



Sherwood Park

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Interim President - John Gass
Vice President - OPEN
Secretary - Regan Pickett
Treasurer - Lee Ann Jones

Committees

Communications - Yvette Conte
Gov't. Affairs & Safety -
Donna Hughs and Chris Banks
Beautification - Jim Brodeur
Hospitality - OPEN

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.

✉ rvasherwoodpark@gmail.com

📷 sherwoodparkrva

📺 Sherwood Park Civic Association

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

SPCA General Meeting 7:00pm
Hermitage Home (chapel)
1600 Westwood Ave.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

Shalom Farms
Bystander CPR/AED class
1:00-2:30pm

SUNDAY, NOV. 10

Fall Happy Hour 3:00-5:00pm
Little John Park

SUNDAY, NOV. 17

Street Clean-Up 10:00am-12:00pm
Meet at 1411 Brookland Pkwy.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

SPCA General Meeting 7:00pm
Location TBD

NEWSLETTER • FALL 2024

General Meeting

The next Sherwood Park Civic Association general meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 8 at 7:00pm at the Hermitage Home at 1600 Westwood Avenue. Enter from Palmyra Avenue.

Orders of business include a vote to increase dues from \$15 to \$20 per household, identifying a nominating committee for new officers to be voted in at the January 14th meeting, Wentbridge Road traffic survey, Quality Inn property update, Little John Park future upgrades, and reports from our committees. All Sherwood Park residents are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Fall Happy Hour

Let's continue our new tradition of a Fall afternoon gathering, this time in Little John Park, Sunday, November 10 from 3:00-5:00pm (no rain date). The Civic Association will provide snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. Watch for more information on our Facebook page and email.



Sherwood Park Flags

Show your neighborhood pride with a Sherwood Park house or yard flag. A limited number will be available for sale at the October 8th meeting, and an order will be placed for additional requests. Large flags (pictured) are \$30 and garden-size flags are \$15.

LITTLE JOHN PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

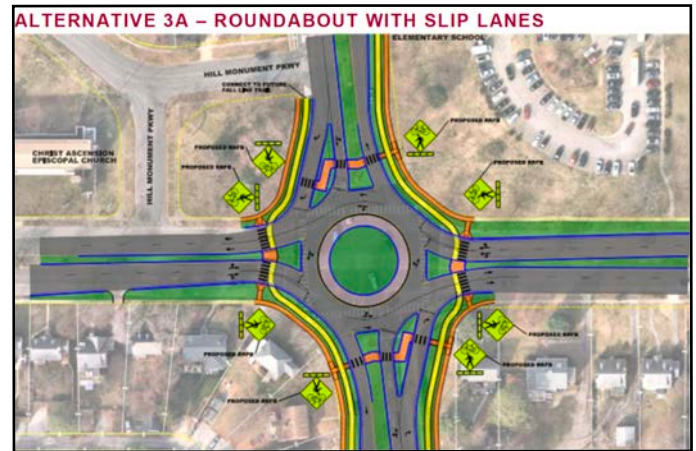
The City of Richmond has a goal of providing city parks within a ten minute walk of all Richmonders. In addition to creating new parks, the city has secured funding sources like the American Rescue Plan Act to improve existing parks. Little John Park, the strip of land across from the houses on Little John Road, qualifies as meeting the ten-minute pledge for the Sherwood Park neighborhood and has been identified for improvements in the FY2025 budget.

The Sherwood Park Civic Association is looking for neighborhood input on what amenities, infrastructure, landscaping, and vision they see for this space. Residents will have additional opportunities to provide input to Richmond Parks and Recreation when they conduct community engagement later this year. The SPCA understands that the ARPA funds must be committed by the end of 2024 and that the city is looking to build in 2025.

HERMITAGE /LABURNUM INTERSECTION RE-DO CHOICES REMAIN CONTROVERSIAL

Susan Rebillot, Secretary Ginter Park Civic Association

The City of Richmond Department of Public Works, Traffic Engineering, hosted a follow-up open house on September 4 to educate the public and to gather feedback about the selected alternative designs. While removal of the A.P. Hill monument has reportedly reduced traffic accident by 71%, the city is committed to the Vision Zero goal of zero fatal accidents. Six alternative designs were presented with city staff providing explanations and facilitating discussions to small groups of northsiders. Handouts were provided with the results of the public survey.



Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

While the survey indicated that the most popular design is the roundabout with north and southbound slip lanes, an additional roundabout design and a protected intersection design with protected left turns were the next most popular. One surprise element is that a temporary solution is planned to begin installation as early as late November 2024.

At the open house, people continued to express concerns about pedestrian and bicycle safety, as well as about the safety of roundabout designs. Concern has been expressed about a potential disconnect between traffic engineering and the planners of the Hermitage segment of the Fall Line Trail.

The public can still weigh in on the selected permanent design by sending emails to AskPublicWorks@rva.gov

For additional detail, please visit the following links:

<https://www.wric.com/news/local-news/richmond/city-leaders-share-plans-for-updates-to-richmonds-laburnum-hermitage-intersection/>

https://www.rva.gov/sites/default/files/2024-08/Intersection%20Alternatives%20Study-Hermitage%20and%20Laburnum%20Final%20Report_0.pdf



Richmond INSPIRE is The City of Richmond's first citywide park and recreation vision plan since the 1970s. The goal of the plan is to envision a world-class park and recreation system that is equitable, resilient, and loved by all. This plan—called Richmond INSPIRE (Imagining Neighborhood-Shaping Parks and Inclusive Recreation Experiences)—will offer a

community-supported vision for parks and recreation, with a concrete action plan to implement the vision in phases over time.

We want to hear from you! In July 2024, the planning team started a six-month conversation with you, staff, partners, stakeholders and other local experts to ensure a community-driven vision for Richmond Parks & Recreation. To find out more go to <https://www.richmondinspire.com/#involve> and take the online survey here <https://www.richmondinspire.com/work/survey1extended>

CIVIC ASSOCIATION QUICK UPDATE

Leadership

Sherwood Park Civic Association president Latané Saunders took a leave of absence this summer and John Gass, vice-president, has stepped in. At our January 14, 2025 meeting we will vote on a new slate of officers. At the October 8 meeting we will ask for three residents to serve on a committee to nominate candidates to serve on the executive board.

Volunteer Opportunities

Aside from a nominating committee, there are a couple other opportunities for involvement. Do you like to plan social events? If so, please consider joining the Hospitality committee. We would love to have your help and expertise to work on fun neighborhood events. If social media or newsletters are more your style, the Communications committee could use your talent! Simply sign up at the meeting on October 8 or email rvasherwoodpark@gmail.com

Treasurer's Report

Our current account balance is \$2773.26. Expenses for the past quarter were the purchase of a sandwich board sign to announce meetings/events and neighborhood flags. The flags are available for purchase in two sizes: house (40"x28") for \$30 or garden (18"x12.5") for \$15. Samples will be available at the upcoming meeting in October.

Successful Spring GardenWalk

Over 100 folks from all over Richmond came to our neighborhood on April 28 to walk through seven lovely backyard gardens in Sherwood Park, and to tour Shalom Farms. Thanks to Maria Barrow, Jim Brodeur, Yvette Conte, Ann Fuqua, Rick Lunsford, Selwyn Sherill, and Helen Vennard for working hard to get their gardens tour-ready. Would you like to show off your garden? There is talk of a 2025 Garden Walk; watch for details in the next newsletter.



SHALOM FARMS CPR/AED CLASS FOR A CAUSE

Shalom Farms would like to place an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) machine on its Northside farm site. This would be available for anyone in the neighborhood to use during an emergency — folks using the park and walking path, passing through, or visiting the farm.

Together with another nonprofit, Compression and Shock, Shalom Farms is offering a bystander CPR/AED course on the farm on Sunday, October 20 from 1-2:30pm. This will be free to the public and anyone over 13 years old can participate and learn some life-saving first aid skills. This is NOT a certification course. If they get a group of at least 35 people, an on-site AED will be donated.



FALL WORKSHOPS

Join us at our Northside farm throughout the fall and learn from experts on a variety of topics.

September 28 10:30-noon	Indigenous Seed Saving with AmyRose Foll, Virginia Free Farm
October 5 10:30-noon	Beekeeping basics with Hugh Hemsley, Shalom's apiarist
October 12 10:30-noon	Jam and Preserve Making with Sindi Rodriguez, The Happy Hill Homestead
October 19 10:30-noon	Pickling and Fermentation with Cheyenne Najee, Kilunuk Farm
October 20 1-2:30	Bystander CPR/AED Training with Compression and Shock
October 26 11-noon	Tea Blending with Lori Whitmore, Savory Blends Tea Co.

Scan here to RSVP!



Update from the Government Affairs/Safety Committee

Donna Hughs and Chris Banks, Co-Chairs

The Quality Inn Hotel redevelopment by TRG

In the past 12 months we've had several meetings with City Council, Planning, DPW, and Economic Development to determine the impact of new residents at that site and how additional traffic will affect the surrounding neighborhood, particularly on Hermitage, Wentbridge and Little John. We've sent letters expressing our questions, requests and concerns and we continue to lobby to get more information as this redevelopment moves forward. A specific request has been made that a dedicated Traffic Impact Analysis(TIA) report be conducted at the five-spoke intersection adjacent to this site. There was a Diamond District Traffic Impact Analysis study conducted that incorporated the five-spoke intersection, yet did not take into consideration the redevelopment of the Quality Inn property. An additional study is still warranted but not yet funded.

Fall Line Trail

Based on previous plans presented we expect to have the FLT route through our neighborhood. As of now, what the route will look like to us is still to be determined. It is mentioned in the Diamond District Traffic Impact Analysis but is not conclusive. We are monitoring this closely and will continue to petition for more information.

Intersection of Loxley and Brookland Parkway

This is an intersection of safety concern for cars, bikes, and pedestrians. We anticipate working with DPW's Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper team to determine if there is a viable, safer solution for this intersection.

On certain issues, we have begun to coordinate our efforts with other Third District Civic Associations, in the interest of leveraging desired results. An example of this was the support we provided for the Mayoral, Third District and RPS forums held in September.

Our committee currently has 16 members and we welcome anyone that would like to join us. We have multiple issues on some of the above-mentioned projects that can use additional support. We are also looking for your input on new items for the committee.

CANDIDATE FORUMS

Turn-out was impressive at the Mayoral and City Council/School Board candidate forums this month. The two events came together thanks to a coalition of 3rd District neighborhood associations, initiated by Grady Hart of Rosedale Civic Association.

Approximately 150 people attended the Mayoral forum (despite being on the same night as the Presidential debate!) along with 30 online attendees. Eighty people attended the Council/School Board forum, while around 125 people watched online. We are awaiting a recording of the Mayoral forum. If you would like to listen to a recording of the CC/SB Forum, please email rvasherwoodpark@gmail.com.



Left: Mayoral candidates at the Va. Rep Center
Below: City Council candidates at Holton Elementary

