

CRYSTAL CITY INSIDER

The monthly newsletter of the Crystal City Civic Association



December 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*My first real decision as President was to get gifts for Christer Ahl and Carol Fuller. The leadership of the CCCA chipped in and bought them both two engraved wine glasses. Both of them are founding members of the CCCA and both have spent enormous amounts of time on Crystal City issues. The CCCA and Crystal City would be very very different without their efforts. To start to list their accomplishments would be to leave out so many things. From the Crystal City Sector Plan to Livability22202, they both have contributed so much time and effort!
THANKS AGAIN!*

Every month in the President's report, we will have a survey. The idea is to get some feedback from you and provide a venue for you to impact how we spend our time in meetings. The first survey is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M8Y839W>

There are only a few questions and they should not take more than a minute or two.

- Eric Cassel, CCCA President

CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND LIVABILITY 22202 ISSUES

November 17 Annual CCCA General Meeting

Congratulations to the CCCA New Officers Elected November 17:

President: Eric Cassel

VP: Tarsi Dunlop

Treasurer: Steve Miller

We wish them success in their upcoming two-year term.

And thank you for continuing a second year:

Membership Liaison: Emily Norton

Communications Director: Idris Clay

NOTE: This was a pilot hybrid meeting. Participants could choose to either: • View on Zoom or • Attend in-person. at 251 S 18th Street (Wells Fargo Building where Precinct 006 Crystal City voters vote. Feedback on the experience requested: <mailto:president@crystalcitycivic.org>.

[See the recording of the meeting here.](#)

Meeting agenda included:

7:00-7:20 pm Business Meeting: Election of Officers; Vote on ByLaws Amendment to simplify description of Vice President position; Announcements; Brief overview of current development

7:20 – 8:00 pm Conversation with Virginia Representative (48th district) Rip Sullivan (who covers almost all of Crystal City)

8:00-9:00 pm Presentation by Amazon on its operations in 22202 and its plans for PenPlace

Next CCCA Meeting: January 19, 7-9 pm

Change to CCCA ByLaws

The following amendment to the CCCA ByLaws was approved by voting members November 17, 2021: “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.” Plus, the title was changed from “Vice President for Policy and Planning” to “Vice President.”

REMINDER: Annual Dues Payment coming Up Soon

Annual dues are paid for the calendar year, so payment of \$10 will be due **no later than February 28** for members to remain on the mailing list as voting members to receive the monthly Newsletter and Updates. Renew [online by PayPal](#) or send a check to our new Treasurer Steve Miller, 1300 Crystal Drive #408S, Arlington VA 22202.

Successful 22202 Thanksgiving Food Drive for AFAC

We did it, folks! We collected approximately 5,390 lbs of goods for AFAC during our 3-week campaign.



In the Spirit of Giving, the National Landing BID, Livability22202 Civic Associations and Sustainable Scoop Partnered to Organize a Thanksgiving Food Drive for Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Running November 1-21, with 21 donation locations across the 22202 zip code, approximately 5,390 lbs of goods were collected in just three weeks for the 22202 Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Box drop off sites were set up at multi-family buildings, private residence spaces, and businesses across the area to garner substantial contributions of dry and canned goods. In addition, weekly scheduled collection services were held at multiple locations.



The three Livability 22202 civic associations, the Sustainable Scoop, and the National Landing BID partnered to bolster the community-wide giving effort. Throughout the month of November, Amazon driver, Jose Solcruz, picked up large quantities from many participating buildings for delivery to AFAC, and Dweck delivered from many of its buildings. The Crystal City/Pentagon City Rotary Club organized collections at a local Giant. Phoenix Bikes, the Rotary Club, and the Military Childrens Six Foundation helped with collections and deliveries at Melwood. Advent Lutheran Church collected throughout the week. The Burke & Herbert Bank combined food donation collections with a coat drive.

The mission of AFAC is to feed community members in need by providing access to nutritious supplemental groceries for people living in Arlington, VA who cannot afford to purchase enough food

to meet their basic needs. With thanks to this multi-generational community event, AFAC is able to head into a fruitful Thanksgiving serving those most in need. Thanksgiving season.

CRYSTAL CITY (AND NEARBY)

Development/Construction Timelines

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. The County has changed its [website](#). Go here to see the [MyArlington](#) map of projects. You can also check the [National Landing BID Development Map](#).

Upcoming Meetings and Deadlines:

- December 1, 7-9 pm, Planning Commission (Pentagon City Planning Study)
- December 2, 7-8 pm, Housing Commission (Pentagon City Planning Study)
- December 6, 7-9 pm, [SPRC #2 PenPlace](#) (see below)
- December 7, 7-8PM [CC2DCA](#) online community meeting; updated information/recording on their website starting November 29
- December 8, 6:30, [Facebook Live Budget Townhall](#)
- December 9, 8-9 am, Melwood Annual Enriching Lives Breakfast (see below)
- December 11 or 14, County Board (Pentagon City Planning Study)
- December 13, 6:30-8 pm, [Facebook Live](#) Aircraft Noise Mitigation Study Community Meeting
- December 15 7PM, Northern Virginia Joint Transportation Meeting (see below)

New Information:

- [1900 Crystal Drive construction](#): Saturday **December 4**, 3 am -9 pm/Sunday **December 5**, 7 am - 9 pm (backup dates December 11-12 and 18-19), crane on 20th Street
- [Altaire construction](#): Saturday –**December 11**, 4 am-9 pm (backup date Saturday December 18), Crane work at 400 11th Street; CLOSURE at 12th Street (between S Eads St and Army Navy Dr; 550
- [PenPlace Amazon HQ2](#): SPRC #2 **December 6**
- [MetPark Amazon HQ2 and Park](#): Construction October 2021 to mid-2023
- [Crystal Square Central District Construction/Opening](#): Tacombi Taqueria to open **December**; Grocery still not announced but construction underway and **scheduled to open by first quarter 2022**; Alamo Draft House **has started its build out**
- [Water Park redesign](#): construction delayed start to **December/January**; completion winter/spring 2023
- [CC2DCA](#): online community meeting **December 7**; updated information/recording on their website starting **November 29**
- [Pentagon City PDSP Study](#): planning process ongoing in November through Commissions
- [18th Street Complete Street Project](#), construction to start in **December**
- [Metro Entrance Plaza Upgrade by BID](#) started in **November**; Rainbow Mural installation complete
- [2000/2001 S Bell](#): **construction expected to begin by early January**
- [Dining in the Park \(2121 Crystal Drive\)](#): New tenant “Surreal” announced; working through Arlington County permitting with an update on construction timeline in January 2022

- [223 23rd Street/2250 Crystal Drive site plan](#); southern end of Block M; internal demolition of building and relocation of Underground exit to Crystal Drive started in October; possible SPRC in first quarter 2022
- [Americana Hotel](#): preliminary plans filed; formal 4.1 site plan **by the end of 1Q 2022** for a residential building to replace the hotel; request for construction parking for MetPark filed

No Change In Information:

- [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
- [Second Crystal City Metro Entrance](#), 30% design anticipated November/December 2021
- [South Eads Street Complete Street](#) – 12th St. S. to Army Navy Drive, 90% design, Final Engineering & Design – Winter 2021
- [Transitway Extension to 12th Street and 12th Street Complete Project](#): construction Spring 2022 for 12 months (simultaneous with Transitway Extension Segment 1); Construction on the first segment is expected to start in the winter of 2022 with completion in late 2023.
- [15th Street/Clark Bell Realignment](#), 90% design, comment period closed July 9
- [South Eads Street Complete Street – 12th Street S to 15th Street S](#): Final concept design – Spring-Summer 2022
- [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
- [101 S 12th Street](#): approved by County Board December in 2020; no construction until tenant signed; Gateway Park design when construction finished in 2-3 years
- [New Park at South Eads Street and Army Navy Drive](#): Project approved by CB June 2021; Design Process Begins 4th Quarter 2021; Construction Begins 1st Quarter 2023 and ends 1st Quarter 2024

Pentagon City PDSP Study

The planning study will update long-term goals for Pentagon City, establish parameters for future growth, and identify criteria to help review future redevelopment applications. [Draft 3](#) was published November 24. The accompanying staff report that has gone out to the Planning Commission can also be found [here](#). [Pentagon City Planning Study: Documents - Projects & Planning \(arlingtonva.us\)](#). The plan will be presented at County commission and board meetings in December.

SPRC #2 for PenPlace (Amazon HQ2)

A virtual Site Plan Review Committee meeting for [PenPlace](#) (Amazon HQ2) will be held on **December 6** at 7 pm. The Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) will host a virtual public meeting to review a proposed site plan for Amazon's HQ2 known as PenPlace. The [project website](#) hosts important information about the proposed project, such as:

- Project background and details
- Previous community engagements
- Staff presentations

Comments were due November 9. CCCA comments mirrored comments from AHCA and ARCA and focused on: 1) disappointment that the architecture and skyline, while improved, are still too uniform; 2) concern about PickUp/DropOff (PUDO) and the lack of a bike lane on 12th with County insisting on

street parking; 3) uncertainty about how all 'street' activities will work underground; 4) accessibility to open space at north end as graduated loop walkway is very long; 5) loss of the community space benefits for meeting and gathering previously negotiated with the community in favor of the Arlington Community High School. SPRC #2 is December 6, to be followed by Commission meetings and a potential March County Board consideration.

First Retailers for PenPlace

[District Dogs](#), founded by a community-grounded entrepreneur, and [RĀKO Coffee](#), owned by two sisters who have also focused locally, are the first small businesses to sign leases at HQ2 as part of Amazon's pledge to bring local, minority- and women-owned retailers to its second headquarters in Arlington, Virginia.

Arlington Community High School for PenPlace

Arlington County and Arlington Public Schools announced that Amazon will support the building of a permanent home for the Arlington Community High School as part of its PenPlace development in Pentagon City. It will be built as part of the mixed-use development at S. Fern and Army Navy Drive. The 20,000 sq.ft. space will serve approx. 300 students aged 16 and older from across the County, who are focused on earning a high school diploma while preparing for college, work and the future, with many working full or part time. Currently the school is co-located with the Career Center, which is itself undergoing renovation.

APS To Redraw Boundaries for Gunston and Wakefield

Arlington Public Schools (APS) will be redrawing the boundaries of six schools to relieve overcapacity problems at Abingdon Elementary School, Gunston Middle School and Wakefield High School. It focused on schools where enrollment has exceeded capacity for the last 2 years, and where a nearby school can accommodate additional students. Gunston students will go to Jefferson and Wakefield's to Washington-Liberty (W-L) where 600 additional seats will open in January, 2022. Policy considerations, APS says, were efficiency, proximity, stability, alignment, demographics and contiguity. [Full details of the boundary change.](#)

Livability22202 Schools Working Group Urges APS to Consider Future 22202 Schools

On November 29, the 3 Livability22202 civic association presidents forwarded a letter from the Schools Working Group to Arlington Public Schools asking for a clear process to determine sufficient seats, and specifically a siting process, for future schools in 22202. The letter reflects comments on the proposed adjustments to boundaries and elementary immersion feeders schools for the Public Hearing record. The working group looks forward to partnering with APS to ensure that all Arlington children have access to safe neighborhood schools that are planned and built in response to realistic enrollment needs. [Read the letter here.](#)

S. Eads Complete Street (Army Navy Drive to 12th Street)

The S. Eads Street (Army Navy Drive – 12th Street S.) Complete Streets project is one of two County-led projects working to connect the forthcoming enhanced bicycle facilities on Army Navy Drive with the existing bicycle facilities on S. Eads Street south of 15th Street S. It is paired with the S. Eads Street (12th Street S. – 15th Street S.) Complete Streets project. For the segment between 12th Street and Army Navy Drive, the project team is working with the Department of Parks & Recreation

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to deliver streetscape and bicycle facility improvements in coordination with adjacent projects. As of fall 2021, the design is at 30%. Design and construction will be coordinated and completed with the construction of the new park at South Eads Street and Army Navy Drive by the same contractor. Construction targeted for end 2022/beginning 2023 for a 12 month period. There was a community meeting November 9 and a survey was open until November 18 for feedback on the concept design.

[See the project page here.](#)

Enhancement of Metro Entrance Plaza

The National Landing Business Improvement District (BID), in collaboration with JBG SMITH, is



spearheading a series of enhancements to the transit experience and public spaces surrounding the Crystal City Metro Station Plaza. The improvements are intended to welcome residents, workers, and visitors “back to transit” as offices and businesses throughout National Landing safely reopen their doors. To kick off the enhancement project, the National Landing BID has welcomed an iconic new mural by DC-based artist Lisa Marie Thalhammer called “Harmony” that adorns the metro plaza’s expansive west wall. The artwork, which measures approximately 115 feet in length and 20 feet in height, will act as a vibrant new front door to the Crystal City Metro

entrance. Featuring the artist’s signature usage of the harmonious color spectrum, the design was selected unanimously through a competitive process that was sponsored by the BID. JBG Smith, with the National Landing BID as its funding partner, is carrying out a concurrent public space improvement project intended to refresh the plaza outside the Crystal City Metro to create a more inviting arrival experience. The planned updates will include a more open layout, expanded seating options, additional landscaping, festive lighting, new trees and a biophilic design. JBG Smith is also improving other open spaces and amenities along 18th Street. Completion is anticipated for winter 2022. This includes a second Metro entrance in Crystal City, which JBG SMITH is designing under a public-private partnership agreement with Arlington County. [See the press release here.](#)

CC2DCA Study Update and Engagement Available

The Crystal City to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport ([CC2DCA](#)) Multimodal Connector study is seeking your input, and a new public engagement opportunity is open now through January 9, 2022. The feedback you provide will be used to further direct the study as we work to achieve the milestones outlined in the NEPA process. [This pre-recorded video presentation](#) provides information about the purpose and need of the project, how it was developed including stakeholder input from this summer, and how it was used to screen potential corridors and preliminary concepts for a multimodal connection between the airport and Crystal City. The complete set of project materials for this engagement is available here. Once you’ve reviewed the materials, you can share your feedback in one of three ways:

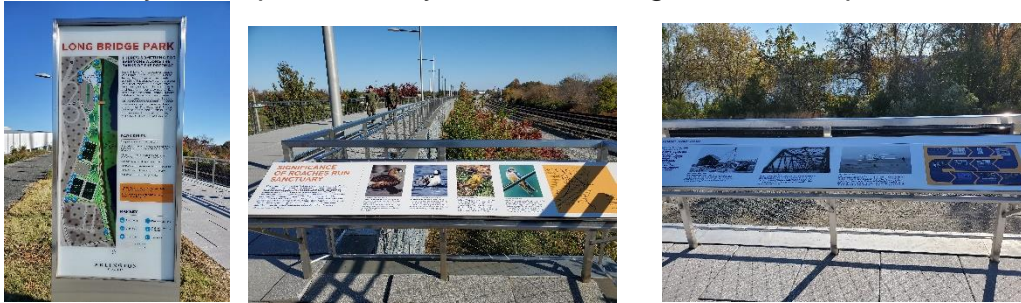
- Complete the [online feedback form](#)
- Attend the [Virtual Question & Answer session](#) with the project team on **December 7** at 7pm
- Submit your input via email to <mailto:info@cc2dca.us>

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www.facebook.com/crystalcitycivic

All public comments must be received on or before **January 9, 2022**. To learn more about the study, visit [the project page](#)

New Signs on Long Bridge Park Esplanade

The County has replaced many of the faded signs on the Esplanade with new informational ones.



Save the 23rd Street Restaurants

With a bevy of development looming, a band of residents, restaurateurs, landowners and business leaders are trying to preserve the “soul” of Crystal City: “[Restaurant Row](#).” For many years, a collection of small, independently owned restaurants have operated along 23rd Street S., between S. Eads and S. Fern streets, including the locally famous LGBT nightlife spot Freddie’s Beach Bar and Restaurant. But the people who frequent and run these businesses wonder where the long-term viability of this corridor fits into the flurry of development nearby: Amazon’s HQ2 in Pentagon City, JBG Smith’s extensive development pipeline in Crystal City, and Arlington County’s Crystal House Apartments affordable housing project, among others. As all these projects take shape, the group has reprised a [rallying cry from two years ago](#), reiterating that Restaurant Row needs some attention — but not the kind that stamps out its unique character. Those are still open questions for members of the [Crystal City Citizens Review Council \(CCCCRC\)](#), who earlier this month met with restaurant owners and landowners to discuss ideas for investing in Restaurant Row, which was identified in the Crystal City Sector Plan as a “major community asset with local businesses that should be preserved or protected.” [Read more here.](#)

Development of the Americana Hotel Property

JBG Smith Properties is following through on its long-held plans to redevelop the old Americana hotel in Crystal City into mixed use, pitching a building with at least 650 apartments for the site along Richmond Highway. The developer has filed some very preliminary plans with Arlington County that show a 20-story building on a roughly 1-acre site, which would take the place of the shuttered, 102-room hotel. JBG Smith bought the Americana at 1400 Richmond Highway for \$45 million in December 2020 — not long after it closed amid the pressures of the pandemic.

Route 1 VDOT Final Report:

The [Phase 1 executive summary and final report](#) is available on the [project website](#). All the appendices are on the website just below the report. The Arlington County staff report has been negative on many aspects of the report. Both [AriNow.com](#) and the County “Get It” on Bringing Route 1 to Grade. Confirms what Livability22202 has been saying all along.

Northern Virginia Joint Transportation Meeting

Hear updates on Virginia's Multimodal Project Pipeline Program, NVTA, NVTC, DRPT, and VRE. Preregistration is required for this virtual meeting on December 15, 7 pm. Public comments may be submitted through January 7, 2022. The meeting will be held as a virtual/online and attendees must [register online](#). The team of VDOT, DRPT, OIPI, NVTA, NVTC and VRE representatives will make a presentation beginning at 7 p.m. highlighting their transportation programs, regional collaboration and receive public comments about Virginia's transportation network. Learn more through this [VDOT news release](#).

Update on Long Bridge Project and Fourth Rail Track

The plan cleared two significant milestones in 2021. In the spring, the state entered into a purchase agreement with freight operator CSX Corp. for 230 track miles and 350 miles of right-of-way between Washington and Richmond for a cost of \$525 million. That purchase will eventually allow the state to separate passenger and freight rail, creating the capacity for more trains and shorter headways on Amtrak and VRE. Then in September, Amtrak added daily service between Washington and downtown Richmond at Main Street Station. With the CSX agreement in place, construction is now beginning on a slate of 14 physical projects, 12 of which will be overseen by CSX itself. The other two – the \$1.9 billion Long Bridge replacement and a 0.9-mile long Franconia-Springfield bypass rail bridge – will be carried out by the passenger rail authority and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation. Work recently began on a 6-mile fourth track running from just north of Crystal City Station to just west of Alexandria's Amtrak station. (Inside NOVA)

County seeks developer for Amazon-funded affordable housing project in Crystal City

Arlington County has started the process of finding a developer to lead the Crystal House Apartments redevelopment project in Crystal City. The county seeks a "robust, experienced and trustworthy master development partner" to replace surface-level parking with 738 apartment units, most of which will be affordable housing, by January 2028, according to its [request for qualifications](#). Arlington aims to choose a developer in the third quarter of 2022. As part of the project, two public parks will be built: a 31,456 square-foot park at 20th Street S. and S. Eads Street and a 23,986-square foot park at 22nd Street S. and S. Fern Street. A protected bike lane will run along S. Eads Street, stormwater utilities will be relocated and a public pedestrian pathway through the site will be built. Arlington plans to knock out two projects with this request for qualifications. The same developer would take on a redevelopment opportunity near the larger site, but not part of the Amazon project. This parking lot, dubbed the Crystal House 5 parcel, would be replaced with at least 81 affordable units. Arlington expects headway on Crystal House 5 after the developer meets Amazon's 2028 goal. Including Crystal House 5, the 16-acre site will get 819 new residential units, between 555 and 650 of which will be affordable.

Amazon Is Putting Pressure On Arlington's Housing Market, But Some Worry State Could Pull Back Funding

Arlington County's growth over the past decade is expected to accelerate with the arrival of thousands of Amazon employees and the development that the tech giant spurs in the surrounding area. The Amazon HQ2 development in the National Landing area could drive up rents and housing costs and make it difficult for lower-income residents to afford to stay in the county unless thousands of new units are added to alleviate the pressure on the market, county leaders and developers said in

mid-November at Bisnow's Future of Arlington event. The county needs a combination of market-rate housing and affordable housing development, the speakers said. And the affordable housing will require funding from a variety of sources, including local, state and federal government, plus nonprofits and even private companies such as Amazon itself. While most of those sources have been increasing their affordable housing funding, the future of Virginia's state contributions became less clear following last week's election. Republican Glenn Youngkin won the race for governor and his party also won the lieutenant governor and attorney general races and flipped the House of Delegates. Arlington County Board Member Christian Dorsey, a Democrat, said he worries that Youngkin could halt the efforts that Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam has pursued to increase the state's affordable housing contributions from the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. Youngkin's campaign website didn't include a housing platform. (Washington Business Journal)

Crystal House Apartments Request for Qualifications - Deadline December 1

Arlington County is soliciting RFQ responses from experienced developers to partner with the County on the in-fill development of primarily affordable housing on the Crystal House Apartments site in Pentagon City's Aurora Highlands neighborhood. The selection of a Master Developer is a two-part process: the RFQ solicitation, followed by selected developer teams being invited to respond to a more detailed Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP process is anticipated to begin in February.

Dominion Energy Crystal Substation Construction

Beginning the week of Nov. 15, 2021, crews will begin decommissioning the existing plaza area of the substation property. For the safety of our team and the community, this area will be barricaded by a temporary construction fence, which will extend around the existing parking spots, median and right turn lane. We expect this work to be completed in early December 2021. The plaza area decommissioning is necessary for the new green space area, which is scheduled to begin construction in 2022. The attached Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) plan will be in place while this work is underway. For more information, including visuals of the new green space area, visit our project website at [DominionEnergy.com/crystal](https://www.dominionenergy.com/crystal).

The Peruvian Brothers' stand at the Crystal City Water Park

The stand has closed due to coming renovations at the park. The last day for the fast casual stand known for their empanadas and Peruvian coffee was November 7. But the brothers went out in style, hosting a party on Sunday. There were Halloween costumes, free cookies, music, dancers, and alpacas. The 1.5-acre park at 1601 Crystal Drive is scheduled to undergo renovations during the winter. It will reopen in the spring of 2023.

Crystal City Restaurants

A new Korean street food restaurant is coming to Arlington, and plans to set up shop in two different neighborhoods. The fast casual eatery **Oh K-Dog and Egg Toast** is set to open two locations, in Crystal City and Ballston, likely within the next few months. It's part of a country-wide expansion to bring the "best Korean street food" stateside. Korean rice dogs, essentially a fancier, souped up version of a corn dog, are popular in South Korea. They are now becoming widely sought-after in the United States. The Crystal City location will be on restaurant row, at 509 23rd Street S. It's set to move into the space formerly occupied by Taj of India, which appears to have closed earlier this year. ([ArlNow.com](https://www.arlnow.com))

Hanukkah is here and it's again time to light the menorah flame while on ice.

The annual "Chanukah on Ice" event is back this year, set to take place this **Thursday (Dec. 2)** evening outside on the Pentagon Row Ice Skating Rink in Pentagon City. The event, organized by the Chabad Lubavitch of Alexandria-Arlington, will include skating, latkes, kosher hot dogs, a raffle, and the lighting of a six-foot menorah for the fifth night of Hanukkah. It will take place from 6-8 p.m. and is family-friendly.

Pentagon Row Ice Skating Rink

Pentagon Row Ice Skating Rink opened for the season Halloween weekend, despite not-quite-winter temperatures. Starting the season a week earlier than last year, the nearly-7,000 square foot rink located in the plaza at 1201 S. Joyce Street in Pentagon City is said to be the "largest outdoor ice skating rink in Northern Virginia" and the second-largest in the state. The rink will be open until mid-March.

Pentagon City mall adds Swiss chocolate shop Läderach

The large Swiss chocolate retailer is expanding to 30 new U.S. locations, many of which are specifically at Simon shopping centers, including the Fashion Centre at Pentagon City. Läderach is replacing the Godiva store that closed earlier this year, part of an asset purchase agreement that saw them purchase more than 30 Godiva locations across the country. The shop is on the mall's first level, next to the Ann Taylor.

Pentagon Row (Westpost) Restaurant Openings

Mimi's Handmade Ice Cream is targeting scooping by the end of November.

Kusshi, a sushi restaurant with a location at Bethesda's Pike and Rose, will be opening in the spring in the space formerly occupied by Namaste Everest, which is next to Mimi's.

Thaiphoon has closed for good. Baltimore-based **Banditos Bar & Kitchen** will be moving into the space. It could start serving as early as this coming April.

Also aiming for a spring opening is a 34,000-square-foot **Target** in the old Bed, Bath, and Beyond space and **Road Runner Sports** in the former Unleashed space, which shuttered at the beginning of the year. Target's target is April while Road Runner Sports is on track for May or possibly earlier.

Much-anticipated **Nighthawk Pizza** is also arriving next year.

Other developments at Westpost include the opening of the spa and salon **Privai**, set for November 22. The 4,127-square-foot spa located at 1101 S Joyce Street Suite B-35 specializes in body treatments, facials, salon services, and guided meditation.

Bun'd Up, meanwhile, is also going through a renovation.

Westpost is fully leased up with tenants, as of November.

ARLINGTON COUNTY ISSUES

New County Website Struggling with Broken Links

Arlington's County Manager has apologized for the frustrating user experience on the new county website, which has left thousands of broken links in the wake of its launch. The new website, sporting the new county logo, was implemented one month ago and since then those trying to

navigate the site or search for information on the site via Google are frequently getting “Page or Site Not Found” errors. Those who encounter broken links can reach out to the county or use the reporting function at the bottom of the “Page or Site Not Found” page, officials said. County Manager Mark Schwartz said every department will have someone click through each page to pinpoint those inconsistencies. Two fixes will take more time, officials said. First, about half of the broken links are associated with old press releases, which are low on the county’s list of things to fix. Second, there are still issues with searching for PDFs uploaded to the website.

Seeking Input on the FY 2023 Budget

County Manager Mark Schwartz is seeking your feedback to help inform the FY 2023 Budget. How do you think Arlington should prioritize spending?

[View the infographic and learn more about the budget process](#)

[Join the Facebook Live budget town hall on Wed., Dec. 8.](#)

[SHARE your feedback on the FY2023 Operating Budget](#)

[WATCH: County Manager Mark Schwartz breaks down Arlington's operating budget](#)

Missing Middle Housing Final Phase 1 Report

The final version of Expanding Housing Choice: The Missing Middle Housing Study Phase 1 Report is now available. The report discusses the community's priorities and concerns related to expanding housing choice and supply in Arlington, and recommends housing types for analysis in Phase 2.

[Read the report](#)

[Watch a 5-min. overview and read report highlights](#)

[View the Sept. 28 Q & A Session](#)

[Read key takeaways from the Q & A](#)

Since the release of the draft report in September, the study team has shared it via e-newsletter, printed materials at community facilities, the Civic Federation’s October meeting, a virtual public Q & A session, in-person presence at community events (ValleyFest and the Live in Arlington Info Fair), and meetings of key commissions and committees. We’ve revised and finalized the report based on the feedback received during this period.

[Read the comment-response matrix on the report.](#)

Aircraft Noise Mitigation Study Community Meeting #3

The third community meeting for the Arlington County / Montgomery County joint Aircraft Noise Mitigation Study for communities north of Reagan National Airport (DCA) will be held virtually via [Facebook LIVE](#) on Monday, **December 13**, from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. The study team will provide a status update on the overall study, present draft recommendations for departure procedures and take questions and comments from community members. Check out the Arlington County Facebook page for the live meeting at that time. [See the website for more details.](#)

Feedback Needed on the Arlington County Historic Preservation (HP) Program Master Plan

Arlington County’s Historic Preservation Program is updating its Master Plan and wants to hear from you! Opportunities for community engagement and feedback will take place **Nov. 29 – Dec. 3, 2021**. [Subscribe to the Program newsletter](#) for more information. The updated Master Plan will direct the key work and programmatic activities of Arlington’s Historic Preservation Program for the next decade and will reflect the commitment of the Program to equity and inclusion. We celebrate the narratives of

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all Arlingtonians and are committed to protecting the histories of people of color, the LGBTQIA+ community, immigrants, women, and all who have historically been underrepresented. The County's vision of being a diverse and inclusive community where each person is important cannot be accomplished without this work of understanding the past.

Know any neighbors or organizations who care about our historic places & people? Invite them to subscribe to the Historic Preservation newsletter [using this link.](#)

Have questions about historic preservation in Arlington? Visit the [Historic Preservation Program's Homepage.](#)

Or contact Historic Preservation staff at hpmasterplan@arlingtonva.us.

For more updates about Community Planning, Housing and Development in Arlington County, including Historic Preservation Program announcements, follow Plan Arlington VA on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

[Help Guide Historic Preservation in Arlington](#)

1) [Weigh in via this 3-question feedback form](#) (& spread the word!

2) Join Historic Preservation Outreach Week: Nov. 29 - Dec. 4

Mon. Nov. 29 -- Special video release featuring Freddie's Beach Bar

Check @planArlingtonVA on Twitter & Facebook

Wed. Dec. 1, 12 – 2 p.m. -- Meet & Greet at Maywood Mini Park. Our Partners: Maywood Community Association; Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board (HALRB). In case of bad weather, Meet & Greet will be Thu. Dec. 2, same time & place

Fri. Dec. 3, 2 – 4 p.m. -- Meet & Greet at Westover Library. Our Partner: Center for Local History (Arlington Public Libraries). In case of bad weather, Meet & Greet will move inside library

Sat. Dec. 4, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. -- Meet & Greet at Arlington Farmers Market at Courthouse

[James B. Hunter Human Rights Winners for 2021](#)

James B. Hunter Human Rights Awards are given in recognition of outstanding achievement in the area of human rights and diversity made in Arlington County by an individual, a community group, a non-profit organization, or a business establishment. 2021 James B. Hunter Award Winners:

- Advent Lutheran Church
- Arlington Thrive
- NAACP of Arlington #7047
- Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR)
- Les Garrison
- Wilma Jones Killgo

[Read the details here.](#)

[Arlington libraries to fully reopen in January, at last](#)

Arlington County libraries are set to finally fully reopen in the new year, marking the end of nearly two full years of limited service. Library branch hours are being extended starting January 3, with some branches set to remain open as late as 8 p.m. and Sunday service restored at the Shirlington branch. The only branch not being reopened is Bozman — formerly known as the Plaza Branch — at 2100 Clarendon Blvd, which is undergoing an extensive 16-month renovation and expansion along with the rest of the county government's headquarters. The library's redesign will include modern furnishings,

a new children's book and media collection, and more space for programming like story times and author talks. It's expected to reopen in a year, January 2023. ([ArlNow.com](#))

Remembering Officer Israel Gonzalez

On October 25, ACPD paused to honor and remember Officer Israel Gonzalez who was killed in the line of duty during a bank robbery at the Arlington Trust Company in Crystal Plaza on this date in 1972. The suspects, disguised as telephone workmen, cut the telephone and alarm system lines in the area. While on a routine bank check, Officer Gonzalez entered the bank and encountered one of the suspects as he was leaving the back room. The suspect drew his weapon and shot Officer Gonzalez three times in the groin, once in the left shoulder and once in the rear right shoulder. Officer Gonzalez returned fire twice, and it is believed that he hit the suspect due to the amount of blood found in the bank. All suspects have since been apprehended, with the last arrest made 20 years after Officer Gonzalez's death. We will never forget his sacrifice to Arlington County. Visit our [Hall of Honor](#) to learn about the valor of Arlington's seven heroic officers killed in the line of duty.



Modern Mobility: Arlington needs a 'Street Guide'

Interesting article by Chris Slatt, Chair of the County's Transportation Commission. "It's past time for Arlington to have a community conversation about how we design, operate and maintain our streets and then put it all down in a frequently-updated, publicly-accessible guidance document. Many of Arlington's peer localities (and nearly all larger cities) have a street design guide (Examples: Montgomery County, MD; Austin, TX; Seattle, WA; New York, NY). An Arlington Street Guide could cover design issues (lane widths, protected bike lane materials, corner radii, etc.) as well as operational issues (signal timing policies, right-turn-on-red restriction policies, etc.) and maintenance issues (snow removal, street sweeping, pothole filling, keeping traffic calming features in good shape, etc.) and be a useful resource for county transportation staff, engineers for private developers, as well as Arlington citizens and advocates." [Read more here.](#)

COVID Updates from the County

The County began offering free COVID vaccinations Nov 6 for children 5-11 by appointment. Visit [quest.vams.cdc.gov/?jurisdiction=AR](https://www.guest.vams.cdc.gov/?jurisdiction=AR) to schedule. Booster shots for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine are also available by appointment at Arlington Public Health Clinics to certain people at least 6 months after their Pfizer primary series. Visit vaccinate.virginia.gov to find additional locations and appointments near you. Pharmacies are offering them too. Want a digital record of your vaccinations? If you were vaccinated in Virginia, you can download a QR code through Virginia's [vaccine portal](#) as proof of vaccination. Save the code to a photo gallery, as a digital file, or print it out.

Approved "School Slow Zones" Protects Students and Other Travelers

The Arlington County Board voted X to X to approve the creation of "School Slow Zones," which aims to reduce traffic speeds around 13 schools across the County. The zones address a key action item in the Vision Zero Action Plan, adopted by the Board in May, and are the first application of permanent 20-mile-per-hour speed limits permitted under Virginia law. [Read more here.](#)

Arlington Solid Waste Project

Attached are two documents that describe the end products of recycling Biosolids and is the plain English version of the goals of the Arlington Solid Waste project. CCCA member Sandra Borden is currently a member of the advisory committee.

OTHER ISSUES

New Security Checkpoints Open at Reagan National Airport

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, in partnership with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), opened two newly constructed 50,000-square-foot security checkpoint buildings on November 9, 2021, at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA). The new checkpoint buildings are connected to walkways that serve Terminal Parking Garages B and C, as well as the airport's Metrorail station, with multiple escalators and elevators providing connections to the ticketing and baggage claim levels. Inside the buildings, 23 screening lanes will replace the airport's existing 20 screening lanes, with the ability to expand to 28 lanes. Additionally, each new checkpoint has two restrooms, American and Delta airline check-in kiosks and checked bag drop off, and 1,000 square feet of concessions space, which will open in the future. Continue reading the full press release about the opening [here](#).

TRAFFIC ALERT: 2021 Jingle Bell 5K Run/Walk for Arthritis

[The Arthritis Foundation Jingle Bell 5k Run/Walk for Arthritis](#) will be held on Saturday, **December 4, 2021**. The Arlington County Police Department will conduct the following road closure from approximately 6:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. to accommodate the event: S. Joyce Street, between 15th Street S. and Army Navy Drive. An additional road closure will take place from approximately 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.: Army Navy Drive, between S. Joyce Street and 25th Street S.

Melwood's Annual Enriching Lives Breakfast on December 9, 2021 at the Crystal City Marriott

This year the breakfast from 8-9 am will feature Joshua Nelson, a Melwood AbillT graduate as our Master of Ceremonies. Josh is an Associate Cybersecurity Analyst at GDIT and will be joined by the Scott Nycum, the Senior Director of Inclusion, Diversity and Giving at GDIT. Joshua and Scott will be joined by Jim Cook, Vice President for Strategic Partnerships and Engagement at MITRE and Cliff Hartsfield, Master Trainer, CWI, College of Southern Maryland, Center for Trades and Energy Training. And we will hear from Michael Bell, a recent graduate of the Melwood's Building Paths career development program.

The Breakfast is one quick hour – in and out – and a great way to start your day during this season of giving. During the inspirational program you will be invited to consider making a pledge in support of Melwood that will provide empowering support for those individuals participating in Melwood's programs. [Please click here to RSVP.](#)

National Landing Lodge Events

'Tis the Season to Celebrate: Christmas Trees, Peppermint Mocha Lattes and Holiday Shopping!

Join us for our [holiday events lineup](#) in National Landing! Come celebrate the season to be merry with us and enjoy a winter lineup of events beginning with a Christmas Tree Lot and Peppermint Mocha Latte Competition, and concluding with a festive Holiday Market.

- [Christmas Tree Lot](#): Saturday, **December 4** from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- [Peppermint Mocha Latte Competition](#): Sunday, **December 12** from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM (Registration required)
- [Holiday Market](#): Friday, **December 17** (5:00 PM-10:00 PM) & Saturday, December 18 (12:00 PM-5:00 PM)

President Eric Cassel

Vice President Tarsi Dunlop

Meeting Secretary Vacant

Communications Director Idris Clay

Membership Liaison Emily Norton

Treasurer Steve Miller

Join on our website:

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

Or [Renew Your Membership](#)

Pay through PayPal

Or send a check for \$10 to:

Steve Miller

Treasurer, CCCA

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