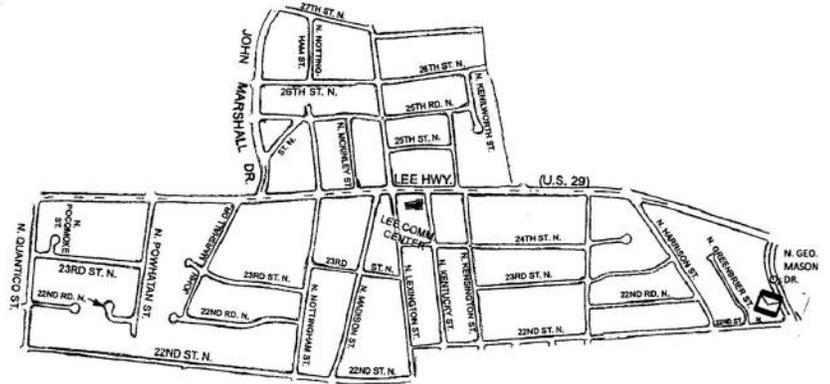


# The Leeway Overlee Leader

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JANUARY 2018

## Reed School Community Meeting

Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 6:30 p.m.  
Reed School Multipurpose Room  
1644 N. McKinley Road

**Design Concepts for the New Elementary School**

## Winter Community Meeting

Two committees have been appointed by the Arlington Public Schools (APS) and the County Board to oversee design of the new Reed neighborhood school. The Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) and Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC) have met twice a month since early fall. Their timeline includes two community meetings to brief the general public on the results of their efforts to date. The first of these public meetings is on January 17 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. We encourage you to attend to learn what is afoot and provide appropriate feedback. To review the PowerPoint presentations provided by the design team at each of the committees' meetings, go to <https://www.apsva.us/design-and-construction/new-elementary-school-reed/>.

**Note:** This gathering will serve as the winter quarter meeting of the civic association. Action on other association items will be deferred till the spring.

## Planning for Reed School Moves Forward

Over the past two months the two committees participating in design of a new elementary school adjacent to Westover have worked closely with the APS-selected contractor, VMDO Architects (<https://www.vmdo.com/>). The results of that collaboration will get public review at Reed on January 17<sup>th</sup>. The architects will walk local residents through key issues that impact location of the new school building and its functions. Some rough conceptual designs have been floated for consideration by the committees. Key neighborhood concerns have been identified and invoked repeatedly. Thus far, a high degree of agreement has prevailed on many issues. The meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup> will test whether the broader community concurs with the conclusions reached to date. Concept designs for the school have been prepared for several sites on the property. See page 3 for more information.



Members of the BLPC & PFRC committees and APS staff toured the Reed site on Dec.10. Note the sledding hill in use in the background.



## Lawsuit filed Over Use Permit for Little Ambassadors Center

A lawsuit was filed against Arlington County following the issuance of a use permit by the County Board to the Little Ambassadors' Academy to operate a child care center at 5801 and 5901 Lee Highway. The civic association learned of the lawsuit just prior to its fall general meeting in late October.

The suit was apparently filed by one or more residential property owners who live on an adjacent street near the Lee Highway site. Because of the suit, the civic association declined to take further action on the use permit matter until the legal action is clarified or resolved. For more information on the granted use permit, see the article on page 3 of the October issue of *The Leeway Overlee Leader*. The issue is available on line at: <http://www.leewayoverlee.org/>.

Sunday Mornings — N. McKinley Rd. at Washington Blvd.



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Vice-President:	Stuart Nagurka	703-538-3808
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### 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 Jennifer Nardacci (703-237-1143), Amy Appelbaum (703-241-8446), and Carolyn Connell (703-241-2422). 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 ([khswnennes@gmail.com](mailto:khswnennes@gmail.com)).

## By-laws Modifications Discussed

At its October meeting the civic association heard recommendations that it should alter its by-laws to ensure that local residents get better advanced notice about proposed changes affecting the neighborhood.

Particular focus was placed on use permit requests, proposed zoning changes, and residential variance requests. Since then, some discussions and by-laws drafting have taken place. That effort is continuing. Some changes in the by-laws may be brought forward at the association's spring meeting.

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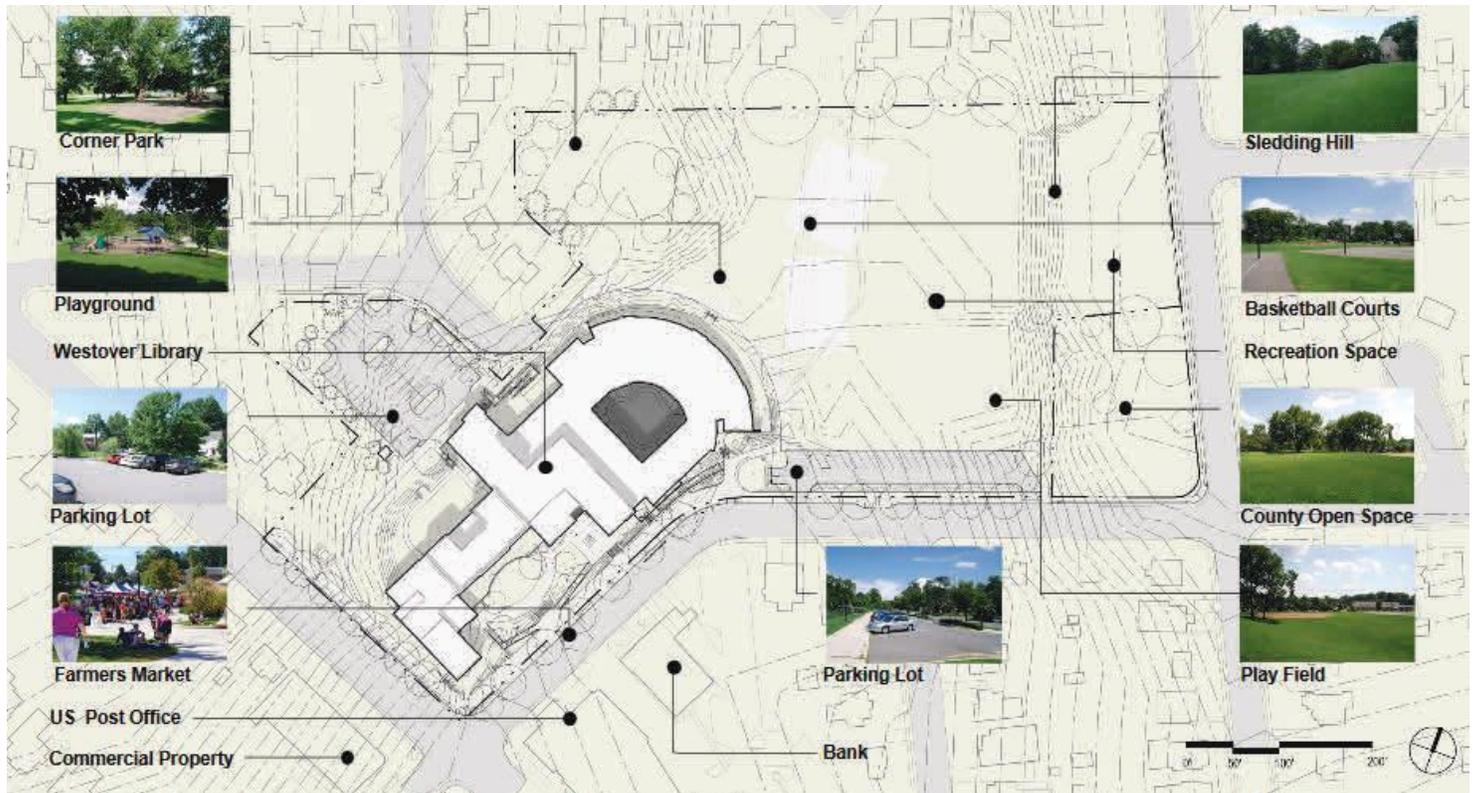
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## Reed Property and surrounding area from above



## Factors to consider in design of the new Reed School

- Create a new neighborhood elementary school
- Ensure school capacity of at least 725 seats
- Create optimal learning environments
- Achieve school opening by fall of 2021
- Total build cost of no more than \$49 million
- Utilize existing school facilities on site as much as practical
- Ensure adequate parking for teaching and support staffs and visitors
- Safe and convenient drop off and pick up of students by buses and parents
- No adverse impact on the adjacent branch library
- No adverse impact on Westover commercial businesses
- No adverse impact on Sunday year-round farmers market
- Protection of youth baseball field
- Protection of basketball courts
- Protection of soccer field
- Protection of children's playgrounds
- Protection of mature trees in the northwest corner of the property
- Maintain pedestrian pathway running across the property from N. 19<sup>th</sup> St. to N. 18<sup>th</sup> St.
- Protect the sledding hill near N. Lexington St.
- Minimize impact on adjacent residential properties
- Ensure facility net zero energy consumption
- Include community usage features into the school, including outside accessible bathrooms
- Protect the county park at the site of the old library
- Preserve the significant major tree on the property
- Maximize open space on the site
- Ensure safe pedestrian crossing of roadways leading to/from the school
- Minimize building footprint.

# Community Notes

## Child Care Initiative Community Meeting

Child care is an important part of a thriving, diverse community. The Child Care Initiative (CCI) is developing solutions to address the accessibility, availability, and quality of child care in Arlington. Input is being sought on a draft action plan that will guide this effort. Residents are encouraged to share their own child care experiences and to provide feedback at Central Library on January 25 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. to shape the CCI's final action plan. To register, go to <https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/events/cci/>.

## NC Projects Still Under Construction

The holidays have come and gone, but the uncompleted Neighborhood Conservation program projects on N. Illinois Street and N. 24<sup>th</sup> Street remain with us. In the association's last newsletter, it was optimistically assumed that those long-existing projects would be completed before Christmas. Not so. The contractor in charge of the work has had crews laboring on these sites, but the funded infrastructure improvements are taking additional time to complete. The community again appreciates the patience of the impacted residents on those two streets. They will thoroughly enjoy the capital improvements once completed, but how soon that will be is still unclear.

## Mystery of Raised Crosswalk Removal Resolved

This item, listed in the last issue of the Leader, has now been solved. The raised crosswalk installed over a decade ago on N. Lexington Street at N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street was removed during the fall by a County contractor. Unfortunately not all nearby civic associations were consulted in advance. Removal was done due to new evidence that these raised crosswalks can be hazardous to pedestrians with limited vision. In November the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee endorsed the removal of these crossings in Arlington but strongly urged that a speed hump be installed instead an appropriate distance from the crosswalk so that vehicles on the residential street travel at or below the posted speed limit. This pedestrian crossing point on N. Lexington Street will become even more important in a few years when the new Reed School opens with hundreds of students walking to and from school.

## 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 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 2018 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.  
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