

July 19, 2026 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Oregon Hill Park Stewards Agenda

AGENDA

Call to order

Reports

- Holly Street Playground children's play area and soccer field
- Community Garden governance
- Treasurer's report

[Unfinished business n/a]

New business

- Riverside Park project
- Traffic calming support
- Pride picnic tables

Adjourn

2 attachments:

Traffic calming letter from OHNA traffic and safety committee



Oregon Hill

Neighborhood Association

July 5, 2026

The Honorable Stephanie A. Lynch
Councilmember, Richmond City Council
Richmond Central 5th Voter District
900 E. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Councilmember Lynch:

In response to unsafe street and traffic situations in and around Oregon Hill, the Oregon Hill Neighborhood Association (OHNA) Street Safety Committee (Committee) created a prioritized list of actions for the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Department of Transportation (DOT) to consider (Attachment 1). The Committee developed the list over the course of several meetings with input from neighborhood residents.

On March 24, 2026, OHNA unanimously approved the prioritized list. The Committee identified areas within the neighborhood where danger to pedestrians, cyclists, and other road users is highest, and developed recommendations for each location. OHNA approved the following prioritized recommendations for consideration:

- Priority 1: Convert the following intersections to all-way stops: Cherry & China; China & Laurel; Laurel & Holly; and Pine & Holly
- Priority 2: Install traffic control devices on Idlewood Ave
- Priority 3: Install lighter-quicker-cheaper (LQC) curb bumpouts at Spring St & Pine St
- Priority 4: Create a gateway in the wall along Belvidere St to access the Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon at Belvidere St & Rowe St

The Committee also identified several other actions for consideration (Attachment 1).
Thank you for your support in improving the safety and accessibility for all road users.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Valerie L'Herrou".

Valerie L'Herrou
President, Oregon Hill Neighborhood Association

Attached: Attachment 1: Oregon Hill Street Improvements

Cc: Bobby Vincent, Director, Department of Public Works
Andy Boenau, Director, Department of Transportation
Amy Robins, Liaison, 5th City Council District

Richmond, Va
OHNArva@gmail.com

Attachment 1: Oregon Hill – Street Improvements

Prioritized Safety Recommendations

Priority	Item	Location(s)	Description
1	All-Way Stops	Cherry & China; China & Laurel; Laurel & Holly; Pine & Holly	All-way Stop signs at the locations indicated to improve pedestrian safety, reduce risk of crashes at the intersections, and create uniformity across the neighborhood intersections.
2	Traffic Control Devices on Idlewood Ave	Speed Tables: Idlewood (800 and 900 blocks)	Speed tables along Idlewood to slow drivers coming off the interstate at the Belvidere exit.
		Raised Crosswalks: Idlewood & Pine; Cherry & Idlewood	Raised crosswalk to both slow drivers heading to/from Belvidere St and increase pedestrian visibility, especially St Andrews students.
3	LQC Curb Extension	Spring & Pine	Curb bump outs at each corner to narrow the intersection and force drivers to slow when approaching the all-way stop.
4	Gateway	Belvidere & Rowe	Gateway or opening in the wall along Belvidere St at Rowe St to provide direct access to the pedestrian crossing beacon at Rowe St.

Basic Neighborhood-Wide Actions

Action	Description
No Parking Signs	Install 'No Parking' signs at each corner where they currently do not exist, to inform drivers that it is illegal to park within 20' of an intersection per Sec. 27-197.
Do Not Enter Signs	Install 'Do Not Enter' signs at each intersection with one-way streets where they currently do not exist.
Bicycle Signs	Install 'Bicycles May Use Full Lane' signs on all one-way streets.

Laws

Action	Description
Lower Speed Limit to 20mph	Lower speed limit to 20mph on the interior blocks of Oregon Hill, as permitted by amended §§ 46.2-878 and 46.2-1300 of the Code of Virginia.
No Turn on Red	Ban all turns at red lights within the neighborhood.

Other Safety Recommendations Identified

Item	Location	Description
Bicycle Infrastructure	Cherry St	Identified as a Richmond Connects Candidate Project: https://timmons-group.maps.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=5f228c99dd884a1ab809af1d80d5ee29 .
Bicycle Infrastructure	Holly St	Not included in Richmond Connects Candidate Projects but would be necessary to provide E/W connections to the N/S streets.
Bicycle Infrastructure	Idlewood Ave	Identified as a Richmond Connects Candidate Project: https://timmons-group.maps.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=5f228c99dd884a1ab809af1d80d5ee29 .
Bicycle Infrastructure	Laurel St	Identified as a Richmond Connects Candidate Project: https://timmons-group.maps.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=5f228c99dd884a1ab809af1d80d5ee29 .
Bicycle Infrastructure	Pine St	Not included in Richmond Connects Candidate Projects but would be necessary to provide a northbound shared lane in the southern part of the neighborhood where Cherry St does not extend.
Bicycle Infrastructure	Spring St	Not included in Richmond Connects Candidate Projects but would be necessary to provide E/W connections to the N/S streets.
Bicycle Infrastructure	China St	Not included in Richmond Connects Candidate Projects but would be necessary to provide E/W connections to the N/S streets.
Infrastructure	Laurel & Oregon Hill Parkway	Overlook at Laurel St is rundown and does not have protection to keep cars and people from falling over the ledge.
LQC	Holly & Belvidere	LQC bumpouts to improve safety for pedestrians crossing at the linear park and to slow drivers turning off Belvidere St. Drivers take this turn at very high speeds.
LQC	Idlewood & Pine	LQC bumpouts to improve pedestrian safety at Idlewood & Pine. There is no stop light or stop sign at this intersection.
LQC	Pine & China	This intersection has very heavy pedestrian traffic from students at Open High School. While this intersection is typically not a dangerous crossing, it would be a good candidate for an LQC art installation in partnership with Open High School.
LQC	Cherry & Idlewood	LQC curb extensions at Cherry & Idlewood. St Andrews school children cross this intersection several times per day.

Item	Location	Description
LQC	Oregon Hill Parkway and Belvidere St	LQC installation in the unused paved area of this intersection would help slow drivers who typically approach the on-ramp to Belvidere at high speeds.
Road Closure during Allianz Shows	Oregon Hill Parkway & Pine	Nature of the one way street and stop sign location on the hill creates major safety challenges. Also may reduce traffic/parking in the neighborhood.
Signage	Pine & Oregon Hill Parkway	Move stop sign further up the hill on Oregon Hill Parkway. The current Stop sign placement, which is further down the hill connecting S. Second St and Oregon Hill Parkway, encourages drivers to not come to a full stop. Consequently, drivers typically do not yield to pedestrians crossing Oregon Hill Parkway at Pine St.
Traffic Control Device	Holly & Belvidere	Install raised crosswalk on Holly St at Holly & Belvidere. This intersection is a connecting point between two sections of the Linear Park. This is a very dangerous intersection for pedestrians to cross due to traffic turning onto Holly off of Belvidere at very high speeds, and traffic rushing to turn onto Belvidere from Holly St.
Traffic Control Device	Pine & Oregon Hill Parkway	Install raised crosswalk across Oregon Hill Parkway at the Parkway & Pine St. Heavily trafficked intersection that currently does not have a marked crosswalk.
Traffic Flow	Oregon Hill Parkway	Reverse the one-way portion of Oregon Hill Parkway heading out of the neighborhood instead of into the neighborhood.

Riverside Park proposal from Sarah Pavilack

I asked ChatGPT about how to add trees and a native meadow while not overly reducing the visibility of the area for the people who live in those townhomes. I thought this idea of a native meadow at the bottom with a walking path was really interesting. Then adding strategically spaced out trees along the perimeter so you could bring more shade without accidentally creating any opportunities for mischief with people's cars parked along the bottom. I'm not tied to trying to recreate this exactly but I thought it was an interesting idea. See pic at the bottom for reference.

I also have some ideas on areas around the benches at the Overlook itself where we could add some very basic low maintenance native plant additions that I think would really visually improve the area without creating a lot of maintenance.



I think this area has a ton of potential to look a lot nicer with some pretty simple changes. I have been thinking a low-ball starter project would be to add some flowers around the base of the benches along the sidewalk (I think there are three).

My initial idea was to choose 1 easily recognizable but tough native perennial and just commit to it so that there would be very little weeding needed once the flowers fill in. Also my thought was that if it's all the same type, there's less potential for the city to get confused with their mowers.

I've been envisioning it with Black Eyed Susan's because I think even in the event where someone steps on them, a drunk person pulls a couple up, or they accidentally get mowed one season, they'll bounce back. They're also a good height to still be visible while you're on the bench, but not take over. And since they self seed I don't think it would take long to fill in.

I have other ideas for a phase 2 or 3 of Overlook upgrades, but this felt like a good place to start and I think people would be excited to see it! Plus, I imagine it would have to help at least a little with run off and erosion control, which is always a plus.

