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# Baylines

## October 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!*

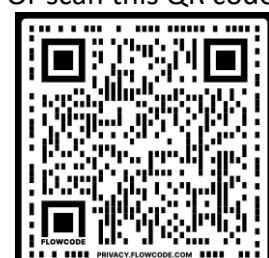
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We would like you to share the Baylines newsletter with all of our friends, neighbors and businesses in the Shore Drive Corridor. Please pass it along or post the following on your social media:

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

**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

Chris Taylor

**District #8**

[chtaylor@vbgov.com](mailto:chtaylor@vbgov.com)

(757) 840-5859

Joash F. Schulman

**District #9**

[jschulman@vbgov.com](mailto:jschulman@vbgov.com)

(757) 840-1291

## From the Agenda...

### Staff Reports:

- "The Gala 417 " Event space is modifying their application to City Council for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to include authorization to have amplified music and make use of a public address system.
- Hampton Roads Transit is planning route modifications for 2024 that will affect the Bayfront. These changes will require City Council approval:
  - **Change 1:** Route 35 Trolley: Change headways from 60 minutes to 30 minutes daily between May and Neptune Fest. Headways were changed to 60 minutes for FY24. This change returns Route 35 to previous service levels. Additional revenue hour change: 3,741 hours
  - **Change 2:** Route 1. Route will be realigned to terminate at JEB Little Creek and will no longer operate in Virginia Beach. Route 22 and realigned Route 36 will provide coverage loss by realigned Route 1. Route 22 will provide coverage between JEB Little Creek and Shore Drive/Pleasure House Rd. Realigned Route 36 will provide coverage between Shore Drive/Pleasure House Rd and Pembroke East. • Changes are funded by Hampton Roads Regional Transit Fund
  - **Change 3:** Route 27 (Northhampton Blvd). Route is realigned to operate between JEB Little Creek and Newtown Road light rail station via Diamond Springs Road, no longer Shore Drive/Pleasure House Road. Hourly service will be introduced on Sunday from 7:00am-7:00pm. Weekday service will begin at 5:00am. Annual revenue hour change: 0 hours
  - **Change 4:** Route 36 (Holland Road). Route 36 is extended to Shore Drive and Pleasure House Road north of Pembroke East. Route will cover the Independence Blvd corridor that is currently served by Route 1. Weekday hours will begin at 5:00am and end at 1:00am. Weekday early, midday, weekday evening (until 7:00pm), frequency will be 30 minutes. Saturday hours will begin at 5:00am and end at 12:00am. 5:00am-7:00pm, frequency will be 30 minutes. Hourly service will be introduced on Sunday, 5:00am-12:00am. Changes are funded by Hampton Roads Regional Transit Fund
  - Suggestions from the BAC included increased frequency; zero fare - free to all riders (fully subsidized); a marketing / advertising increase to grow paid ridership which remains anemic since the ridership drop experienced during COVID 19 lock downs. Reportedly the regional taxpayer subsidy is estimated at \$40+ per rider.
  - Route maps and additional info can be seen on line at the [Bayfront Advisory Commission web site](#)
  - Following up on last month's tree removal by Virginia Natural Gas, they are to share a 'planting plan' with City staff.

### New Business:

Lesner Bridge will be getting lighting system updates to improve operation, to include more comprehensive remote control. Challenges remain due to the harsh weather environment and salt air.

## (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  
16 November 2023**

### Of Note:

The 2040 Comprehensive Plan update is currently underway. Along with resident input, compilation and analysis of Virginia Beach's existing conditions will be crucial to planning for the city's growth over the next several years.

The Planning Department will be hosting a series of public workshops:

- Saturday, Nov. 4, at 2 p.m., College Park Elementary School Cafeteria – 1110 Bennington Road
- Monday, Nov. 6, at 6 p.m., Kellam High School Cafeteria – 2665 West Neck Road
- Wednesday, Nov. 8, at 6 p.m., Bayside Recreation Center – 4500 First Court Road
- Thursday, Nov. 9, at 6 p.m., Virginia Beach Convention Center, Suite 3 – 1000 19th St.

For those residents who are unable to attend in person, there will also be an on-demand version of the workshop posted on the website in the near future, and six additional public engagement meetings will be held in the new year in different locations throughout the city. These meetings are estimated to run about 1.5 to 2 hours. Please pass along the information to your friends, family, neighborhoods, colleagues, youth groups, civic leagues, faith groups, etc.

The more engagement from the community in this process, the better the plan will be! City staff and the consultant team are eager to hear from as many residents as possible, and our team hopes to see you there!

The Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) is a formal document produced through the City's Comprehensive Planning process and projects Virginia Beach 20 to 25 years into the future. The Comp Plan guides development and investment across the city, and all Capital Improvements Program (CIP) projects and new land development projects are evaluated for consistency with the Comp Plan.

It is authorized by the state through enabling legislation, Section 15.2-2223 of the Virginia Code, which requires all localities to prepare a formal document from this process called a Comprehensive Plan. As outlined in Section 15.2-2230 of the state code, the Comp Plan is reviewed by the Planning Commission at least once every five years to determine whether amendments need to be made to the document.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, please email [CompPlan@vbgov.com](mailto:CompPlan@vbgov.com).