

CRYSTAL CITY INSIDER

The monthly newsletter of the Crystal City Civic Association



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Message from CCCA's President

On September 14th (Wednesday) at 7pm we will have our next CCCA meeting. We will have an update from JBGS on all of their construction projects, a presentation by the County transportation staff on alternatives for Metro. We will have one more presentation that has not been confirmed.

Mark your calendars for Nov 16th and Jan. 18th for our next two meetings. All will be hybrid. If you have suggestions for topics, please email me. We are always trying to find presentations!

Register in advance for the September meeting at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkde2tpigoHd0_eY7447i31YOTx8meHtQX

- Eric Cassel, CCCA President

INFORMATION AND EVENTS – ARLINGTON COUNTY

[Arlington Named Best Mid-Sized City For Business Climate In Ranking](#)

Among mid-sized cities, Arlington has the best business climate, according to a new ranking from Business Facilities magazine. The 18th annual ranking examines which cities do well in attracting and retaining businesses in various industries. Arlington County regularly ranks highly in lists of top-performing cities. This was the second year in a row Business Facilities ranked Arlington County first in the mid-sized cities category. Among the notable headquarters in Arlington are Amazon's second headquarters, the US Department of Defense, Boeing, and Raytheon. [Read more here.](#)

[Move over, 'National Landing' — Amazon HQ2's neighborhood tries on 'NaLa'](#)

At first, it showed up on freebie water bottles. Then it made its way onto rainbow shirts for Pride Month. In June, it popped up on Instagram as a hashtag, and in July, it was suddenly plastered on the surfboards and silver Airstream set up in a grassy patch of Arlington, declaring to the commuters, dog walkers and joggers strutting by that their neighborhood had earned a new nickname: **NaLa**. [Read more here.](#)

[Arlington ranks No. 3 on “top family-friendly cities” list](#)

Arlington is the No. 3 most family-friendly locale in the country, according to a new set of rankings. Online real estate platform Opendoor compiled the “best cities for families” list, which is based on the presence of various amenities like playgrounds, community centers and pools. [Read more here.](#)

[Amazon gives \\$100K in school supplies to affordable housing residents](#)

Amazon offered up HQ2 employee volunteers and \$100,000 in education vouchers and school supplies to help roughly 500 Northern Virginia pre-K-12 students gear up for the start of the 2022-23 academic year. Arlington Housing Corp. worked with Amazon (NASDAQ: AMZN) and its 90 employee volunteers to set up a free back-to-school shopping event for families who live in the nonprofit affordable housing developer's Northern Virginia rental communities — an effort to “eliminate barriers to learning, and let them express their individual style,” said Andrea Muscadin, Amazon's head of partnerships.

[Celebrate Car Free Day](#)

Car Free Day—coming up on September 22—is an international event that is celebrated annually to encourage sustainability. Commuter Connections hosts Car Free Day in the DMV to promote sustainable commute options like carpooling, vanpooling, using public transit, biking and walking. Take the Commuter Connections Car Free Day pledge and you'll earn a chance to receive various giveaways and contribute to a more sustainable DMV. [GO CAR FREE FOR A DAY](#)

[Northern Virginia's Progress On Affordable Housing? It's Mixed](#)

Residents and elected officials across Northern Virginia routinely express concern about the scarcity of affordable housing. And they're right to do so: while some areas of the region are currently meeting housing targets, the region has an uphill battle to build new affordable housing units — particularly for people at the lowest incomes — at the pace they're needed, and even sometimes to preserve existing ones. Arlington County, which has done well with hitting overall housing targets, hasn't built any affordable housing for people making under 30% of area median income in the last three years. Venezia, the county housing director, says financing those projects is extremely difficult — and often becomes a

trade-off. For decades, rising housing costs have outpaced (more slowly) rising wages, creating a worsening mismatch between what they need to pay for market-rate housing and what they can afford. Arlington committed \$18.7 million to its housing trust fund, which Venezia, the county housing director, sees as the main means the county has of incentivizing affordable housing construction (Arlington, like most Northern Virginia localities, does not have a public housing authority). The FY 2023 commitment was the largest chunk of general funds the county has ever put into the trust fund.

One of the most ambitious local attempts at zoning reform is currently underway in Arlington County, where officials are working on a policy proposal to allow smaller multi-unit buildings (potentially up to eight units) on all county land, the vast majority of which is currently set aside for single-family homes only. The move is meant to shore up an ever-dwindling supply of “missing middle” housing types — duplexes, town homes, and small apartment buildings — which are by their nature more affordable. Some county residents, many of them single-family homeowners, have decried the possible change in policy, claiming it will harm the county’s tree canopy and create congestion. Others are excited about the idea as a way to stop displacement of people of color and make it easier for young adults to build lives and families in the county. [Read more here.](#)

County Board to Host Community Conversations on Missing Middle Housing

The Arlington County Board will be hosting a series of community conversations and information sessions in September and October that will help to inform the County Board’s next steps on Missing Middle Housing. These conversations are part of the County’s Housing Arlington effort to explore opportunities that could potentially address Arlington’s constrained housing supply. [See more here.](#) Find information and registration links through this [page](#). Note Long Bridge meeting is on October 1! Must register as space is limited. Main Missing Middle page is [here](#).

County Manager Ends Local Emergency in Response to COVID-19

The Local Emergency for Arlington County, originally declared in response to the public health threat posed by the Coronavirus (COVID-19), ends on Aug. 15, 2022. The [declaration](#), which went into effect on March 13, 2020, was established to assist in the response and recovery efforts related to the COVID-19 pandemic. It allowed the County to shift to virtual operations, including online permitting, appointments, remote inspections, County Board and Commission meetings, as well as public comment. [Read more here.](#)

New public art in park next to Amazon’s HQ2 to commemorate former Black community

A towering remembrance of the former Black community of Queen City is slated to be included in an Amazon-funded park next to HQ2.

New Child Care Center – use permit request

Family Foundations LLC II (d/b/a the Celebree School of National Landing) has filed a use permit request with Arlington County to open a new childcare center in the already-approved daycare space in Phase 6 of the Metropolitan Park development at 1321 S. Elm Street. The building is subject to Site Plan #105 (Metropolitan Park), which was approved by the County Board in 2019. As a part of the 2019 approval, the County Board designated a portion of the ground floor space in the building to be set aside for a childcare center, subject to the operator obtaining a childcare use permit. Celebree has been

selected as the daycare operator and, accordingly, has filed for its use permit to implement the use. The proposed childcare center, if approved, would serve up to 192 children, ages six weeks to pre-kindergarten (up to six years old) with approximately 30 to 35 staff onsite at any given time. Classes would be held year-round, Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m., excluding holidays. Drop-offs are anticipated to occur primarily between 6:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. each morning, and between 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. each evening.

Share your Input on Draft Forestry and Natural Resources Plan

Arlington County would like your input on the draft [Forestry and Natural Resources Plan](#). To assure future generations of Arlingtonians enjoy the benefits of nature, the County must identify what needs are urgent, what are aspirational, and how each can be addressed through both long-term initiatives, incremental change, and immediate action. [Learn more here](#). The County will post opportunities to learn more and share your thoughts on the [project page](#). Please also sign up [here](#) to receive updates on the plan and process if you haven't already done so to be sure you know all the opportunities to give your input. **There are many ways to learn about the plan and share your ideas.**

- **Online Draft Plan Review:** Open now until October 3. Read and comment directly on the draft plan [here](#). (Please note that the draft plan is predominately text-only so that it is easier to review the content. The final draft plan will include charts and images.)
- **Online Feedback Form:** Open now until October 3. [Click here](#) to share your thoughts.
- We've got online options, you could come to an advisory commission meeting, or join us for a virtual learning and sharing meeting on Thurs., **Sept. 29**, 7 p.m.

Get Onboard the Arlington APS Walking School Bus!

Are you an Arlington senior looking to get more exercise while helping your neighbors or a family with children in elementary school trying to simplify their morning commute? Make walking to school easier for families while maximizing the health benefits of walking and reducing congestion around schools. [Andrea Walker](#), our Arlington Ridge pedestrian and aging advocate, was a key player in developing the County's Walking School Bus, including the pilot program for Oak Ridge Elementary School students.

Free ART Bus Rides Coming for APS Students:

Beginning this school year, middle and high school students from Arlington Public Schools (APS) will be able to [ride free](#) anytime on Arlington Transit (ART), the County's bus transit system, with an iRide SmarTrip card. Students with existing iRide cards will automatically receive the free transit access when classes begin on Mon., August 29, with no additional actions required. APS students who don't have an iRide card can obtain one for free by contacting their School Transportation Coordinator or by visiting one of Arlington's Commuter Store locations with their student ID – there's one in the Crystal City Underground close to the Metro elevators.. Due to supply chain issues, iRide cards are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Students who cannot obtain a card in time for the start of the school year can anticipate new inventory in October.

Lane Closure Pilot for Oakridge Elementary School Pick-up & Drop-off

In partnership with Arlington Public Schools, Arlington's Department of Environmental Services is piloting a temporary lane closure along 24th Street South between South Ode Street and South Nash

Street, to improve arrival and dismissal operations. This temporary street closure will go into effect 30 minutes prior to the start of school and 30 minutes prior to dismissal. This will help with pedestrian safety and access and help with facilitating school bus operations.

Start Date: Monday, August 29 Hours: Drop-off: 8:30am to 9:00am, Pick-up: 3:20pm to 3:50pm.

Arlington staff will monitor safety and usage throughout the duration of the pilot. Cones and signage will be used for the temporary closure and to allow easy access for local traffic, emergency vehicles, and school buses. This pilot is part of Arlington County's Vision Zero goal to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while ensuring safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. Everyone depends on a safe transportation network to reach their destination. Vision Zero provides an opportunity to work toward a safer transportation system for all through commitment and intention.

Project PEACE Launches Askable Adult Initiative:

Arlington's Project PEACE is launching the Askable Adult initiative to ensure every young person in Arlington County has at least one supportive parent, caregiver, or other adult—an "askable adult"—in their life. This initiative will launch to the public at the 2022 Arlington County Fair this weekend.

9-8-8 National Hotline Now Available for Arlington Residents

Dialing either 9-8-8 or the existing NSPL number, 1-800-273-TALK (8255), will connect you to behavioral health care and support 24 hours a day. Virginia continues to be invested in building capacity to enhance community-based crisis services. You can call or text 9-8-8 or use the online chat at www.988lifeline.org. Services are for mental health and substance abuse support. 9-8-8 provides someone to talk to and referrals to other services as needed. Currently, 9-8-8 routes calls to local support centers based on the caller's area code and not their location in the community. In the future, geolocator features will be added for more localized routing. 9-8-8 is not like 9-1-1 in that the dispatch function has not yet been built out. For a life-threatening emergency call 9-1-1.

Arlington, We Need Your Help!

The Spotted Lanternfly is a beautiful but invasive insect that is damaging Arlington's trees and vines. We need your help to stop this pest! If you see a lanternfly, please use this form to report your sighting to the Virginia Cooperative Extension. [Then please kill it if you can!]

Arlington's David M. Brown Planetarium Scheduled to Reopen This Fall!

APS has approved spending \$147,871 to reopen the beloved David M. Brown Planetarium by October-November, 2022. Follow the Friends of Arlington's Planetarium Twitter account and the APS Planetarium website for more details as they become available.

Upcoming County Closures

- All Arlington County offices and community centers will be closed for Labor Day, Mon., Sept. 5. Our parks and trails will remain open for reflection and recreation.
- Long Bridge Pool Closed Aug. 30-Sept. 8: As part of its regular maintenance needs, the Aquatics & Fitness Center will be closed Aug. 30 – Sept. 8. During that time, Arlington Public School pools will honor Long Bridge membership and pass holders (with key tag) and you are welcome to visit our other Arlington County Community Center fitness facilities.

CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND LIVABILITY 22202 ISSUES

Save the Dates:

The CCCA meets bimonthly, except during the summer if nothing major is happening.

September 14's meeting will include an update from JBGS on all of their construction projects, a presentation by the County transportation staff on alternatives for Metro. The meeting remains virtual, but not a hybrid because we don't have a room reserved.

Our next meetings will be November 16 and January 18. **Let us know if there are any topics you would like us to put on the agenda as the issues are completely open at this time. Contact board@crystalcitycivic.org.**

Elections For Officers

Elections will be held at the November 16 meeting for the following CCCA offices: Communications Director, Meeting Secretary. CCCA officers hold their position for two years and may renew only for a second two-year term in the same office. More details will be provided in the October Newsletter and the nominations will be opened by October 16. If you are interested in serving in an officer position or as an At-Large member of the Executive Committee to provide advice and assistance, contact board@crystalcitycivic.org.

LONGER TERM ISSUES

Creating community vibes - Placemaking focuses on people and design

In Arlington County, a new neighborhood, National Landing, is rising around Amazon.com Inc.'s \$2.5 billion-plus HQ2 East Coast headquarters. Bethesda, Maryland-based JBG Smith Properties, the real estate company developing HQ2 and the surrounding area, is aiming to create a “vibrant, transit-oriented, walkable” neighborhood there, “with ground-floor retail and a mix of uses,” says company Vice President Jack Kelly. [Read more here.](#)

Crystal City

This year's Artomatic—the irregularly-scheduled, low-barrier orgy of creativity that's taken over several empty buildings since its inception in 2000—feels vaguely post-apocalyptic. Wandering through the cubes and hallways of a recently vacated office block in Crystal City is disorienting; one can sense the presence of the Defense Department workers who once filled them. Life-size marshmallow Peeps, floor-to-ceiling splatter paintings, and artful piles of detritus seem to mock their memory. [Read more here.](#)

Beyer airplane noise bill becoming law as part of CHIPS Act

Rep. Don Beyer (D-Va.) is addressing a key constituent concern — airplane noise — through the just-signed CHIPS Act. The \$280 billion bill is primarily focused on boosting domestic semiconductor manufacturing but contains other scientific research provisions. Among them is wording from Beyer to “bolster NASA’s efforts to reduce emissions from the aviation industry while also reducing the impact of airplane noise in airport-adjacent communities.” The roar of jet engines from airliners arriving at and departing from National Airport has long been a concern of Arlington and Alexandria residents, particularly those who live along the flight paths near the Potomac River. Beyer has frequently pledged to address the noise issue from commercial airliners and military helicopters, writing letters to top federal officials about flight paths and attaching legislation to larger bills. [Read more here – ArlNow.Com](#)

Should Arlington Change its Government Structure?

The basic structure of the five-member Arlington County Board and School Board, all elected at-large, has gone largely unchanged since their inception in 1930, when Arlington's population hovered at 35,000 people. As the County's increasingly diverse residents approach 240,000, is it time to expand the size of these bodies, elect them by district, or implement ranked choice voting? The Arlington Committee of 100 is hosting a virtual meeting on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 7:00 - 8:15PM. The Arlington County Civic Federation's Task Force in Government and Election Reform (TiGER) has been considering these questions. Members of the task force will join us to discuss the pros, cons, and open questions about these and other new ideas. [Register here.](#)

FUN STUFF IN CRYSTAL CITY (AND NEARBY)

Spraygrounds close Tues. Sept. 6.

Get in one last splash for the season this Labor Day weekend. [View hours and locations here.](#)

10 Restaurants and Shops Coming to Amazon HQ2

Good Company Doughnuts, Hustle cycling studio and Peruvian Brothers are among the retail tenants coming to Metropolitan Park in National Landing. [Read more here.](#)

National Landing BID Events in September

Lots going on in 22202. Thanks BID! Remember you can always check the [calendar](#).

National Landing Movies in Virginia Highlands Park

- Fri, **Sep 2** at 6:00 PM, Ready Player One
- Fri, **Sep 9** at 6:00 PM, Raya and the Last Dragon

Wed, **Sep 7** at 5:00 PM, *NaLa Beach Club: [Bark at the Beach](#)*, Gateway Green, 101 12th Street S. visit the Beach Club with your furry friends. First 25 to attend will get a FREE dog bandana made by Handmade by Antje. [Register](#)

Wednesday, **Sep 14**, 2022, 5:00pm-9:00pm: *NaLa Beach Club: Sunset Hour*: Gateway Green, 101 12th Street S. Celebrate the final days of summer with live music, food, giveaways and more on September 14. [Register](#)

Friday Wine Tastings, 5-7 pm, 220 Twentieth Street

Saturday Specialty Tastings, 4-7 pm

NALA Fridays at the Park (Long Bridge), 5-8 pm, music

Forever Grateful Market: Come to the esplanade at Long Bridge Aquatics & Fitness Center on Sat., **Sept. 3** from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. to check out a variety of vendors selling art, automobilia, comics, clothes, food & beverage, metaphysical, handcrafts, vintage and more. Learn more [here](#).

National Landing Market: Head to 2611 S Clark Street in National Landing Saturday **September 3 and 10** from 10 am to 1 pm for a market that features an extraordinary lineup of local vendors, representing cultures from around the world, selling furniture, vintage clothing, collectibles, antiques, a curated selection of jewelry, arts and crafts, outdoor cycling classes and more!

What's Happening at Gunston Community Center

The Teen Scene at Gunston Opens after Labor Day: Arlington middle and high school students drop by Gunston 2:30-6 p.m. starting Tues., Aug. 30 through the end of May when school is in session except for early-release days. No in's & out's (for safety), just fun, challenging & enriching environment through

structured recreational activities. You choose the days you visit. Even better? It's free! Learn more and [register here](#).

Gunston's Creative Preschooler Program has Openings for Fall 2022! Even better? It's full day! We've updated our program with working families in mind. Our preschool programs are designed to provide children ages 3-5 with their first social group experience outside the home. Emphasis is placed on experiencing age-appropriate recreation activities, being part of a group, cooperating, listening, sharing, developing play and movement skills and discovering nature. [Learn more here](#). (BTW: We provide fee reductions for those in need.)

Updates and Closures for County Facilities

As part of its regular maintenance needs, the Long Bridge Aquatics & Fitness Center will be closed through **Sept. 8**. During that time, Arlington Public School pools will honor Long Bridge membership and pass holders (with key tag) and you are welcome to visit our other Arlington County Community Center fitness facilities.

All Arlington County centers are closed for Labor Day, Mon., **Sept. 5**. Our parks and trails will remain open for reflection and recreation.

On Sun., **Sept. 11**, Long Bridge will be hosting the Northern Virginia Senior Olympic Dive Meet at 4 p.m. Spectator Seating will be open.

Has it been a while since you've been in a fitness center? Are you new to fitness equipment? Sign up for a free orientation at [Long Bridge Aquatics and Fitness Center](#) on Mon., **Sept. 26**, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Sign up at the front desk or email Fitness Program Manager, [Michelle Atkin](#).

Have you seen Walter Reed's Sensory Garden?

For many people, taking advantage of outdoor spaces has become a crucial way of maintaining health and peace of mind. Thanks to the hard work by our garden committee volunteers, the Walter Reed Sensory Garden continues to thrive. [Enjoy a virtual tour of the Walter Reed Sensory Garden](#), or better yet, come by and see the garden for yourself. The Sensory Garden is always looking for more volunteers to assist with regular cleanups to keep the garden beautiful in all seasons! Feel free to stop in and leave your contact information with staff if you're interested in volunteering.

Arlington Historical Society Hybrid Event

Wise Gals: The Spies Who Built the CIA and Changed the Future of Espionage. Tuesday, **September 20**, 7 pm. Best-selling author Nathalia Holt will talk about four women who were critical in helping build the new organization now known as the CIA—including Adelaide Hawkins who made Arlington her home during WWII. In-person at Marymount College or Zoom online. [Learn more here](#).

New Temporary Exhibit: Public Health and Medicine in Arlington

Arlington Historical Museum, 1805 S Arlington Ridge Road. Saturdays and Sundays 1-4 pm. From home medicines to apothecaries, clinics, and doctors.

TRANSPORTATION AND CONSTRUCTION

Construction and Detours

The National Landing BID tracks and posts important information and links to many [construction alerts](#) for commercial developments and transportation projects in the National Landing area. The County's [Crystal City-Pentagon City Area Map](#) also tracks development and construction. You can also report transportation problems around construction sites through the County's [Report a Problem system](#).

Crystal City Metrorail Station East Entrance project

Arlington County transportation staff will host a virtual Project Design Update meeting for the Crystal City Metrorail Station East Entrance project on Tuesday, **September 6** at 7 pm. Staff and representatives from the project's design team will share the 30% plan for the updated design, which features an at-grade (ground-level) ticketing mezzanine, answer questions, and solicit input on some of the design details to be used in the new approach. JBG will do the construction and plans to submit a cost build out proposal to County by year end. Completion anticipated for the end of 2025. [Join here](#).

Help Finalize the 23rd Street South Section of the Crystal City Bike Network

Earlier this summer, the project team for the Crystal City Bike Network shared the [final network plan](#) and updated you on how each segment will be delivered. Now, you can provide your input on one of the key east-west connections for the CCBN. The Arlington County Planning Commission's Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) is considering a proposal from JBG Smith to reconstruct 23rd Street South between Route 1 and Crystal Drive as part of the 2250 Crystal Drive/223 23rd Street South – Plaza 5 project. Using input from the Crystal City Sector Plan and the CCBN plan, the developer has shared a proposed design for the block that is in line with the cross-section put forth in the CCBN plan.

You can review their proposed design and share your feedback on the concept through the SPRC's public engagement process for the proposed development. The next meeting for this Site Plan process is on September 15, 2022 with Transportation and Streetscape as one of the topics to be discussed. More information and links to the plans and meeting are available on the Site Plan project page [here](#).

12th and Crystal Drive Corner Improvement

The long-planned County project to improve the corner at 12th and Crystal Drive began August 25. This construction is part of the first segment of the Transitway Extension to Pentagon City, including the installation of two new transit stations at Crystal Drive & 15th Street S, and 12th Street S. & Long Bridge Drive. The current work will fix the sharp turn problem by cutting the sidewalk back on the southwest corner of 12th and Crystal Drive in front of Waterford House to allow more room for buses to turn. As a first step, the contractor is moving the streetlight back. Traffic should not be impacted. The remaining project to cut the sidewalk and cement it will likely take a total of two months, but the work is expected to be intermittent, pending contractor scheduling. The work on the northeast corner of 12th and Crystal Drive to install the Transitway lane will probably not take place until the end of the year or beginning of 2023. The County promised to keep us informed of the timeline. You can see the full Transitway project [here](#).

Metro Forward

Listen Up Riders! There are a few Blue ● and Yellow ● line station closures starting September 10. Prepare your travel alternatives early.

14 Sept. 10 – Oct. 22: All Blue and Yellow line stations south of Reagan National Airport will close to prep for the new Potomac Yard Station.

14 Sept. 10 (8 Months): No Yellow Line service and the tunnel and bridge between Pentagon and L'Enfant Plaza stations will close for major construction to ensure the bridge and tunnel structures are safe for years to come.

Travel Impacts Include:

No Yellow Line service at all

No Metrorail service between Pentagon and L'Enfant Plaza Metro stations

No Metrorail service south of Ronald Reagan National Airport

Increased frequency of Blue Line service between the airport and New Carrollton Metro Station

Free shuttle service at affected stations.

Learn more about each of these projects and get travel alternatives by visiting wmata.com/majorconstruction

Route 1 Multimodal Study: VDOT Public Information Meeting has been postponed to November to review Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and streetscape proposals for bringing Route 1 down to grade

CC2DCA: The next step soon in the NEPA process is to present the preferred alternative route from Crystal City to the airport. A meeting may be scheduled December 7 at 7 pm.

Long Bridge Bike-Ped Project received RAISE funds!

On August 11, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg announced that the Biden-Harris Administration awarded more than \$2.2 billion from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program to help urban and rural communities move forward on projects that modernize roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports, and intermodal transportation and make our transportation systems safer, more accessible, more affordable, and more sustainable. Good news: One of the recipients (p. 151) is the Long Bridge bike-ped project which will create a new bike-ped connection from the northern end of Long Bridge Park to DC, with a new connection to the Mount Vernon Trail. The FY 2023-32 CIP includes a project to provide enhanced bike/ped facilities on Long Bridge Drive to connect the pedestrian/bike terminus of the Long Bridge Rail Project to the Boundary Channel Drive ped/bike facilities and to the Crystal City Bike Network. Learn more about the Long Bridge Project [here](#).

Arlington National Cemetery Southern Expansion (ANCSE)/Defense Access Road (DAR) Project – What's going on?

You've probably noticed lots of construction vehicles moving vast amounts of dirt around, just east and west of S. Joyce, north of Army-Navy Drive and I-395. A northbound lane of Joyce has been closed, and traffic lights, so far inactive, had mysteriously appeared further east on Columbia Pike. This is all part of

Phase 1 of the massive ANCSE DAR project, which will expand ANC space to the south, realign Columbia Pike, create new pedestrian sidewalks on both sides of Columbia Pike and a cycletrack on the north side, create a new, safer, more logical interchange between Columbia Pike and Washington Boulevard, and include a new space for a [future Pentagon 9/11 Memorial Visitor Center](#). Joyce will be shortened to meet a new intersection with Columbia Pike; and Southgate Road, currently a popular bike-ped alternative to Columbia Pike, will disappear; and July 4th fireworks at the Air Force Memorial will just be a fond memory. The DAR project is currently in Phase 1 of a six phase construction plan, with construction ongoing through at least Summer 2025. The project team promises to keep all modes of transportation open during the project, though detours and temporary closures will occur. The DAR project has its own [website](#), and the County has a general Columbia Pike transportation [website](#), but the best overview of this massive project is the [slide deck](#) from the February 11, 2020 project presentation. See slide 7 for a general overview of the final layout and slide 8 for the proposed intersections of Columbia Pike with Joyce and with Washington Boulevard.

DEVELOPMENT

Private Development

- 2250 Crystal Drive/223 23rd Street: **SPRC #2, September 15, 7 pm:** Joint meeting of JBG for site plan and County's Phase 2 realignment plans for 23rd Street Right of Way and bike map. Update on architectural features, transportation, streetscape, sustainability, community benefits. [Login pending.](#)
- Dining in the Park, 2050 Crystal Drive: construction/landscaping ongoing through end of year; tenant will fit out inside January-summer 2023
- 2011 Crystal Drive: JBG is seeking County Board permission in September to build out a new glass storefront and terrace on the 3rd floor; work in 2023 dependent on finding tenants
- Americana Hotel: JBG's 4.1 site plan has not yet been approved by the County but is hoping for an online engagement in September and a potential SPRC in October.
- Water Park: Retaining wall by Mt Vernon trail tunnel finished; temporary sidewalk detour expected soon for fall into winter; completion summer 2023

Q2 National Landing Market Snapshot

The National Landing Business Improvement District launched its inaugural real estate market quarterly snapshot highlighting trends in office, residential, hotel, retail, jobs, and development pipeline in National Landing. Read Q2 2022 Highlights [here](#)

ABOUT CCCA

The Crystal City Civic Association (CCCA) was formed on January 28, 2014. We are a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization with the express purpose of advancing the common interests of the residents of the Crystal City neighborhood in Arlington County, Virginia. CCCA gives a voice to our residents. CCCA officers represent community members at county meetings, function as liaisons to state and local lawmakers, coordinate with the Crystal City BID on important issues and projects and ensures the needs of residents are met.

CRYSTAL CITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD

President Eric Cassel

Vice President Tarsi Dunlop

Meeting Secretary Alistair Watson (by appointment)

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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