



# BAYLINES

*Newsletter of the City Council-appointed  
Bayfront Advisory Commission*

## Members

- Kal Kassir,  
Chairman
- Scott Ayers, vice  
chairman
- Joseph Bovee
- Faith Christie
- Wally Damon
- Charles G. Faison,  
Jr.
- Capt. Joey L.  
Frantzen
- Louis R. Jones,  
Councilman
- Charles R. Malbon,  
Jr.
- Joseph A. Miller
- David Redmond,  
Planning  
Commissioner
- Stacey W. Shiflet
- Martin A. Thomas
- Robert Thornton,  
Planning  
Commissioner
- James L. Wood,  
Councilman

## Bayfront Advisory Commission

Thursday, February 15, 2018

Regular monthly meeting, 3:30-5 p.m.

Virginia Beach Resort and Conference Center

2800 Shore Drive

## Tentative Agenda

### CALL TO ORDER

Welcome and Introductions - Kal Kassir, Chair

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Comments from Kal Kassir, Chair

Review and Approval of Minutes

### STAFF REPORTS & UPDATES -- Mark Shea, Tobias Eisenlohr

### COMMITTEE REPORTS & UPDATES

Public Safety, Transit, Parking & Pedestrian Access- Charles Malbon

Design Review – Joseph Bovee

Communications – Scott Ayers

### PRESENTATION

### NEW BUSINESS

### OLD BUSINESS

### PROJECT BRIEFINGS, OPEN DISCUSSION & COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

Public Comment Period

### ADJOURN

*Photo credit: Len McCawley*

# Short-term home rentals on front burner



The tangled legal issue of whether and how the city should handle short-term rentals in neighborhoods throughout Virginia Beach will be back on the front burner this month with workshop meetings and a recommendation by the Planning Commission to City Council.

The Planning Commission will hold a workshop on Wednesday, Feb. 7, at 5 p.m., in the Planning Conference Room (Building 2 of the Municipal Center, 2405 Courthouse Drive.) The public is invited to attend, but no public comment will be taken at the workshop.

Three alternative ordinances pertaining to short-term rentals will be reviewed. A draft of each of the potential ordinances is available below.

The three proposals are scheduled to be considered as an agenda item by the Planning Commission at the Wednesday, Feb. 14, public hearing, at which time the public will have an opportunity to voice their opinions.

This has been a contentious issue for years as neighborhoods grapple with the fallout from large-scale events like weddings and graduations and property owners and managers assert their rights to use their properties. Although the most vocal concerns have been voiced along waterfront communities including Sandbridge, North End and the Bayfront any zoning changes would apply throughout Virginia Beach.

Questions or comments should be directed to Kevin Kemp, zoning administrator, by email at [kkemp@vbgov.com](mailto:kkemp@vbgov.com) or 757-385-6379.

**Alternative 1**

<https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/planning/Documents/PC%20Workshop/Alternative%201%20-%20Short-Term%20Rental%20Ordinance.pdf>

**Alternative 2**

<https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/planning/Documents/PC%20Workshop/Alternative%202%20-%20Short-Term%20Rental%20Ordinance.pdf>

**Alternative 3**

<https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/planning/Documents/PC%20Workshop/Alternative%203%20-%20Short-Term%20Rental%20Ordinance.pdf>

## City seeks to make wharf permanent

The city is proposing to convert the Lesner Municipal Wharf from temporary, to hold dredged materials and to support the Lesner Bridge replacement, to permanent.

Neighbors have opposed building a permanent wharf because of fears that spoils from all neighborhood dredging projects would be run through that site and their neighborhoods, city officials say. Since then dredging sites have been established off Thalia Road and in the London Bridge area.

City officials have long wanted the wharf to be permanent, but relented to seek a “temporary” permit to keep the Lesner Bridge replacement project on track.

Cost to remove the wharf was estimated by the city at \$1.17 million while the cost to preserve it and make it permanent is \$1.289 million.



## Lesner Bridge update



The concrete pour over the weekend that caused the Lesner Bridge to be reduced to one lane each way broke a logjam in trying to get the eastbound span's superstructure across Lynnhaven Inlet. About 400 cubic yards of concrete were poured for Pier #5. The photo here shows forms being removed from Pier #7 looking westward across the inlet.

## ***The Bayfront Advisory Commission: How it all began***

In early 1997, a group of small business owners on Shore Drive in the Bayfront area of Virginia Beach concluded that attention to growth and development by City staff and leadership is necessary to enhance the quality of life of one of the most desirable section of our city straddling the iconic Chesapeake Bay.

The Bayfront is not only home to a large number of smaller communities of single family homes, condominiums, apartments and commercial establishments but a major connector between the North End of the city, the City of Norfolk, interstate highways and airport facility. It is also home to an important military base and a major gateway for visitors to our city.

Those concerns were quickly addressed by then- City Manager James Spore and Councilmen Louis Jones and William Harrison and \$80,000 were appropriated for a study by the nationally respected Urban Land Institute to evaluate the area's potential and a strategy for its enhancement and development. The ULI is a nonprofit research and education organization that promotes responsible leadership in use of land to enhance the total environment. The study was done in May 1997, presented to the City Council that October 1997 and adopted shortly thereafter.

Read it at <https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/planning/areaplans/Documents/Bayfront-Shore%20Drive/BayfrontStudy.pdf>

A significant recommendation in the study was for City Council to appoint a commission of volunteer citizens who live or work in the area, including members of the United States military and First Landing State Park. The purpose of the commission is to create a venue for all citizens to speak and be informed on all matters concerning the Bayfront, and for the Commission to make recommendations to the City Council and staff on all related issues.

This commission is now known as the Bayfront Advisory Commission which conducts open public meetings monthly at 3:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month at the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

**Kal Kassir, chairman**  
**Bayfront Advisory Commission**