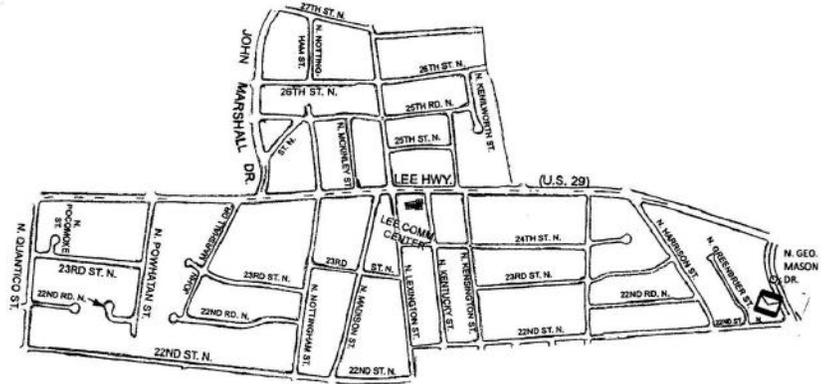


# The Leeway Overlee Leader

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



VOLUME 39, NUMBER 4

OCTOBER 2017

## General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, October 25, 2017, 7:30 p.m.  
Resurrection Lutheran Church parish hall  
6201 Washington Blvd

### Designing the new Reed Elementary School

**Vanessa Guest**  
Building Level Planning Committee

*Refreshments provided*

## A New Vision for Reed

Walter Reed Elementary opened as a neighborhood school in Westover in 1938. It closed almost 50 years later due to declining school enrollment and an out-of-date building. Now the facility is scheduled to become a neighborhood school once again. What is built will be a defining element in the local community for decades to come. It will be the bedrock for the education of our children. Come to this meeting to express your views and see that this community jewel is designed and built properly.

**Also on the agenda:** An update on The Little Ambassadors' Academy child care center approved to open at the intersection of Lee Highway and N. Lexington Street.

## New Reed School Design Is on the Fast Track

The Arlington County Public Schools (ACPS) is launching this month a design effort for the upcoming new elementary school on the Reed School property at 1644 N. McKinley Road. A Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) appointed by the School Board will



Current Reed School

work with the selected architectural design firm on the facility design. Representatives from several civic associations surrounding Reed, including Leeway Overlee, will sit on the BLPC, as will a number of

other community stakeholders.

The BLPC meetings will be held in the Reed School multipurpose room (the voting location for many local residents). The meetings are open to the public and will begin at 7 p.m.

On October 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. the County Board and School Board will hold a joint work session in the Reed School multipurpose room.

On October 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a joint meeting of the BLPC and the County's Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC) at Reed to kick off the design effort. The meeting will include a walking tour of the school site.

It would be a mistake to view this facility design effort as one that will progress at an easy pace until there is a certain level of unanimity among most of interest groups involved. Quite the opposite. The ACPS has developed and refined a fast-moving schedule. The goal is to have a new elementary school at Reed ready to open

See **Reed School Timeline...**page 3, column 2



**Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 7**  
**Don't forget to vote!**

# Snow is Coming: Volunteers Needed

Winter is around the corner. If Arlington is hit by a snowstorm—or a series of major snowstorms—the cleaning of our sidewalks must be done by local residents. The County concentrates on plowing to get streets reopened; it does not have the manpower to address public sidewalks. To fill this gap, the civic association coordinates neighborhood volunteers willing to use County-provided snow blowers to help open pedestrian routes to the Metro station and the Westover shopping area. More volunteers are needed. Volunteers must be trained by the County. If you would like to lend a hand, contact Rob Swennes (703-532-6101).



## LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

### Officers

President:	Kim Klingler	703-489-7408
	email: <a href="mailto:president@leewayoverlee.org">president@leewayoverlee.org</a>	
Vice-President:	Stuart Nagurka	703-538-3808
Secretary:	Ladd Connell	703-241-2422
Treasurer:	Jennifer Michener	703-533-0754

### Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

Representative:	Rob Swennes	703-532-6101
Alternate:	Jennifer Michener	703-533-0754

### Arlington County Civic Federation

Delegates:	Kim Klingler, Stu Nagurka, Jerry Auten, Marcella Maamari
Alternates:	Joan Porte, Jon Desenberg, Julie Pandya, John Perry

*The Leeway Overlee Leader* is edited by Rob and Kathee Swennes (703-532-6101); distribution coordinators are Amy Appelbaum (703-241-8446), Carolyn Connell (703-241-2422), and Jennifer Nardacci (703-237-1143). The association webmaster is Greg Rusk. Articles and other news items can be mailed to the editors (6101 N. 22<sup>nd</sup> St. 22205) or sent by email ([khswnenes@gmail.com](mailto:khswnenes@gmail.com)).

## Find Leeway Overlee on Facebook!

Over the years, our communication methods have grown and changed. Today, we continue to maintain our: quarterly meetings, paper newsletter, website, electronic newsletter, announcement listserv, discussion listserv, and now our Facebook group. To request permission to join our group, please go to Facebook and search for "Leeway Overlee Civic Association". As we continue to grow and change, our communication methods will also evolve. If you have any questions, concerns, or recommendations, please contact Kim Klingler via email at: [ContactKimK@gmail.com](mailto:ContactKimK@gmail.com).



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## Reed School Timeline....from page 1

by the fall of 2021. Every step along the way will be choreographed and decisions made to ensure that opening date is met. Community input is definitely sought and considered, but it must be provided in a timely way. Some might consider it The Arlington Way on steroids.



Current Children's School at Reed

The common understanding is that the design and construction work on the new school will not impact the integrity of the Westover Library on the site. It is important that the local residents monitor the effort to make sure this is the case. Shoppers at the weekly Westover Farmers Market on the Reed property will have similar concerns once construction begins.

For the dates of the various upcoming meetings on Reed's design, see <https://www.apsva.us/design-and-construction/new-elementary-school-reed/>. Another useful website for this project is <https://www.apsva.us/engage/reed-building/>.

Reed will be constructed to house at least 725 students each year. The school could be near capacity its first year, given the steady increase in children within the county over the past two decades. Many surrounding elementary school enrollments are higher than what those schools were designed for. How the School Board will alter the boundary lines for neighborhood schools once Reed is added to the system is a downstream issue not within the purview of the BLPC.

The design and construction of Reed is budgeted not to exceed \$49 million. School Board members have made clear that they would like to see the school built for less. In the case of Reed, they've asked the designers to come up with three designs for the school with different cost totals. All designs must be under the \$49 million cap. The Board says it will be looking for input from the public on all three designs to determine, among other things, whether some upgrades in the higher-cost designs are worth the additional cost to the County.



View of Reed site from adjacent ballfield

## County Board Approves Use Permit for Little Ambassadors' Academy

The use permit (U-3494-17-1) sought for the establishment of a new Little Ambassadors' Academy child care center in Leeway Overlee was approved by the Arlington County Board at its meeting on Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. The permit authorizes the conversion of the commercial property at 5801 and 5901 Lee Highway to be a preschool facility handling approximately 150 children. The civic association submitted a letter of support for the proposed use permit following a discussion of the proposal at its June general membership meeting. The use permit request was noted in the newsletter issue that preceded that meeting. Some residents living on N. McKinley Street near the child care site later notified the civic association of concerns about the use permit request.

Ms. Lauren Harris, director of the child care center, has agreed to attend the upcoming meeting of the civic association to respond to any issues that those living nearby might have.

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## Community Notes

### Vote November 7<sup>th</sup> – Photo ID Required!

This year each adult showing up to vote must present a photo ID, such as a Virginia drivers license or passport. Citizens who will be absent from Arlington on Election Day, or who are unable to go to the polls because of illness or disabilities, may apply to have an absentee ballot mailed to them or may vote by absentee ballot in person at the Office of Voter Registration in Arlington. Virginia law requires a reason to vote absentee. Valid reasons for voting absentee are listed at <http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/VoterRegistration/VoterRegistrationAbsenteeVoting.aspx#WhoAB>.

### NC Projects Still Under Construction

The Neighborhood Conservation street improvement projects on N. Illinois Street and N. 24<sup>th</sup> Street are still underway. These are large projects that took years to fund and years after than to be scheduled for construction. Our last newsletter in June noted that the two street capital improvement efforts were expected to be completed by late July and mid August respectively. Not so, unfortunately. Some unanticipated additional street redesign on N. 24<sup>th</sup> Street was cited as one reason for completion delay. We appreciate the patience of local residents and trust that two like-new streets will be theirs to enjoy well before Christmas.

### Raised Crosswalk Removal a Mystery

The raised crosswalk on N. Lexington Street at N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street disappeared several weeks ago. No one locally seems to know why it was removed. The raised crosswalk was installed as a Neighborhood Conservation project over a decade ago, in part due to the high foot traffic to and from the former Westover Library near that intersection. With the new Reed School scheduled to come on line in a few years, substantial new pedestrian traffic at that intersection is anticipated. That traffic-slowing crossing will be needed all the more. The adjacent civic associations may write the County Manager and ask that the raised crosswalk be reinstalled.

### Needed! Newsletter Distributors

The civic association is seeking additional volunteers to help deliver hard copies of The Leeway Overlee Leader to area homes. To volunteer, call either Amy Appelbaum (703-241-8446) or Jennifer Nardacci (703-237-1143). Please lend a hand, and help keep the neighborhood informed on matters key to our quality of life.

### LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2017 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete this form and mail it with a check for \$5.00 per adult to Jennifer Michener, 5605 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> St., Arlington, VA 22205.  
Make check payable to:

### LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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