



NOTICE meeting

Community Meeting GenOn: What's Next?

NOTICE Annual Meeting

Thursday, Nov 15, 7 p.m.

Old Colony Best
Western Inn
(Corner of Second Street and
the GW Memorial Parkway)

Sign in and refreshments
will be followed at 7:20 by
a brief business meeting,
including the election of
the new board.

Speakers representing
GenOn, the City of
Alexandria's Planning
Department, the Office
of Environmental Quality
of the Department of
Transportation and
Environmental Services, and
the National Park Service
have been invited to give
brief presentations and then
take questions from the
audience. Please come, bring
your neighbors, and help us
think big about this site and
its future (see Tom Soapes'
article to right).

Farmers Market

Make sure you stop by to
support our local farmers.

Saturdays
7am-NOON

Located in the market
square at 301 King Street.

The Future of the Genon Site

by Tom Soapes, Chair, NOTICE Zoning & Land Use Committee

The GenOn power company's Potomac River Generating station closed October 1. Tireless efforts of North Old Town citizens who did the research and persuaded public officials to take action, as well as changing economics in the coal industry, combined to end the pollution this plant sent into our community. Although the plant is closed, fully decommissioning the site will take several months. PEPCO still owns the land, and GenOn still has a lease for its use. These corporations will have a role in determining what happens on this site, and there are a number of issues to resolve. The future of this 25-acre parcel of land has not been decided; city leaders tell us no development proposals are pending.

What happens on this property will have a significant impact on all of us who live in North Old Town, and NOTICE is taking a proactive role. Our Zoning and Land Use Committee is beginning work with city leaders in what we know will be a long and complex process. We are starting now so that concerns and needs of citizens of this community will be influential.

On October 2 the NOTICE committee met with city leaders, including the mayor, the planning director, and other senior city planning and environmental quality staff. In this meeting we communicated the major concerns we have heard from North Old Town residents:

1. **Need for frequent, meaningful communication.** We do not want to be surprised by development plans that are not influenced by significant citizen input. To that end, we have been given a senior contact in the city planning department who will be invited to join our discussions.
2. **Concern about compliance with all environmental and health requirements while the site is idle.** We asked the Office of Environmental Quality to monitor those factors so the site does not become an eyesore or a health hazard when GenOn vacates. The City will continue the Mirant monitoring task force for some time, tracking the plant shutdown and environmental remediation processes.
3. **Need to update the North Old Town Small Area Plan, revise zoning, and consider density and traffic issues,** which city leaders acknowledged need attention. Work on the small area plan will begin in mid-2013.

In the coming months, the NOTICE committee will begin crafting concepts and themes for the site's development and soliciting input from all NOTICE members and community residents. We will start by thinking big: The GenOn site has numerous possibilities, and we will rule out nothing in the early discussions. Other sites are in play, including the bus barn, the Giant/ABC block, and possibly other areas of North Old Town. We intend to consider the entire community in our planning.

We can build a world-class development on this property located on a major waterway in a historic city and set precedents for the redevelopment process of sites like this. This will be the subject of our members meeting on November 15. We hope you will attend, bring your neighbors, and contribute your ideas.

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities. Helping Friends & Improving Community

Literacy Council of Northern Virginia - Basic Literacy Tutors

Volunteers are needed to tutor English-speaking adults seeking to improve their reading and writing skills. You are trained, matched with a student, and encouraged to meet weekly for an hour and a half. Set your own schedules with student, and meet at any mutually convenient public location in Alexandria. Volunteer application online at www.lcnv.org/volunteer or contact Ruba, Director of Volunteers at 703-237-0866 x111 or volunteers@lcnv.org.

The Reading Connection - Wednesdays 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm - Read-Aloud to Children.

Teams of volunteers spend an hour reading with kids and engaging them in conversation and related activities in the city of Alexandria. Must be at least 18. Age 55+ welcome. Visit www.thereadingconnection.org/volunteer for more information and to sign up.

Alexandria Division of Aging and Adult Services - Volunteer Legal Guardian: serve in a court-appointed protective role for a senior or disabled adult who has no family member to make decisions related to health care, personal care or living situation. Seeking individuals to serve at least one year as a volunteer guardian. Background checks and fingerprints are required. Training and consistent support is provided by social workers at the Agency. Contact Suzanne Kratzok at 703-746-5663 or email suzanne.kratzok@alexandriava.gov

City Implements Left Turn Restrictions on Washington Street

The City of Alexandria implemented long-planned left-turn restrictions on Washington Street on Wednesday, October 24. The new regulations permit:

NO LEFT TURN from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., Monday through Friday, for the following intersections SOUTHBOUND:

- Washington Street at Pendleton Street
- Washington Street at Oronoco Street
- Washington Street at Princess Street
- Washington Street at Cameron Street
- Washington Street at Duke Street
- Washington Street at Wolfe Street

NO LEFT TURN from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, for the following intersections NORTHBOUND:

- Washington Street at Pendleton Street
- Washington Street at Oronoco Street
- Washington Street at Cameron Street
- Washington Street at Duke Street
- Washington Street at Wolfe Street

A 2011 safety study found that there was an elevated accident rate for vehicles making left turns during HOV hours. Protected left turns, where vehicles can turn left on a green traffic signal arrow, have been added for southbound left turning vehicles at Washington Street at Wythe Street, as well as Washington Street at Princess Street from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and for northbound traffic in the afternoon from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Wythe Street as well as Washington Street at Queen Street. All other existing regulatory restrictions remain in effect.

NOTICE is for you

We Inquire: *Staying connected with changes and issues that affect North Old Town.*

We Inform: *Circulate information to our members through newsletters and circulars, email and our website.*

We are Open: *Welcoming varying views of our role in North Old Town.*

We Discuss: *Remaining involved in finding alternative solutions and being tolerant of our neighbor's perspectives.*

We Meet: *Membership meeting three times a year, and a winter party in February.*

Membership - Join NOTICE

Single \$15, Family \$25, Sponsor \$50, Angel \$150+

NOTICE is a 501-C3 organization. Dues are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Mail this form and payment to:

NOTICE; P.O. Box 25571; Alexandria, VA 22313

Holiday Activities

The approaching holiday season means celebrations with food, family and fun. We suggest a couple of activities in Old Town that are perfect family events:

The Annual City of Alexandria Christmas Tree lighting at Market Square

Friday, November 23
7 to 9 p.m. Free.

Includes a performance of Santa's Frosty's Follies by The Metropolitan Fine Arts Center, caroling sing along, and a visit by Santa Claus.

The Annual Scottish Christmas Festival

Friday, Nov 30th and
Saturday, Dec 1st

Parade through Old Town on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free

Parade features tartan-clad bagpipers, a Scottish Marketplace, a Scotch tasting, and other events. Rain or shine. Fees apply to some related events.

NOTICE Board

Christa Watters, president

Roger Waud, vice president

Ernie Lehmann, secretary

Tom Soapes, treasurer

Greg Ogden, web master

Mike Mendoza, at large

Frances Zorn, at large

What did we miss?

Email us your suggestions on articles, links, or subjects you would find interesting to you.

Greg@Notice-Alexandria.org

Contact NOTICE

703-549-6167

contact@notice-alexandria.org