



Cottage Line Civic League Newsletter



Summer 2026 • July/August Issue

Welcome, Neighbors!

Summer may be winding down, but your **Cottage Line Civic League Board** has still **been busy!**

While we took a break from our regular July and August membership meetings, your Board has been working behind the scenes on issues that matter to **Cottage Line, Ocean View, and our surrounding neighborhoods.**

So grab a cool drink, pull up a chair, and catch up on what's happening in our community!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Our End-of-Summer Kickoff Meeting is September 1!



Tuesday, September 1, 2026



6:30 PM



Christ United Methodist Church

1601 East Bayview Blvd.

Norfolk, VA 23503



Special Guest Speaker

Seamus McCarthy

Environmental Services Manager

City of Norfolk

We'll have lots to talk about—including zoning changes, sand erosion, traffic improvements, the holiday tree lighting, and more.

Come hear what's happening, ask questions, and be part of the conversation!



IN THIS ISSUE

What's been keeping your Civic League Board busy?

Sand Erosion

Working with Ocean View civic leagues and our elected representatives to keep the pressure on for funding and solutions.

Zoning Ordinance Revisions

Reviewing proposed changes with the Norfolk Planning Department and looking out for Ocean View's interests.

Holiday Tree Lighting

Planning an even bigger and more exciting Ocean View celebration with FestEvents.

EOVA Lane Repurposing & Crosswalks

Reviewing proposed plans with Norfolk Traffic Engineering and advocating for safer crossings.

Upcoming Events

Blood drives, mammogram screenings, the Grand Illumination Parade, holiday events, and more!

ZONING ORDINANCE REVISIONS

What's changing—and why should Ocean View care?

The Norfolk Planning Department is doing a major cleanup and rewrite of the City's Zoning Ordinances.

Jeremy Sharp from the Planning Department explained that much of the work involves reorganizing and updating the existing ordinances. However, there are also **two new state-level directives** that the City is required to incorporate.

And that's where things get interesting.

Your Civic League Board wanted to make sure we understood exactly what these changes could mean for Ocean View.

So **Joan Tipton, our Vice President, Tom Hubert, Bayview Vice President, and Civic League leadership met with Jeremy Sharp** to review the proposed changes.

Want to know what we found?

Join us on **September 1** to hear about the two new state directives and what they could mean for our community.

Come curious. Bring your questions!



THE SAND IS MOVING...

...and so are we!

Sand erosion continues to be one of the biggest challenges facing parts of Ocean View, especially **East Beach, Willoughby, and the Ocean View Park areas**.

During July and August, Cottage Line Civic League and the **Ocean View Alliance (OVA)** met several times with our Superward 6 Councilman, **Jeremy McGee**, to learn more about what's happening—and, perhaps more importantly, what's holding things up.

We discussed:

- Delays in Army Corps of Engineers' cyclical sand replenishment
- Federal funding for beach nourishment
- Short-term erosion concerns
- The search for a more permanent solution

Councilman McGee encouraged us to continue advocating with **Senators Warner and Kaine and Congressman Scott** to protect the federal funding that supports these efforts.



We took that advice!

Cottage Line sent individual letters to our federal representatives, and OVA also sent a combined letter on behalf of Ocean View.

Want to know how federal beach funding works—and what we can do to keep the process moving?



Join us September 1 for an update.



OH, WHAT FUN WE'RE GOING TO HAVE!

Ocean View Annual Holiday Tree Lighting

If you thought last year's tree lighting was fun...

Just wait until you see what's coming!

Thanks to the tremendous success of last year's event, **Tommy Smigiel arranged for FestEvents to sponsor, fund, and coordinate this year's Ocean View Holiday Tree Lighting.**

We've been working with FestEvents to create activities for **kids, families, and adults**, and the goal is simple:

 **Make it bigger. Make it better. Make it FUN!**

 **Sunday, December 6, 2026**

 **Ocean View Beach Park**

FestEvents will coordinate the celebration, but **we'll need volunteers** to help make the magic happen.

More details are coming at the September meeting.

 **Save the date now!**

 **ON THE MOVE!**

EOVA Lane Repurposing & Crosswalk Improvements

Traffic patterns are changing, and we're making sure Ocean View has a voice in the conversation.

Cottage Line has been working with **Norfolk Traffic Engineering** to review the proposed EOVA lane repurposing plans.

We're especially looking at:

 Where new crosswalks are needed

 Which existing crossings need improvements

 How the proposed lane changes will work

 What makes sense from a neighborhood perspective

Want to see the plans?

Draft designs will be available for discussion at our September 1 meeting.

Come take a look and tell us what you think!

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Red Cross Blood Drive

 **Thursday, August 27**

 **1:00–6:00 PM**

 **Mary D. Pretlow Branch Library**

Main Conference Room

111 W. Ocean View Ave.

Roll up your sleeve and help save a life!

Mammogram Bus

Early detection matters!

 **Friday, September 4**

 **1:00–6:00 PM**

 **American Legion Post 35**

850 Ocean View Avenue

Willoughby Spit, Ocean View

See the attached flyer for details.

 **SAVE THESE DATES!**

Cottage Line Civic League • 2026 Calendar

July & August

 **Summer Break — No Membership Meetings**

September 1

Membership Meeting

Guest Speaker:

Seamus McCarthy

Norfolk Environmental Services Manager

October 6

Membership Meeting

Guest Speaker:

Councilman Jeremy McGee

November 3

Membership Meeting

Tentative Speakers:

- Councilman Tommy Smigiel
 - Chief Boone, Norfolk Police Department
-

November 21

Downtown Norfolk Grand Illumination Parade

The Ocean View Alliance is working on its parade float!

Got an idea?

We want to hear it!

December 1

Membership Meeting

Tentative Guest Speaker:

Virginia Delegate Angela Williams Graves

December 6

Ocean View Annual Holiday Tree Lighting

 Ocean View Beach Park

FestEvents will coordinate the event.

Volunteers Needed!

Come help us make this year's celebration one to remember.

December

Holiday Party

Date to be announced.

We're looking at the possibility of joining forces with the **Bayview Civic League** for a fun community celebration.

SHOP LOCAL. SUPPORT LOCAL.

Please Support Our Local Advertisers & Businesses!

Our local businesses are an important part of what makes Ocean View special.

And their support helps us continue to publish this newsletter and represent the interests of **Cottage Line residents and businesses.**

Have a business?

Why not advertise with us?

Your ad gets in front of your neighbors—and your support helps your Civic League keep doing what we do.

ADVERTISING RATES

Ad Size	12 Issues	Single Issue
1/8 Page	\$50	\$5
1/4 Page	\$100	\$10
1/2 Page	\$200	\$20
Full Page	\$400	\$40

Interested in advertising?

Contact **Rick Anderson**

 randerson2204@cox.net

NEED AN INSURANCE HAND?

Have insurance questions?

Contact Carrie for help with your insurance needs.



THAT'S A WRAP!

Summer may be coming to an end, but there's plenty happening in Cottage Line and Ocean View!

From **sand and sidewalks to zoning and holiday lights**, your Civic League is working to keep our neighborhood informed, involved, and moving forward.

We want to hear from you!

Have a question?

Have an idea?

Have a concern?

Come to a meeting and join the conversation.

SEE YOU SEPTEMBER 1!

 **Tuesday, September 1, 2026**

 **6:30 PM**

 Christ United Methodist Church

1601 East Bayview Blvd., Norfolk

 Guest Speaker: Seamus McCarthy

Environmental Services Manager, City of Norfolk

Come find out what's happening in our neighborhood!

Cottage Line Civic League

Neighbors working together. Community making a difference.