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*Little Creek-Fort Story*

# Baylines

## August 2023

Newsletter of the Virginia Beach Bayfront Advisory Commission



Lesner Bridge: Photo Credit; Clark Nexsen

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*Share the Baylines with your neighbors!*

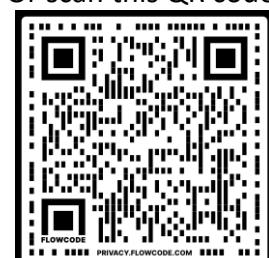
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We would like you to share the Baylines newsletter with all of our friends, neighbors and businesses in the Shore Drive Corridor. Please pass it along or post the following on your social media:

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

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**Thank you for your continued interest in the Bayfront Communities!**

**Feel free to pass this along to others.**

Email:

[vb.bac.communications@gmail.com](mailto:vb.bac.communications@gmail.com)

Hotlinks:

[Virginia Beach Government](#)

[Bayfront Advisory](#)

[Commission](#)

[Planning Commission](#)

[Virginia Marine Resources](#)

[Commission](#)

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[JEB Little Creek – Ft. Story](#)

## Council Contact

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## From the Agenda...

### **Chairman's Report:**

2 new student members appointed to the BAC by the City Council. They are Molly Jones and Lexi Bradshaw. These students will have a hand on upcoming Commission projects

The focus of this month's meeting was the successful adoption of the BAC Goals and Objectives for 2024:

- **Shore Drive Capital Improvement Program (CIP) [Phase 3 and 4](#) Funding and Implementation**

**Phase 3** (project # 2117000) Starts at the eastern end of the Lesner Bridge, and extends eastward through the Great Neck Road intersection and terminates at Beech Street. This project will improve vehicular and pedestrian traffic flow and safety in the roadway and intersections; improve storm drainage; include eight-foot sidewalks and on-street bike lanes; and enhance the corridor with aesthetic elements such as landscaping and lighting. Existing aerial utilities will be relocated to a combination of underground locations at intersections and to new overhead locations along the rest of the project corridor.

**Phase 4** (project # 2118000) Starts at Marlin Bay and Shady Oaks drive, and extends eastward terminating at the western end of the Lesner Bridge. This project will improve vehicular and pedestrian traffic flow and safety in the roadway and intersections; improve storm drainage; include a multi-use trail, five-foot sidewalk and on-street bike lanes; and enhance the corridor with aesthetic elements such as landscaping and lighting. It will include improvements at the East Stratford Road intersection. Existing aerial utilities will be relocated to a combination of underground locations at intersections and to new overhead locations along the rest of the project corridor.

- **Update to the [Shore Drive Corridor plan](#).**

This plan was adopted in 2000 by City Council, intended to accomplish a significant part of the City Council's charge to utilize the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Bayfront Study to develop an aesthetic and urban design plan for the Corridor.

- **Various Street Safety Improvements Projects** – this will include improvements to sidewalks, pedestrian access and crossings, bicycle access improvements, shade improvement with new trees and shrubs for a shadier walking environment, etc.

### **Staff Reports:**

- The Comprehensive Plan turnout for focus group discussion was good - 5 focus groups in all. A public input session will be held in November.
- Phil Pullen (Public Works) reported that his department continues to prepare cost estimates for the Shore Drive sidewalk 'interim fix' East of the Lener bridge ahead of what the CIP for Phase 4 will provide.
- As presented earlier this year, the Commonwealth Brewing expansion application is moving forward.

### **New Business:**

{WVEC-TV, Virginia Beach, 29 August 2023} A massive gun barrel once used onboard the USS Iowa during World War II has a new home at Joint Expeditionary Base Fort Story in Virginia Beach.

The Veteran's Association of USS Iowa and the Coast Defense Study Group have been working with the US Navy Region Mid-Atlantic for several years to arrange the movement and display of the historic USS Iowa 16-inch Battleship Barrel to be located next to the historic Old Cape Henry Lighthouse. The transportation of the barrel, almost 70 feet long and 120 tons, from Chesapeake to JEB Fort Story in Virginia Beach saved the historic barrel from being scrapped and will honor the USS Iowa veterans who served on the battleship during WWII, the Korean War, and the Cold War.



*Photo Credit: WVEC-TV*

### **Community Reports:**

- Concern raised over traffic congestion during the future construction phase on Shore Drive; The City noted that a traffic plan is being developed
- Ocean Park discussed the boat ramp shooting in August. Security Cameras are now operational.

### **Presentation:**

Dan Adams (Public Works) provided the commission on several projects that are ongoing:

#### **Dredging and Beach 'Replenishment':**

- The dredging of the Eastern Branch of Lynnhaven is now under contract. A September start is planned with an 18-month period of performance. Spoilage for this project will be transferred at the Cripple Creek facility and stockpiled as needed. Dan was clear that the Crab Creek transfer site will not be used as reported on social media.
- Cape Henry Beach will get the dredge spoils from the Lynnhaven Inlet turning basin via hydraulic dredge. The beach will be widened by approximately 50 to 100 feet. Bids for the project will be solicited in November, with a project execution in February 2024
- Of note; there has been only one approved private dredge request in the Lynnhaven basin. That work is near completion.

#### **Beach 'Nourishment':**

- Chick's Beach is to be 'renourished' by Seeward Marine. A three-month period of performance is scheduled. Start time is to be determined.
- The Cape Henry truck haul that removed the 70,000-ton sand pile from the Lynnhaven Beach and Boat Ramp facility increased the beach width by 18 feet. New vegetation is present part native and non-native which the city will remove from beach flat area.

## (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  
21 September 2023

### Transportation Committee:

***The following message is from William Harrell, HRT President & CEO***  
Good afternoon,

*To encourage more people in our region to utilize public transportation, Hampton Roads Transit is excited to announce four upcoming dates when your constituents can ride our bus, light rail, ferry and paratransit services for free.*

***Tuesday, November 7, 2023 (Election Day):*** On this day, HRT is increasing access to voting and offering your residents a free ride to the ballot box. They can experience the convenience and benefits of our public transit system by first visiting [goht.com](http://goht.com) to plan their trip to the polls or other destination.

***Monday, February 5, 2024 (Transit Equity Day):*** Another chance for your constituents to take advantage of a fare-free day on our transit system is on Transit Equity Day, a day of action that commemorates the importance of investing in public transportation for the benefit of all citizens. It also coincides with the birthday of civil rights icon and public transit rider Rosa Parks, which is on February 4.

***Monday, April 22, 2024 (Earth Day):*** We encourage residents to mark their calendars for Earth Day, which offers them another chance to discover the advantages of public transit. By participating, your constituents will contribute to a greener environment and a better quality of life for all.

***Wednesday, June 19, 2024 (Juneteenth):*** This is the final fare-free date of the fiscal year, which offers free transit rides in honor of Juneteenth. We believe that by offering these opportunities, HRT is making regional mobility more equitable and inclusive.

*We kindly request your support in spreading the word about these free transit days to your constituents. Your assistance will be invaluable in reaching a wider audience and ensuring optimal participation.*

*If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to Alexis Majied, Chief Communications Officer at 757-222-6182 or at [amajied@hrtransit.org](mailto:amajied@hrtransit.org). We look forward to continuing to work together to make our region even more vibrant and sustainable.*

*Thank you for your time and consideration.*

*Sincerely,*

*William*

*William E. Harrell  
President & CEO  
Hampton Roads Transit*

