



Sherwood Park

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President - Donna Hughes
Vice President - Bobbie Hunt
Secretary - Denise Nelson
Treasurer - Lee Ann Jones

Committees

Communications - Yvette Conte
Gov't. Affairs and Safety - John Gass
Beautification - Jim Brodeur
Hospitality - Bobbie Hunt and
Katherine Mayo

Please send us a message if you would like to be on the email list and/or become involved with the Sherwood Park Civic Association.

Website: rvasherwoodpark.org

✉ rvasherwoodpark@gmail.com

📷 [sherwoodparkrva](https://www.instagram.com/sherwoodparkrva)

📘 Sherwood Park Civic Association

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7
SPCA Annual Meeting 7:00pm
Veritas School
Virginia Hall Auditorium

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8
Fall Festival Chili Cook-off
Watch for email with details

SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2027
SPCA Annual Garden Walk

NEWSLETTER • FALL 2026

GENERAL MEETING - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

The SPCA Annual Meeting will be held on **Wednesday October 7, 2026 at 7:00pm at the Veritas School - Virginia Hall Auditorium**. Our featured guest speaker will be Allan Hampton, RVA311 Operations Manager. This will be a great opportunity to learn how RVA311 operates and how you can best utilize its capabilities for needed City services. Since this is the Annual Meeting we will also vote to elect officers for next year. Also, a vote will be held on the recently updated SPCA By-Laws. A copy will soon be available for residents to review [here](#) prior to the vote.

Get Your Garden Ready!

The Sherwood Park Civic Association Garden Walk Committee would love for you to show off your garden, patio, or porch for the 2027 Garden Walk on Sunday, June 6. All types of gardens are welcome! If you would like to participate or need advice for getting started, please contact the Garden Walk Committee at fuquaam@gmail.com



RICHMOND WALDORF SCHOOL PARKING LOT UPDATE

As many of you know, Waldorf School is seeking to acquire City property in Sherwood Park to create a potential 34 space parking lot and modify the school's pickup and drop off traffic flow. The proposal is the subject of Ordinance No. 2026-109, which would authorize the permanent closure and sale of the decommissioned slip lane and the triangular green space along Brookland Parkway. The ordinance is scheduled to be heard at City Council's regularly scheduled meeting on September 28 (as of printing time).

In preparation for this important decision, the Sherwood Park Government Affairs and Safety Committee conducted a survey of Sherwood Park households to better understand our community's views. The survey results are now available at rvasherwoodpark.org: [SPCA Survey Results](#).

Council Member Kenya Gibson held a meeting on September 21 to discuss this ordinance with Sherwood Park residents.

CODE REFRESH UPDATE (DRAFT 3) - CALL TO ACTION

John Gass - Chair Safety and Government Affairs Committee

The new version of the City's zoning proposal has been issued, with several changes in content and process. This is the zoning re-write which will affect EVERY parcel of property in the city: even if you keep your home intact, this "upzoning" may raise the city taxable (potential) value of your lot, causing an accompanying tax dollar increase.

Close to home, the Draft 3 proposal would allow massive, full-block apartment complexes at the present-day Hermitage, Quality/Clarion/Hermitage Inn, Thrive Church, and Yaupon Place sites – without requiring any on-site parking or community input. These future events are the result of decisions by a handful of non-elected Planning staff and consultants.

If you've never been interested in zoning before, this is a good time to start. Your SPCA leadership held a town-hall/Q&A type meeting on September 21, with the city planning Director, Kevin Vonck, as we did with Drafts 1 and 2. We trust that you found the meeting informational.

Some Council Districts have set up that type of meeting through their Councilperson, and Councilperson Gibson addressed the Code Refresh with City Planning staff and the Mayor at a recent 3rd District Meeting on September 17. Important in the process are the interactive maps and text of the proposed zoning. Previous interactive versions generated robust resident comments driving the improvements/compromises gained so far. However, many of those positions have changed into less desirable outcomes with Draft 3.

Please participate in the public comment process. The best method to have your voice heard is email/phone calls/direct conversations with political figures, especially City Council, who will vote on Code Refresh this fall.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

• **The comment feature on the Code Refresh Draft 3 Map has been reopened until Friday, October 2. Please visit the map and leave feedback, especially pertaining to our neighborhood.**

• Send a message to the Mayor and let him know that you want an open and transparent process engaging tax-paying residents. The Mayor can be messaged at RVAMayor@rva.gov and (804) 646-7970

• Send a message to Council and let them know that you want an open and transparent process that engages voters/residents. Council Member Gibson can be messaged at kenya.gibson@richmondgov.com and (804) 646-6055

• Send the same messages to other Council members representing other districts.

• There are two petitions now circulating about a referendum to have large-scale zoning proposals voted on by citizens. Both would be retroactive to address Code Refresh, should it pass the City Council. One petition is from Paul Goldman's group (Committee for an Affordable Richmond), while another is from Marty Jewell's group (Richmond Civic League). They are similar in intent - following state regulations to get a referendum on the November 2027 ballot.

More information will be available at upcoming SPCA meetings.

BLOCK CAPTAINS NEEDED

Thanks to the supportive efforts of our block captains (and other SPCA members), we have been successful in delivering flyers and newsletters to date. However, due to recent changes on certain blocks such as resignations and residents moving, we need to recruit 4 additional block captains. We currently have Block Captain vacancies for the following blocks:

1400 block Brookland Pkwy

1200 block Whitby Rd

1200 block Rennie Ave

3300 block Chatham Rd



Please consider becoming a Block Captain to help support our community. You do not need to live on a particular block in order to be a Block Captain. Our next meeting will be held in advance of the October general meeting. Block captains will receive advance notice of the time and location. Contact Sonya Bates at sonyadbates3941@gmail.com

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE NEWS

Bobbie Hunt - Co-chair Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee focuses on engaging our neighbors in an effort to foster a sense of community within Sherwood Park. To that end, we hold multiple events each year to engage neighbors to come together.

In May, Zach and Brook Isbell graciously hosted a neighbors-only Spring Fling party in their back yard. Initially planned to follow the Garden Tour which was cancelled, the party still went on! We had a beautiful day and lots of appetizers to munch on.

Our July 4th Picnic and Fireworks was cancelled due to extreme heat. Hoping for better weather conditions next year!

Sherwood Park's 100th Anniversary Celebration just took place on September 19th.

Our next planned event is a Chili Cook-off on Sunday, November 8. Watch for details in an email and on our website.

Another function of the Hospitality Committee is welcome our new neighbors. We dropped off gift bags on June 24 for those of you at the following addresses who moved here between May 2025 - April 2026: 1200, 1308, 1320 Brookland Parkway, 3307 Gloucester, 3304 Loxley, 1318 Wentbridge, and 1222 Whitby. We hope you enjoyed your gift bag. If you weren't home, we left it on your front stoop. Please let us know if we missed anyone! A number of homes have sold since April, so we will be delivering welcome bags again soon.

Please add or update your contact information on our [SPCA Membership Site](#) to ensure that you are on our email distribution so you'll be informed of upcoming events.

We welcome all interested neighbors to join the Hospitality Committee!



100th Anniversary Celebration

PLANS FOR LITTLE JOHN PARK

The Sherwood Park Civic Association Beautification Committee has been busy developing a community-driven shared vision for the Little John Park improvement project. We surveyed 260 residents and received a 30% response rate supporting an upgrade to the park. Suggested additions include:

- Green native buffer for noise reduction and heat mitigation
- Playground space for a swing set and climbing structure
- Shaded meeting structure with picnic tables
- Miyawaki forest (a dense, fast-growing urban micro-forest of native plant species)
- Low-maintenance native pollinator garden
- Water station- water fountain and dog bowl access



Little John Park - currently



Conceptual Plan of Future Little John Park

Thanks to significant community input, the Beautification Committee developed a final conceptual master plan document. We submitted a conceptual plan application to Ryan C. Rinn, Capital Projects Planner for the City of Richmond Department of Parks and Recreation. This plan was reviewed and approved on September 10th by the City of Richmond's Urban Design Committee (UDC) and the Planning Commission. Our next step will be to involve a design firm to take the concept to a set of schematic plans.

Many thanks to Chris Banks and Yvette Conte for their hard work, and to Brooke and Zach Isbell for their analysis of the community questionnaire data.

Membership - Annual Dues - \$20 per household

Sherwood Park Civic Association (SPCA) seeks to build a strong community by bringing residents together, fostering fellowship and providing advocacy for local issues and safety that affect our community. If you are not currently a member of the Association, please visit the Membership Page on the website.

DESIGNING THE FUTURE OF RPS

Richmond Public Schools has announced they will hold workshops in every council district to generate support for the proposed 1% sales tax which will be voted on by council this fall. The 3rd District date is October 1 at Holton Elementary. We're pleased to kick off a series of Facilities Modernization Meetings, where we'll share more information about the condition of our school buildings (and how they came to be in their current state) and gather input on what RPS should prioritize over the next 10 years. After a brief presentation from RPS leadership, attendees will engage in facilitated table conversations about what they would like to see be true. All Richmonders — parents, grandparents, community members, business owners, and neighbors — are invited to come share their thoughts.

DESIGNING OUR FUTURE

Join us for a Facilities Modernization Meeting this fall! This is an opportunity to learn, ask questions and help shape the conversation as we plan for our next ten years of renovation and modernization.

At each session, community members will have an opportunity to:

- Learn about the current condition and needs of RPS facilities
- Review data and information about school facilities
- Unpack the enrollment, student need, and facilities trends shaping decisionmaking.
- Share your priorities, ideas and questions
- Participate in a facilitated conversation about the future of our schools

Find your district's date below and join us.

All meetings will be held from 5:30-7 p.m.

District 1 SEP 1, 2026 Thomas Jefferson HS	District 7 SEP 3, 2026 Henry L. Marsh, III ES	District 9 SEP 15, 2026 River City MS
District 4 SEP 17, 2026 Huguenot HS	District 2 SEP 24, 2026 Dogwood MS	District 6 SEP 29, 2026 MLK Middle
District 3 OCT 1, 2026 Linwood Holton ES	District 8 TBD Boushall MS	District 5 OCT 15, 2026 Richmond HS for the Arts

RPS RICHMOND
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

100 YEAR CELEBRATION

We had a beautiful day and a great turnout at Sherwood Park's 100 Year Anniversary Party, put on by the Hospitality Committee. More than 60 people attended, including our Councilperson, Kenya Gibson. Grills and tables for food were set up in the Shalom Farms Pavilion where we had power. We gave out awards to five of the longest tenured residents, all of whom lived in Sherwood Park for 50 years or more! In Yaupon Place, where we set up a tent and some tables to welcome the attendees, we sold Sherwood Park anniversary flags and raffle tickets for a \$50 gift card to Toast. Congrats to winner Tad Nelson! Nathan Hoffert posed as Robin Hood while the kids played with bows and arrows, bocce ball and corn hole in the park.



Janice Bowie



Gwendolyn Pitts

Longtime Sherwood Park Residents

OJ Burgess - Chatham Road - 50 years
Howard & Roberta Elford - Gloucester Road - 50 years
Gwendolyn & Ethan Pitts - Wentbridge - 53 years
Barbara Hunter - Wentbridge Road - 55 years
Janice Bowie - Wentbridge Road - 55 years

FLAGS FOR SALE

We have 100 Year Celebration neighborhood flags available for purchase for just \$15! We would love to see our neighborhood decked out in flags as we celebrate this special milestone together. To order a flag, fill out this [form](#) or Venmo @Katherine-mayo-4 (last 4 digits of phone# 1813) or Zelle to Sherwood Park Civic Assoc. 804-519-1120

