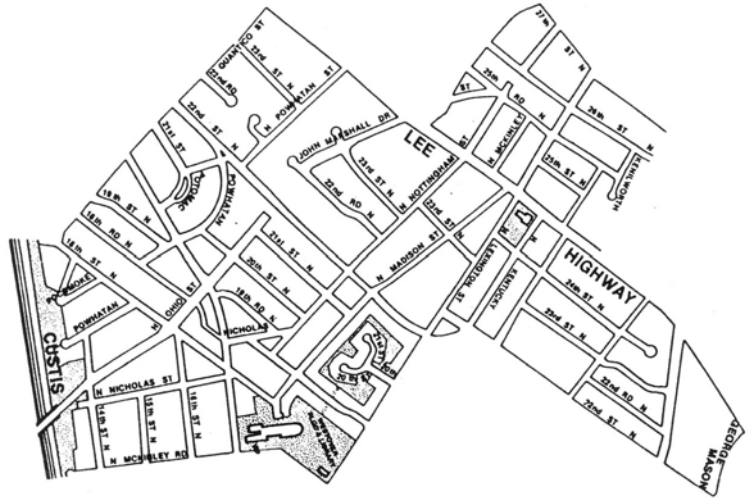


The Leeway Overlee Leader

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VOLUME 26, NUMBER 1

MARCH 2004

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 10
7:30 p.m. - Rivendell School
5700 Lee Highway
(enter from N. Kensington St.)

Current Arlington Issues

Featured Speaker:

Walter Tejada, Arlington County Board

Refreshments provided

A New Perspective on Arlington's Vision

Mr. Walter Tejada, the newest member on the County Board, has agreed to meet with the Leeway Overlee community. He will share his sense of some of the central issues facing Arlington in the coming years and how he intends to approach them. Mr. Tejada is the first Latino member of the Board and brings to the job many years of experience with volunteer groups both in Arlington and in his native El Salvador. He is interested in hearing the concerns and perspectives of residents in each neighborhood in our community. He looks forward to responding to questions from local residents.

Information/ Action Items on Meeting Agenda

- *Update on Landscaping Plans for the Lee Center, p. 3*
- *Prioritization of Neighborhood Conservation Projects, p. 3*

Community Scheduled to Review Lee Center Landscape Plans

After many years of waiting, the community will soon see some major improvements in the grounds around the Lee Center at Lee Highway and N. Lexington Street. An extensive renovation to the interior of the Lee Center was completed two years ago. Since then the focus has been on developing a similar plan for the outside of the facility.

The County has received 35% conceptual plans for the landscaping from the design firm, TAMS-Earthtech, Inc. It is now time to get broader input from the neighborhood on the design so that any needed adjustments can be integrated at an early date. (See graphic on page 3.)

Due to the press of other business already scheduled for the March 10 Leeway Overlee meeting, a special community meeting will be held to allow for complete review of the Lee Center landscaping plans. The design firm will make the presentation. The date and time for that meeting will be announced at the March 10 meeting and through the civic association listserv. (See page 2 to find out how to join the listserv.) Neighbors living near the Center and other residents who make use of the Center's outdoor facilities should attend to ensure that their main concerns are addressed.

A number of issues have already been identified regarding the landscaping plans as they currently exist. Many of them relate to a proposed expansion of the on-site parking at the Center. An additional 14 parking spaces have been suggested for the parking lot off of N. Lexington Street. But it is unclear whether this number of new spaces would imperil or doom one or more of the mature oak trees toward the front of the Center. The envisioned new parking may mandate a change in the traffic pattern within the parking lot to prevent conflict

See **Lee Center**, page 3

Nominating Committee Seeks Officer Candidates

Amy Appelbaum and Bill Ross will serve as this year's Nominating Committee to recommend individuals to serve as Leeway Overlee Civic Association officers and fill other key roles. If you are new to the community (or a long-timer) and interested in maintaining the quality of life in the neighborhood, consider serving. The election of officers will be held at the late May general membership meeting. A list of the officer positions is on this page of the newsletter. At the May meeting the community will also select its representatives to the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee and delegates to the Arlington County Civic Federation. If interested in any of those positions, please contact Amy at 703-241-8446 or Bill at 703-237-0357.

Join the Leeway/Overlee Listserv!

Do you want to "keep up with the Joneses" in terms of what's going on in the community? If so, join our listserv by sending an email message to leewayoverlee@hotmail.com.



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Vice-President:	Missy Schukraft	703-534-7233
Secretary:	Vicki Howard	703-304-4487
Treasurer:	Karen Norrell	703-533-1538

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

Leeway

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

Highland Park/Overlee Knolls*

Representative:	Theresa DeFore	703-536-7611
Alternate:	Cliff McCreedy	703-538-4568

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

Arlington County Civic Federation

Delegates:	Steve Compton, Jerry Auten, Missy Schukraft, Ed Robinson
Alternates:	Amy Appelbaum, Rob Swennes, Kristin Kelly, Christie Compton

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

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Lee Center, *continued from page 1.*

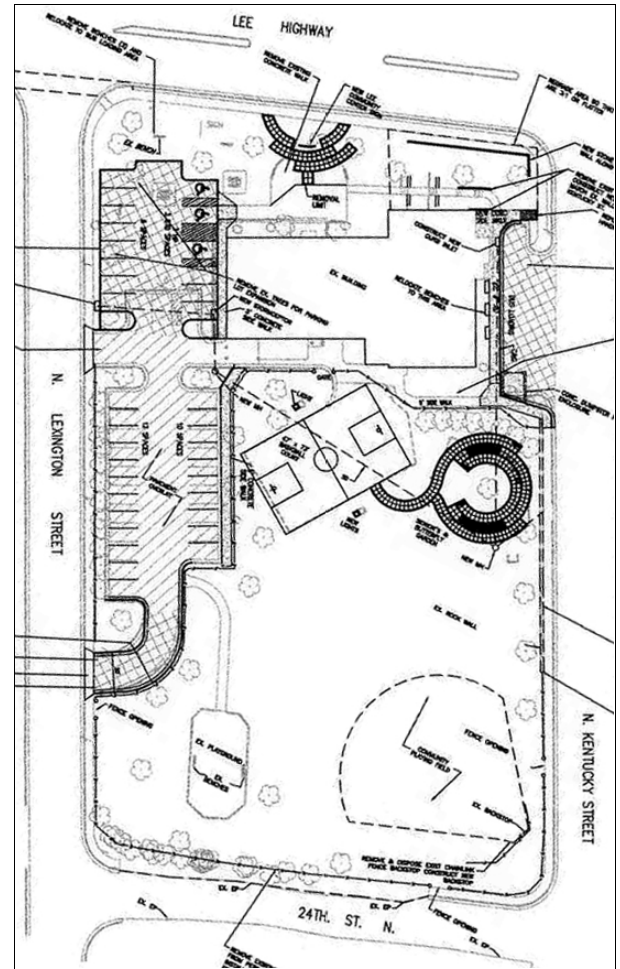
between vehicles entering and exiting. Substantial on-street parking is available within a block or two of the Center, but some nearby residents object to the number of cars being parked in front of their homes. Finding the appropriate balance between green space and impervious asphalt and concrete on the block is an underlying issue. The graphic at the right shows the additional parking and the proposed spiral butterfly park.

On February 5 several community leaders met with Nancy Roisum, Facilities Planning (703-228-4448) and Sandra Green, Recreation Services (703-228-4878) to articulate these site issues and others.

Another matter is funding for the needed improvements. The landscaping upgrades were estimated in 1998 to cost \$171,000. A \$10,000 grant for a butterfly garden on the block has been separately approved.

The current project cost estimate is \$372,000. This increase is due to inflation; reconstruction rather than resurfacing of the basketball court; and higher than anticipated costs for design, storm water management, lighting, and landscaping. Part of this increase can be covered by funds left over from the interior renovations of the Center, but \$76,000 is still needed. Staff is seeking this funding for this year, but if it is not obtained, the project will either be delayed another year or some elements cut.

If the Lee Center is important to you and your family, participate in the community input on these matters on at the upcoming meeting.



Neighborhood Conservation Project Prioritization

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 projects are waiting funds in the Leeway area:

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. (\$250K) (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.

N. Nottingham Street (Lee Hwy. to N. 22nd Rd) – install sidewalk on the west side of the street. (conceptual estimate \$200,000). (Dec. 12, 2001) Ann Tierney, 703-534-1284.

N. 22nd Road (N. Harrison St. to N. Illinois St.) – install curb and gutter on both sides of the street to make a finished curb-to-curb street width of 26 feet. (conceptual estimate \$225,000) (Dec. 12, 2001) Ted Berner, 703-538-5238.

The prioritization for the June NCAC funding round will be decided at the March 10 meeting.

Community Notes

Newsletter Distributors Needed

A key element of the civic association is the cadre of volunteers who four times each year deliver the association newsletter door to door. A few new newsletter distributors are needed. If you enjoy walking through the neighborhood, noting the style and landscaping of each home, and talking to neighbors, then you are a good candidate to distribute *The Leeway Overlee Leader*. To volunteer, call Amy Appelbaum at 703-241-8446.

Proposed New Apartment Building on N. Illinois St. to Be Monitored

At the December 10, 2003 meeting of the civic association local residents learned of the plans for a new apartment building on a narrow piece of land behind the CITGO station on Lee Highway at N. Illinois. The property owners and their attorney and architect answered a number of questions raised. Affected residents are in email contact to monitor the project and ensure that any ultimate development protects nearby neighbors and minimizes any traffic impact.

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Community Day/Yard Sale Is Coming Soon!

When winter is past, it is time to think of spring cleaning and the annual Leeway Overlee Community Day and Yard Sale. The first Saturday in June is the date of the year's neighborhood yard sale sponsored by the civic association. For over 25 years the community has gathered along the John Marshall Drive/Ohio Street greenway to sell, exchange, and purchase furniture, tools, clothes, games, toys and other "treasures." Why hold an individual yard sale when you can join your neighbors and friends in a truly awesome event? Each year over 100 families take part in this community day festival. Delicious food and music have become part of the tradition. Thousands of shoppers attend. Mark your calendars now for this year's event on the morning of June 5. Rain date will be June 12.

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2004 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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