

RAC Newsletter

Summer 2019

Reston
Accessibility
Committee



A committee of Reston Citizens Association

RAC is a working group of [Reston Citizens Association](#), partnering throughout the greater Reston community to improve access for persons with mobility disabilities.

RAC Provides Financial Aid to Student in Need

The Reston Accessibility Committee is pleased to announce that it awarded a grant through its Financial Aid Outreach Program on June 1. Working with Fairfax County Public Schools staff, RAC identified a second-grade student with special needs for this year's award.

Because of the nature of his multiple disabilities, this student is unable to access county programs this summer. However, the summer day camp program at [Jill's House](#) can provide the care he requires. RAC is proud to provide the financial support necessary for this child to enjoy two weeks of a summer camp experience.



To be eligible for this aid, a recipient must be a student with a disability enrolled in a Reston school (preschool through Grade 12) with financial need as confirmed by his/her school liaison. The aid may be used to cover expenses of field trip fees during the school year; summer camps, classes, or workshops enrollment fees; or durable medical equipment (DME) for a permanent disability when the DME is not covered by health insurance or Social Security.

RAC's Financial Aid Outreach Program provided help to a high school student in 2017 and now to an elementary student. RAC thanks its members whose contributions make this award possible.

Project Completion Report: 1890 Preston White Drive

Started May 15, 2018

Completed January 31, 2019

This is a three-story office building at the intersection of Sunrise Valley Dr. and South Lakes Dr. It is owner-occupied (Protech Dental Studio) with several office rentals.



1890 Preston White Drive building

The building had three accessible parking spaces (APSs), but four were required per the size of their parking lot according to the parking lot size to APSs ratio required by the Commonwealth of Virginia. Two access aisles were too narrow, and the accessible parking signs were not compliant with Fairfax County code.

The entrance doors required considerable force to open, and RAC recommended installing automatic door openers.





BEFORE: The building had only three APSs (top), one fewer than required. The APS signs (bottom) were not compliant with County standards..

The Protech Dental Studio owner, Mr. Duckee Lee, had the three APSs relocated, and added one. He had compliant accessible parking signs installed, had compliant access aisles completed, and had automatic door openers installed for the main entrance and for the doors to one of the businesses (Virginia Dental Solutions).





AFTER: There are now four APSs with access aisles and crosswalks (top), and each APS sign is compliant with County standards (bottom left). The owner also added automatic door openers to the main entrance (bottom right).

Mr. Lee and the property management company that maintains his property (Tetra Management Services) were engaged throughout the process and expeditiously completed the project.

Pony Barn Working Group Honored by RA

Congratulations to the Pony Barn Working Group, which was honored by Reston Association as its Working Group of the Year. The Working Group, on which Ken Fredgren served as RAC's representative, advised RA's Board and staff on the rehabilitation of Pony Barn Park. The group spent hundreds of hours over the course of multiple years in order to develop their recommendations. Among other things, the group's recommendations ensured that the park was accessible to Restonians and guests with disabilities. The renovations were completed in May.

As mentioned in the last edition of the newsletter, RAC honored the Pony Barn Working Group with its Community Partner Award last November. RAC also presented a Community Partner Award to RA staffers Larry Butler, Paul Priestly,

Chris Schumaker, and Claudia Thompson-Deahl for their role in the Pony Barn project.

Project Updates

RAC remains hard at work on a slate of projects throughout the greater Reston area with the goal of improving accessibility for people with disabilities. Here are the latest updates on a couple of RAC's key projects:

- **Walker Nature Center:** In April, the WNC completed the bulk of their Accessibility and Safety Improvements. The completed improvements included paving of the parking lot and striping of parking spaces, the addition of a new APS, the installation of light poles around the lot, the paving and resloping of the trailhead (to comply with ADA standards), and the installation of bike racks. The remaining piece of this project is the installation of the signs denoting the APS and the motorcycle parking space; this is expected to be completed within the next several weeks.
- **Lake Anne Village Center:** In May, the center's management installed three new APSs in the commercial lot and painted the necessary crosswalk areas. The next step is to patch a broken section of the asphalt surface that presents a safety issue (below); the timetable for that repair has yet to be determined.



Deteriorated asphalt surface at Lake Anne Village Center

JOIN THE CAUSE

You can help us make Reston more accessible for all.
Contact us for volunteer opportunities, to ask a question or to share an idea!