



## Message from the President

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

The Douglas Park renovation is upon us! After years of delays, a few online engagement opportunities, funding snafus, and lots of neighbor feedback, we are getting closer to having a renovated park. Thank you to everyone who has let us know your priorities for renovating Douglas Park, we are doing our best to represent our collective interests.

Because the United States Congress did not pass appropriations bills this year (we are operating in a year-long Continuing Resolution), we did not receive the \$1.8 million of federal funding for Phase 2 renovations (playground area) as expected. We are concerned about a number of elements of the Phase 1 renovation plan as the will of our neighbors was ignored in the first online engagement survey.

We had an opportunity to sit down with Arlington County's head of the Department of Parks and Recreation to voice concerns and identify areas for compromise. Phase 1 of the renovation will still be a big improvement with more areas being accessible to those with disabilities and keeping the history of the park preserved.

## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade & Potluck

By Josue Bastidas

Get ready to show your patriotic spirit at the 43rd Annual Douglas Park 4th of July Parade & Potluck! This beloved neighborhood tradition brings together families, friends, and neighbors for a day of fun, food, and celebration.

### Gathering at Monroe Park: 10 am

Neighbors and participants begin arriving. Decorate bikes, wagons, and strollers, and get ready for the parade.

### Parade Kickoff: 10:30 am

The parade begins! March through the neighborhood with your flags, festive outfits, and patriotic spirit.

### Community Picnic at Douglas Park: 11:00am to 2:00pm

Head over to Douglas Park after the parade for a potluck-style picnic. Bring a dish to share and enjoy live music, games, and good company in the park.

Bring a dish to share, your best red, white, and blue, and enjoy a festive afternoon with live entertainment, and friendly faces. We hope to see you there!

# Pike Boulevard

By Henry Dunbar

Douglas Park neighbors may have noticed new all-way stop signs at South Monroe and 12th Streets, by the multi-path at the post office. These stops are enhancements to the South 12th Street Bike Boulevard, one of two that parallels Columbia Pike.



Arlington County has been actively developing bike boulevards to enhance cycling infrastructure and promote sustainable transportation along Columbia Pike. These boulevards are designated routes on low-traffic residential streets, designed to prioritize cyclists while maintaining shared use with vehicles. In 2013, Arlington initiated its bike boulevard program with the installation of signage and sharrows (shared lane markings) on streets paralleling Columbia Pike, such as 9th and 12th Streets South.

The Columbia Pike Bike Boulevards enhancement project, currently in the design phase as of Spring 2025, aims to improve these routes by implementing measures like all-way stop intersections, high-visibility crosswalks, parking restrictions, and speed limit reductions to improve safety and connectivity.

Community engagement has played a crucial role in shaping Arlington's bike boulevard initiatives. Residents have actively participated in public meetings and provided feedback on proposed designs.

For example, the original plan to convert a bike path near the Douglas Park post office into car lanes was shelved following significant community opposition, highlighting the importance of maintaining spaces that prioritize cyclists and pedestrians.

Eventually, the 12th Street Bike Boulevard will connect to a trail and stairwell that will skirt around the Army-Navy Country Club and connect to National Landing, giving bike riders and pedestrians more direct access to that part of the county. Improvements to the bike facilities along Columbia Pike at the Arlington Cemetery expansion are also in the works.

AMY WEASE

COMPASS

Hello Douglas Park!

My name is **Amy Wease** and South Arlington has been my home since 2007 when I bought my first condo at West Village Shirlington and in 2019 I moved into a single family home on Randolph St. While many of you know me as your neighbor, you don't know that **I am also a real estate advisor with almost 20 years of experience in the DMV.**

My specialties lie in helping sellers take their homes from "average" to "wow" with my unique formula for selling your home tailored for you and the concerns and challenges you face.



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Or, join/renew with PayPal at <http://www.douglasparkca.org/join/>  
**Thank you!**

## Backyard Concert Series

By Henry Dunbar

### 2025 Backyard Concert Series Schedule

- July 12, 6pm, Ardmore
- Sept 20, 6pm, Crooked Sparrow
- Oct 11, 6pm, DEMZ
- Nov 8, 4pm, Black Muddy River Band

Admission is Pay What You Can. All proceeds go to the musicians. Outside lawn seating, some chairs provided or bring your own. You may BYOB, but no smoking please.

For more info contact Henry at [htdunbar@gmail.com](mailto:htdunbar@gmail.com) or 703-472-1881.

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