

Larchmont Edgewater Civic League Meeting  
February 28, 2022

President Kinnison called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Guest speaker: Doug Beaver, Director of Utilities, City of Norfolk. Flooding Resiliency Update.

Doug was the city's Chief Resilience Officer prior to his current position. Norfolk has a long history of flooding – Doug showed us pictures of a flooded Granby Street from 1933 in fact.

- Relative sea level rise in Norfolk: By 2080 Norfolk can expect sea level rise of about 4 ½ feet higher than we are now experiencing. Resilience measures will include a variety of elements, including one or more levees, pump stations, as well as the possibility of managed retreat.
- As a result of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill), Norfolk's Coastal Storm Risk Management project was approved to begin construction. The total value of the project is \$383.5M. Another part of this act includes \$69.3M for Norfolk harbor and channel deepening. Next steps: Construction phasing; a financial plan to include the 35% non-federal share; a joint communication plan. Community understanding and buy-in will be critical.
- Resources to accomplish these projects will come from: The City of Norfolk, USACE, FEMA, The Commonwealth of Virginia, VDOT, HRPDC, DOD, HUD, and private development. The area of Hampton Blvd. north of Magnolia to the Hampton Blvd. Bridge is part of the plan.
- Stormwater projects: Carroll Place and Cambridge Place: Design and site plan are complete; the project will be advertised soon; it includes a berm along Carroll and Cambridge (about 2.5' high) Question: What will happen to the benches? Benches on the berm!
- Sylvan Street and Walnut Hill Street: Design is underway; project involves a small berm along Sylvan.
- Questions:
  - What you have described seem to be composed of many discrete projects – is there an overall plan? Is there a “bumper sticker?” Answer: Protecting the tax base of our city; protecting critical transportation nodes. Yes, some of the efforts are very localized (Sylvan, Carroll Place). In a nutshell: These projects will buy us time to curb the effects of sea level rise.
  - How is the city integrating with Dominion Energy? He is not aware of specific coordination efforts with Dominion now. Nate and GM both related information

about discrete projects on Bedford and on Hanover – but neither project came to fruition. Nate will follow up.

- Would evacuation routes be “hardened” to prevent flooding? Doug responded that Hampton Blvd was identified as one route of concern. Elevation is one possible alternative, also lane “thinning,” (i.e. 6 lanes to 4 lanes) but there are no specific plans as of now. If Hampton Blvd, is elevated, that will cause the neighborhood streets adjacent to flood – there are no easy solutions...putting in motion a requirement for new pump stations and upgraded stormwater systems.
- Sanitary Sewer Improvements. \$40.8M jointly funded program, made possible through wastewater collection and wastewater treatment fees. This is a program to replace, upgrade, and relocate sanitary sewer pump stations and the connecting pipelines in Larchmont and Edgewater. More information under Larchmont Area Sanitary Sewer Improvements on the HRSD website (<https://www.hrsd.com/larchmont-area-sanitary-sewer-improvements>)

#### Civic league officers:

Nominations, including self-nominations, are welcome!

Nate Kinnison: President

Mike Crockett: Vice President

Vacant: Treasurer

Gail Nicula: Secretary

G.M. Ziller: Board Member at Large

Vacant: Board Member at Large

#### Other news:

- City of Norfolk Retreat is upcoming: March 4-5, 2022. There will be a live feed on YouTube. [Retreat Agenda](#) Some of the topics to be covered during the retreat: Homelessness strategy; future of light rail; casino update; ARPA funding recommendations.
- Tom Ambler will help us with updating our Bylaws. See the LECL website (<http://larchmontedgewater.org/constitution-bylaws>) for our current bylaws. Please submit your suggestions to Nate, to any of the board members, or via the Contact link (<http://larchmontedgewater.org/contact>) on the website.
- Neighborhood Leadership “Breakfast.” Gail Nicula attended, via Zoom. The event was enjoyable and worthwhile, but the agenda was perhaps a little too ambitious for the amount of time allowed.
- Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center: Norfolk residents are being asked for their ideas about the future of this facility. We can weigh in [Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center](#) Please note: The deadline to provide your input is March 8, 2022, by 11:59 p.m.

- Thanks to Nate and GM for their help in getting the Cove Pointe dog park removed!  
Access has been restored.

Attendance: Approximately 23 neighbors.

Next Meeting: March 28 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully,

Gail Nicula, Secretary