

WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE CROSSROADS

Serving: Academy Terrace, Colony Point, Hariton Gardens, Merridale, Pinehurst, Restmere, Rose Gardens, Sussex of Norfolk, Virginia Gardens, Wards Corner, and Wexford Terrace

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who attended our virtual meeting in April with featured guest Mayor Alexander. He shared lots of valuable information and it was helpful to hear his perspective on how things are in Norfolk now, and what he envisions for the future. I want to thank the Mayor for speaking with us, and also for his behind-the-scenes work to get MetroNet to provide residential fiber service in Norfolk. I personally cannot wait for fiber internet to get here!

While construction is underway, MetroNet is currently signing up residents ahead of time. (Maybe if enough residents in Wards Corner pre-register, they will "light us up" first?) I am told that as an incentive for signing up early, MetroNet is giving customers a free month of service. This link was given to me by a sales representative with MetroNet who was describing the offer. I am passing along in case it helps any of you with your internet service and reducing household costs:
<https://signup.metro.netinc.com/r/51901>

If you were unable to attend the latest NFWC redesign meeting in person, you can view the survey results and meeting recording at the links shared later in this newsletter. This concludes the initial public input portion of the design process. My understanding is that we now wait for the design firm to analyze the input and come back with some initial concepts.

To summarize my own comments from the meeting, in the questions being asked by staff and survey, I see a current focus on features but would prefer to see a focus on outcomes. I believe our desired outcome is a measurable change in resident well being - physical, mental, emotional, educational, etc. I believe it's more important to talk about services first, features and amenities second. For example:

Important Dates:

MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MAY 16, 2022
6:30PM ON ZOOM
[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

ADOPT-A-SPOT
JUNE 11, 2022
[CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

JOIN THE CIVIC LEAGUE!

NOT SURE WHAT WE ARE
OR WHAT WE DO? SEE
OUR MEMBERSHIP PAGE
[TO FIND OUT.](#)

DUES ARE \$10 PER
HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR
PAY ONLINE NOW
THROUGH PAYPAL



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT...

- I don't need a gym that isn't open early enough for working residents to come before work
- I don't need a pool without lifeguards
- I don't need a dance room with no class instructor
- I don't need library without access to any computers

We need programs and services and those require a place and staff. We need to make this a place that people want to work and are inspired to provide high quality service. I hope you agree. And if you don't, please let me know. I intend to keep our concerns known to city staff throughout this design process and want to make sure that any time I am speaking on behalf of Wards Corner residents that I actually am speaking on behalf of you.

For this month's civic league meeting, we had hoped to hold an in-person meeting at Guads (with live stream online). Unfortunately, Guads is still not open after their recent fire, so we will once again be virtual. We will look for a suitable location to hold in-person meetings starting in September. Please join us online to hear from Master Gardener Will Redfern on their Urban Agriculture Program here in Norfolk.

Looking ahead, for our June 20th meeting we are planning to forgo the actual meeting and invite all of our neighbors in Wards Corner to an informal ice cream social at the North Shore Playground honoring First Responders. I hope you can join us for the fun. We should have plenty of daylight to work with that evening. Until then, I look forward to seeing you all online and around the neighborhood!

Scott Guirlinger

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY
757-823-4433

**COMMUNITY RESOURCE
OFFICER**
757-651-4577

POLICE RED SECTOR
757-823-4450

**NORFOLK CARES CALL
CENTER CALL FOR: SEWER
BACKUP, CODE
ENFORCEMENT, WASTE
MANAGEMENT-
EVERYTHING ELSE!**
757-664-6510

POLICE EMERGENCY
911

WARDS CORNER 1984





Granby Street Bridge Traffic Pattern Changes

The City of Norfolk's Department of Transit is a year into the Granby Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project in which the bridge is undergoing extensive repairs to extend its useable life. Both the bridge deck and the support structures are being repaired to address current corrosion and deterioration issues as well as improve the bridge's condition.

Beginning Monday, March 28, the southbound lanes on Granby Street Bridge will close to accommodate rehabilitation work on that portion of the bridge. Northbound traffic over the Granby Street Bridge will shift to the far two right northbound lanes. The inside left northbound lane on the bridge will then be closed and switched to carry all southbound traffic. Further, the inside left turn lane on Willow Wood Drive will close to accommodate the single southbound lane crossing over the Granby Street Bridge.

This traffic pattern will be in place through late August. Four portable message signs warning of the upcoming traffic pattern changes were installed two weeks prior to the southbound bridge closure. The contractor will coordinate with Norfolk police for assistance on site during this traffic pattern shift.

Serve the City You Love!

The City of Norfolk offers you an opportunity to volunteer on several city boards or commissions. It's easy to apply. Pick from a list of more than 50 boards, commissions or authorities and submit your application online!

Additional Info...



MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MAY 16, 2022

6:30PM ON ZOOM

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)



WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE ADOPT-A-SPOT



PLEASE JOIN US

Q2 2022 CLEAN UP

Volunteers needed to help clean up litter from around the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center grounds. Tools and supplies will be provided but it will be helpful to wear waterproof boots. Please join us to help preserve our natural habitats.

The Wards Corner Civic League Adopt-A-Spot location is the field and surrounding grounds at the Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center bordering North Shore Ave to the north, and Newport Ave to the west. This piece of real estate is the largest green space we share as residents within the boundaries of our civic league region. We feel a responsibility to keep these grounds litter-free.

We meet four times a year and collect litter that has collected inside the field and along the sidewalk and roadways that border it. We will make announcements prior to our gathering. Gloves and trash bags are provided, so please show up and help out.

CLEAN UP DATE

SATURDAY
June 11TH
9:00AM
at NFWC Field

Gloves and trash bags are provided, so please show up and help out.



WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE MARCH MEETING MINUTES

VIRTUAL MEETING RECORDING ON WEBSITE



The meeting was opened by President Scott Guirlinger.

Officer Fritz Trojahn, Community Resource Officer, NPD, provided an update on criminal activity in the Wards Corner area and answered questions.

Guest Speaker, Mayor Kenny Alexander, City of Norfolk, provided city updates and answered questions.

- City budget FY 2023
- \$1.7B with no new taxes or fees pending passing of state budget.
- 5% general wage increase for employees.
- Minimum wage increases for permanent employees \$18 per hour.
- Part time- seasonal employees increase to \$15 per hour.
- City is waving some fees on high personal property tax bills, saving Norfolk tax payers \$5B.
- \$23M for infrastructure improvements, mainly technology.
- Increasing NPS contribution by 7.5%- \$376M for 2023 and \$700M over 3-5 years for upgrades and replacements.
- American Rescue Funds
- Federal- \$1.9T
- State- \$3.8B
- City of Norfolk- \$154M
- Spent or pledged \$6M for broadband, \$800,000 for eviction mitigation and \$13M for non-profits affected by COVID.
- Other grants or passthroughs from Federal and State funds.

MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED NEXT...

WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE MARCH MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED...

VIRTUAL MEETING RECORDING ON WEBSITE



- Generational Projects
- High Creek Watershed Project.
- Army Corps of Engineers- Downtown Flood Wall
- Military Circle- 3 proposals.
- Festivals scheduled for 2022
- Tattoo.
- Harborfest.
- Wine Festival.
- Casino- will be a hotel, casino and spa. Once construction begins 24 months to completion. Commercial, not tribal casino.
- Public Safety
- Dr. Filer, City Manager, has short- and long-term strategies for uptick in violent crime.
- Increased police presence in hot spots.
- Traffic enforcement.
- Street code enforcement.
- Drug enforcement.
- Update lighting.
- Partnering with Newark a community-based advocate to help train civic leaders.
- Professional development.
- Norfolk Police step increases.
- New recruit bonus program.

MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED NEXT...

WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE MARCH MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED...

VIRTUAL MEETING RECORDING ON WEBSITE

Vice Mayor Martin Thomas added city updates and answered questions.

- Laser focused on Wards Corner.
- Still in negotiations with Target.
- Moving forward with concepts for NFWC.
- Guads fighting with insurance company to renovate after fire.
- Granby bike lanes moving forward.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday May 16 at 6:30 pm. TBD

President Scott Guirlinger then closed the meeting.

Biking in Norfolk

Bicycling just keeps getting better in Norfolk! With nearly 60 miles of dedicated bike lanes and shared lane markings, two wheels and pedal power is a great way to get around town.

The City of Norfolk is committed to making cycling a safer and more convenient method for getting around. The City’s dockless bike-share program, the installation and designation of new bike lanes and routes, as well as the continual installation of bicycle parking throughout the City are just a few of the initiatives that make Norfolk a Bike Friendly Community.

[Read more by clicking here](#)

11th Annual Norfolk Bike Month

May 2022

Join us for healthy, fun, and free biking events all month!

[Learn more at
norfolk.gov/bike](#)

[Get social
#nfbikemonth](#)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
01 • SlowMo Sunday • Coffee Outside • Tour de ORF	02 • East Coast Adventure Ride	03 • East Coast Road Ride • Norfolk Bike Expo	04 • Bike to District Day • Mountain Bike Ride • Super Casual Ride	05 • RAMPs Meeting • East Coast Rides • Bike Polo Night	06 • Presumptive Night Ride • Late Night Ladies' Ride	07 • East Coast Road Ride • Boom Box Ride
08 • Moms Bike to Brunch • SlowMo Sunday	09 • East Coast Adventure Ride	10 • East Coast Road Ride	11 • Super Casual Ride	12 • East Coast Rides • Bike Polo Night	13 • Bikas, Brews, & Baseball • Late Night Ladies' Ride	14 • East Coast Road Ride • Boom Box Ride
15 • SlowMo Sunday	16 • East Coast Adventure Ride	17 • Pedego Mermaids Tour • East Coast Road Ride	18 • Bike Maintenance Clinic • Super Casual Ride	19 • East Coast Rides • Bike Polo Night	20 • Bike to Work Day • Glow Ride	21 • Bike Polo Tournament • Saturday Morning Adventure • East Coast Road Ride • Boom Box Ride
22 • Bike Polo Tournament • SlowMo Sunday • Crucial Taunt Jant	23 • East Coast Adventure Ride	24 • East Coast Road Ride	25 • Super Casual Ride • Pedego Light Up the Night	26 • Virginia Zoo Bike Night • East Coast Rides • Bike Polo Night	27 • Late Night Ladies' Ride	28 • Bike Botanical Tour • East Coast Road Ride • Boom Box Ride
29 • SlowMo Sunday	30 • East Coast Adventure Ride	31 • East Coast Road Ride	All Month • Pedal Pusher Bingo • Garden Bike Nights • Virginia Arts Festival Bike Nights			

Downtown Norfolk

NORFOLK

TRAFLEX

ELIZABETH RIVER TRAIL

lime

BIKE NORFOLK

NORFOLK NEWS & PROGRAM UPDATES



SENIOR REAL ESTATE TAX RELIEF PROGRAM

- Available for Norfolk homeowners age 65 and up.
- Proof of income required.
- Tax deferrals or exemptions based on eligibility.
- Application Deadline: June 1

FOR MORE INFORMATION
www.norfolk.gov/SeniorTaxRelief
SeniorTaxRelief@norfolk.gov
757-823-1130

THE CITY OF NORFOLK
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Senior Real Estate Tax Relief Program

The Real Estate Tax Relief/Deferral Program is administered by the Department of Human Services for Norfolk homeowners who are 65 and older or totally disabled

Application Period

The application period is from February 1 to June 1 annually.

[Click here for more information](#)

Norfolk Emerging Leaders Program

The City of Norfolk is excited to provide meaningful and educational employment opportunities to youth and young adults through the Norfolk Emerging Leaders (NEL) Program. The program is divided into two employment opportunities: Emerging Leaders and Municipal Interns.

[Click here for more information](#)

2022 NORFOLK EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM

\$14.00/HR

EARN UP TO \$3,900

LOOKING FOR A SUMMER JOB?

- Must be a Norfolk resident
- Must be 16-21 years old
- Earn \$14.00/hr.
- Able to work 40 hours per week
- Enrolled in high school/vocational/trade school/credited college course

Norfolk Emerging Leaders Program

The Norfolk Emerging Leaders (NEL) Program provides Norfolk youth between the ages of 16 and 21 with meaningful paid summer employment. Youth explore public service careers in local government, gain valuable hands-on work experience, job readiness training and financial literacy education.

Apply Online:
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/norfolk>
Listed as: Norfolk Emerging Leader - NEL

Program Dates:
June 21 - August 12, 2022

Positions available in various City departments.

SCAN ME

CIVIC LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MyNorfolk
City of Norfolk, Virginia

OPEN



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GOOGLE PLAY



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APP STORE



NFWC Redesign Update

Notes from Greater Wards Corner Task Force meeting

Next Steps:

- **Develop space breakdown off priority list (currently underway)**
- **Gather historical cost data**
- **Present to city for budget considerations**

To Be Determined:

- **Square footage**
- **Budget**
- **Number of stories**
- **Renovate vs. rebuild (partial or full)**
- **Schedule**

TREASURE'S REPORT

5/9/22	ACCOUNT		
	CHECKS	CASH	PAYPAL
Beginning balance	\$1,419.01	\$70.00	\$1,424.75
Funds received	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19.16
Funds deposited	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Funds dispersed	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending balance	\$1,419.01	\$70.00	\$1,443.91
Total balance		\$2,932.92	

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WECL Ice Cream

yummy



Social

June 20th 6:30pm

**North Shore
Playground**

Want your business to reach your neighbors? Place an ad in this local newsletter for as little as \$12.50!



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Ask about our **Seller Concierge Program** to help with costs of repairs and updates!

How much is your home worth?

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Visit www.FMTEch.pro for additional details.

Want your business to reach your neighbors? Place an ad in this local newsletter for as little as \$12.50!



Eggleston's Farmers Market and Garden Center



The one stop shop for all your Seasonal Produce & Gardening Needs!

Eggleston's garden center has expanded to include a fixed indoor farmers market. Our year round farmers market will carry seasonal produce and other locally produced products. We also carry locally grown plants that thrive in Hampton Roads. Garden tools, soil, natural and organic chemicals, and much more to make your garden spring to life!

Open: Tues. - Sat. 9-7
and Sun. 9-5

eggleston
garden center
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