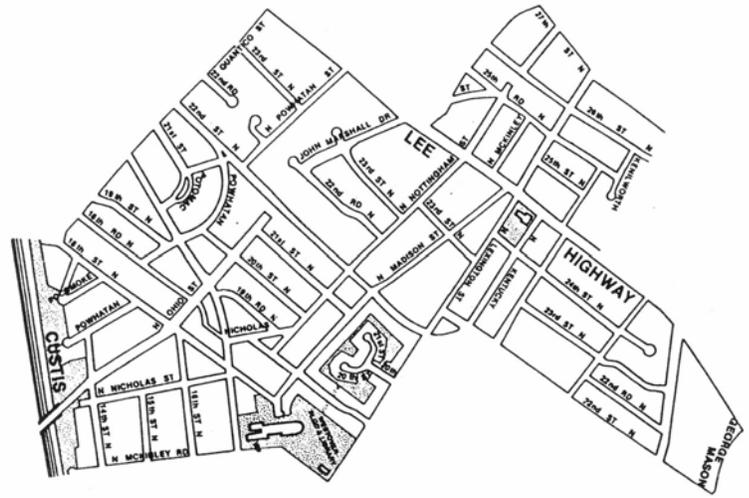


The Leeway Overlee Leader

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Civic Association
<http://www.leewayoverlee.org/>



VOLUME 26, NUMBER 3

OCTOBER 2004

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, October 13, 2004
7:30 p.m. -- Lee Recreation Center
5722 Lee Highway

The Gang Problem in Arlington

Featured Speaker:

Sgt. John Rizik
Arlington County Police Department

Refreshments provided

Candidates Night Set For October 27

The civic association is once again joining with other northwest Arlington civic groups to sponsor a Candidates Night for all the local political races due to be decided in the November 2nd election. This year the event will be held on Wednesday, October 27th in the multipurpose room at Reed School. The event will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. The multipurpose room is located at the back of Reed, near the intersection of N. 18th Street and N. Madison Street.



The order and time of the races to be covered are as follows:

School Board — 7:30 p.m.
County Board — 8:15 p.m.
House of Representatives (Va. 8th Dist.) — 9 p.m.

Come engage your current elected officials and their challengers in this fall's election!

Refreshments at the Candidates Night will be provided by the sponsoring civic associations.

The candidates for the races are as follows:

School Board (two seats)

William S. Barker (I)
E.T. "Libby" Garvey (I)
Shaun W. Wheldon (I)
Frank K. Wilson (I)

County Board

Barbara A. Favola (D)
F. Landey Patton IV (R)

Member, House of Representatives

Lisa Marie Cheney (R)
James T. Hurysz (I)
James P. Moran, Jr. (D)

Gangs in Our Neighborhoods — the Signs, the Solutions

Sometimes it is graffiti sprayed onto street signs. Sometimes it is unexplained groups of young people gathered around a store or on a neighborhood street. Or it can be folks moving through the community late at night and damage found the next morning. What are the signs of neighborhood gang activity, and to what degree is it a problem in the Leeway Overlee community?

Sergeant John Rizik, the County's law enforcement specialist in gang activity, will discuss the gang situation in Arlington and to what degree it has affected us locally. He will also outline what efforts local residents can make to combat and minimize this problem.

Agenda Action Item for the Meeting

- *Prioritization of Leeway Neighborhood Conservation Projects, p. 2*

Leeway Conservation Projects Must be Prioritized

Each spring and fall the community must prioritize its locally approved but not yet funded neighborhood conservation projects. This is so they can be considered by the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) in June and December for possible funding.

The following two projects are eligible for and waiting funds in the Leeway area. They will be prioritized at the October 13th meeting:

N. 22nd Street (West Phase--N. Powhatan St. to N. Quantico St.) – install curb and gutter Powhatan to Quantico. Replace substandard width sidewalk in the same area. Create uniform 32-foot street width N. Quantico Street to N. Powhatan Street & establish tree planting strip on the south side. Plant hardwood shade trees. Install Carlyle-style pole street lights in the south-side planting strip. (\$250,000) (Dec. 13, 2000) Rob Swennes, 703-532-6101.

N. 22nd Street (East Phase--N. Powhatan St. to John Marshall/Ohio greenway) –reset curb and gutter on the south side of the block to create a uniform 32-foot street width N. Powhatan St. to the greenway & establish a tree planting strip on the south side. Replace south-side sidewalk and driveway apron, as needed. Plant hardwood shade trees. Install Carlyle-style pole street lights in the south-side planting strip. Improve the intersection at N. Powhatan St. (\$245,000) (Dec. 13, 2000) Rob Swennes, 703-532-6101.

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Officers

President:	Vicki Howard	703-304-4487
Vice-President:	Suzanne Idziak	703-538-5288
Secretary:	Ray Koch	703-536-4033
Treasurer:	Carolyn Connell	703-241-2422

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

Leeway

Representative:	Rob Swennes	703-532-6101
Alternate:	Michael O'Connor	703-237-5432

Highland Park/Overlee Knolls*

Representative:	Cliff McCreedy	703-538-4568
Alternate:	Roger Morton	703-536-7233

*The HPOK NC representatives are elected by the HPOK Civic Association.

Arlington County Civic Federation

Delegates:	Vicki Howard, Jerry Auten, Suzanne Idziak, Ed Robinson
Alternates:	Amy Appelbaum, Rob Swennes, Steve Compton, Ray Koch

The Leeway Overlee Leader is edited by Rob and Kathee Swennes (703-532-6101); distribution coordinator is Amy Appelbaum (703-241-8446). The association webmaster is Jim Mountain (703-536-4082). Articles and other news items can be mailed to the editors (6101 N. 22nd St. 22205) or sent by email (kswen@juno.com).

Community News Via E-Mail

Do you want a day-in-advance reminder of civic association meetings? How about prompt notice of other local community issues that arise between newsletters? Your address is not displayed to others when messages are sent. To be added to the addressee list, send your e-mail address to:

leewayoverlee@hotmail.com



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Westover Library Update

The new Westover Library is now being planned as a one-story building at the northwest corner of Washington Blvd. and N. McKinley Road. Construction is scheduled to begin next summer. The plans for a two-story joint County and Schools facility with underground parking was abandoned last spring because of its high construction cost. The school element was deleted.

Over the summer county staff met with area civic association representatives to preview preliminary architectural and site plans for the new structure. The planned library is essentially the same size and concept as has been in the works for several years. On October 5, the County will hold a community meeting to review the library project and receive comment. The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. in the Reed School multipurpose room.*

Preliminary exterior drawings, floor plan, and site plan (including proposed parking along McKinley Street) can be viewed at the Westover Library or online at : <http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/Libraries/forums/westover/LibrariesForumsWestoverWestoverReedMain.aspx>.

The new library plans include expanded children's and browsing areas, 20 Internet computer stations, upgraded staff space and a community meeting room/reading area. A striking glass corner that tilts up and out, at Washington Blvd. is intended to brighten the children's area and be a welcoming nighttime landmark. Exterior design elements will set off the building entrance, community meeting room and staff administrative area.

The Reed property master plan remains unchanged. Arlington County Schools will initiate planning for a replacement of the remaining Reed facilities after the expected passage of the school bond in November. **Note: Advance notice of this meeting was sent to subscribers to the civic association listserv.*

Neighborhood Opposes New Apartment Building Plan

Residents along N. Illinois Street and adjoining blocks have coalesced in firm opposition to the idea of a new apartment building just south of the CITGO station on Lee Highway. The owner of the existing apartments just to the west of the gas station and his attorney have appeared at two civic association meetings within the past year to seek neighborhood support for the project. Though reactions to the project were mixed in the initial months, the views of most nearby neighbors hardened over time.

Residents are principally concerned about the prospect of additional parking in the area if more apartments are built. Environmental and privacy issues have also been raised. County staff has not warmed to the development proposal, especially to the applicant's efforts to gain neighborhood consensus and project approval without going through the customary site plan review process. The project would require a change in zoning for some of the property to be developed.

The civic association provided a letter of support for the neighborhood. The site plan proposal went before the County Board on Saturday, September 11. The Board turned down a request to defer action. It denied (without prejudice) the requested zoning and land use plan changes. It is still possible for the developer to submit another plan in the coming year.



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Community Notes

Environmental Extravaganza October 16

The environmental extravaganza is a semiannual event which gives Arlingtonians the opportunity to dispose of household hazardous wastes and to recycle bicycles and computers. The fall collection will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 16 at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. ServiceSource will accept computers, printers, keyboards, scanners, copiers and other computer hardware. Computer monitors will be accepted for a \$10 fee. This fee must be paid by check to ServiceSource. Televisions will be accepted for a fee of \$10, cash only. Bicycle recycling by Pedals for Progress is being sponsored by Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment. Pedals for Progress accepts repairable bicycles which it sends overseas to people who can use this affordable form of transport. A donation of \$10 per bike is suggested to defray the cost of shipment.

Complete information on the extravaganza and other recycling possibilities can be found at: <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/EnvironmentalServicesMain.aspx>.

Elementary School Boundaries under Study

The Arlington School Board has initiated a review of the elementary schools near Leeway Overlee and the geographic areas they serve. Tuckahoe, Nottingham and McKinley are three of eleven schools under study. A committee appointed by the School Board on September 9 is scheduled to make a boundary adjustment recommendation to the Superintendent in December. After he makes a recommendation to the School Board, the public comment period will begin. The Board must make any boundary adjustments by early April in order for them to be implemented next fall. Some of the schools under study have excess capacity, while others are overcrowded. For periodic information updates, go to <http://www.arlington.k12.va.us/facilities/northboundary.html> or contact Mark Macekura (Mmacekur@arlington.k12.va.us / 703-228-8633), the committee's staff liaison.

Leeway Overlee Submits Comments On Lee Center Landscaping

The civic association has sent in its points of concern regarding the landscaping design for the Lee Center facility. A special meeting was held at the Lee Center on September 15 to go over the 95% design with the neighborhood. A number of refinements were proposed. It is anticipated that most work at the Center grounds will be done late this year or next spring. One of the key elements is enlargement of the parking lot off of N. Lexington Street. A shared butterfly garden and seniors garden will also be constructed.

Snow is Coming; Volunteers Needed

If Arlington is hit by a major snow storm this winter, cleaning of local sidewalks must be done by residents. The County works to get streets open and does not have the manpower to address sidewalks. For several years the civic association has sponsored neighborhood volunteers willing to use County-provided snow blowers to help clean sidewalks. This has helped to open pedestrian routes to the Metro station and to Westover that could otherwise remain impassable or dangerously icy for weeks. If you would like to join this group of volunteers and provide snow relief on your street, contact Rob Swennes (703-532-6101). Training will take place in November.

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2004 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete this form and mail it with a check for \$2.00 per adult to Carolyn Connell, 6113 N. 22nd St., Arlington, VA 22205.

Make check payable to:

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Check if you wish a receipt. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Check if you are willing to help with the distribution of THE LEEWAY OVERLEE LEADER.

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