find additional locations and appointments near you. Pharmacies are offering them too.

QR Codes: If You Were Vaccinated in Virginia, You Can Now Download a QR Code as Proof. It'll come in handy if you lose your paper vaccination card. Vaccinated individuals can go to Virginia's [vaccine portal](#) to obtain their code, which can be saved to a photo gallery or as a digital file on a phone.

Shots for 5-11 year olds: Arlington County and Virginia have been planning for the possible expansion of vaccine availability for children aged 5 to 11 years. More details of the distribution will be shared as it is available.

CRYSTAL CITY (AND NEARBY)

Development/Construction Timelines (TBD)

The following timelines are very tentative but will give residents an idea of what to expect and when from a variety of projects. We go over these timelines at our CCCA meetings as well. **Reminder that you can check the status and location of projects throughout Arlington County on the interactive map My Arlington: [My Arlington \(arlingtonva.us\)](http://MyArlington.arlingtonva.us)**

Upcoming Meetings and Deadlines:

- 10/4: LRPC Online Engagement (CC Building Heights Study). (anticipated start of 10-day feedback)
- 10/8: Release of 2nd version of Pentagon City Draft Plan, Transportation Analysis, and Response Matrix
- 10/12: Virtual Open House (Pentagon City Planning Study)
- 2nd Half of October: Online Engagement Opportunity (Pentagon City Planning Study)
- 10/16: County Board to approve Water Park landscape improvements & Century Center amendment
- 10/18: LRPC #2, Pentagon City Planning Study
- 10/20: LRPC on 2306 and 2316 S Eads Street
- 10/25: C2E2, Climate Change, Energy and Environment Commission on Pentagon City Planning Study
- Last Week of October: PenPlace site walking tour + start of SPRC online engagement (anticipated start of 10-day feedback) [tentative]
- Week of November 8-12, Interdepartmental County-led Open House (DES, CPHD, DPR) to discuss all things 22202
- November TBD, beginning of planning process for 2520 Crystal Drive/223 23rd Street
- End of year (TBD), submission of site plan for Americana Hotel
- TBD, JBG community meeting on the Future of the Underground

Additional Meeting Dates for the Pentagon City Planning Study (confirmed so far):

- 11/1 or 11/3: PC (Planning Commission) – RTA
- 11/4: HC (Housing Commission) – RTA
- 11/13 or 11/16: CB (County Board) - RTA
- 11/16: UFC (Urban Forestry Commission)
- 11/18: PRC (Parks & Rec Commission) - action
- 11/22: TC (Transportation Commission) - action
- 11/30 or 12/2: PC (Planning Commission) – Final Plan
- 12/2: HC (Housing Commission) – Final Plan
- 12/11 or 12/14: CB (County Board) – Final Plan

New Issues:

- 18th Street Complete Street Project, construction to start in September
- Metro Entrance Plaza Upgrade by BID and Mural construction likely in October

- CC2DCA: NEPA process to determine need and purpose began, 1st report online; draft environmental impact statement by 2023, setting it up for a final approval from the Federal Highway Administration in 2024; next meeting in October
- 2000/2001 S Bell: demolition will continue till mid-November; construction expected to begin by end of the year; JBG is planning a presentation to Crystal Plaza residents in September.
- 241-251 18th Street renovation of plazas on both sides of 241; construction of green areas on 18th Street as well as the plazas is expected through the end of the year.
- 223 23rd Street/2250 Crystal Drive site plan; southern end of Block M; revised site plan submitted in July; both JBG and Dweck will participate in the first LRPC probably in October and SPRC in first quarter 2022; once approved, first construction will be to narrow 23rd Street for the County.
- Pentagon City PDSP Study, first draft is out based on August 23 feedback; LRPC#2 October 18
- PenPlace Amazon HQ2: LRPC #4 met July 13; SPRC online process to start late October
- Crystal Square Central District Construction/Opening: *Tacombi Taqueria* will open soon; *Solidcore* opened August 7. *Grocery* still not announced but construction underway and may open by late 2021 or early 2022; *Alamo Draft House* has announced an opening in Spring 2022
- Long Bridge Aquatic Center: soft opening August 23; VIP ribbon cutting September 23; Open House September 25
- Transitway Extension to 12th Street and 12th Street Complete Project: public engagement meeting September 1; Construction on combined projects expected December 2021 for 12 months
- Water Park redesign: approval of minor site plan amendment needed by County Board in October for repositioning of some trees; construction may start afterwards; completion winter/spring 2023
- Americana Hotel: JBG expects to submit a site plan by the end of the year for a residential building to replace the hotel

No Change In Information:

- 15th Street/Clark Bell Realignment, 90% design, comment period closed July 9
- 1900 Crystal Drive construction: 3 years construction to 2024; started mid-April; Center Park and library tied to construction
- VRE Design for New Station: final design 2021-2022; award and construction 2022-2024
- Boundary Channel (VDOT): award contract summer 2021; construction 2022; target construction completion fall 2023
- MetPark Amazon HQ2 and Park: Target construction completion mid-2023
- 101 S 12th Street: approved by County Board December; no construction in 2021 until tenant signed; Gateway Park design when construction finished in 2-3 years
- 2121 Crystal Drive (Dining in the Park); no construction earlier than end 2021 with 2023 opening if a restaurant tenant lease is signed in 2021
- New Park at South Eads Street and Army Navy Drive: Design approved by CB June 2021; Construction Begins 3rd Quarter 2022 and ends 3rd Quarter 2023

Construction Alert

On October 9-10, 18th Street between Crystal Drive and Bell Street will be closed to accommodate installation of construction cranes for the 1900 Crystal Drive development project. Construction will not be very noisy, but will start at 3 am on Saturday and 7 am on Sunday and last until 9 pm. Traffic engineering services will provide traffic control and ensure pedestrian safety.

Water Park New Site Plan Amendment

When JBGS staff went to finalize their landscaping plan for the Water Park, they realized that some of the existing trees that they had hoped to save could not be saved: two towards the front of the park, and two at the back. Trees will be replaced by equivalent trees elsewhere in the park. County Board to approve in October.

Crystal City Building Heights Study

The Crystal City Building Heights Study (CCBHS) last met on July 28; the staff presentation and meeting recording are available through [this LRPC page](#). There will be an LRPC online engagement **October 4** followed by a 10 day feedback process.

Pentagon City PDSP Planning Study Update

Public comments on [the draft Pentagon City Plan and Transportation Analysis](#) were due on August 23rd. Release of 2nd version of Pentagon City Draft Plan expected October 8; Transportation Analysis, and Response Matrix will follow soon. Stay tuned for an October 12 Virtual Open House followed by an Online Engagement Opportunity 2nd Half of October and an **LRPC#2 October 18**. Additional meetings in November.

PenPlace

The final LRPC meeting for PenPlace, part of the new Amazon HQ2, was held on July 13. The application presentation from this meeting is [here](#). PenPlace will next go through the SPRC process. An online SPRC for community input will take place for 10 days **starting the last week of October**. There will also be a walking tour.

Dominion Construction on 18th and Eads Streets

Phase one of the project, which includes excavating the future building location, is complete. We are moving into phase two, constructing the basement of the new building. In early October 2021, we will begin removing the lattice roof on the existing substation. This will involve cranes and loud equipment, as well as extended hours to complete this work. During this time, there will be a temporary road and sidewalk closure on South Hayes Street. Work is scheduled to occur on two Saturdays - **Oct. 16 and Oct. 30** between the hours of 5 a.m. and 9 p.m. We will make every effort to minimize disruptions to the community.

LRPC Tier I Review on 2306 and 2316 S Eads Street

On October 20 at 7pm, staff will initiate a Tier I Initial Review Special General Land Use Plan (GLUP) Study, to be conducted under the auspices of the Long Range Planning Committee of the Planning Commission (LRPC), for two parcels on South Eads Street in Crystal City between 23rd and 24th Streets South. A GLUP amendment request has been submitted to amend the Crystal City Coordinated Redevelopment District (CCCRD) boundary to include the southern parcel to allow for the potential redevelopment of both parcels under the C-O Crystal City zoning district with a rezoning from C-2 and C-1-O.

Urban Agriculture Month



Arlington County has proclaimed October 2021 as Urban Agriculture Month. To launch it, the Friends of Urban Agriculture (FOUA) is hosting a day of appreciation for everyone who works or volunteers in gardens, farmers markets, food pantries, school gardens, community gardens, etc. Meet us outside at the Central Library Saturday, **October 2 from 10:00am – 11:30am**. County Board Members Matt de Ferranti and Libby Garvey will be there to present the County's urban ag month proclamation. We want to thank YOU with refreshments, fun games, giveaways and more! [RSVP today!](#) [See more events and details here.](#)

Open House at Project HUG, October 23

As part of Urban Agriculture month, we will have an Open House at the Highlands Urban Garden (HUG) on Saturday, October 23 from 10:00 – 11:30am. We'll have a brief recognition ceremony for volunteers and then demonstrate our garden while harvesting produce. Come check it out. Location: Virginia Highlands Park (1600 S Hayes St., Arlington, VA 22202) next to the tennis courts.

CC2DCA Bridge to National Airport Study

A summary of the responses to the CC2DCA questionnaire has been posted on the CC2DCA web page: Click here to access the [summary](#). Visit the [CC2DCA web page](#) for background and future updates. The online questionnaire was available from July 15 to August 15, 2021 to collect public input to help inform the purpose and need for CC2DCA. The County, in coordination with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), hosted a community meeting this summer to introduce the Crystal City to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport Multimodal Connection (CC2DCA) study to the public. The County and VDOT must first establish the purpose and need for the potential connection. An online form was available from July 15 to Aug. 15 for providing input on this part of the study: The County will develop alternatives for the connection and conduct an environmental analysis before identifying a preferred design concept. [Visit the project page](#) to learn more about the study and the environmental review process

Move the Fair to Long Bridge Park?

The Arlington County Fair Board, an independent non-profit which manages the fair, has informed the county that it would like to move the fair to Long Bridge Park. The County's survey apparently showed that most folks want the Fair to stay at Thomas Jefferson. No more details at this point.

NL BID Mural Selection

The BID has selected well-known local artist Lisa Marie Thallender as the artist to create a new mural to be installed on the wall at the exit from the Metro station, beginning in early October. The Metro Entrance Plaza improvement construction project funded by the BID is now expected to break ground in mid-October.

Amazon Is Fueling A Higher-Education Boom

With the arrival of Amazon and a proliferation of other tech companies in fields ranging from big data to cybersecurity, candidates like Bhatia are in high demand. The problem is, there aren't enough to go around. Universities are trying to change that, and in the process, sparking an academic explosion in and around Arlington. Some of the changes in the higher-ed landscape are physical. Virginia Tech, Mason and the University of Maryland are preparing to open gleaming new facilities here to take advantage of the cash, cachet and connections Amazon has brought to the area. [Read the Arlington Magazine article here.](#)

Book Excerpt: Remembering Arlington's Luna Park

Before Six Flags and Busch Gardens, Luna Park, on what is now the Water Treatment Plant, was the



go-to amusement park for D.C. area residents. Opening a few years after the turn of the 20th century, the local Luna Park — it was part of a chain of dozens of parks — featured everything from roller coasters to circus performances. In one famous incident, reminiscent of the recent zebra escape in Maryland, a pack of elephants broke loose from the park during a storm and terrorized unsuspecting local residents for more than a week. Memories of the park and the elephant escapades are included in local journalist, historian and Falls Church News-Press columnist Charlie Clark's new book, *Lost Arlington County*. The book, which

was released September 13, "provides a compendium of gone-but-not-forgotten institutions, businesses, homes and amusements." [See the ArlNow article.](#)

Construction starting this fall on Columbia Pike near Arlington National Cemetery

Construction for the next segment of the Columbia Pike Multimodal Street Improvements project - Segment A, next to Arlington National Cemetery - will begin in fall 2021, with completion expected in 2025. This work is being managed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as part of roadway changes needed to achieve the vision of Arlington National Cemetery's southern expansion. The project will realign Columbia Pike from east of South Oak Street to Washington Boulevard, modify the South Joyce Street intersection and the Columbia Pike/Washington Boulevard (Route 27) interchange, and replace Southgate Road with a new segment of South Nash Street. It also will include a new multi-use trail next to the cemetery, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and a new tunnel between the cemetery and its new maintenance compound. More details will be shared as they become available. [Visit FHWA's project page.](#)

Expanding Housing Choice: The Missing Middle Housing Study Phase 1 Report

During Phase 1 (Oct. 2020 – Fall 2021) of the Missing Middle Housing Study, the study team has relied on community engagement to identify priorities and concerns related to expanding housing supply and choice in Arlington and to determine housing types to study in Phase 2. Expanding Housing Choice: The Missing Middle Housing Study Phase 1 Report summarizes the results of this year-long community engagement effort. [Read the report.](#) [Watch a 5-min. overview and read report highlights.](#)

National Landing Oktoberfest

The National Landing Oktoberfest is making a comeback. The event will feature German beer and food and some more unique local traditions, like dog-themed events tied in with the event's support for the Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA). The Oktoberfest is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 2 in the Lidl parking lot at the intersection of Crystal Drive and 33rd Street S. The event is free to attend, and drink purchases at the event will benefit AWLA. The event is scheduled to be held rain or shine, and tickets are non-refundable. [Pre-registration is required](#) and there is an attendance cap in place for the event. Attendees will also have to show proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test within the preceding 48 hours. Unvaccinated attendees and children under 12 will be required to wear a mask.

Local student honors victims of 9/11 with project at Arlington Fire Department

Part of the steel beam taken from the World Trade Center can now be found at Arlington County Fire Station 5. It was brought to our area more than 10



years ago. Aspiring Eagle Scout Megan Mazel started working on a project to upgrade the memorial more than a year ago, determined to finish in time for the 20th anniversary of Sept. 11. She called the Arlington County Fire Department

and said she wanted to help. Her vision was to create a walking path around the steel beam in the shape of a pentagon, with a point facing north towards the actual Pentagon.

Restaurant and Store News

Jaleo's on Crystal Drive will be closing October 3 for business reasons in advance of anticipated development of the building in 2022.

A combined **Peri Peri Original and Kallisto Steakhouse** restaurant owned by a halal restaurant franchisee will open in about six months next to the Kabob Palace at 2323 S. Eads St..

Four new stores have recently opened in the Fashion Center, with two more expected to open sometime in the next few weeks:

- denim retailer **Levi's** has set up next to Altar'd State, overlooking the food court
- On the second level, luxury goods retailer **Vince** has set up next to Pandora and home décor store **Casa Furniture** on the opposite side of the food court
- Down in the bottom-floor "dining pavilion" — the mall's new term for its food court, **Day & Night Cereal Bar** is offering a dozen specialized milkshakes and cereal bowls, along with coffee and flights of bacon
- A **Subway** had previously closed in the food court, but a new franchise for the sandwich chain is expected to open in November.
- Mediterranean restaurant **Sante'** is planning to open sometime this fall in the adjacent Ritz-Carlton hotel at 1250 S. Hayes Street.

Harris Teeter Limiting Store Hours Due to Staffing Shortages

Starting Wednesday, Sept. 15, all Harris Teeter's will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Stores in Northern Virginia have previously been open 24 hours, or until 11 p.m.

Deli and fresh food market service counters will close at 8 p.m., with all amenities such as sushi, sandwiches and pizza service ending at 7 p.m. The meat and seafood counter will also close at 8 p.m.

Total Wine is taking shape in Potomac Yard

Even though it's still boarded up, Total Wine & More is hiring at its Potomac Yard location. The 18,000 square foot property at 3901 Richmond Highway is the former home of Pier 1 Imports, which closed in March 2020. The Bethesda-based company reportedly plans to open at the location this year, and is now hiring a wine and service specialist, sales associates, cashiers and merchandisers.

ARLINGTON COUNTY ISSUES

Elections November 2



For the **November 2** General and Special Elections voters can make selections for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, 45th, 47th, 48th, or 49th House of Delegate Districts, County Board, and School Board. A Special Election will be held at the same time for 4 proposed Arlington County bond referenda. October 12th is the last day to Register to Vote for the November 2nd election. [See all the details here.](#)

Early In Person Absentee Voting

Voting began September 17 and takes place on the first floor of 2100 Clarendon Blvd, Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm. Hours and locations will expand on October 23.

Vote by Mail

To vote by mail, voters must apply for a mail ballot or be enrolled in the permanent absentee ballot program. Applications must be received by 5pm, Friday, October 22. Voters are required to have a witness present while marking their ballot. The witness can be anyone over the age of 18 and must sign a Statement of Voter affidavit. Ballots can be returned by mail. Pre-paid return postage is provided. Ballots can also be returned in person to a secure drop box, early voting location, or election day polling place. Voters can track their ballot online and will be contacted if there is an error that prevents their ballot from being accepted.

Vote Early In Person

3 early voting locations will be open. Arlington voters can use any location. Hours and dates vary. [Full list of locations and hours.](#) The last day to vote early is Saturday, October 30, 2021.

Vote Election Day

All 54 polling places will be open November 2, 2021 from 6am-7pm. Voters in line by 7pm will be allowed to vote. Voters must vote at their assigned polling location on Election Day. [Find your assigned location.](#)

Arlington Adopts Plastic Bag Tax

Arlington County, the City of Alexandria, and Fairfax County are simultaneously taking steps to reduce the negative environmental impacts of single-use plastic bags by adopting local plastic bag tax ordinances in each jurisdiction. The Alexandria City Council and Arlington County Board adopted their ordinances during public hearings held Saturday, September 18, which followed Fairfax County's adoption of their ordinance on Tuesday, September 14. The plastic bag tax ordinance

authorizes the jurisdictions to impose a five-cent (\$0.05) tax for each disposable plastic bag from grocery, convenience and drugstores. The effective tax date would be **January 1, 2022**, for all three jurisdictions. The five-cent plastic bag tax would apply for single-use plastic bags at grocery stores, convenience stores, and drugstores. The tax would not apply to plastic bags intended for reuse; plastic bags solely used to wrap, contain or package certain items (ice cream, meat, fish, poultry, produce, unwrapped bulk food items or perishable food items); plastic bags for dry cleaning or prescription drugs; or multiple plastic bags sold in packages for garbage, pet waste or leaf removal. Visit the [Plastic Bag Tax webpage](#) for frequently asked questions and more information.

Public Hearing on Temporary Outdoor Seating Areas (TOSAs)

The Board also authorized on September 18 a Request to Advertise a public hearing to amend the Continuity of Government Ordinance related to Temporary Outdoor Seating Areas (TOSAs) for County food establishments to continue to provide temporary outdoor seating and ensure that affected businesses have sufficient time to plan following the end of emergency-granted allocations. Staff are working on a strategic plan to explore whether the flexibilities provided as part of the TOSA program initiated in response to the COVID-19 emergency should be incorporated into established regulatory provisions for outdoor dining. This future process would also include public hearings prior to any formal Board action. Read the staff report.

County Board Adopts New Logo



Description: This design represents Arlington's close relationship with Washington DC and Alexandria. It echoes how Arlington was formed and shows the eastern border shaped by the Potomac.

In an effort to find a new symbol that represents Arlington's values and assets as a community, the County Board voted 5-0 to adopt a new [logo](#). The final choice, which represents Arlington's close relationship with DC and Alexandria and echoes how Arlington was formed from the original Capital borders, comes after a months-long community engagement process in which residents were encouraged to submit ideas and then submit their preferences on top options that aligned with the County's guidelines. More than 16,000 Arlingtonians shared their top choices in the most recent round of public engagement.

School Bond Issue

There will be a \$23.1 million school bond issue on the ballot Election Day November 2 to improve infrastructure and address continuing enrollment growth. [See the details here.](#)

CivFed Resolves to Diversify Its Ranks, Broaden Its Outreach

This month the Arlington County Civic Federation (the umbrella organization for all civic associations in the County) signaled its commitment to better represent the county by adopting a Diversity, Equity Belonging, and Inclusion resolution. It comes amid ongoing efforts at APS and the county to center racial equity and advance the interests of underserved communities. In implementing the resolution, CivFed will focus internally on membership and externally on outreach. [Read more here.](#)

Walk Arlington Fall Challenge

Registration for the Fall 8-Week Walking Challenge **October 11-December 3, 2021**, is now open, for the first time since the pandemic started, with in-person group walks. Registration is open until October 8. : WalkArlington is excited to kick off an 8-Week Walking Challenge on October 11.

www.crystalcitycivic.org
www.facebook.com/crystalcitycivic

Register and gain access to advice from wellness professionals, accountability partners, goal-setting tools, and a community of people with similar goals. Plus, participate in free virtual events and guided in-person walks, including a kickoff walk and campfire, a Halloween walk, and a morning gratitude walk. Register [here](#).

E-CARE Recycling Drop-off Day Returns at Full Strength on October 9

E-CARE, Arlington's big clean-out and drop-off Saturday, takes place this fall on Saturday, **Oct. 9**, at 1425 N. Quincy St., across from Washington-Liberty High School and the David M. Brown Planetarium. [The free, biannual Environmental Collection and Recycling Event](#) runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine. Returning for the first time since 2019, the group [Bikes for the World](#) will take bicycle donations for use as basic transportation overseas. Also, back for Oct. 9: a special collection area dedicated to metal item recycling. The full, extensive list of [accepted items](#) is available on the County website.

Panel Discussion on the Benefits of Community Broadband

Over approximately the past year and a half, a group of Arlington residents has been working toward eliminating the digital divide in Arlington. They call the group ArlFiber. Their plan is to 1) Establish an Arlington County Broadband Authority to serve as the legal entity to carry out the plan; 2) Build a municipal optical fiber broadband internet network, extending from the existing, highly successful ConnectArlington optical fiber network and running to any Arlington residence or business that wanted it; 3) The resulting high speed municipal optical fiber network would be a service of Arlington's county government and would function as a county utility. It would allow the information highway (i.e., the internet) to transport digital traffic, similar to the way our public streets function for physical traffic or our public water system does for water; and 4) Under the plan, this Arlington municipal optical fiber internet network would be self supporting, with no effect on Arlington taxes. You are invited to a Panel Discussion **October 4** from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM. You can learn more about the panel discussion by clicking [here](#). You can register for the panel discussion by clicking [here](#).

Exhibit on Arlington's History

On **November 19th** from 5:00 – 7:00 pm at Lubber Run Community Center, the County will be holding an exhibit of Arlington's history from 1920 to the present; have a celebration of our past 101 years with a few remarks and cupcakes; and seal a 2020 time capsule for future Arlingtonians to open.

OTHER ISSUES

Metro Planning For the Future

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority is outlining six multibillion-dollar alternatives to improve the capacity and reliability of the Blue, Orange and Silver lines — and almost all of them include building new tunnels through the District, Northern Virginia or suburban Maryland.

1) *No additional construction*

2) *No new rail capacity* — instead, an enhanced bus network and support for additional train turnbacks in Virginia and D.C. Metro estimates this will cost less than \$5 billion to build, result in

16,000 new weekday trips, \$33.9 million in new annual fare revenue and cost between \$75 million and \$100 million in annual operations and maintenance.

3) *Realigning the Blue Line to Greenbelt:* The Blue Line would be rerouted from the Arlington Cemetery station to a new, second station in Rosslyn with a pedestrian connection to the current Rosslyn station. The line would then run into a new, separate tunnel from Rosslyn to Georgetown that would continue under M Street and on a new route running north of, but parallel to, the Orange and Silver lines through the city.

4) *Realigning the Blue Line through National Harbor:* This would also reroute the Blue Line from a new Rosslyn station through Union Station, and then turn the line south to Waterfront and Navy Yard, with a new station at Buzzard Point, before heading across the river and adding five stations in Wards 7, 8 and in Prince George's County, including National Harbor. The line would ultimately loop back to Huntington in Alexandria after crossing a river for a third time; the Silver Line would continue to terminate at Largo. Metro estimates this scenario would cost between \$20 billion and \$25 billion to build, result in 180,000 new weekday trips and \$154.2 million in new annual fare revenue and cost and between \$175 million and \$200 million in annual operations and maintenance.

5) *Realigning the Silver Line to Greenbelt:* In this alternative, the Silver Line would get a new separate tunnel and tracks, starting at the West Falls Church station and continuing to a new second Rosslyn station, crossing the river in a new tunnel that continues to Georgetown, Union Station, Ivy City, Port Towns, Hyattsville, College Park and ending at Greenbelt. This scheme also envisions a new "express" Silver Line service along a separate line between Rosslyn and West Falls Church. Metro estimates this would cost between \$20 billion and \$25 billion to build, result in 139,000 new weekday trips and \$119.4 million in new annual fare revenue and cost between \$150 million and \$175 million in annual operations and maintenance.

6) *Realigning Silver Line to New Carrollton:* This alternative would separate the Silver and Orange lines at the Clarendon station and bring the Silver Line to the new second Rosslyn station and then through Georgetown to Union Station, Ivy City and Port Towns through a new tunnel, then along the Annapolis Road/MD 450 corridor to New Carrollton. Metro estimates this would cost between \$15 billion and \$20 billion to build, result into 94,000 new weekday trips and \$80.4 million in new annual fare revenue and cost between \$100 million and \$125 million in annual operations and maintenance. While the study does not identify a preferred alternative or make a recommendation, it did note that the scenario that brings the Blue Line to National Harbor "would deliver the highest level of benefits relative to the other options.

Lime Scooter Locks Required

You might notice some changes on your Lime October 1 — specifically, you will see a lock. The District has asked us to add these locks so that you can secure the vehicle to a bike rack or sign (if no bike rack is available). We'll be reviewing your end trip pictures to make sure that you park responsibly. **(Note: Unclear if this applies also in Virginia.)**

CRYSTAL CITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD

President Carol Fuller

Vice President for Policy & Planning Vacant

Meeting Secretary Patricia Heath

Communications Director Idris Clay

Membership Liaison Emily Norton

Treasurer Eric Cassel

Join on our website:

<http://www.crystalcitycivic.org/>

Or [Renew Your Membership](#)

Pay through PayPal

Or send a check for \$10 to:

Eric Cassel

Treasurer, CCCA

1300 Crystal Drive #203

Arlington, VA 22202