



WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD TASK FORCE

Last June, City Council created the seven-member Woodrow Wilson Bridge Neighborhood Task Force to respond to citizen concerns and to work with the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project Team on the impact of bridge construction on Alexandria homes and neighborhoods. Meeting monthly, the task force, which includes two members of City Council, neighborhood representatives, and City Transportation and Environmental Services Department staff, developed guidelines to help minimize community impact of the construction of the 12-lane bridge.

The City's bridge project coordinator will serve as project liaison to assist in responding to noise, traffic and other construction-related issues affecting City residents and businesses.

JONES POINT PARK

In December 2000, City Council approved the concept plan for Jones Point Park, which is owned by the National Park Service and operated by the City. Because the park is impacted by the construction of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, the Jones Point Park plan will not be implemented until the bridge construction is complete. In the interim, a temporary parking lot and two athletic fields will be constructed on the north side of the bridge. The park area south of the bridge will be accessible for walkers and joggers during the construction period.



Did You Know?

* The Dixie Pig restaurant, located in the northeast section of the City, was featured in the 2001 season finale of the West Wing television program.

* Archaeologists working in the largest open space in the Old Town Historic area, Jones Point Park, discovered the oldest artifact ever found in the City - a tool used by Native Americans 9,000 years ago.

* Alexandria was ranked the

The final plan will protect the natural environment, preserve the site's historic integrity, and improve active and passive recreation. The park area south of the bridge will include the original boundary stone for the District of Columbia, the Jones Point Lighthouse, an historic rope walk and shipways that will highlight the area's history of ship building, and a playground that will interpret the archaeology of early Alexandria. The area north of and under the bridge will feature two full-size athletic fields, a playground, hard surface courts, a fishing pier and fish cleaning station, a canoe/kayak launch, a bike path, a pedestrian promenade, parking and restrooms. The park will continue to contain community gardens and woodlands.

AD HOC UPPER POTOMAC WEST TASK FORCE

The Ad Hoc Upper Potomac West Task Force, established by City Council in spring 2000, worked with the Department of Planning and Zoning to

best city in the United States for women according to the April 2001 Ladies' Home Journal, which measured: lifestyle, schools, employment, child care, health care, government and crime in 200 of America's largest cities.



create a concept plan for the redevelopment of part of the Upper Potomac West area. In June, the task force, a community partnership with area residents and businesses, presented City Council with its recommendations for the Safeway/ Datatel site and several other parcels of land located at and near the corner of Mount Vernon Avenue and Glebe Road. The task force also recommended a strategy to revitalize residential properties on the north side of East Reed Avenue. City Council will consider the recommendations further this winter.



TRAFFIC CALMING

The City implemented a series of traffic calming projects in City neighborhoods last year. The Rosemont Civic Association obtained 70% approval from the property owners along Russell Road and Commonwealth Avenue to enable the City to install speed tables, raised and textured crosswalks and raised intersections this summer that will reduce travel speeds along these two roads which are heavily impacted by commuter traffic. Other speed tables have been installed near Charles Barrett Elementary School, on Crestwood Drive in North Ridge and on Monroe

Avenue. City staff is discussing traffic calming initiatives with residents in other neighborhoods, including Clover-College Park, Taylor Run, Wakefield-Tarleton, Del Ray, and North Ridge.

NEW ATHLETIC FIELDS

Youth soccer teams began playing on two interim multi-purpose fields that opened in spring 2001 at Potomac Yard. The irrigated fields, which are suitable for soccer, football, field hockey and lacrosse, will be used until the permanent fields planned for Potomac Yard are completed.

The site plan for Rocky Versace and Vietnam Veterans Plaza was unveiled during a Citywide Veteran's Day celebration held at Mount Vernon Recreation Center. The plaza will recognize Captain Versace, an Alexandrian who died in captivity, and other City residents who lost their lives in Vietnam.

