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Amanda Wong,

Student Members

Baylines

November 2023

Newsletter of the Virginia Beach Bayfront Advisory Commission



Lesner Bridge: Photo Credit; Clark Nexsen

Share the Baylines with your neighbors!

We would like you to share the Baylines newsletter with all of our friends, neighbors and businesses in the Shore Drive Corridor. Please pass it along or post the following on your social media:

To signup, simply follow copy and paste this URL into your web browser: http://eepurl.com/h-s5y5

Or scan this QR code:



Contact Us

Thank you for your continued interest in the Bayfront Communities!

Feel free to pass this along to others.

Email

vb.bac.communications@gmail.com

Hotlinks:

Virginia Beach Government
Bayfront Advisory
Commission
Planning Commission
Virginia Marine Resources
Commission
First Landing State Park
JEB Little Creek – Ft. Story

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From the Agenda...

President's Report:

- The December 2023 Meeting has been canceled. The BAC will reconvene on 18 January 2024
- Annual Elections of the BAC were conducted for Chairmen and Vice Chairmen. By majority vote (show of hands), Phil Davenport and Bob McGoon will remain as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.

As the agenda is very full and time is limited, three presentations to the Commission occupied the afternoon and the agenda was not completed.

Presentations:

First up was a 'Skip the Stuff' presentation by Molly Jones and Lexi Bradshaw, two of our student BAC members.

Skip the Stuff is a national campaign developed by the Surfrider Foundation aimed to reduce the use of plastics typically found at restaurants and especially with take out and fast foods.

Some background info from their campaign <u>website</u>: "single use plastic consumption has increased worldwide by between 250%-300% since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, and a 30% increase in disposable food ware related waste.

Single use plastics are plastics that are only intended to be used once or for a short period of time before being thrown away. During the pandemic take out and online ordering increase by 63%, and of those meals 98% of them were eaten at homes and offices where reusable utensils are typically present."

Molly and Lexi are out to reduce this waste locally in Virginia Beach if not by legislative fiat, by voluntary compliance by restaurants and patrons from a heightened awareness.

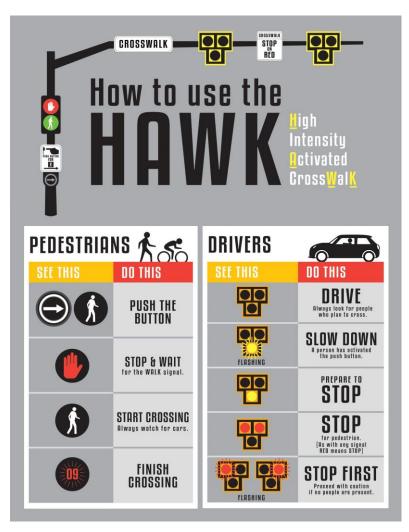
Skip the Stuff desired outcome is for a reduction / elimination of food ware accessories (single use utensils, straws, condiments, and napkins) that will only be available from food service establishments, third-party courier services, and third-party food delivery services, upon request.

Next up was the Cape Henry Trail update by David Plum who brought the High Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) system to the Commissions attention for possible implementation on North Great Neck Road where the trail crosses and a possible second on Atlantic Ave.

HAWK signals are traffic signals that allow pedestrians to cross the road safely. The signals operate in a YELLOW-RED-FLASHING RED sequence to alert motorists that pedestrians want to cross the road. Unlike traffic signals, the HAWK only operates when a pedestrian pushes the crossing button.

Currently the HAWK is being used in several metropolitan areas. The HAWK is only under consideration at this time for possible integration in 2024.

Updates to follow.



(The BAC)

The mission of the BAC is to review and make recommendations to the City Council regarding public and private projects and issues associated with the Bayfront area, and projects or issues associated with the Bayfront area that the City Council may refer to the Commission.

Meetings held on the 3rd Thursday each Month, 3:30 - 5:30 pm

OCEAN PARK VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD 3769 E. STRATFORD DRIVE

Next Meeting 18 January 2024

The third presentation was by JLL, the project management firm representing the expansion at Westminster Canterbury (W.C.). Today's informational update was presided over by Amanda Logsdon, specifically about the forthcoming Pedestrian Beach Access ramp. Amanda was accompanied by Lawrence Benson, a Civil Engineer with Kimley- Horn.

Key take aways were:

- The location respects property lines and the scope will conform to ADA requirements.
- A privacy fence will be erected between this beach access and the Ocean Shore residents next door.
- Resilient construction, rated to resist high winds up to 134mph.
- Ramp width will be 6 feet.
- W.C. is building it and will maintain it for 'normal' wear and tear repairs...City will maintain the beach around it.
- Price tag is \$1M +
- W.C. has conducted 4 Community Engagement meetings with Ocean Shores community, who subsequently provided a letter of support.
- W.C. considers themselves a partner member of the community.
- A project newsletter is available by requesting a subscription at wcexpansion@wcbay.com
- A Hotline available for concerns/complaints during project: 757-217-2447
- This project has received approval from the City of Virginia Beach.

Presentation materials can be reviewed here.