



All Aurora Highlands / Pentagon City residents are encouraged to come to our monthly meetings to meet neighbors, discuss topics of interest, and share information.

MEETING – Wednesday, January 10 at 7 p.m.

**Aurora Hills Community Center
735 18th St. S.**

Aurora Highlands Civic Association Newsletter – January 2018

Happy New Year! Join the Civic Association!

Make a resolution to build our community. Support AHCA with your dues, come to a meeting, and enjoy the many fun community events AHCA supports throughout the year.

What Are Civic Associations? Civic Associations represent neighborhoods throughout Arlington. They are the voice for promoting the interests of your community at the level of County government—in meetings with staff, County Board and School Board members, and private interests doing business in the neighborhood such as developers. We also have a voice with state elected representatives.

Become a member to have a say in what AHCA should be standing for. Civic Associations are the communities' advocates for improvements and the front line of defense against activities that can harm the quality of life in the community. We promote the interests of the neighborhood in a non-partisan and non-sectarian manner. Every Arlingtonian can advocate as an individual, but a civic association's voice carries weight.

AHCA is unusual and needs lots of voices. Unlike many civic associations that represent only single-family homes or only high rises, AHCA is a true hybrid. At the County level we represent all Aurora Highlands and Pentagon City residents. So whether you're a home owner or renter, live in a high rise or a detached home, care about traffic or transit, parks or development, we welcome your participation. Come join us!

Membership dues for 2018 are only \$20 per household. Please pay online with Paypal, send a check, or bring payment to the meeting. Details at the bottom of p. 2.

Meeting Agenda

395 Express Lanes Extension. Come learn about this project, which is extending the 395 Express Lanes for eight miles north from Edsall Road to the vicinity of Eads Street. The two existing HOV lanes (or High Occupancy Toll) lanes are being converted to express lanes and a third lane is being added, providing three reversible express lanes. Carpools of 3+ riders will be free and other drivers will pay a variable toll depending on traffic. Construction began in August, and the new lanes are slated to open next year. Discussions are underway regarding the installation of soundwalls along the edge of the highway in the Arlington Ridge neighborhood.

The main purpose of this meeting is to learn about how the express lanes will affect the neighborhood at the Eads St. exit and to discuss signage for the express lanes. Members of the Crystal City and Arlington Ridge Civic Associations have also been invited.

Community Dates and Updates

Virginia Highlands Park Softball Fields. You've probably noticed that sections of the fencing around the softball fields have been removed. This opens up the space for public use, although the Dept. of Parks intends to keep reserving the fields for games during the spring and fall. AHCA is still working to convince the Parks Department and the County Board of the value of having a general-use public park in that space, given its location at the nexus of the Pentagon City high-rise community, commercial sector, and single-family neighborhood.

Lawn game lollapalooza. January 14, 2 p.m-4:30. AHCA is organizing events and impromptu gatherings while the Virginia Highlands fields are unreserved. In December, we had a castle-building project using leftover holiday boxes. We are planning another community event for

