



Alexandria Housing Activities January 2021

AHC's The Spire and ARHA's The Lineage at North Patrick Street It wasn't long ago that housing advocates rallied with [congregants and the leadership of The Church of the Resurrection](#) to testify at a budget hearing for \$4 million needed to develop [The Spire](#), 113 affordable new rental homes. Around the same time there was a [vigorous advocacy campaign to redevelop ARHA's Ramsey Homes](#) to develop 52 new units of affordable, mixed-income housing that would serve some of our lowest income residents. Now, both of these developments are accepting applications for families to move in. At the Lineage, 12 of the 15 original residents are returning to new housing.

These campaigns remind us that the work of advocacy is a marathon, not a sprint. Let's celebrate the successful completion of these two developments, and be encouraged to continue to speak out for affordable housing in Alexandria.

Looking Ahead There are several affordable housing proposals in various stages of the development pipeline for approval in 2021. They include Asland Capital Partners' [the Heritage at Old Town redevelopment](#), AHDC's proposals at [Seminary Road](#) and [Arlandria](#), and Wesley Housing's [ParkView](#) redevelopment. We understand that more proposals may come forward, so keep your organizing, testifying and advocacy skills sharp for the coming months! The need to increase the supply of affordable housing in the City has never been greater.

Redevelopment of Landmark Mall, Monday, Virtual Community Meeting, January 4, 2021 from 7 - 8:30 PM. This session is hosted by Foulger-Pratt, Inova Health System and the City to discuss a proposal for a four million-square-foot community and medical campus at the site of the former Landmark Mall, which would revitalize the West End with a new mixed-use, walkable urban village. Inova would create a new medical campus, anchored by a relocated and expanded Alexandria Hospital. The site would include residential, retail, commercial and entertainment offerings integrated into a cohesive neighborhood with a central plaza, a network of parks and public spaces, a new fire-EMS station, and a transit hub serving bus rapid transit, DASH, and Metrobus.

- [View and ask questions via Facebook Live](#) (requires a Facebook account)

- [View via YouTube](#)
- Listen only via phone:
Call: 301-715-8592
Webinar ID: 997 8753 4944
Password: 619724
- [Submit questions in advance](#)

Inova-Seminary Road Rezoning - Virtual Community Meeting Wednesday, January 6, 2021, from 6 - 7 PM Inova Health System will hold a virtual community information meeting to discuss the proposed rezoning of the existing Inova Alexandria Hospital property on Seminary Road. On December 22, Inova, in partnership with Foulger-Pratt and the City, announced a redevelopment proposal to construct a new hospital and mixed-use district at the former Landmark Mall site. In order to facilitate the relocation of the hospital from its current location to Landmark Mall, Inova plans to work with the community as it moves forward with a request to rezone the existing hospital site at Seminary Road for a variety of residential uses.

Due to the pandemic emergency, this meeting will be held virtually on Zoom. In the Zoom live presentation format, representatives from Inova will present an overview and be available to answer questions from the community.

- To participate by computer, tablet, or smartphone:
https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_uq5f1397R96qRJ2uKKncqQ
- To listen by phone audio only: Dial in: 1-312-626-6799; Webinar ID: 959 3739 4316; Passcode: 851975

For more information, please contact Cathy Puskar at cpuskar@thelandlawyers.com or 703.528.4700.

Eviction Prevention in Alexandria Tremendous work by City staff and countless community-based partners continues to assist tenants and landlords with rental assistance and other supportive services. Last week, [Matthew Torres at WUSA9 interviewed Melanie Gray, outreach coordinator for Lazarus Ministries at Christ Church and me](#) to highlight the stories of tenants impacted by COVID-19, and the continued challenges to getting the word out regarding assistance programs. We were pleased that the [Eviction Prevention and Neighborhood Stability Toolkit](#) was featured in their reporting. The toolkit, which is continuously updated as local, state and federal policies evolve, has captured wider attention as a valuable resource for a variety of public and private sector users. Recently passed federal legislation provides approximately \$580 million in rental assistance for Virginia, and extends the CDC moratorium on evictions until Jan 31, 2021. Financial assistance may be provided to eligible households for a maximum of 12 months, with an additional 3-month allowable extension if it's necessary to ensure housing stability for the household. The [Aspen Institute](#) estimates that almost 265,000 households will be [were] at risk of eviction by the end of 2020. How we address our longer-term systemic housing shortage is the issue we can no longer kick down the road.

Parker-Gray School 100th Anniversary The Parker-Gray School provided African American children with comprehensive education at a time when segregation and lack of resources, teachers, and facilities threatened what is now understood as a fundamental right of every child. Check the City's [website](#) to view commemorative activities and others that are scheduled for 2021.

Virginia General Assembly The General Assembly convenes annually on the second Wednesday in January, meeting for 30 days - a short session - in the odd years. This year's session begins on January 13th. We will be watching all legislative action on the state housing trust fund, a state low-income housing tax credit, support for homeless prevention and permanent supportive housing, and the increasingly important issue of expanding broadband to address the affordability and accessibility of appropriate devices for low income residents in high-cost urban areas.