

**Update to Waterfront Commission  
By Other Represented Organizations**

**Founders Park Community Association (Sydney Smith)**

FPCA was formed by a group of residents in 1979 who convinced the City of Alexandria to acquire Founders Park (FP) from the owners who were going to build 5 18-story apartment buildings in FP. FP mission is to help the City maintain FP as a green, passive park for everyone to enjoy. Currently, FPCA is keeping its members informed on the following issues involving the waterfront:

1. The development of Robinson Terminal North (RTN). I have been working with Greg Hofmann of Rooney Properties on opening a pathway along the waterfront during the construction of RTN. This would involve closing the 500 block of N Union during the construction so the cranes could work on both properties at the same time which, according to Greg, would significantly reduce the amount of time necessary to complete the RTN development.
2. In connection with Alexandria's 250th Anniversary, FPCA will be planting red, white and blue flowers along the pathway near the Grove.
3. FPCA is working with the City of Alexandria on putting in another bench in FP (the City has approved putting in the bench, we are working on the details).
4. FPCA is keeping its members informed on the updates to the flood mitigation program, including the most recent update on NPS changing its position on granting an exception to the height restriction and placement of a pump house in Waterfront Park.

**Jody Manor (Planning Commission)**

*Excerpt from a March 27 letter to the Planning Commission from Paul Stoddard, Director of P&Z:* Funding in the CIP continues to support design and construction of the Waterfront Plan flood mitigation infrastructure prioritized through community engagement processes. The design process commenced in late 2023 and is now anticipated to be completed in 2027. Consideration of alternatives and regulatory, environmental, and grantor review and approvals have impacted and extend the original project timeline. A revised timeline and construction schedule will be determined after further scope confirmation and as regulatory approval is undertaken with the regulatory agencies having jurisdiction. It is anticipated that the project will incorporate scope, additional funding, and construction for Lower King Street Improvements as well.

The Lower King Street Closure project will develop and implement the permanent design for the 100 and unit blocks of King Street that were approved for permanent closure to vehicular traffic to improve the pedestrian experience. Permanent improvements are being planned through the larger Waterfront Flood Mitigation. Additionally, in FY 2026, the City closed the 200 Block of King Street to vehicular traffic as a two-phase pilot. The City is evaluating ways to create and fund a consistent design for all of these blocks.

**Stuart Fox (Park and Recreation Commission)** [These are Stuart's personal views.]

The removal of the park improvements in both Pt. Lumley and waterfront parks is a huge loss to the community. This community has worked hard on small area plan that included improvements to our parks, streets, quality of life and infrastructure. We had to fight to get these park improvements added back to the plan (again) and now they're gone (again x2). This is not a flood mitigation plan, this is a small area plan implementation. Let's not lose sight of that.

### **Charlotte Hall (Chamber of Commerce)**

The Chamber cares about the waterfront and deals with issues as they come up, including the pump station, power plant, commercial boats, tall ship, etc.

### **Alexandria Seaport Foundation (Deb Roepke)**

To support our growth to 32 apprentices per year by 2027, we are actively moving forward with the construction of Seaport Center II. As of this week, the contract for our Project Manager has been signed, and we are moving forward with the builder for the specialized floating foundation. We are currently reviewing options for the building to ensure the new 2,500 sq. ft. workshop provides the most cost-effective solution while creating an optimal environment for maritime instruction and staff operations.

You may notice the project is moving on a more deliberate timeline than originally envisioned. Because Seaport Center II is a specialized, purpose-built training facility on the water, the infrastructure and delivery logistics are more complex than a typical commercial build. Rather than rush, we made a strategic decision to slow down and refine our scope. This has allowed us to partner with experts who have deep experience in waterfront installation, ensuring we get this right for the young people we serve.

At its heart, this project is about growth. Once complete, Seaport Center II will allow us to –

- **Double** the number of apprentices we serve annually.
- **Provide dedicated space** for hands-on training, private counseling, and program staff offices.
- **Increase efficiency:** We expect to reduce the cost of serving each apprentice from \$40,000 to less than \$30,000 through these improved facilities.

### **Old Town North (Agnès Artemel)**

1. When will the wooden walkways at Oronoco Bay Park be rebuilt? or will they?
2. Make sure the City budget has sufficient funds to continue removal of logs and river-borne debris at Oronoco Bay Park and the Canal Center lock.
3. Overall health of the Potomac River, particularly with regard to waste discharges from antiquated sewers
4. Need for protection from localized flooding in Oronoco Bay Park
5. What are the plans for construction of the memorial to victims of last year's air crash? (stated as planned for Rivergate Park)
6. We are also watching the DSUPs for buildings B and C at the former power plant, as well as the applications for waterfront parks and activation, and the linear park (portion on the HRP property)
7. Status of Robinson Terminal North development. When is the fill activity likely to occur? When can a waterside pedestrian path open?
8. Can the northern end of Tidelock Park be made more attractive and usable?
9. When will the Brio sculpture be installed at Wythe St Park?
10. Please trim or remove the dead branches/trees at Oronoco Bay Park. The sycamores don't thrive there and should be replaced.
11. Monitoring bulkhead construction at Mount Vernon Trail south of the power plant.