



Baylines

Newsletter of the City Council-appointed

Bayfront Advisory Commission

Members

- Kal Kassir, Chairman
- Scott Ayers, vice chairman
- Joseph Bovee
- Faith Christie
- Wally Damon
- Charles G. Faison, Jr.
- Capt. Joey L. Frantzen
- Louis R. Jones, Mayor
- Charles R. Malbon, Jr.
- Joseph A. Miller
- David Redmond, Planning Commissioner
- Stacey W. Shiflet
- Martin A. Thomas
- Robert Thornton, Planning Commissioner
- James L. Wood, Vice Mayor

**Bayfront Advisory Commission meets
Thursday, September 20, 2018
3:30 pm**

**Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center
2800 Shore Drive**

Tentative Agenda

CALL TO ORDER

Welcome and Introductions - Kal Kassir, Chair

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Comments from Kal Kassir, Chair
Review and Approval of Minutes

STAFF REPORTS & UPDATES -- Mark Shea, Kay Wilson

COMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES

Public Safety, Transit, Parking & Pedestrian Access- Charles Malbon
Design Review – Joseph Bovee
Communications – Scott Ayers

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECT BRIEFINGS, OPEN DISCUSSION & COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

Public Comment Period

ADJOURN

New Lesner Bridge opens to traffic



Traffic began using both spans of the new Lesner Bridge last week, leaving a number of “punch list” items to be completed on the nearly \$120 million project ahead of a formal “ribbon cutting” ceremony in early November.

Over the next two weeks, the bridge contractor is scheduled to do the following work:

- Remove temporary concrete barrier wall and chain-link screening from the westbound bridge;
- Begin building the new traffic barrier on the westbound bridge;
- Continue work on the seawall located near the Virginia Pilots Association;
- Continue installation of the bridge aesthetic lighting (necklace and pier column lights). and
- Continue the bridge painting.

Paving of the bridge approaches is not yet complete and that there may be some minor items of work taking place now that the traffic is switched. The asphalt surface mix still has to be placed on both bridge approaches and is why motorists will notice a small lip of concrete along the concrete gutter pans and a small wedge of asphalt as you cross onto the concrete bridge deck.

Pavement markings on eastbound Shore Drive at Vista Circle are also temporary and do not reflect what the ultimate travel lanes will look like once the project is complete (the RIGHT THRU LANE and RIGHT TURN LANE ONLY LANE have been combined into a single THRU RIGHT LANE). The reason for this is that some median work must be done before building out this fourth lane.

The photo above shows how these lanes will look on eastbound Shore Drive at Vista Circle once the project is complete.

City of Virginia Beach photo

Shore Drive Phase III design at 90

As of June 9, 90 percent of the design work for the next phase of the Shore Drive improvement project has been completed, Joseph Bovee, chairman of the Bayfront Advisory Commission's Design Committee told the commission.

The so-called Phase III work, which encompasses the area east of the Lesner Bridge to Great Neck Road, still has one concerning design area, Bovee said: a stormwater basin at Page Avenue. Several commissioners expressed concern about the fate of several live oaks on the property designated for the stormwater basin.

The property consists of two parcels owned by Cape Henry Towers, said Christopher J. Wojtowicz, project manager for the Lesner Bridge replacement, who has handed off Phase III management to William M. Purcell. Wojtowicz said plans have called for preserving the live oaks although other trees, largely pines, are expected to be removed for the stormwater basin.

"What are we going to see when it is all done," he asked.

Site acquisition, which could consist of a purchase offer or condemnation or a combination, is expected to start early next year, according to the city's most recent Capital Improvement Plan status report. Costs are estimated at more than \$24 million and will be coordinated with several stormwater projects.

Construction is estimated to begin late next spring and be complete in the fall of 2022. Commissioners asked that Purcell be invited to provide an update on the Phase II project.

Bayfront/Oceanfront shuttle ridership climbs

The Route 35 shuttle between the Bayfront and Oceanfront saw a 70 percent increase in ridership in July versus the same month a year ago, Hampton Roads Transit reported.

Ridership reached 6,375 passengers in July, nearly the same as in June, but well above July 2017's 3,741. Average weekday riders totaled 215; Saturday, 184, and Sunday, 188.

Despite a rainy July, the ridership statistics reflect the lengthening of the route to Pleasure House Road and Rudee Loop and the increased frequency of buses.

New Route 35 bus stop at First Landing State Park,



Short-term rental issue being reviewed.

Based on comments from the City Council over the spring and summer, city staff is preparing a draft ordinance governing regulation of short-term rentals in city neighborhoods.

The proposal will cover a number of points on this contentious issue. If the City Council thinks the staff draft reflects members' agreements over several workshops in recent months, it would go to the Planning Commission for recommendations back to the Council. Both bodies would hold public hearings.

As of the last meeting, it was agreed that one overlay zoning district – that in Sandbridge – would be created at first. That comes because the General Assembly mandated it earlier this year. Others could be considered, but only after petitioning by the affected neighborhood, notice to the all affected property owners and public hearings. An earlier proposal would

have created overlays for the Oceanfront, North End and Bayfront as well as Sandbridge.

Other points the Council requested staff to cover in a draft ordinance was how short-term rentals would be handled and regulated in all city neighborhoods, what properties that previously held rentals for events like weddings, reunions and business conferences would be “grandfathered” in under the new ordinance.

The issue has been controversial for years, pitting property owners and managers who depend on short-term rentals for income against residents who complain that the traffic, noise and parking problems generated by this use disturbs neighbors who live there year round and object to inserting commercial, high-intensity uses into residential settings

Bayfront Advisory Commission volunteers needed

Citizens and businesses interest in volunteering on BAC committees, tasks forces and special subcommittees should communicate their interest to Scott Ayers, BAC vice chairman, via the commission’s email address, bayfrontadvisorycommissionvb@gmail.com. Please indicate any special skills that you would bring to the commission’s efforts as well as your contact information.

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