

◀ Fine fall foliage in the grove of trees along the
Bluemont Junction Trail near Buchanan St.

www.bluemontcivic.org

BCA to Vote on Wilson Boulevard Reconfiguration

On September 27, BCA members received a report from the BCA Arterial Roads Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety Task Force presented by co-chairs Ed Fendley and Chris Healey and Task Force member Dan Laredo. Based on the



Page from the BCA Arterial Roads Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety Task Force presentation showing example configuration option for Wilson Blvd.

report, the membership decided that at the October 24 meeting it would consider formally endorsing the recommendations of the BCA Arterial Roads Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety Task Force for new efforts to improve safety along Wilson Boulevard.

The Task Force, chartered at the December 2011 meeting, has been working since that time to investigate options to improve Bluemont's arterial roads in a way that would work toward the following objectives:

- Make them safer and more accessible for pedestrians,
- Help achieve the BCA goal of ensuring that arterial sidewalks meet Arlington guidelines and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, and

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Resignation of BCA President Judah Dal Cais

On October 12, the BCA President since 2003, Judah dal Cais, submitted advance notice of his intent to resign at the October 24 BCA meeting. On October 11, the following also announced their resignation: Treasurer, Sandy Munnell; Webmaster, Dave Leichtman; Parks and Recreation Liaison, Kate Mesches.

Under the BCA bylaws, First Vice-President George Rovder will step up to President.

We thank both Sandy and Dave for their service. Dave, in particular, has served for many years, and Sandy plans to continue serving as a BCA Civic Federation Delegate.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We call on members interested in serving as Vice President, Treasurer, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, Parks and Recreation Liaison to contact 1stVP George Rovder at atgeorgerovder@hotmail.com to discuss these positions. Under the BCA bylaws, the Executive Board will select a new Treasurer.

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Oct. 10 Special Meeting of Executive Board

President dal Cais called a special meeting of the Executive Board on October 10 to discuss the action taken at the 9/27 meeting with regard to the bocce PEG grant application.

At the special meeting, there was agreement by the officers and board that the longstanding policy of the Association is to advertise any controversial motions or votes in the BCA newsletter. However, after an extended discussion on parliamentary procedure, including the principle in Robert's Rules of Order that an executive board cannot overturn an action of the general membership, such as that taken at the 9/27 meeting, the executive board by a 2-1 vote did not take action as requested by 5 non-executive board members in good standing to overturn the 9/27 vote on Judah dal Cais' PEG grant application.

NEXT MEETING 10/24

Arlington Traditional School Library —7PM Executive Committee (members welcome); 7:30 General Meeting

The Executive Board meeting begins at 7 pm (all members are welcome!) at Arlington Traditional School. The general membership meeting follows at 7:30 pm. The main item of business will be a discussion and vote on the BCA Arterial Roads Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety Task Force's recommendations (see cover article).

The Bluemont Safeway Task Force, which held an information session for members in July, has also asked to provide a report.

Also to be discussed are matters that will arise from the recently announced resignations of the BCA President, Secretary and Webmaster. (See the related articles in this newsletter).

Draft general membership meeting minutes from the April, May?, June, and September meetings will be reviewed and approved.

LAST MEETING 9/27

The BCA Arterial Roads and Pedestrian Safety and Sidewalk Task Force presented their report. (See "BCA to Vote" for more information.)

After the membership's motion to amend the draft agenda, the BCA Bocce-Petanque Working Group made its report next. As President Judah dal Cais was presenting the Working Group's report, he handed off the chair to 1st VP George Rovder at approximately 8:50 pm. After a long discussion that lasted until nearly 10:00 pm, the membership proposed, seconded and passed the following motion:

"The BCA will notify the County by September 30, 2012, that the BCA opposes the Parks Enhancement Grant (PEG) grant being awarded in the October 2012 round."

Draft meeting minutes will be made available for review and approval at the 10/24 meeting. ■

Absentee Voting in Arlington

Virginia state law permits voters who are unable to vote on Election Day due to a valid reasons to vote absentee. Absentee ballots may be submitted by mail or fax or in-person at the Arlington County Office of Voter Registration.

What is a valid reason for voting absentee?

The Arlington County Office of Voter Registration accepts the following bases as valid reasons to vote absentee:

- Students at institutions of higher learning
- Absent for business purposes (includes persons who are employed outside of Arlington)
- Absent for personal business or

vacation

■ Scheduled to work at one's workplace at least 11 of the 13 hours the polls are open (6:00 am to 7:00 pm), including commuting time

■ Firefighters and first responder personnel

■ Unable to get to the polls because of disability, illness, or pregnancy

■ Caretakers of confined family members

■ Active duty uniformed services or merchant marine personnel and dependents residing with them

How do I obtain an absentee ballot?

You can obtain a Virginia Absentee Ballot Application Form by going to the Arlington County voter registration website and downloading a form www.arlingtonva.us/

Departments/VoterRegistration/.

If you want a ballot mailed to you, your application must be received by the Officer of Voter Registration by no later than 5:00 p.m., October 30th. Applications may be submitted by fax to 703.228.3705 or by mail to the Arlington County Office of Voter Registration, 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 320, Arlington, VA 22201-5400.

How do I vote absentee in-person?

Go to one of the three early voting centers and vote your absentee ballot in person. You still need to complete an application form and state your reason for voting by absentee ballot when you go in to vote.

What are the dates, hours and locations for voting absentee?

[See table, page 4] >

WILSON BLVD from p1

■ Allow for the safe, orderly flow of bicyclists, motor vehicles, pedestrians, and transit.

With input from local and national experts, the Task Force investigated acquisition of right-of-way (ROW), utility undergrounding, and reconfiguration as options to improve the existing roadway so as to allow for accessible, ADA-compliant sidewalks in locations where they are currently obstructed and inaccessible to many pedestrians.

The group gathered data indicating that Wilson Blvd motor vehicle traffic volumes west of George Mason Dr have been steady for more than 30 years and that Wilson has less traffic during peak hours than Washington Blvd. The Task Force held up Washington Blvd in the Westover area as an aspirational model for improving Wilson Boulevard, noting that Washington has a number of features absent from Wilson, including unobstructed sidewalks, utility strips, street trees, on-street parking, and bicycle lanes.

Healey noted that the Task Force would follow a first-do-no-harm policy by asking the county to provide baseline data to determine existing levels of service at signalized intersections, public transit travel time, emergency vehicle response time, crash statistics, and other relevant metrics. The Task Force would then compare baseline data to updated data and document the changes, if any, resulting from a particular modification.

Following discussions and the unanimous vote of attending BCA members, the following motion will be voted on by the membership 10/24:

“The BCA endorses the recommendations of the BCA Arterial Roads Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety Task Force to reconfigure Wilson Boulevard west of George Mason Drive in the Bluemont neighborhood to make it safer and more accessible for all modes of transportation, with implementation in two phases: (1) Conversion of the existing four lanes to two through-lanes and a two-way center turn lane (with dedicated turn lanes at intersections), and two bicycle lanes by restriping the pavement; and (2) Widening of sidewalks and planting/utility strips so as to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and Arlington County design guidelines.

“Requests the County to work collaboratively with the BCA to maximize public participation and input into the further consideration, design, implementation, and evaluation of this reconfiguration, including by involving neighborhood residents, local business, neighboring civic associations, and other potentially interested people and organizations.

“Requests the County to provide baseline data to determine existing levels of service at signalized intersections, public transit travel time, emergency vehicle response time, crash statistics, and other relevant metrics. The Task Force would then compare baseline data to updated data and document the changes, if any, resulting from a particular modification.

“Endorses the Task Force recommendation to pursue additional efforts to address Wilson Boulevard in the Bluemont neighborhood east of George Mason Drive, and requests the Task Force to further study options to improve sidewalks and pedestrian safety in this area and present them for consideration by the BCA.

“Decides to include these recommendations in the Bluemont Neighborhood Conservation Plan.”

The September presentation of the Task Force and related documents can be found at <http://bluemon-troads.wordpress.com/>. ■

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Goodyear Site Redevelopment

Earlier in 2012, the Arlington County Board approved a site plan for a new 6-story residential building—The Crimson—at the current Goodyear Tire & Auto site and the adjacent home located near N. Glebe Road and N. Carlin Springs Road. On October 1, the developer held a community meeting nearby at The Carlin to discuss construction plans. Below are highlights from that meeting:

■ The neighborhood construction contact will be Joe Justice of Clark Builders Group who can be reached at 703-294-4500.

■ The Goodyear operations/lease will end by 12/31/12, and site demolition will begin January 2013.

■ Construction will take approximately 20 months; the resulting building is intended to house rental, not condo, units.

■ All construction traffic will arrive via Glebe Road and exit the same way—no construction traffic will be allowed west of the site on Carlin Springs.

■ During construction, the current adjacent sidewalks on Glebe and Carlin Springs will be closed—all pedestrians must use sidewalks on opposite sides of these streets. A new (unsignalized) crosswalk will be added next to The Carlin's driveway to facilitate this change. ■

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

BCA Meetings-ATS10/24(Exec Board: 7pm; General 7:30)

Joint Candidates' Night 10/30
7 pm, Resurrection Lutheran Church, 6201 N. Washington Blvd.

Nov. BCA Meetings 11/14
(no meeting on 11/21 due to Thanksgiving holiday)

Dec. BCA Meetings 12/12
(no meeting on 12/26 due to winter school break)

Jan. BCA Meetings 1/23

Children's Halloween Parade 10/31
4pm, Bike trail@Emerson St

BCA Neighborhood News

is a service of YOUR community civic association.

bca@bluemontcivic.org

President

George Rovder – georgerovder@hotmail.com

First Vice President

VACANT

Second Vice President

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Alternate: Mark Haynes – haynes@concordiapower.us

Treasurer

VACANT

Secretary

Mark Haynes – haynes@concordiapower.us

Civic Federation Representatives

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VACANT

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Bluemont Village Center Working Group

???????

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Emergency Preparedness Liaison

James Thorne – james.thorne7@verizon.net



Bluemont Civic Association
PO Box 5134
Arlington VA 22205

ABSENTEE VOTING

from p3

County Building –
2100 Clarendon Blvd.

Barcroft Sports and Fitness Center –
4200 S. Four Mile Run Dr.

Madison Community Center –
3829 N. Stafford St.

Sat, Oct 13	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM
Mon-Fri: Oct 15-19	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Not Open	Not Open
Sat, Oct 20	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM
Mon, Oct 22	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Tues-Thurs: Oct 23-25	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Fri, Oct 26	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sat, Oct 27	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM
Mon, Oct 29	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Tues-Thurs: Oct 30-Nov 1	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM	8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Fri, Nov 2	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sat, Nov 3	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

For more information call the registrar 703.228.3456 ■