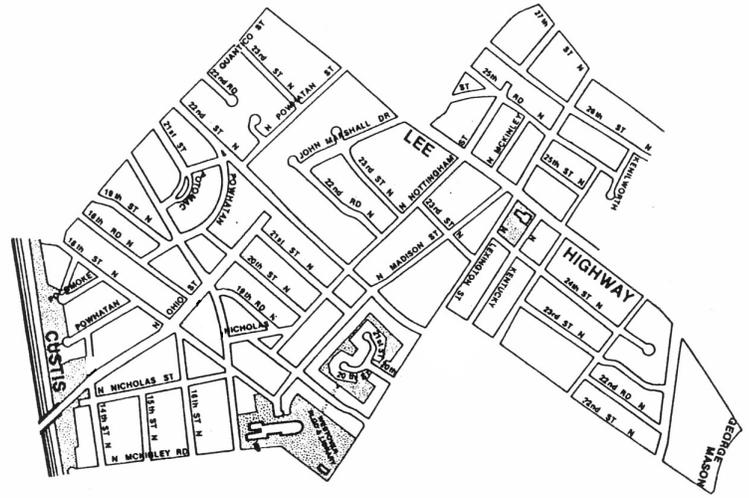


The Leeway Overlee Leader

Published by the Leeway Overlee
Civic Association
<http://www.leewayoverlee.org/>



VOLUME 32, NUMBER 2

JUNE 2010

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, June 23, 2010
7:30 p.m. - - Reed School
1644 N. McKinley Rd.

East Falls Church Redevelopment

Featured Speakers

John Wilson & Thanna Schemmel
East Falls Church Planning Task Force

Refreshments provided

East Falls Church Plan Sent to County Board

Issue will be on July meeting agenda

The East Falls Church Planning Task Force, at its June meeting, voted 14 – 4 to send its draft plan to the Arlington County Board for adoption. The task force has been meeting monthly for two years to recommend guidance for future development of the East Falls Church Metrorail parking lot and nine other commercial properties in the study area. That area encompasses land in both Arlington and Falls Church within a half mile of the intersection of Washington Boulevard and Lee Highway by I-66. The Exxon service station at that intersection is another of the affected sites. The County Board is due to consider and vote on the plan at its July Board meeting, either on Saturday, July 10 or Tuesday evening, July 13.

The endorsed plan calls for future redevelopment of these sites with buildings ranging from four to nine stories, depending upon the site. Most public attention in our area has focused on the Metro parking lot—the largest of the parcels. The plan the Board will consider calls for elimination of the large day parking lot at the corner of Sycamore Street and Washington Boulevard but retention of the smaller kiss-and-ride lot on the far side of I-66. Future development of the large day parking lot would be as mid-rise housing with ground-floor retail. Some short-term parking would be available to those visiting the area. Greater emphasis will be placed on having Metro users access the station by foot, bike, bus or vehicle drop-off.

Support for the proposed redevelopment is not uniform. Concerned citizens talked with participants in the civic association's recent Community Day and Yard

Development Proposals Highlight June Meeting

Denser development of several commercial properties in our corner of Arlington and across the line in Falls Church will have an impact on our neighborhood. Whether the overall impact is positive or negative will be explored on June 23rd prior to County Board action in July.

Further to the east a proposal has surfaced to prohibit motor vehicle traffic on the "quarter round" street segment where N. 22nd Street jogs at N. Lexington Street. (See article on page 3.) Both items will be discussed at the meeting.

Other meeting business includes election of new officers for the civic association as well as Leeway Overlee's representatives to the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee and the Arlington County Civic Federation. See article on page 2, col. 1.

See **East Falls Church**, page 3, col. 1

Nominating Committee Proposes Slate of Officers

The Leeway Overlee Nominating Committee, led by Bill Ross and Chips Johnson, has developed a slate of candidates willing to serve as officers of the civic association for the next year (June 2010 – May 2011). The new officers will be elected at the June 23 meeting. The slate proposed by the Nominating Committee is:

- President – Karla Brown (N. Nottingham Street)**
- Vice President – Pierre Boyer (N. Nottingham Street)**
- Secretary – Ladd Connell (N. 22nd Street)**
- Treasurer – Jennifer Michener (N. 23rd Street)**

Other nominations can also be made from the floor at the meeting.

The community will also select its delegates and alternates to the Arlington County Civic Federation and its representatives to the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee for the Leeway neighborhood conservation area. Several people currently serving in these positions would like to continue. But there are always some vacancies. If interested in a particular position, contact a member of the Nominating Committee and come to the meeting and volunteer.

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Officers

President:	Jennifer Michener	703-533-0754
Vice-President:	Pierre Boyer	703-532-1868
Secretary:	Ladd Connell	703-241-2422
Treasurer:	Karla Brown	703-536-8299

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

Leeway

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

Highland Park/Overlee Knolls*

Representative:	Dennis McGarry	703-533-3698
Alternate:		

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

Arlington County Civic Federation

Delegates:	Ed Robinson, Jerry Auten, Pierre Boyer, Jennifer Michener
Alternates:	Vicki Howard, Carolyn Connell, Rob Swennes, Suzanne Idziak

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 (khswnnes@gmail.com).

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2010 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete this form and mail it with a check for \$5.00 per adult to Karla Brown, 2300 N. Nottingham St., Arlington, VA 22205.

Make check payable to:

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

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East Falls Church Redevelopment...from page 1

Sale event along the John Marshall/Ohio greenway. Media attention is sure to focus on the proposal in advance of any Board decision. It has also received blog attention. For a positive take on the task force's proposal, check out the Greater Greater Washington blog, which can be found at <http://greatergreaterwashington.org/post.cgi?id=6136#comments>. Negative views can be obtained by contacting John Shumate at jtmshumate@toast.net.

Local residents are encouraged to examine the proposed development plan carefully and weigh its pros and cons. It is available on the County's web site at <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/CPHD/forums/columbia/current/CPHDForumsEastFallsChurch.aspx>.

At right is an Illustrated plan of the transit mixed-use area around the East Falls Church Metro station.

Proposal Would Close Street Segment To Motor Vehicle Traffic

Neighbors abutting the short quarter-circle street segment that connects N. Kentucky Street and N. 22nd Street have requested that portion of street be closed to motor vehicle traffic. The proposal arose within the Tara-Leeway Heights Civic Association that is south and east of Leeway Overlee. It has been proposed as a neighborhood conservation (NC) project by that association. About 1000 vehicles per day use this curved bit of roadway, as do many pedestrians. Concerns have arisen regarding safety for walkers because sight lines are not good and some motorists take the curve too quickly. It is not clear why an NC project for adding curb, gutter and sidewalk was not proposed instead of turning this section of right of way into a pedestrian zone. Leeway Overlee residents who drive will be the most impacted by the proposal, since the streets the quarter round connects run right through our association. The Transportation Commission considered the proposal in late May and was reportedly not supportive. The matter will be discussed at the June 23rd meeting of our civic association.



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Community Notes

New Leeway Neighborhood Conservation Plan Accepted by County Board

On Saturday, June 12 the Arlington County Board gave its stamp of approval to the new neighborhood conservation plan for the Leeway section of the civic association. That is the portion of Leeway Overlee north of N. 22nd Street. Cathy Mercil chaired the plan rewrite effort, assisted by a half dozen or more other local residents. It began with a neighborhood-wide survey distributed to each home in Leeway in April 2007. Acceptance of the new neighborhood conservation plan will give a boost to neighborhood efforts to upgrade streets and parkland in the Leeway area. The 2010 plan replaces the original Leeway NC plan dated March 1993. It should soon be available for review and download through this Arlington neighborhood conservation web page: <http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/CPHD/ons/conservation/CPHDOnsConservationPlans.aspx>.

N. Nottingham Street Improvements Endorsed

On Thursday, June 10 the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) endorsed forward to the County Board proposed funding of street improvements to N. Nottingham Street between Lee Highway and N. 22nd Street. For a decade residents on the street have pressed for construction of a sidewalk for pedestrians to use rather than having to walk in the street. N. Nottingham has a significant traffic volume and some speeding problems. Efforts to construct a sidewalk were complicated by the relative narrowness of the street right of way. The solution eventually reached and endorsed by over 60% of Nottingham homeowners calls for narrowing of the street width by several feet to create the space needed for sidewalk construction on the west side. A few details of the project are still under review by staff. Construction may occur as early as the summer of 2011.



32nd Annual Leeway Overlee Community Day a Success

More than a thousand people turned out for this year's Community Day and Yard Sale on Saturday morning, June 5th. The weather was favorable and the live music provided by a local musical group was fine. Roughly a hundred families and other sellers set up shop for several hours along the John Marshall/Ohio greenway to move along unneeded household items and keepsakes. Some popular items have been traded several times over the years at the community sale. The civic association encourages local residents to utilize this 5 block long festival as their annual yard sale so as to minimize the number of household sales (and related sign proliferation) during the warm months. The event always takes place the first Saturday in June, weather permitting.

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 name and e-mail address to:



leewayoverlee@hotmail.com

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