

City of Alexandria, Virginia

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Public Hearing and Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
Charles Houston – 1108 Jefferson St
Alexandria, VA 22314

Agenda

- I.** Call to Order: by Jennifer Akins and Judith Coleman, Co-Chairs.
- II.** Public Hearing and Action on the Mt. Jefferson Park Plan.
- III.** Items for Information:
 - A. Public Comments. The Commission will receive brief comments on non-agenda items. Commenters should arrive promptly at the start of the meeting and prepare to keep comments to three minutes or less.
- IV.** Presentations:
 - A. Long Range Educational Facilities Program.
 - B. Windmill Hill Park Shoreline Rehabilitation Project
- V.** Items for Action:
 - A. Windmill Hill Park Shoreline Rehabilitation Project
 - B. Receipt and Endorsement of the Affiliate Policy for RPCA.
 - C. Approval of Minutes of March 19, 2015.
- VI.** RPCA Staff Updates:
 - A. Director's Report
 - B. Division Updates: Recreation Services; Park Operations; Public Information, Special Events and Waterfront Operations; and Park Planning, Design and Capital Development.
- VII.** Commission Business: Jennifer Atkins and Judith Coleman, Co-Chairs
- VIII.** Reports from Commissioners by District (verbal updates):
- IX.** Next Meeting: Agenda items and location for June 18, 2015.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 21, 2015

TO: CHAIR & MEMBERS OF THE PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: PARK PLANNING, DESIGN+CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: RECEIPT AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE DRAFT CONCEPT PLAN FOR
THE EAST RAYMOND AVENUE TO ROUTE 1 SECTION OF MOUNT
JEFFERSON PARK

ISSUE: Park and Recreation Commission public hearing on and endorsement of a proposed concept plan for the section of Mount Jefferson Park from East Raymond Avenue to Route 1.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Park and Recreation Commission:

1. Hold a public hearing on the draft plan;
2. Recommend any final changes to be included in the plan; and
3. Endorse the Mount Jefferson Park Concept Plan (including recommended changes) to guide the final site plan for improvements to the section of the park from East Raymond Avenue to Route 1.

BACKGROUND: The City of Alexandria's Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is currently planning for the City's existing Neighborhood Parks, including parks similar in size and service area to Mount Jefferson Park. Due to the active planning for the Oakville Triangle/Route 1 Corridor, however, planning for the section of Mount Jefferson Park between East Raymond Avenue and Route 1 is occurring in conjunction with that planning initiative. The proposed redevelopment of the Oakville Triangle site is immediately adjacent and will include connections to this section of Mount Jefferson Park, therefore the development team for the Oakville Triangle site is working with City staff to provide additional resources in the development of the park concept plan. Information about the overall Oakville Triangle/Route 1 Corridor planning process can be found online at:

<http://www.alexandriava.gov/planning/info/default.aspx?id=76672>

This section of Mount Jefferson Park is adopted by the Del Ray Citizens Association, and currently includes:

- An unpaved/unimproved trail along the abandoned rail line with access at East Raymond Avenue and at Route 1 only;
- An unfenced off leash dog exercise area adjacent to East Raymond Avenue;
- Trees and plantings along the edges, as well as a native plant conservation area;
- An open, grassy area adjacent to some of the existing warehouse buildings in Oakville Triangle;
- Areas known for poor drainage, including the dog exercise area; and
- A leased area occupied by Oakville Triangle buildings.

The park is enjoyed for its “naturalistic” character and is not ADA accessible due to the trail surface and steep grade throughout much of the park.

DISCUSSION: As part of the planning process for this section of Mount Jefferson Park, staff worked with current park users and neighbors, the Oakville Triangle/Route 1 Corridor Advisory Group, as well as the broader community interested in the park. At their first public meeting in April 2014, the Advisory Group heard from the community that preserving the character of, while at the same time providing access and connections to Mount Jefferson Park was a priority if/when the Oakville Triangle site redeveloped. Subsequent Advisory Group and park planning meetings reinforced those initial themes.

The planning process and timeline included:

- Advisory Group meetings beginning in April 2014 included discussions about the importance of Mount Jefferson Park and its relationship to the potential new development helped to develop a conceptual framework for park improvements.
- September 22, 2014: Advisory Group presentation and feedback on conceptual framework (based on feedback April-August 2014).
- October 25, 2014: Neighborhood Park Planning Workshop presentation and feedback on conceptual framework.
- November 18, 2014: Community Meeting to present planning process, existing conditions, 2013 Needs Assessment information, feedback received through the Oakville Triangle process, and the conceptual framework shown at the September 22 Oakville Triangle/Route 1 Corridor Advisory Group (AG) meeting. Staff received public comments and ideas regarding what they like about this section of Mount Jefferson Park, what needs improvement, and what they would like to see added (if anything). Received feedback regarding the conceptual framework.
- December 2014 to February 2015: Developed draft park plan based on community and Advisory Group feedback.

- March 12, 2015: Community Meeting on draft plan; received feedback on alternatives for each trail section and overall improvement plan.
- March 16 to April 15, 2015: Online survey on draft plan and trail section alternatives.
- March 26, 2015: Advisory Group meeting on draft plan; the group agreed that the plan reflected and balanced community needs and comments received for the park.
- April 15 to May 15, 2015: Develop final draft plan based on community meeting, Advisory Group feedback, and survey results.

Summary of Community Ideas and Feedback:

Throughout the planning process, the community expressed that a key priority for this section of Mount Jefferson Park was to maintain the character of the park to the extent possible - in light of likely redevelopment of Oakville Triangle. The current proposed development includes a residential serving road adjacent to the park, along with removal of the buildings and fence currently separating the park from the Oakville Triangle site. The challenge of maintaining the character of the park given these proposed new conditions is reflected in the final draft plan (Attachment 1). Another priority identified by current users and neighbors to this section of the park was to improve the drainage problems that exist today throughout much of the park.

Addressing concerns about the off leash dog area was a third consistent priority. Currently the area has very poor drainage and no barrier from Raymond Avenue. Many current users run their dogs off leash throughout the park (outside of the designated area), and hoped the park plan would allow them to continue to do so. Other neighbors wanted to see the current rules enforced, more separation between the dog area and the trail, and less overall off leash activity. The final draft of the plan attempts to balance these two, somewhat conflicting needs for the park.

The trail, and the degree of connectedness to Oakville Triangle, is another interest point raised during the planning process. A number of current park users identified a preference for maintaining only the current access points to this section of the park (East Raymond Avenue and Route 1), while the Advisory Group and some neighbors desired connections to and from the Oakville Triangle site. Again, the final draft of the plan provides the latter desired connections to Oakville Triangle, while using landscape and topography to minimize and emphasize the points of access.

The results of the online survey regarding the draft plan showed that the majority of respondents agreed that the draft plan does “reflect and balance the community needs and comments received to date.” The unedited, completed survey responses are attached (Attachment 2), and can be found online at: <http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=83168>.

Details of the Final Draft Plan:

The final draft plan before the Park and Recreation Commission represents an effort to balance the community needs with the understanding that the adjacent Oakville Triangle property will likely be redeveloped in the future. The overall goals and improvements shown in the plan include:

- Maintaining the character of the park, including keeping the existing topography created by the old rail line;
- Addressing the stormwater/drainage issues;
- Enhancing and expanding the off-leash dog area;
- Providing better separation between the dog exercise area and the trail;
- Enhancing the trail with a pervious surface treatment;
- Providing 3' landscaped berms along the new Park Road (Oakville Triangle site) and the park;
- Improving access and wayfinding at East Raymond Avenue and Route 1;
- Improving a new pedestrian/bicycle access point at Stewart Avenue; and
- Enhancing native buffer plantings along the trail.

Implementation of the Plan:

The Oakville Triangle/Route 1 Corridor Advisory Group, along with the involved community, are working to identify community benefits associated with the proposed redevelopment of the Oakville Triangle. To date, the Advisory Group and community have expressed interest in improvements to this section of Mount Jefferson Park as one of the highest priority community benefits. Implementation of this park plan could then occur in conjunction with the first phased of development of Oakville Triangle, if approved by the City. In the absence of Oakville Triangle redevelopment, the plan would be included with the 17 Neighborhood Park Plans currently underway, and considered through the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) in future years.

See Attachments to Mount Jefferson Park Plan Memorandum

Attachment 1A Draft Rendering for Mount Jefferson Park

Attachment 1B Draft Rendering for Mount Jefferson Park

Attachment 2 Mount Jefferson Survey Results



Mt. Jefferson Survey Results

1. Does the draft plan address your interest and needs for the park?

Count	Response
1	It does-
1	No
1	The draft plan is weighted towards the new residents of Oakville Triangle, not Del Ray.
1	To a large extent.
1	Unclear - will the improved dog exercise area be fenced in? If so, this addresses my needs.
6	Yes
1	don't know
2	yes
1	Concerns: Don't want the contained dog walk area to be cheaply made with chain link fence. If it's going to be contained it needs to fit within the look and feel of the park
1	Yes, I see that there are enhancements to the dog exercise area. It is unclear if there will be a fenced in dog park but that would be a great addition
1	The park needs to become accessible to ALL. That means the trail surface must allow easy access by wheelchairs, strollers, and bicycles and it must connect to ALL adjacent neighborhoods. Do not allow current users to "keep out" new residents by opposing new connections.
1	Yes it addresses the need for a better park, but their needs to be a integration with the existing play area.
1	a. Option D enhancement proposed for off-leash area is imo best, but should consider increasing overall area allotted given new residences will increase demand for dog uses. Not clear how 'open' access into off-leash area is. Creating a narrowing/throat reinforces off-leash area from remaining park as on-leash. b. Pedestrian access @ Stewart/Swann - good but imo, existing n/s path need not follow current alignment. That path exists only due to impediments which were removed. c. Proposed berms intended to "provide sense of enclosure" - good. Creating permeability into/out of park - good. d. Buffering (#5, #6) to east edge should move to west edge of path. Buffering of existing warehouses is utterly unnecessary. e. Bollards @ Rt. 1 instead of industrial gate - good/more welcoming.
1	Yes. I'd prefer a design that is more supportive of through bicycling but recognize that as, not being an immediate neighbor, that my needs are likely different than others.
1	Yes, we love the addition of a fenced dog park. Also, we like the widening of the park and adding a street along the path.
1	I would like to see an additional trail added on the east side of the park from Fannon to the south entrance to the park.
1	No, I am strongly opposed to the road running alongside the park for automobiles. The beauty of this particular green space is its feeling of being disconnected from cars. I would like to see the City and Triangle developer be a bit more creative in working with the natural environment and history of this space instead of compromising its unique qualities.

Count	Response
1	My main use of the park is the dog exercise area. I like that the dog exercise area is so long, really providing a space for the dogs to run and play fetch. The new park would not continue to meet this need. As someone who walks through this park on a daily basis, I can attest that most of the residents who utilize this park do so with their dog.
1	Yes, highest priority for my family would be fixing drainage of existing dog park and nearby areas (currently next to useless since almost always flooded).
1	No. providing access from the sides of the park (especially from the oakville side where the population density is approximately 10 fold higher than the del ray side) will SIGNIFICANTLY diminish the value of the trail as a walking path. The north half of the trail will function primarily as a backyard to the town homes and apartments that will butt up next to it. Users will no longer feel compelled to walk the length of the trail which will create areas of high, stagnant, density. Furthermore, making the pathways north of swann suitable for bike traffic will further detract from the experience and will just add a component of stress to the pedestrians who will no need to look over their shoulder. It will become like Mt Jefferson Park north of Raymond (except with many more users) which clearly has much less appeal as a natural urban trail.
1	In general it looks okay but I believe the link between Stewart and Swann MUST be impervious. This will be the main route for many people to get between Rt. 1 and Mount Vernon Ave. Only an impervious surface will satisfy cyclists and strollers.
1	The plan should ensure that the park is open to all, including those in wheelchairs, with walkers or with strollers. Bonus points if it is accessible to those on bikes or rollerblades!
1	For the most part I think that it does. I think it is important to have the park feel safer and less isolated, while still maintaining its "natural" feel. I also think the park should not become Oakville's park, by being open on the Oakville side, but closed off by homes on the Del Ray side. I am not sure why the new trail will only be hard pack (suitable for bikes) up to the Stewart/Swann connection rather than all the way through the park?
1	Not entirely. I live on the paved trail near Commonwealth and travel it often with my dog. It would be nice if the dog park was completely enclosed. I have a rescue dog like many people in the neighborhood, and he cannot be off leash. There is only one on leash dog park in the area, but given the number of dogs in the area (particularly rescue dogs like mine) and the growing community on this side of Del Ray with the redevelopment efforts, I think a second enclosed dog park would be justified and provide a safe space for roaming dogs to play.
1	Yes/No - Don't care for cut through @Stewart. Bridge would be *much* better; having one entrance/exit is one of its most valuable assets; Drainage enhancements very much needed

2. Does the draft plan reflect and balance the community needs and comments received to date?(click here to see previous community comments)

Count	Response
1	I appreciate the need for a dog park, but I would hate for the whole thing to become one.
1	I have not read previous comments
1	I would call this reasonable.
1	More or less
1	Mostly, they seem sort of mixed.
1	No, because "natural" trail surfaces are still called for in the east end.
1	No, trail surface options should be limited to those that allow access for all.
1	Somewhat
6	Yes

Count	Response
1	Yes and I believe that an enclosed dog park would be a great addition.
1	mostly.
1	unknown
3	yes
1	No - Raymond Ave. needs better traffic calming between Dewitt and Montrose. Cars and trucks use this as a main cut-thru between Mount Vernon and Route 1. With the playground area it is not safe for children and pedestrians. Better containment around the play area.
1	Not enough enclosure to the park. The current residents only have two points of access to the park (soon to have three). The new users should have the same points of access. Suggest a fence along Park Road with two openings (since one of the openings is at Custis Ave).
1	What sort of transition materials/buffers are going to be installed between the Oakville property and the Mount Jefferson Greenway ROW
1	No - I really don't believe anyone (or at least a significant amount) of the community wants a cut through @Stewart
1	Some residents say no, some dog owners say no. Sounds like the beginning of a compromise to me ;-)
1	The dog park needs to be fenced-in. My dog loves to walk along the trail, but she is not good with other dogs. Right now, the unfenced off-leash area makes me very nervous that a dog will come up to her and she will get defensive and it gets ugly fast.
1	No, the community wants this area to retain its feeling of seclusion. The area should be opened up to pedestrians and cyclists (and dogs!) as a beautiful path and peaceful alternative to Route 1, as this design does. However, the proposed Park Road running parallel ruins any improvements to the space. If the Triangle developer doesn't want to alter their design, turn Park Road into a pedestrian only plaza with cafes and benches, farmer's market, chess tables, water features, street art, mimic a train station. Do not allow vehicle traffic here, it is unnecessary and the small benefit it may provide (to whom?) does not warrant destroying the unique character of this space. The immediate community will not be driving to this park therefore this road in my eyes serves no purpose other than to provide parking spaces for the Triangle development. This is not desirable. Provide pedestrian/cyclist access points from Triangle to Del Ray (via the park) but design a stronger green border along the east boundary of the park to maintain the illusion of being in a forest path.
1	No. During the 11/18 park planning meeting there was overwhelming support in the room for keeping the trail a pedestrian trail and limiting access only to the Custis and Raymond entrances. Also suggested, as a means of addressing the desire to connect del ray with the commercial/community assets of Oakville and vice versa, a pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the trail at Stewart/Swann was suggested. These ideas drew a large round of applause. So much so that folks on the city planning team even suggested that the current planned access from the del ray side scheduled to be put in next month should probably also be reconsidered. In the attached notes, there are 7 comments explicitly calling for end-only access and 3 comments supporting the idea of a foot/bike bridge. There were zero comments suggesting that a berm would be sufficient and yet that's the current plan. It's clear that at least one member of the citizens' committee really likes the berm-plus-cut-through concept, but where are the all the voices calling for this? Why have these ideas been removed from consideration? I have heard mumblings about cost, but no estimates on the incremental cost of bridge/wall construction have been obtained.
1	Again, for the most part, yes. I think the dog exercise situation needs to be resolved, but I don't think scheduling specific hours for the whole park to be available is a good solution. The hours proposed are peak use hours for any user, not just dog owners. Additionally, I liked the idea of having the townhomes back onto the park, rather than the road - this idea does not seem to have been considered, but it would really buffer the park from traffic and noise.

Preference for Option A at Raymond to Swann/Stewart Trail

Option 1	100.0%		4
Total			4

3. Explain-Option A

Count	Response
1	Doesn't address storm run-off from higher elevation.
1	I can't really tell the difference

3. Preference for Option B at Raymond to Swann/Stewart Trail

Option 1	100.0%		4
Total			4

3. Explain-Option B

Count	Response
1	Area needs to be enclosed with fence but needs to extend further into the park.
1	Doesn't address storm run-off from higher elevation.
1	Like fence.
1	slight preference. I think you need to have a fence. Other options seem like overkill.

3. Preference for Option C at Raymond to Swann/Stewart Trail

Option 1	100.0%		17
Total			17

3. Explain-Option C

Count	Response
1	Doesn't address storm run-off from higher elevation.
1	I like the seated wall idea and prefer a fence on all sides of the dog park.
1	I like the seating on the retaining wall.
1	Solely based on the largest square footage for dog park.
1	Yay for sitting!
1	large area for dog use area
1	I like the sitting wall within the dog park and the fence/landscaping running along the path. The fence should be high enough that dogs can't jump it from the sitting wall.
1	I like the low wall, it'll be more attractive. the bioswale idea makes me nervous- we already have terrible mosquito issues, and I'm afraid it would not improve the situation at all.

3. Preference for Option D at Raymond to Swann/Stewart Trail

Option 1	100.0%		10
Total			10

3. Explain-Option D

Count	Response
1	Can't let all that dog poop go straight into our streams. Bioswale for filtration!
1	I actually can't figure out the differences
1	I find this is a good compromise of space between the park and trail and water management.
1	I would love to bring my dog here.
1	Seems to provide better separation between dog park & trail
1	I think?! I'm not entirely sure what a bioswale is, but you need to be keenly aware of the fact that there are pit bulls who go to this dog park and you have moved the dog area to within STEPS of a children's park directly across the street.
1	Positive: Addresses storm run-off from higher elevation. Provides some seating for dog owners. Negative: Does not increase overall area as much as Option B or C. This can be overcome by lengthening the off-leash area as was proposed in October 2013.

4. Preference for Option A at Swann/Stewart Crossing

Option 1	100.0%		4
Total			4

4. Explain-Option A

Count	Response
1	I suspect less foliage here will improve safety
1	Would actually prefer no access from Stewart
1	more grass, less bushes
1	ornamental trees do little for me

4. Preference for Option B at Swann/Stewart Crossing

Option 1	100.0%		25
Total			25

4. Explain-Option B

Count	Response
1	Berm to abate noise from street.
1	Bravo shade trees!
1	I can't really figure out the diff
1	I like the additional landscaping
1	I like the berm as a noise barrier
1	Landscape berms will be more attractive
1	Like more plants between path and street.
1	Maximizes separation between park and road, which is important.
1	Preference for more foliage
1	Why wouldn't one prefer landscape enhancements, if they are indeed enhancements?
1	i can't really tell the difference
1	more vegetation is better
1	provides screening from park road
1	Need to enclose the park more. Suggest fence along to restrict open access. People will walk across landscaping especially when it is not established.
1	Landscape berms along Park Drive attempt to replicate current sense of enclosure. Enhanced landscaping elsewhere encourages passive use and may help deter undesirable activities. Again, be not married to existing path location which exists by virtue of barriers with gates (All were removed several years ago) and drainage issues that should (as promised) be resolved.
1	Honestly neither, I do not think Park Road should be there. If it must be, allow it to be pedestrian only extension of the Plaza and Retail space. Block with landscape berm and more trees to retain forest feel in the park.

5. Preference for Option A at reclaimed park area

Option 1	100.0%		8
Total			8

5. Explain-Option A

Count	Response
1	The trail in option B seems too elaborate. Maybe a simpler connection between Fannon St and the trail? Otherwise you'll likely get a "desire path."
1	The solitary path retains more of the original forest character. I don't think Park Road should be there. Add more trees along the border of the park to buffer the path from the new Triangle development and cars.
1	Do not believe 2nd trail is necessary, seems like it could be added at a later date as an improvement if desired.
1	The additional pathway fragments the narrow park. Considering how far the residents of Del Ray have to walk to enter the park, it is not that big of a deal to ask Oakville residents to do the same.

5. Preference for Option B at reclaimed park area

Option 1	100.0%		24
Total			24

5. Explain-Option B

Count	Response
1	I like the idea of the spur trail.
1	I like the two trails.
1	I like the two walkway option
1	I'm not big on ornamental trees but I like the second trail to connect to Fannon.
1	Like more plants between path and street.
1	Need the spur trail connectivity so that more people can enjoy the park!
1	Preference for more foliage.
1	There should be a trail connection to the street here.
1	Trail should run south back to main entrance at route 1
1	appreciate multiple paths and more landscaping
1	i like the spur trail idea
1	more options for encounter avoidance
1	I like the spur- it'll give dog walkers more options since one since the more direct option will end up being utilized more for bikers/runners (and the hard surface trail improvements will result in improved bike conditions)
1	A second path is good if there are people walking dogs that they do not want to introduce to each other. They can stay separate and keep on with their walk.
1	Berms! Berms! Berms! Examine paths of least resistance ('cause, let's face it, people are lazy! And if you don't believe that then go look at all the folks who park as close to the door at the YMCA to go exercise.)

6. Please provide any additional comments or suggestions related to the overall plan and trail sections.

Count	Response
1	Build it.
1	If wheeled vehicles aren't using Stewart/Swann, you did it wrong.
1	Strongly prefer no access to/from Stewart Ave
1	This seems like a park for Oakville and not a park for Del Ray.
1	I'll just note that this will completely change the character of the area and eliminate its use as a trail and turn it into a static park/front yard for the new apartment buildings that will go up. The trail should have RESTRICTED access on both sides instead of turning it into a green strip part with limited access from Del Ray
1	I recognize this is a tough balancing act, but IMHO it is important to keep the park as natural and continuous as possible, while improving entry/exit points and landscaping. Also, to reiterate, this should not become Oakville's park by default since it is more open on that side of the park.
1	The swann/stewart trail seems to connect ot a pedestrian plaza of some kind. I suggest that the optimum connection for biking not be the one that goes through a pedestrian plaza. Maybe I'm mis-reading it.

Count	Response
1	Overall good and doesn't appear to be a huge difference between the options (all of them would be an improvement).
1	Are their going to be repairs to the existing storm drainage system within Mount Jefferson Greenway
1	The trails should be wide enough for two wheelchairs to comfortable pass each other. ALL trails should be asphalt, concrete or another surface that is smooth enough for wheelchairs and strollers.
1	Unlike (too many of I'm dismayed to hear) Del Ray residents, I believe the park should be as welcoming to Oakville residents as it is respectful of Randolph/Raymond Ave residents. This is a city park, a public amenity, not a private enclave for dog owners (regardless of them disobeying/obeying leash laws). I think staff has done an admirable job of initially trying to address the many highly conflicting requests while remaining true to the department's purpose.
1	Connections between Oakville Triangle and existing Del Ray neighborhoods and providing access to US 1 and the new BRT station is extremely important.
1	Nothing in this plan shows integration between the dog park area and the playground - the greenway doesn't stop at Raymond. Would like to see some idea of what that transition is going to consist of. The play area was recently upgraded, but the pathways from Raymond onto the greenway is less than desirable.
1	Thanks--all these improvements will go a long way to addressing a very deteriorating public area. For those that want to keep the area untouched--you clearly don't use it. It's a mosquito infested, garbage strewn mess in parts. More usable trails, natural landscaping, better storm water management and greater safety and visibility are vital. Certainly, let's also keep the dog area as well! Raymond Ave resident with kids and dog.
1	End only access should be seriously reconsidered. I will volunteer my time to provide cost estimates for decorative walls and bridges. I suspect that if it came down to it, significant funding could be raised to offset some or all of these costs in order to provide the community with a really unique and valuable asset. Required reading for the committee: W.G. Clark "Replacement" (2-page essay describing good settlement)
1	1. This is primarily an area in the middle of the city where kids can run for a 1/2 mile. I like that its mostly fenced, and the kids can't get away. Opening the trail up to a nearby road eliminates one of the parks biggest benefits. 2. Its semi-untouched. or as closes as you can get in the city. 3. Storm water management is biggest improvement required.
1	Honestly, the little dog "exercise" area is pretty useless. No one really uses it. It's too close to the Raymond. It's not safe. It's us dog walkers who mostly use the entire length of the park. It is so serene and quiet. I know some neighbors on Randolph don't want dogs to get access to the entire park, but if you focus on use, we're the ones who use it. Only one owner who has a hole in his fence has ever complained.
1	I would like to see the Jefferson Park path provide an easy connection for pedestrians and cyclists to access Mount Vernon trail. This would be useful for Del Ray bike commuters and very desirable for families as a healthy and safe way to explore the city without driving. Ideally, I would love to see a pedestrian/bike bridge over Route 1 to avoid having to cross such a dangerous commuter road. Extend the forest path above the road (award-winning design with trees and landscaping!) but also allow access to Route 1 for people walking their dogs to Del Ray vet clinic. Thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts!
1	This is likely to be an improvement to the area I care most about as I'm the second house to the left of the park on Raymond, but the proximity of a dog area to the street and to the park across the street give me concern. I also worry about the constant noise of dog barking near my house and would want to consider some sort of mitigation strategy there. Open/close times? I think the plan calls for it but we'll need new trees planted to help with sound etc at the entrance at Raymond Ave.
1	Trail should be MINIMUM 10' wide, and be easily accessible to strollers, wheelchairs and bikes even after heavy rains. If that's possible with a permeable/semipermeable surface then great. If not, suck it up and do asphalt.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 21, 2015

TO: CO-CHAIRS JENNIFER ATKINS AND JUDITH COLEMAN AND
MEMBERS OF THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: KARL MORITZ, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND
ZONING

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE DRAFT LONG RANGE EDUCATIONAL
FACILITIES PLAN

ISSUE: The Park and Recreation Commission is asked to provide input on the Draft Long Range Educational Facilities Plan.

BACKGROUND: The City of Alexandria and the Alexandria City Public School System (ACPS) have jointly developed a Draft Long Range Educational Facilities Plan to improve facilities planning, accommodate the growing student population, and enhance educational programs and services.

A Work Group consisting of members from the School Board, the Mayor and a Member of City Council, the Campagna Center, the PTA Council, citizens at-large, City staff and ACPS staff explored the major issues that will impact public school facilities over the long term and guided the planning process. Three subcommittees of the Work Group focused on Enrollment Forecasts and Demographics, Facility Capacity Needs Analysis, and Educational Specifications (the School of the Future). The Work Group and the subcommittees were supported by ACPS and City staff.

Development of the draft plan involved significant civic engagement. All work group and subcommittee meetings were public and three community meetings related to the educational specifications were held. Staff met with various PTAs, civic associations and other stakeholders, and also held online civic engagement.

DISCUSSION:

The Plan's Executive Summary highlights, and Chapter 2 details, the rapid increases in enrollment the City has experienced since 2006, a 35% growth in K-12 enrollment from a low of 10,246 in 2006 to the 2014 fall enrollment of 13,847. Growth will continue, with long term enrollment forecast scenarios showing enrollment peaking in approximately 2030 (Figure 1.1).

Chapter 1 of the Plan includes planning and implementation policies.

Chapter 3 of the Plan includes the School Board's recently adopted Elementary and Middle School Educational Specifications (Ed Specs). These were developed under the guidance of the LREFP Work Group. Chapter 3 also contains guidelines for open space and describes, and recommends using, an urban school model. (See attachments)

Chapter 4 of the Plan contains Mini-Master Plans for each of the ACPS schools. These plans measured existing ACPS facilities against the recently adopted Ed Specs. Following the evaluations, the Mini-Master Plans contain recommendations, divided into required planning, first and second priorities, and long range recommendations. These are intended to be a menu of options for the School Board's consideration during the development of the Capital Improvements Program (CIP). The conceptual designs shown with the plans are only one visual representation of how to potentially accommodate the future growth. The drawings are intended to be illustrative only.

A new chapter 5 on Fiscal Challenges is being jointly written by City of Alexandria staff and ACPS staff. It will include financing/procurement options, including consideration of public/private partnership opportunities.

Chapter 6 of the Plan is a concluding chapter that summarizes information presented throughout the document.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The key recommendations in the Draft Plan are contained in the Executive Summary:

1. Set maximum school size
 - a. Elementary schools - 850 students for new schools with School Board flexibility for expanding an existing facility beyond 850 students
 - b. Middle Schools - 1200 students for new schools with School Board flexibility for expanding an existing facility beyond 1200 students
2. Locate a new elementary school on the west side of the City as four of the elementary schools on the west side are expected to exceed 850 by 2020. A second new elementary school should be considered if growth continues to increase and in the absence of pursuing other options to address capacity.
3. Locate a new middle school in the City as Francis C. Hammond is expected to exceed 1,500 students in 2020 and George Washington will be over 1,400 students in 2020.
4. Consider options for new school sites:
 - a. On the east side of city:
 - Retain two existing elementary sites for future determination – one near Simpson Stadium Park and one in North Potomac Yard. This plan does not call for a school on either site in the near-term. This Plan supports the continued use of the Simpson Stadium Park site as open space utilized for active recreation purposes.

- b. On the west side of city:
 - Reserve a site in the Eisenhower West Small Area Plan
 - Consider the Lower Hammond site
 - c. Consider retrofitting an existing commercial building and continue to consider a K-8 model as a facility solution when the programmatic instruction is appropriate
 - d. New schools should consider an urban school model
5. Renovate and/or replace Douglas MacArthur Elementary School to alleviate failing infrastructure and capacity issues, allowing the new building to house up to 850 students as the zoning, site and educational program allows. Additional information can be found in Chapter 4.
 6. Renovate interior East side schools to meet the Educational Specifications (Ed Specs) and allow Cora Kelly and Jefferson-Houston Schools to absorb overages from Matthew Maury and Mount Vernon schools. Short and mid-term recommendations are shown, by site, in Chapter 5.
 7. Continue to renovate all schools to meet the Ed Specs through the Capital Improvement Plan. Short and mid-term recommendations are shown, by site, in Chapter 5.
 8. Recalculation of enrollment projections and capacity utilization annually. Schools that are projected to be at or above 120% utilization within three years should be considered for portable classrooms, a capacity project and/or a boundary study or other policy considerations.
 9. Consider schools in future small area planning efforts as outlined in Chapter 2.
 10. Consider schools in the development review process as outlined in Chapter 2.
 11. Implement a joint City/Schools Transportation Demand Management Program to encourage use of alternative modes of transportation as outlined in Chapter 2.

ATTACHMENTS:

Pages 12-13, Chapter 3, Draft LREFP

STAFF:

Susan Eddy, Deputy Director, Planning and Zoning
 Pat Mann, Planner III, Planning and Zoning
 Katherine Carraway, Planner I, Planning and Zoning
 Dana Wedeles, Park Planner, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities
 Christopher Bever, Assistant Director, Office of Management and Budget
 Mark Eisenhour, Alexandria City Public Schools

lighting orientation. Access to an outside patio or seating area should offer additional work space, display spaces, and performance spaces. The itinerant art instructor assigned to the school will function out of the Early Childhood Dining/ELA space where a separate art storage location is provided. This location provides the opportunity for push-in art assembly or the ability to program the adjacent ELA as a full-size classroom when needed.

Additionally, larger elementary schools also often have one music teacher each for choral, band and orchestra – not all full time. Large practice and performance spaces are not provided for part-time programs and so the stage may be used part of the day for practice for orchestra or one of the other classes. If possible the music suite should be located near the stage and instrument storage shared between the band and orchestra. Chair and music stand storage can be provided on or under the stage.

For middle school, art rooms should support 2D and 3D instruction. The optimal location for the art room is on the ground floor with a northern day lighting orientation. Access to an outside patio or seating area will offer additional work space, display spaces, and performance spaces. Display areas in the corridor should allow for 2D and 3D projects.

A multi-purpose performance venue (auditorium), at the middle school level, will also act as a drama classroom (stage), a practice room, a large group gathering space, and a community meeting space.

The room should have a flat floor with flexible seating options and may have telescoping seating for some portion of the room. Appropriate acoustics, sound and lighting systems are critical to the room's flexibility and functionality. If possible, the music suite should be located near the auditorium. Locate dedicated small group practice rooms within the music suite along with storage areas.

Media Center. The media center serves a dual role – its traditional role as a gathering place for research and learning and a new role as a technological information base and learning hub. In this new role, the media center may house a wireless voice/video/data network, which runs throughout the entire building. This network enables the transmission of media services to the desktops of teachers and students without physically entering the media center. The new library will utilize digital technology to enhance voice, video, and data communications within the school, among division facilities, and with distant learning resources.

OPEN SPACE GOALS & GUIDELINES

1. The City recommends establishing policies on zoning with regard to open space on school sites, including a goal of no net loss of usable open space. The 2002 Open Space Master Plan Goal #7 calls to “maximize use of public school open space areas.” This is an important goal as the City is increasingly dense and school sites provide some of the largest open spaces on public land in Alexandria. The open space at school sites contributes to the performance measure the City has to maintain of 7.3 acres of open space per 1,000 residents. A loss of open space on existing school sites would reverse the efforts to maintain this ratio. In order to preserve this open space, the City recommends:

Existing schools sites renovations

- School sites shall avoid any net loss of open space on the property and seek to improve the quality of the open space on existing sites.
- If open space is zoned Public Open Space (POS) it cannot be built on. However, if the building renovation or addition is best situated on existing POS then there must be a rezoning that results in the equivalent amount of new POS elsewhere on the site for recreation or natural area purposes—ensuring that the City does not lose open space acreage (as occurred with the Jefferson Houston School redevelopment project).

New schools sites

- Given the densification and urbanization of the City, there will be a need to design and build for “urban model” facilities to accommodate enrollment projections. As with many urban schools in other jurisdictions, there may not be opportunity to incorporate the outdoor recreational and nature area spaces suggested in the educational specifications.
- However, it is developmentally important for students to recreate, have access to explore nature, and learn in an outdoor classroom, as advocated in many recent initiatives including the First Lady's Let's Move campaign, the City of Alexandria Eco-City Charter (2008), and the Partnership for Healthier Alexandria's Playspace Policy (2013).
- In order to provide recreational and outdoor spaces for new urban schools, the City recommends the following three strategies:
 - Build multi-story schools to maximize the availability of outdoor space on the site
 - Explore creative options for urban recreational space, such as rooftop courts or partnerships with private gyms
 - If no open space is available on site, ensure that the school is located within 0.25 miles (a child's walking distance) of an existing park that has safe access and connections. The Park shall be able to accommodate outdoor educational classes and be enhanced, as necessary, to manage increased use.

2. Meet the Guidelines for School Facilities in Virginia's Public Schools (2010) standards for school sites, including the acreage of outdoor play area space per pupil. Recent studies have shown that ensuring access to play, whether

active recreation or exploration in nature, have positive impacts on both physical and mental health. The Summary of Facility Space Requirements on page 39 in the Educational Specifications provides guidance of recreational play space, per the Guidelines for School Facilities in Virginia's Public Schools. Including these standards in any school site project ensures that students receive the benefit of recreational opportunities. The State guidelines do not include specific size per pupil standards for natural areas, however, the City encourages opportunities to connect children to nature. Moreover, the 2013 Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment showed that 67% of Alexandria residents have a need for natural areas and 81% have a need for walking trails, furthering the desire to incorporate accessible nature into school sites that are open to the public after school hours and for after school activities.

3. Maximize community use and recreation program space and delineate clear access to public use spaces for students and community, as identified in the education specifications and the 2014 Facility & Outdoor Maintenance & Use Agreement. The 2014 Facility and Outdoor Maintenance and Use Agreement ("agreement") provides a structure for the broad and cost effective use and maintenance of all ACPS and city owned and operated facilities in support of the community use of these facilities. The intent is to share spaces and provide maximum effective public benefit of all community facilities. School divisions and governmental agencies across the country are beginning to realize that they need cooperation, especially considering the ever-shrinking budgets and meeting the diverse needs of the community. Planning for future schools should include joint use considerations at the beginning of, and throughout the process.

4. Maximize canopy coverage and fulfill the goals of the Urban Forestry Master Plan. The 2009 Urban Forestry Master Plan included specific recommendations for increasing tree canopy on

school sites. Alexandria City Public School properties are perhaps the city's greatest untapped public resource for planting trees and adding to the city's tree canopy cover. Public school properties are important community green spaces and should be managed for the benefit of the neighborhoods in which they are located. In order to implement the Urban Forestry Master Plan, the City recommends that ACPS and the City inventory and then develop comprehensive management plans for all trees on public schools.

5. Where a full size field can physically fit, meet the requirements of the National Federation of State High Schools Standards for athletic fields. ACPS school sites provide some of the largest recreational areas in the city and the best locations for full size fields that meet the requirements of the National Federation of State High Schools Standards. Through the RPCA and ACPS shared use agreement, ACPS gives RPCA the priority to use their facilities, including sports fields, one hour after school lets out each day. Each school community is unique and designers should consider what spaces best support the community's needs; however, ACPS and the City should plan and design school sites to support community use during these non-school hours. A full size field at a school not only benefits the school time use of the field for the students, but also the citywide community of children and adults that play sports throughout the year.



Physical Education. To support the elementary and middle school physical education program, a variety of indoor and outdoor areas are required. Outdoor physical education teaching areas should be located near the indoor gymnasium. Physical education facilities should be designed with a focus on community use during non-school hours, since there is a high demand for both indoor and outdoor facilities.

ACPS offers formal physical education to elementary students twice a week. For larger schools this may mean 2-4 teachers are teaching in the gymnasium at the same time. At a safe 100 square feet per student, larger schools need a full size gymnasium to accommodate the program. Because the elementary schools do not have intramural sports, no seating is required. To further support the physical education program and provide for after school programs, larger schools should have a smaller multi-purpose space.

ACPS offers formal physical education to middle school students daily on a rotating quarterly schedule. Intramural sports are offered each season and utilize both

indoor and outdoor space. Fixed seating requirements should seat the entire school enrollment in bleachers. To further support the physical education program and provide for after school programs, larger schools should have a smaller multi-purpose space and a full locker room with individual showers.

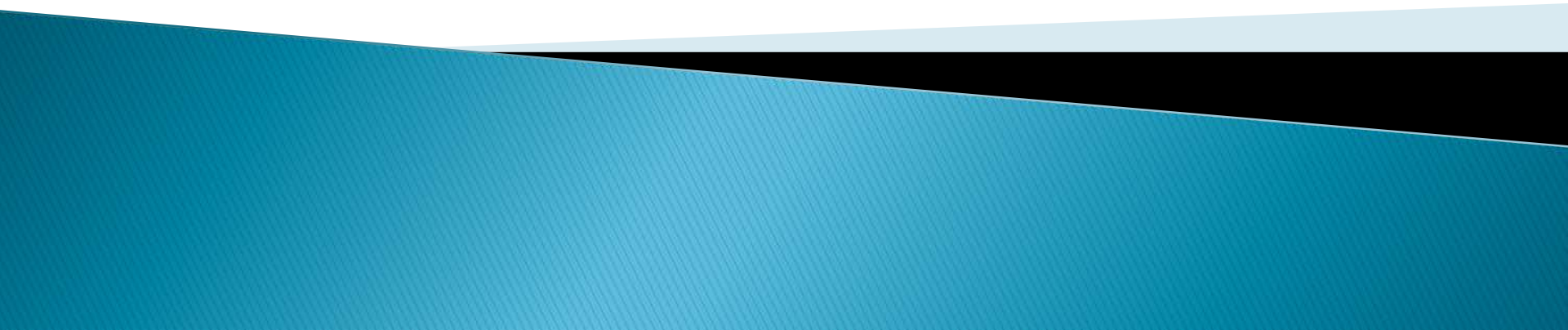
Parking should be located near the gymnasium and a separate entrance should be provided for after school activities. Flexibility of space use is desired and designers should provide the ability to separate the gymnasium into two smaller gym stations during teaching periods.

Dining and Food Service. The dining space(s) should accommodate one-third of the projected student capacity each lunch period. The dining area(s) should be warm and inviting spaces with plenty of natural light, pleasant acoustics, and multiple seating choices. The furniture should be age appropriate and serving lines height sensitive which may require having two distinct areas for primary and intermediate students. It is proposed through creative design that dining area(s) should effectively

Joint Long-Range Educational Facilities Plan Update

Park and Recreation Commission

May 21, 2015



Information for Discussion

- ▶ Process to date
- ▶ Summary of Draft Plan
- ▶ Process for completion

Action Requested

- ▶ Review Draft Plan
- ▶ Provide feedback on Draft Plan

Background



Background

- ▶ Work Group Oversight
 - Representation included Park and Recreation Commission, elected officials, Campagna Center, PTA Council, AEDP and citizens at-large
- ▶ Work Group formed 3 Subcommittees
 - Enrollment Forecasts/Demographics Subcommittee
 - Facility Capacity Needs Analysis Subcommittee
 - Educational Specifications/School of the Future Subcommittee

Civic Engagement

▶ Public Meetings

- Work Group Meetings
- Subcommittee Meetings
- Three community meetings related to the educational specifications

▶ Roadshows

- PTAs
- Civic Associations
- Economic Development Council
- General community meeting

▶ Online Engagement

- Educational Specifications
- Draft Plan

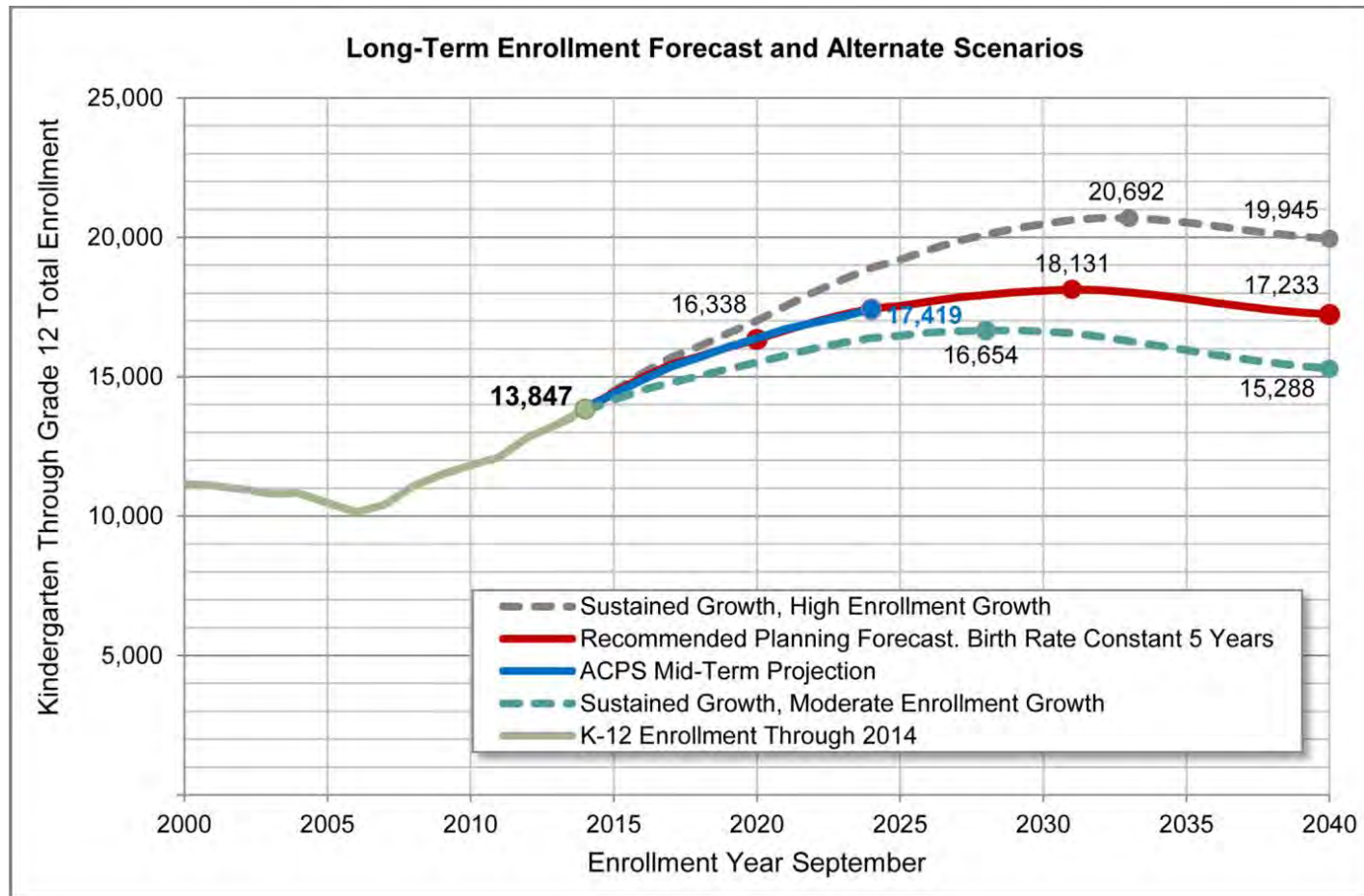
Assumptions and Limitations

- ▶ Projections were based on existing enrollment boundaries.
- ▶ The plan did not assess the physical building conditions.
- ▶ The recommendations included in the mini-master plans were initially fiscally unconstrained.
- ▶ Projects and cost estimates will be reevaluated and refined through the development of the capital improvement budget which occurs annually.
- ▶ Mini Master Plan Methodology aligned with 5 ACPS CIP priorities (safety and security, capacity, support educational program, enhanced learning environment, community/site)

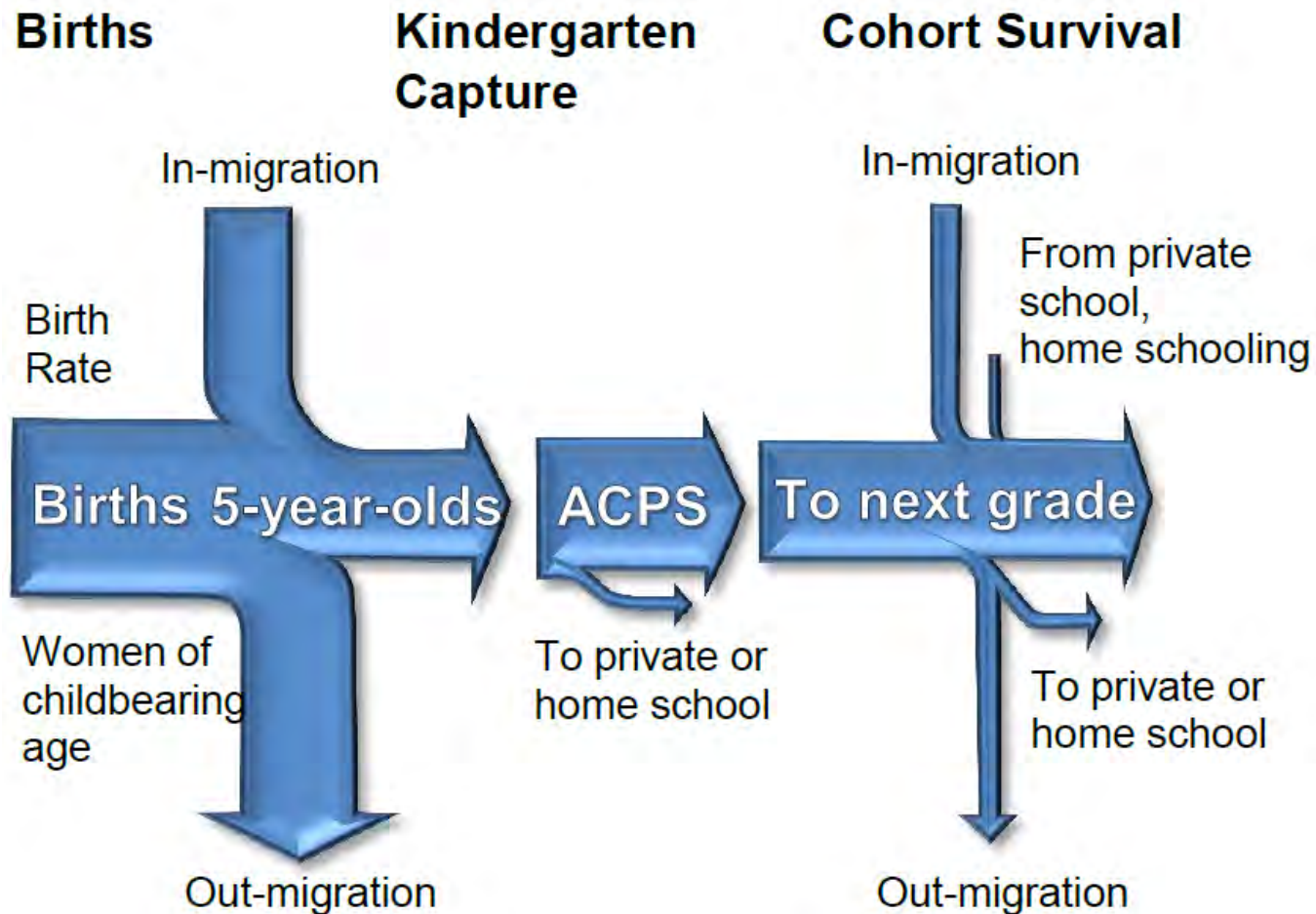
Plan Components

1. Planning and Implementation Policies
2. Enrollment Trends and Forecasting
3. Guidance for 21st Century Educational Facilities
4. Mini–Master Plans
5. Fiscal Challenges
6. Conclusion

2. Enrollment Trends and Forecasting



Enrollment Dynamics

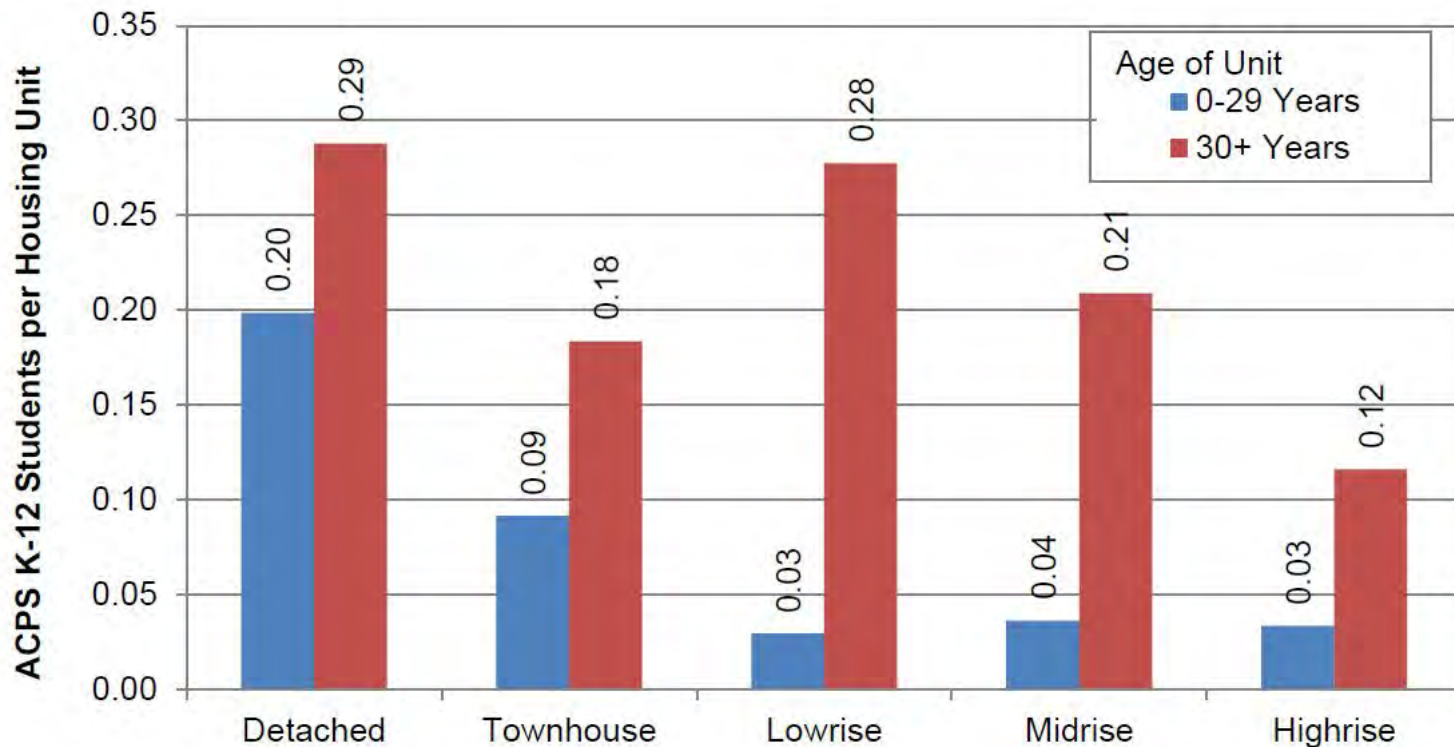


Long-Term Trends

- ▶ **More seniors** means smaller share of population in family-forming age groups
- ▶ **Birth rates falling**, particularly among high-rate groups
- ▶ **City's small housing units** continue to constrain household size
- ▶ **Existing units** continue to be the source of most enrollment growth

Student Generation

- ▶ New market-rate multifamily units are low student generators for at least 30 to 40 years after initial occupancy.



2013 Enrollment Data

3. Guidelines for 21st Century Educational Facilities

- ▶ Set maximum school size at 850 for elementary schools and 1200 for middle schools with School Board flexibility.
- ▶ New schools should consider an urban school model
 - Multi-story building, smaller site than is the norm, and co-location or other uses such as library, recreation facilities, etc.
 - Nearby spaces or facilities, **including parks**, would need to be within ¼ mile walking distance and the walk would need to be on a safe, continuous sidewalk or trail.
 - **Renovation projects on school sites should avoid any net loss of open space on the property.**

4. Mini-Master Plans

- ▶ Locate a new elementary school on the west side of the City as four of the elementary schools on the west side are expected to exceed 850 by 2020. A second new elementary school should be considered if growth continues to increase and in absence of pursuing other options to address capacity.
- ▶ Locate a new middle school as Francis C. Hammond is expected to exceed 1,800 students in 2025 and George Washington will exceed 1,350 students in 2025.

4. Mini-Master Plans

- ▶ Consider options for new school sites:
 - On the east side of city
 - Retain two existing elementary sites for long-term future determination
 - one near Simpson Stadium Park and one in North Potomac Yard.
 - On the west side of city
 - Reserve a site in the Eisenhower West Small Area Plan
 - Consider the Lower Hammond site
- ▶ Consider retrofitting an existing commercial building and continue to consider a K–8 model as a facility solution when the programmatic instruction is appropriate
- ▶ John Adams and James K. Polk reconfiguration may impact open space and will need careful evaluation.

4. Mini-Master Plans

- ▶ Renovate and/or replace Douglas MacArthur Elementary School to alleviate failing infrastructure and capacity issues, allowing the new building to house up to 850 students as the zoning, site and educational program allows.
- ▶ Renovate interior East side schools to meet the Educational Specifications (Ed Specs) and allow Cora Kelly and Jefferson-Houston Schools to absorb overages from Matthew Maury and Mount Vernon schools.
- ▶ Continue to renovate all schools to meet the Ed Specs through the Capital Improvement Plan.

5. Fiscal Challenges

- ▶ **Work Group input is still pending**
- ▶ The LREFP costs are substantial and would likely be implemented over a long time frame.
- ▶ Would impact cash capital and debt policies.
- ▶ When projects are considered for CIP funding they would be subject to prioritization and fiscal constraints.
- ▶ Cost estimates are for the school buildings and do not include recreation centers. As the school population grows, so do the concomitant community needs, especially recreational facilities.

Next Steps– Rollout Process

April

- LREFP Work Group Meeting– Review and Endorsed Final Draft Chapters 1–4
- Briefed School Board and City Council

May

- Presentations to: Planning Commission, Youth Sports Advisory Board, Children Youth and Families, PTA Council, Park and Rec Commission
- Online version of Draft Plan Posted for Community Comment
- School Board Meeting/Public Hearing (May 28th)

June

- School Board Meeting (June 11th– action)
- City Council Public Hearing (June 13th)
- City Council Endorsement (June 23rd)

TBD

- Presentations to PTAs/Civic Associations

As of 4/21/2015

For more information and to stay in touch...

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Long-Range Educational Facilities Plan

The City of Alexandria and the Alexandria City Public School System (ACPS) are jointly developing a work program for a Long Range Educational Facilities Plan to improve facilities planning, accommodate the growing student population, and enhance educational programs and services.

As part of the program, a 19 member work group was established and is comprised of members from the community, ACPS School Board, City Council, Campagna Center, and the PTA Council, supported by ACPS and City staff. The workgroup meets on a regular basis, generally quarterly, to explore the major issues that will impact public school facilities over the long term and to guide staff in the development of a draft Long Range Educational Facilities Plan for consideration by the School Board and City Council.

The public is invited to all meetings of the work group and is encouraged to stay informed about upcoming meetings through eNews.

- **Work Group Members**
- **Joint COA/ACPS Work Program**
- **LREFP Work Program Supplement**
- **LREFP Update - October 15, 2012**

For more information, please contact Laurel Hammin
Facilities Planner
Alexandria, 703/7



Convocation, T.C. Williams 2011

QUICK LINKS

- About Planning & Zoning
- Development
- GIS & Maps
- Historic Preservation
- Neighborhood Planning
- Planning Commission
- Plans, Projects & Initiatives
- Statistics & Demographics
- Zoning Services

RESOURCES

- Administrative Special Use Permits
- Alexandria Master Plan & Citywide Chapters
- Applications & Forms
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- Development Viewer
- Frequently Asked Questions
- P&Z Dockets & Webcasts
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City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 21, 2015

TO: MEMBERS OF THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

THROUGH: JAMES SPENGLER, DIRECTOR, RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

FROM: WILLIAM CHESLEY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, RECREATION SERVICES *wc*

SUBJECT: SPORTS GROUP AFFILIATE POLICY

ISSUE: The Recreation Services Division recognizes that certain organizations exist within the City whose purpose is to serve and enhance recreational opportunities for specific purposes and groups. These organizations are separate and independent from the City and provide their own leadership, organizational and operational structure. Staff has worked with the Youth Sports Advisory Board (YSAB) to develop a Sports Group Affiliate Policy for the City of Alexandria.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission endorse the Sports Group Affiliate Policy as an Administrative Policy of the Department.

BACKGROUND: In September 2002, RPCA Department Director Sandra Whitmore proposed the formation of the YSAB as a sub-group of the Park and Recreation Commission. Ms. Whitmore recommended that the Board be made up of an officer from the: Alexandria Little League, Alexandria Lacrosse, Alexandria Soccer Association, Titans Youth Football Advisory Board, Tennis Advisory Board, Skateboard Advisory Board, and representatives from parents or coaches in the City's basketball, softball and coach pitch programs, a representative from Alexandria City Public Schools, a member from the business community, and a citizen at large. The Park and Recreation Commission approved the recommendation to form the YSAB and worked with RPCA to form the YSAB. The first meeting of the YSAB was held in December 2002. The YSAB's Charge of Work was to address field and facility usage, coaches training, sponsorships, fundraising and other related matters.

DISCUSSION: The YSAB has been working on behalf of City youth sports programming since December 2002. Improving the quality of athletic programs by RPCA and local organizations has been one of RPCA's and the YSAB's top priorities. The YSAB has done a very good job working with RPCA staff to improve coordination and collaboration around scheduling and maintenance of athletic facilities. Moreover, the YSAB has played a huge role in advocating for beneficial partnerships with local organizations in which to provide quality recreation opportunities for all the individuals served by the parties, as well as the general public.

The level of cooperation and collaboration by these members over the past several years or more made it easy to get to the point where we can adopt a Sports Group Affiliate Policy for the City that establishes a formal relationship between RPCA and groups providing recreational opportunities for residents. The YSAB unanimously supports the adoption of the Policy.

Although the stated missions of the organizations may differ, public investment in public recreational facilities and programs creates a mutually beneficial partnership in which to provide quality recreation for all the individuals served by the parties, as well as the general public.

RPCA fosters strong relationships with our Sports Group Affiliates in accordance with the City's Sports Group Affiliate Policy. RPCA works closely with existing organizations on such matters as field/facility assignments, usage, scheduling, and administrative matters. The programs and services of the groups are considered an integral part of sports offerings within the City. The relationship between the Affiliate(s) and RPCA is intended to enhance the athletic opportunities and enjoyment for the residents of the City.

RPCA recognizes that at times it is in the best interest of the community that RPCA work with outside non-profit organizations in coordinating the planning and provision of recreational facilities and programs when: 1) The organization's vision and purpose is aligned with RPCA, 2) The organization's basic functions are compatible with RPCA, and 3) Where a public benefit may be derived. Through working relationships with outside organizations, each party can contribute to greater public service without relinquishing their separate identities or responsibilities.

The Policy will be reviewed annually by RPCA staff, with input from key stakeholders, the YSAB, and the Park and Recreation Commission.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

STAFF:

David A. Miller, Division Chief, RPCA

Margaret Orlando, Acting Division Chief, RPCA

Mac Slover, Director of Sports Programs, RPCA

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 21, 2015

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: WILLIAM CHESLEY, ^{WC}DEPUTY DIRECTOR
RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: May 21 COMMISSION MEETING - ITEM VI-B
RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES REPORT

Program Wrap-Ups

- Mount Vernon Recreation Center hosted its **Mother's Day Tea** on May 2. Participants enjoyed light refreshments and a special gift for each mother.



- On April 17, William Ramsay Recreation Center hosted a **Welcome to Spring** program for Out of School Time program participants. The event featured relay races, cotton candy, games, activities and an egg hunt.



- The **Potomac Yard Metro Community Open House** was held on April 13 at Cora Kelly Recreation Center. Hosted by the Department of Transportation & Environmental Services, the event gave residents an opportunity to get information and ask questions about the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station. A physical model of the Metrorail station and building plans were on display.

- On April 4, Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center hosted the **Annual Egg Hunt & Spring Extravaganza**. Participants were engaged in arts and craft activities, sack races, face painting, group games and hourly egg hunts. Co-sponsors Omega Psi Phi Fraternity helped by grilling hotdogs and hamburgers, hiding easter eggs, facilitating games and activities, and one volunteer even dressed up as Mr. Bunny for photos with the children and adults.



- In celebration of Earth Day, youth in the Hammond Power Up program participated in an **Earth Day Community Cleanup** on April 22. Participants and staff picked up litter, collected trash and swept stairways at Francis C. Hammond Middle School. This was a great way for the youth to give back to the community.



- The **Underwater Egg Hunt** took place on April 4 at Chinguapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility. At the sound of the whistle, kids jumped in the water to find as many eggs as possible, many with special prizes inside. Participants also enjoyed pictures with Alex the Bunny, climbing on the aqua challenge floating obstacle course, and many other themed games and activities. Revenue was \$775 with 155 attendees. The event was a huge success and was covered by Fox 5's evening news!



- The **Dance for All Ages** was held on April 10 at T.C. Williams High School. Guests wore movie star attire and made a red carpet entrance. Approximately 80 seniors and 60 T.C. Williams High School students enjoyed music, dancing, food, ice cream and door prizes. This event united generations, cultures, and, on a more physical level, it gave participants a great mind-body workout.

- On April 18, the **Annual Spring Invitational Cheer Competition** took place at T.C. Williams High School. This competition included teams from Alexandria recreation centers and the metropolitan Washington area. Approximately 1,200 spectators cheered on the 12 teams that competed in three levels (Pee Wee, Youth Level and Junior Level). Recreation centers represented were Charles Houston, Charles Barrett, William Ramsay and Cora Kelly. Additional participants included, Braddock Road Youth Club, Clinton and Southwestern Youth Club. EZ Street, Celebrity DJ for 93.9 WKYS Radio Station, was the master of ceremonies for the 15th straight year.



- On April 29, Witter Recreational Park held the **Girls Softball Opening Night Ceremony**. This annual ceremony recognized the 2015 players, coaches and sponsors in the league. Participating in the Rookie National and American Divisions are 180 girls on 13 teams. Over 150 parents and supporters were also in attendance. The ceremony was followed by an exciting game between the Titans and Sunchasers of the National League. Revenue for the season is currently \$9,883.50



- The Miracle League of Alexandria (MLA) held its Spring **Opening Day Ceremonies** at the Kelley Cares Miracle Field on April 24 & 25. Alexandria's Children Dentistry presented a \$5,000 check to the Miracle League and Kelley Cares Foundation. Volunteers from the MLA, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the T.C. Williams High School Honor Society were on hand to help out. Also, the late Maggie Rivers, wife of MLA President, Bill Rivers was honored with a sign placed on the bleachers at the Miracle Field.



- **FUNtastic Spring Break Camp** took place at Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center the week of March 30. Participants enjoyed a variety of activities including physical fitness, arts and crafts, cooking, swimming and more! Field trips included Skate Palace, Wilson Bridge Walk-a-thon, Smithsonian Museums, Bowling, and Old Town Waterfront. The week ended with an EGGstra-ordinary Egg Hunt and a visit by Mr. Bunny. There were 45 registrants, an 80% increase compared to their Spring Break Camp 2014.
- The **Ratcliff Thomas Foundation Pre-Season Youth Football Clinic** took place on May 17, at George Washington Middle School. The clinic featured Ratcliff Thomas, a native Alexandrian and outstanding athlete at T.C. Williams High School, the University of Maryland and the NFL. Ratcliff's Foundation is committed to serving and giving back to the youth of Alexandria. The Alexandria Titans coaches worked different stations of the clinic, teaching football skills and techniques.



- The **Afterschool Spring Dance Recital** took place on May 16, at Cora Kelly Recreation Center. Participants gave a performance of ballet and modern dance techniques learned throughout the school year.
- The **Annual Track & Field Meet** took place on May 16, at T.C. Williams High School. The meet enabled boys and girls to compete in up to three track and/or field events. The winners advance to the Regional Track and Field Meet on June 20. The event was recognized as part of Alexandria's **Kids to Parks Day**, a special promotion by the National Park Trust that encourages families to visit parks and experience the fun and exciting opportunities offered throughout the country.
- Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center hosted the Therapeutic Recreation (TR) Adult Social Club **Annual Luau and Miracle League Game** on May 16. Participants enrolled in the

City of Alexandria TR adult program along with participants from Arlington County TR adult program came together for a day of baseball and luau fun.



Program Update

Out of School Time FY13 through FY15 Summer/School Year Participant and Revenue Comparison

	FY-15 School YTD 04/30/15	FY-14 Actuals School YTD 04/30/14	FY-14 Actuals School Year 13-14	FY-13 Actuals School Year 12- 13	FY-15 Actuals Summer 2014	FY-14 Actuals Summer 2013	FY-13 Actuals Summer 2012
Program Fee	\$415	\$300	\$300	\$250	\$100	\$50	\$50
Satisfaction %	92%	92%	92%	92%	96%	92%	95%
Registration #	1,193	1,240	1,243	1,296	1,332	1,373	1,422
OSTP Revenue	\$353,155	\$266,715	\$268,536	\$212,225	\$103,100	\$54,352	\$32,067
Fee Assistance (Discounts)	\$124,814	\$87,208	\$87,608	\$73,050	\$28,715	\$13,798	\$3,870
Fees Charged	*\$496,923	*\$365,171	\$366,071	\$308,031	\$133,965	\$68,622	\$36,205

*Fees paid in installments.

- **The American Red Cross Learn to Swim program** is essential to the water safety of the community. The Winter session ended with 859 registered and 254 waitlisted in 116 class offerings generating \$80,571 in revenues. The Spring session began in April with 70 classes with enrollments, 463 participants registered, and \$51,851 fees collected. Registration and classes are ongoing.
- Every other Monday, youth and staff at William Ramsay Recreation Center participate in **Awesome Mondays**. Youth compete against the staff in a variety of sports competitions such as volleyball, basketball, kick ball and soccer.



- **Nerf Zombie Survival Training** started April 22 at Charles Barrett Recreation Center. This five-week program mentally and physically trains young cadets to survive in an imaginary apocalypse against Zombies. Participants learn safety skills while enjoying hands-on activities, ranging from constructing tools and equipment, to building safe houses and shelters.
- **Individual Swim Lessons** have returned to Alexandria! In April 2015, 62 individual classes were added, generating \$22,190 in new revenue.

Upcoming Programs & Events

- A **Memorial Day Celebration** will take place on May 25, at Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in front of Mount Vernon Recreation Center. Join citizens of Alexandria and the "Friends of Rocky Versace" as they remember Alexandria's fallen military heroes.
- The **Annual Senior Appreciation Luncheon** is May 29, at Cora Kelly Recreation Center. In honor of Senior Citizen Month, this event will provide attendees with a day of dancing, physical movement, fellowship and fun. This is a great opportunity to promote our senior programs and encourage participation in all programs, while inspiring a healthy and active senior lifestyle.
- Chinquapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility will host **Family Fun Night** featuring Polk Elementary School on May 22. Activities will include swimming for all ages, beach ball relays, basketball, floating obstacle course, pool safety tips, summer camp registration, swimming skill assessments for youth, Wahoo Swim Team sign up, and a Nature Center exhibit.
- The **Wahoo Swim Team** kicks off its season on May 26 at Old Town Pool. The team competes in the Colonial Swim League with competitions occurring over the summer with other local community pools. As of April 30, registration of 90 swimmers has generated \$10,538.

Special Features

- **William Ramsay Recreation Center's restrooms** are currently under renovation. From May 4 - June 19, the center will close at 6 p.m. Monday - Friday, and evening programs will relocate to Patrick Henry Recreation Center.
- The RPCA staff has worked with the Youth Sports Advisory Board (YSAB) to develop a **Sports Group Affiliate Policy** for the City of Alexandria. The Recreation Services Division recognizes that certain organizations exist within the City whose purpose is to serve and enhance recreational opportunities for specific purposes and groups. These organizations are separate and independent from the City and provide their own leadership, organizational and operational structure. The Sports Group Affiliate Policy strengthens RPCA's relationships with Sports Group Affiliates, and enhances the athletic opportunities and enjoyment for the residents of the City.

Staff Updates

- **Clarence Jackson** is the Employee of the Month for April. He is a custodian at the Charles Houston Recreation Center and was nominated and selected for exemplary work in custodial maintenance responsibilities, program support and for being an overall team player. He voluntarily adjusts his work schedule to meet the demands of the operation in the absence of other staff members, and he is always a pleasure to work with.
- On April 26, **Therapeutic Recreation staff** participated in Shallow Water In-service Training. They learned life-saving techniques for assistance with shallow water rescues.
- On March 21, the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center hosted a "Nerf to Turf" birthday party. The celebratory family sent an email, thanking **Ann Redfearn, Isaiah Redfearn, Mark Niebauer and Christian Quintana** for providing Top Notch Customer Service and for making the party a big success.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 18, 2015

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: DINESH TIWARI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR - PARK OPERATIONS
RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES,

THROUGH: JAMES SPENGLER, DIRECTOR, RPCA

SUBJECT: PARK OPERATIONS MONTHLY UPDATE

1. PARK AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE:

- Annual Spring Training
Second Annual “Spring Field Day and Equipment Rodeo” was held on April 22. Training covered a variety of subject areas including the City’s budget, poisonous plants, insects, and chainsaw and wood chipper safety. Staff also participated in several interactive team building activities and practiced equipment operating skills.



- Seasonal Maintenance Activities
 - o Staff conducted general maintenance and spring clean-up, and started the park mowing cycles.
 - o Staff conducted Park Light inspections and timer adjustments.
 - o Irrigation systems de-winterization and water fountain start-ups are 98% completed.

- o Equipment conversions, general inspection and corrective maintenance for all turf equipment in preparation for the growing season have been completed.
 - o Staff started the third annual playground safety inspection. This inspection is expected to be completed by the end of June.
 - o Staff is conducting an assessment of all existing irrigation systems in preparation for the full implementation of a centralized control (Maxicom) system.
- Park Enhancement Projects
Staff, in partnership with community groups, organized beautification projects at Charles Hill Park, Angel Park, and Simpson Stadium. Several park upgrades and improvements have been made to the road surfaces and the ADA parking spaces at Chiquapin Recreation Center and traffic circle.
 - Brenman Park Cleanup:
On April 11th, Erin Graziano, Den Leader of Cub Scout's Pack 614, coordinated efforts with multiple Girl Scout Troops while, lending a helping hand to Ben Brenman Park. The group spent nearly 4 hours collecting trash and debris from along the perimeter of the pond.



- Earth Day Events
Many programs were held in parks on April 25, including sprucing up of Ewald Park. 40+ community volunteers worked closely with staff to organize the Earth Day Event. The group planted 7 new trees and multiple shrubs, mulched existing beds and trees, trimmed bushes, and stained the wooden fence that runs along Duke Street.



- New Parks/Fields

RPCA recently accepted the maintenance of new synthetic field located at Jefferson Houston school. Staff striped the field, installed the goals, and completed the preparations for athletic programming. The multiuse field can now be used for soccer and lacrosse.



Braddock Road Interim Space is a welcoming addition to the neighborhood. This local leisure destination is equipped with many new amenities such as a ping pong table, joggle board, benches, tables, and seating for one to relax and for the competitive park users alike. A newly formed Bocce Ball League has begun to use the courts.



- Park Furniture Replacement Program

A specialized staff team is assigned to systematically replace and install park furniture at parks throughout the City. Current park furniture inventories were recorded with the needs of each park assessed and documented. All supplies for this work have been purchased or ordered. This replacement program is funded through Capital Budget (CFMP) and is an on-going program.



- Adopt-a-Park Program

The 2015 Adopt-a-Park season began April 1st. Volunteer groups associated with 32 parks continue to collect their 2014 program awards and complete their 2015 registration documents. Staff is preparing a docket for the June 10th City Council meeting. The docket is requesting approval to submit a grant application to the state of Virginia for another year of funding.

- Rights-of-Way, Schools, and Public Grounds Maintenance

Schedules of Landscape Services and median mowing have been posted on the City's website for public information.

2. NATURAL LANDS MANAGEMENT

- Invasive Plant Management:

- o Staff supervised and participated in the April 16, 2015 Topgolf Alexandria, Volunteer Alexandria, and Friends of Timberbranch Parkway English Ivy Pull.
- o Staff helped organize and supervised the Second Annual T.C. Williams High School International Academy Community Service Day event: 30 students and 4 chaperones at INOVA Alexandria Hospital Scenic Easement, with the generous assistance of John and Carolyn Griglione; 30 students and 2 chaperones at Timberbranch Parkway, with the generous assistance of Bonnie Petry; and 30 students and 2 chaperones at Angel Park, with the generous assistance of Barbara Murray.



- o Staff supervised our specialist non-native invasive plant contractor Invasive Plant Control (IPC) in the large-scale treatment of Lesser Celandine and other invasives at Four Mile Run Park, Dora Kelley Nature Park, Stonegate Scenic Easement, and Windmill Hill Park.

- Cooperative Initiatives:

- o Staff assisted Auburn Village Landscaping Committee with recommended Best Management Practices (BMPs) for proper care and preservation of the old-age oaks on site and the control of non-native invasive plants.

- o City Natural Resource Manager and Plant Ecologist Rod Simmons examined and annotated all specimens of Swamp Azalea and Highbush Blueberry varieties at the Ted R. Bradley Herbarium at George Mason University (GMU) while working on the revision of the City of Alexandria Flora.
- o Staff assisted Virginia DCR, Natural Heritage Division, and Virginia Botanical Associates in providing collection and location information on historical Alexandria and vicinity collections.
- o Staff assisted Chris Ros, Alexandria Country Day School Science Department Chair, with their ongoing plant identification and natural community survey project at Monticello Park.
- o Staff acquired plant material and planted the four planters at Old Town Pool on two separate workdays, with the generous assistance of Carolyn and John Griglione.
- o Staff acquired 18 native trees, placed, and helped plant them at the April 25, 2015 Earth Day Native Tree Planting at Tarleton Park; staff also acquired 5 native trees for the TreeStewards of Arlington and Alexandria Earth Day planting at Ewald Park.



- o Staff assisted with ecological restoration plantings at the Beatley Bog.

- Outreach:

- o Per request, staff led a field trip to Plummer's Island, C&O Canal National Historical Park, for the Region 2 Chapter, National Association for Interpretation.



- Environmental Review:

Staff met onsite at Four Mile Run Park with contractors to review the non-native invasive plant removal work outside the Limits of Disturbance (LOD) for the first phase of the lower Four Mile Run Restoration Project.

3. JEROME “BUDDIE” FORD NATURE CENTER

- Programs/Updates:

The Naturalist staff of the Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center conducted 68 interpretive programs in April that were attended by 3,951 participants. This included one birthday party, Spring Break Camp and three large Citywide events- largest numbers of participants in one month for FY2015 attended nature center programs and events. Attendance for visitors to the Nature Center was 708 additional people.

Spring Break Nature Camp: During the week of March 30 to April 3, the nature center conducted a Spring Break Camp focusing on Native American culture and crafts. The campers learned about petroglyphs, the kachina dolls from the southwest tribes, early pottery traditions and basketry. The children went on a field to The Smithsonian’s Museum of the American Indian and the Museum of Natural History. Fishing in Holmes Run Stream and many hikes in Dora Kelley Nature Park were just some of the activities in this camp. Our guest instructor for the final day was Daniel Firehawk from the Maryland Eastern shore’s Nanticoke tribe.



Creating designs for petroglyphs



Field trip to the Museum of the American Indian Museum



Campers learn how to drill into a stone to fashion into a pendant

Open House and Park Clean-Up:

On Saturday, April 18, the Nature Center held an open house. More than 250 visitors came to this event. Earlier in the morning, the annual Spring Clean-Up, organized by the Friends of Dora Kelley Nature Park, was conducted throughout the park. A record

number of neighbors and friends (64 people) assisted with the clean-up. Many of these participants later stopped by the nature center. The staff conducted programs about the nature center's animals, a guided hike in the park and crafts for the children. Volunteer Peter Edelman displayed the insects from Dora Kelley Park that he has collected over the past nine years.

American Red Cross- Pillowcase project:

On April 10, the "Nature Buddies" afterschool program participants along with a number of children from William Ramsay Recreation Center's out of school time program participated in "The Pillowcase Project". Program manager, Majd Jarrar organized this American Red Cross sponsored program for the children. The program aims to increase awareness and understanding of natural hazards, teach safety and emotional coping skills, as well as the importance of personal preparedness. Students learned the best ways to stay safe during disasters and how to create their own emergency supply kits, using a pillowcase. After the presentation, students decorated and personalized their pillowcases and were encouraged to share what they have learned with friends and family.



American Red Cross representatives teaching safety procedures



Children display their pillowcase projects

- Volunteers and Interns:

A total of 6 volunteers provided 72 hours of service during the month of April.

Community Stewardship Day:

On April 24, TC Williams International School organized a Community Stewardship Day throughout the City of Alexandria. Various groups of student volunteers worked on conservation projects in the City's parks. Naturalist, Jane Yeingst along with Shannon O'Neil and Katie Busch from the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust supervised students with a project at Chinguapin Park. The 23 students and 3 chaperons cleared the

trail and wood chipped the entrance section to the park. The group delighted in learning about the native plants, birds and salamanders that they encountered that morning.

- Noteworthy:

FrogWatch USA is a nationwide program to help monitor frogs and toads. Frog and toad breeding season generally extends from late January through September depending upon temperature, rainfall, length of the day, for a specific locality, and biological factors for each species. FrogWatch USA data collection targets peak breeding season for all species across the nation and takes place from February through August. Naturalist, Jane Yeingst and volunteer and neighbor of Dora Kelley Nature Park, Kasha Helget have received training at The National Zoo and are certified to conduct Frog Watch in our park. In this training, volunteers find out which frogs and toads are in your area and when each can be heard calling. They also learn to identify species by call, locate and register a wetland site, and collect and submit observations to the nationwide dataset. This is the second year that Kasha Helget has organized the volunteers to observe and collect “frog” data from Dora Kelley Nature Park. Monitoring began in early March and continued to the beginning of April. Volunteers went into the park, in the area around the marsh, for a two hour period every third night (7-9pm). The volunteers saw and noted the calls of wood frogs, Spring peepers and cricket frogs. They also noted when they observed salamanders. All data from this year’s watch was submitted and the results are now being compiled.



Wood frog on the path



Tiny male Spring peeper in the water

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 21, 2015

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: JACK BROWAND, DIVISION CHIEF *Jack Browand*
PUBLIC RELATIONS, SPECIAL EVENTS & WATERFRONT OPERATIONS
RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION: ITEM VI-B.
DIVISION UPDATE

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES PARK NAMINGS

City Council unanimously approved the renaming of the 1 & 7 East Del Ray Pocket Park to the Judy Lowe Neighborhood Park and the naming of the park parcel at 2802 Mt. Vernon Ave. the Nancy Dunning Garden

- [May 16, 2015 City Council Docket](#)

WINDMILL HILL PARK SHORELINE REHABILITATION

City staff presented the community preferred Living Shoreline option to the Environmental Policy Commission on May 18 and to the Waterfront Commission on May 19. Following Park and Recreation Commission consideration on May 21, staff will present the Living Shoreline Option to City Council on June 13 for approval and for authorization to proceed with final design and construction in FY 2016 and FY 2017.

VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

- **Founders Park – ACDS**
ACDS had 3rd and 8th graders totaling about 50 volunteers plant flowers for Earth Day on Wednesday, April 22. They planted 1200 flowers throughout Founders Park as well as assisting in weeding mulched areas and picking up trash. The following link has images of their work: <https://vimeo.com/125734968>. This project helped us return the annual color to Founders Park that may not have been possible without them.

- **Windmill Hill Park Playground - Restoration City Church**

Restoration City Church had volunteers in the Windmill Hill Park Playground for 8 hours on Saturday, April 18. They removed the old fence on the North side of the playground and replaced it with a new fence. They also removed the buildup of sand at the base of the steps allowing playground mulch to be properly installed in that area. Below are pictures of this project.



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



COMMUNITY EVENTS: MAY - JUNE 2015

May 22, 2015	Fri	3:00 PM	National EMS Memorial Bike Ride The National EMS Memorial Bike Ride is an annual event that honors EMS providers who lost their lives in the line of duty. The ride will end at Oronoco Bay Park.
May 22, 2015	Fri	6:00 PM	Family Fun Night Bring the whole family to Family Fun Nights for swimming and fun for all ages on Friday evenings. Pool games include beach ball relays, water basketball, diving for prizes and fun on the 'Aqua Challenge' floating obstacle course. Participate in swimming skill assessments for youth, learn pool safety tips and more.
May 24, 2015	Sun	6:00 AM	Alexandria Running & Family Festival Half Marathon and 5K race and family festival featuring music, beer garden, inflatable amusements, food and booths.
May 24, 2015	Sun	10:00 AM	4MRStage Concert Series Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market Concert Series featuring Libby Wiebel.

May 25, 2015	Mon	1:00 PM	38th Annual Memorial Day Jazz Festival Program will include entertainment by various bands and begin with a performance by The Army Blues Jazz Ensemble, from the U. S. Army Band "Pershing's Own". The other performers, in order are: Origem, featuring Brazilian Jazz; Halley Shoenberg Jazz Quartet featuring Modern Jazz; The Larry Brown Quintet, featuring Straight Ahead Jazz; and Night & Day ...
May 29, 2015	Fri	12:15 PM	School Lunch Bunch Concerts Concert featuring Immanuel Lutheran School Student Choirs & Presenters.
May 30, 2015	Sat	8:00 AM	A S A Soccer Fest Alexandria Soccer Association will host its end of season soccer festival.
May 30, 2015	Sat	12:00 PM	Croquet Day A croquet tournament will be played on multiple concurrent fields at Joseph Hensley Park. Food and activities will be organized for team members, families, and spectators.
May 31, 2015	Sun	10:00 AM	4MRStage Concert Series Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market Concert Series featuring Matt Tarka.
Jun 4, 2015	Thu	7:00 PM	Music at Twilight Concert-John Carlyle Square Park City Concert series with a performance by DarcyDawn & Co featuring pop, rock, country, and top hits. Feel free to bring chairs or a blanket and a picnic supper.
Jun 5, 2015	Fri	11:00 AM	West End Food Truck Rodeo Held in the Southern Towers Parking lot on Seminary Road. Features multiple food trucks, vendors, music, face painting and children's activities.
Jun 6, 2015	Sat	12:00 PM	Virginia Foodshed Festival (CANCELLED BY APPLICANT) This festival will showcase the best of the Mid-Atlantic region's craft food and beverage. There will be ticketed tastings and education on local food. In addition to food, there will be entertainment and games for children of all ages.
Jun 6, 2015	Sat	2:30 PM	D-Day Commemoration This event is a celebration of the heroism and sacrifices of our invasion forces in Normandy, France on June 6, 1944. There will be re-enactors, and a commemoration ceremony including the Old Guard and the West Point Glee Club.
Jun 7, 2015	Sun	10:00 AM	4MRStage Concert Series Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market Concert Series featuring Janna Audey
Jun 10, 2015	Wed	11:00 AM	L'hermione Voyage 2015 Tour the L'Hermione
Jun 10, 2015	Wed	12:00 PM	Canal Plaza Concerts Concert series with a performance by Gary Smallwood featuring Country Rock. Amphitheatre seating,bring your picnic lunch and enjoy music on the waterfront. Offered in partnership with American Real Estate Partners.
Jun 11, 2015	Thu	9:00 AM	L'hermione Voyage 2015 Tour the L'Hermione

Jun 12, 2015	Fri	9:00 AM	L'hermione Voyage 2015 Tour the L'Hermione
Jun 13, 2015	Sat	1:00 PM	World Wide Knit in Public Day WWKiP Day is a day to show the public that knitting can be a community activity in a very distinct way. This year is the 10th anniversary of this worldwide event. It will be held at Commerce St Park (S. Fayette & Commerce).
Jun 13, 2015	Sat	5:30 PM	Movie Night @ Four Mile Run The Cora Kelly Center is co-sponsoring with National Community Church its First Annual Family Movie Night at the Conservatory Center on the Plaza. The community participants will enjoy free popcorn, cotton candy, drinks and a (PG) movie. Event will be held at 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. Alex, VA 22305. Participants may bring their own chairs or blankets for ...
Jun 14, 2015	Sun	10:00 AM	4MRStage Concert Series Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market Concert Series featuring Matt Buchanan.
Jun 18, 2015	Thu	7:00 PM	Music at Twilight Concert-John Carlyle Square Park City concert series with a performance by E & Me featuring Jazz. Feel free to bring chairs or a blanket and a picnic supper.
Jun 20, 2015	Sat	9:00 AM	Beat the Heat Racquetball Tournament Ages 18 & up. Join in the fun with this double elimination tournament for singles and doubles, divided by age groups: Men and/or Women 18–34, 35–50, 51–65 and 66 & over. Tournament will be played Saturday and/or Sunday. To participate, register for activity #423210.
Jun 20, 2015	Sat	8:00 PM	Cinema Del Ray Community Movie Night where attendees sit and enjoy family movies. This event will take place on the recreation field.
Jun 21, 2015	Sun	10:00 AM	4MRStage Concert Series Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market Concert Series featuring Dan Barry.
Jun 24, 2015	Wed	12:00 PM	Canal Plaza Concerts Concert series with a performance by Kim Reynolds Band featuring Jazz. Amphitheatre seating, bring your picnic lunch and enjoy music on the waterfront. Offered in partnership with American Real Estate Partners.
Jun 27, 2015	Sat	12:00 PM	Alexandria's Food & Wine Festival The festival is a community-based event featuring tastes of local foods and wine, as well as artisans, a Children's Corner, and live entertainment. The event transforms Oronoco Bay Park into a lively festival.
Jun 28, 2015	Sun	10:00 AM	4MRStage Concert Series Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market Concert Series featuring Jong Lee.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 21, 2015

TO: ALEXANDRIA PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: PARK PLANNING, DESIGN+CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

ITEM: MONTHLY UPDATE FOR PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION;
APRIL-MAY, 2015 – ITEM VI-B

ISSUE:

The following 8 items are provided to the Park & Recreation Commission as information at its May 21, 2015 meeting:

- Capital Projects Overview Update
- Capital Facilities Maintenance Projects Update

- Mount Jefferson Park Plan Staff Memorandum
- Attachment 1A Draft Rendering for Mount Jefferson Park
- Attachment 1B Draft Rendering for Mount Jefferson Park
- Attachment 2 Mount Jefferson Survey Results

- Long Range Educational Facilities Plan Staff Memorandum
- Long Range Educational Facilities Plan Presentation

HIGHLIGHTED ITEMS IN BRIEF:

Beverly Park Renovation

Renovation of Beverly Park playground is a part of the City's Capital Improvement Program for playgrounds. The work includes renovation of the playground, picnic shelter and remedy of the park's eroded slope areas. Staff is working with the North Ridge Civic Association. For additional information see <http://alexandriava.gov/27060#Beverley>.

Hume Springs Park Improvements

RunningBrooke of Alexandria (www.runningbrooke.org) is partnering with the City to fund improvements to Hume Springs Park. During the Fall 2014 Neighborhood Park Plan public outreach, staff received comments about enhancing the park playground and landscape, transforming the fence, and providing more gathering space for adults. RunningBrooke's contribution will help to enable implementation of the Park Plan. The improvements are anticipated to be implemented in Fall 2015. For additional information about the Neighborhood Park Plan visit:

<http://alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=65170#neighborhood>

Oakville Triangle/Route 1 Corridor - Planning Process Update

Detailed information about the planning process and the Advisory Group/public meetings can be found online at: <http://www.alexandriava.gov/planning/info/default.aspx?id=76672>. The Advisory Group and public are reviewing and providing feedback on a number of topics, including plan area open space (both ground level and rooftop). Planning for the adjacent Mount Jefferson Park is occurring on a parallel track. Information and draft plans for the park can be found in documents of the Staff Report and at: <http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=83168>

Braddock Neighborhood Interim Open Space (600 N. Henry St.)

The Park and Recreation Commission approved a concept plan for interim improvements to the Braddock Open Space in January 2014. The interim park improvements are now open to the public. A group of neighbors submitted an agreement to adopt the new open space once it's complete as well as a separate agreement to activate the new open space neighborhood serving programs. The firm Andropogon, Inc. of Philadelphia, PA was selected to complete the concept design for the one-acre park.

Chinquapin Feasibility Study

Tasks 1A and 1B are complete with both reports available online at:

<http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=78867>.

Following the completion of the Task IB report, staff received revised a cost estimate for the design and construction of a 50 meter pool that significantly exceed the proposed CIP funding of \$20 million. The PRC was briefed on the cost estimate in February and next steps regarding the feasibility study and new pool(s) will be discussed through the FY2016-2025 budget process.

Jefferson Houston K-8 School

The synthetic turf athletic field was accepted for use by City staff during the week of May 04. It is anticipated that the Buchannon Park playground and multi-use court north of the Durant Center will be opened to the public by the end of May, pending satisfactory completion of punch list items. Turner Construction-the overall project Construction Manager is responsible for the work.

STAFF: Park Planning, Design + Capital Development Division

Active Park Planning Projects

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

2:26:00 PM

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
VDOT				
	Four Mile Pedestrian Bridge	DW RK	55% Design	31-Dec-15
Notes:	New landing location approved by Dominion. Buro Happold to resume work.			
TE&S				
	Holmes Run trail Feasibility Study	DW JL		01-Mar-16
Notes:	T&ES is at 30% with design to put pedestrian bridge at the stairs from the fair weather crossing at Ripley Street. Will report community in summer at 60%.			
RPCA/ACPS				
	Patrick Henry Recreation Center Renovation	Ron and Beth	20%	01-Jun-16
Notes:	ACPS school replacement study community meetings on-going. Feasibility study in progress. Information will be presented to the School Board in May.			
RPCA				
	Armistead L. Boothe Park Restrooms	DG		
Notes:	Restroom planning in progress.			
	Ben Brenman Trail Improvements	Beth Z., Chris W	30% Design	15-Jul-15
Notes:	Trail improvements to portions of the pathways that are damaged or do not meet ADA dimensional compliance. Project scope and drawings are complete Solicitation for bids will be sent out in May.			
	Beverley Playground Renovation	JL	5% Construction Docs	01-Dec-16
Notes:	Concept Plan completed. Construction budget allocation anticipated April 2015.			
	Chambliss Court Resurfacing	BZ	10%	30-Jun-15
Notes:	Court resurfacing project scheduled for the spring. The project is in procurement. Construction is anticipated in June.			
	Chinquapin Feasibility Study	RMK LD	in progress	30-Apr-15
Notes:	Task1B is complete (October) and we will have a public meeting Jan/Feb. 2015.			
	Chinquapin Pavilion ADA Access Ramp	Beth and DG	90%	30-Jun-15
Notes:	The railing will be modified in May to complete the project.			
	Chinquapin Playground Repair-Upgrade	JL	0%	01-Oct-15
Notes:	Allocation submitted June 2014. Work will include repair and replacements to meet safety requirements. Playground recommended to be re-located in 10 years--full renovation on hold.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	CIP Planning/Budget	Beth and Dana	na	
	Notes: The budget was adopted May 7. Planning for FY 2016 implementation is underway.			
	Digitize Geologic Atlas	Bob, John W.	0%	30-Jun-15
	Notes: A geologic study of the entire City was performed by Natural Resources Division several years ago. The work is in progress.			
	Entry portals and signs	Bob, Oscar	0%	30-Jun-15
	Notes: The purchase of new signs per the City's Wayfinding guidelines will be coordinated with T&ES and P&Z.			
	Four Mile Run Properties Phase II	LD		
	Notes: Landscape improvements.			
	Four Mile Run Restoration	Dana/Ron	25%	31-Dec-15
	Notes: Invasive Species eradication began April 6. Wetlands closed from public and detours to begin in May. Groundbreaking scheduled for May 20.			
	Four Mile Run Trail Improvements and Mile Ma	Dan R.		01-May-15
	Notes: Dan ordering mile markers			
	Hunter Miller Basketball Renovation (lights and	Beth/James	5% Design	30-Jun-15
	Notes: Project submittal revisions are anticipated in May. Construction is anticipated this summer.			
	Improve Landscape beds around rec centers	BT OM		
	Notes:			
	Kelly Cares Playground Expansion	JL DW	80% cdocs	13-Jun-15
	Notes: Contribution of \$90,000 received. Initial concept plan reviewed and approved. Construction to begin late April/Early May.			
	King Street Gardens Improvements	DR/MH		01-Jun-14
	Notes: PO issued for initial work.			
	Marina Railings replacements	Jack		15-Jun-13
	Notes: Quote received for \$37,700. PO pending allocation of funding. On hold pending assessment report.			
	Market Square/Washington St. Enhancements	RK DG, JL	Design	
	Notes: To be reviewed with ABC.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	Maxicom Audit - Phase I	OM	50%	01-Aug-15
	Notes: A contractor is on board and has completed the data analysis. A physical audit will be performed this spring.			
	Maxicom System Data Verification Phase I	OM	50%	01-Aug-15
	Notes: A contractor is on board and has completed the data analysis. A physical audit will be performed this spring.			
	Neighborhood Parks Plan	DW LD	75	01-Jan-16
	Notes: Community feedback summaries complete. Public feedback phase underway until June.			
	Park Furniture Replacement	Beth and Park Ops	90%	30-Jun-15
	Notes: Project is 90% complete,			
	Potomac Yard Park	Beth and Ron	80% Construction	01-Oct-15
	Notes: Phase I (main body) opened December 14. Phase II (south trail) anticipated to be complete spring 2015. Phase III (North Pond) to be separated and complete fall 2015.			
	Rubber Surface Repairs	JL, SR,OM		15-Jun-15
	Notes: On-going project. FY2015 repairs to be scheduled.			
	Simpson Dog Park Lights	DW		29-May-15
	Notes: The project is currently in progress. The conduit and pole bases have been installed.			
	Simpson Little Building Renovation	David	0%	01-Sep-15
	Notes: Environmental assessment complete. Drawings for demolition are in progress.			
	Simpson Park Duncan Ave Entrance Improveme			
	Notes: See Simpson Park Plan			
	Simpson Playground & Passive area Renovation	JL		01-Apr-16
	Notes: LWCF grant approved for project. Set to begin in July 2015 with match from CIP.			
	Windmill Hill Bulkhead Replacement	Jack/Beth		01-Jan-17
	Notes: In progress. Public meeting held February, 2015.			
P&Z				
	Braddock Small Area Plan	LD	90% Planning	
	Notes: Interim improvements in progress. Construction is anticipated to be complete in January/February, 2015.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	Eisenhower ASA/Alexandria Renew Restrooms	Beth and David	100% Design	31-Dec-15
	Notes: RPCA is reviewing shop drawings and submittals during construction. Construction is anticipated to be complete late 2015.			
	Eisenhower ASA/AlexRenew Field	Beth, Ron	20 % Construction	30-Oct-15
	Notes: Construction is underway and is anticipated to be complete fall 2015. Project website is http://www.alexrenewnmf.com/			
	Eisenhower Avenue Widening	Beth Z.	60% Design	01-Oct-16
	Notes: Project is expected to be under construction for 18 months starting late 2015.			
	Eisenhower East Block 2 and 3	Beth and Ron		
	Notes: Stage II DSUP was approved by Planning Commission and City Council in March. The majority of West Side Gardens will be located on Block 3 with a small portion on Block 2.			
	Eisenhower West	LD	100% Planning	
	Notes:			
	Mount Vernon Village Center	RK JL LD		
	Notes: SUP extended 3 years by planning commission on May 5, 2015.			
	Potomac Greens Park	Beth	100% Construction	17-Jun-15
	Notes: Construction complete. RPCA has accepted the as-builts. Performance Bond released June 17. City Maintenance start June 17, 2015.			
	Potomac Yard I/J West and L	Beth	60% Construction	
	Notes: Plan approved in Sept. 2011. RPCA staff consulted on the play areas, but the application is not officially reviewed by RPCA due to lack of public land. Construction of Leslie connection in progress.			
	Potomac Yard/Landbay I/J Parks	BZ	50% Construction	30-Apr-15
	Notes: Phase one (Custis) complete. Construction of phase II (Howell) complete. As-built submissions expected in May, 2015.			
	Waterfront Plan	LD RK		30-Sep-13
	Notes: The City Council approved the Waterfront Plan in January, 2012. The consultant team led by Olin Group is working on the 30% design documents with presentation to City Council May 2014.			

General Services

Community Building Renovation Completion

Notes: RFP

ACPS

Jefferson-Houston

DW RMK, DHG

90% Construction

01-Sep-15

Notes: Construction underway. Completion anticipated March, 2015.

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	John Adams Transportation Improvements	DW		01-Jun-15
	Notes: CC approved plan on 11/15. Parking lot expansion set to begin in spring.			
	Long Range Educational Facilities Plan	DW	90	01-Jun-15
	Notes: Draft plan distributed to work group at beginning of March. Set to present to PRC in May.			



Active Rec CFMP Projects

Parks, Recreation + Cultural Activities /
Department of General Services

May 21, 2015

FY	Project Name	Project Code	Facility Name	Status	% Complete
FY 2014	Restrooms Upgrade	CB-14-01	Charles Barrett Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	Replace fitness equipment with new	CB-14-01	Charles Barrett Center	Canceled	-0-
FY 2014	Kitchen-Multi Purpose Upgrade	CB-14-02	Charles Barrett Center	Executing	80%
FY 2014	Gym Doors Replacment	CK-14-04	Cora Kelly Center	Executing	85%
FY 2014	HVAC Commissioning	CK-14-02	Cora Kelly Center	In Queue (Outlying FY)	-0-
FY 2014	Bleachers Replacement	CK-14-03	Cora Kelly Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	Windows Repair-Glazing	CN-14-02	Chinquapin Park Rec Center	On Hold	-0-
FY 2014	Lockers in Pool Office, Ph I	CN-14-01	Chinquapin Park Rec Center	Completed FY12	100%
FY 2014	Fabric Acoustic Panels	OD-14-03	Oswald Durant Arts Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	HVAC Work - New Chillers	LC-14-03	Lee Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	Restroom Renovations	LC-14-04	Lee Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	Fire Alarm Upgrade	LC-14-05	Lee Center	Executing	95%
FY 2014	Restroom Lighting Upgrade	LC-14-06	Lee Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	HVAC Unit Replacement	MV-14-01	Mt. Vernon Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	Resurface Gym Floor	MV-14-03	Mt. Vernon Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	Repair Curtain Motor, Gym	MV-14-04	Mt. Vernon Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	Bleachers Replacement	MV-14-05	Mt. Vernon Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	New Reception Counter	NL-14-04	Nannie J. Lee Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	Gym Bleacher Replacement	NL-14-01	Nannie J. Lee Center	Canceled	
FY 2014	Gym Curtain	NL-14-03	Nannie J. Lee Center	Completed	100%

FY	Project Name	Project Code	Facility Name	Status	% Complete
FY 2014	Restrooms Renovations	NL-14-05	Nannie J. Lee Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	Gym Floor Resurface	NL-14-02	Nannie J. Lee Center	Completed	100%
FY 2014	Replace Damaged Dance Floor	WR-14-01	William Ramsay Center	Completed	100%
FY 2015	Window sealing	BF-15-01	Buddie Ford Center	Executing	-0-
FY 2015	Window sealing	CB-15-02	Charles Barrett Center	Executing	-0-
FY 2015	Multipurpose Rm Upgrade	CB-15-03	Charles Barrett Center	Executing	-0-
FY 2015	Lobby Floor Finish Replacement	CK-15-01	Cora Kelly Center	In Queue (Outlying FY)	-0-
FY 2015	Hot water heater	CK-15-04	Cora Kelly Center	Executing	-0-
FY 2015	New HVAC Controls	CK-14-05	Cora Kelly Center	Pending Funds	-0-
FY 2015	Restroom lighting	CK-15-03	Cora Kelly Center	In procurement	-0-
FY 2015	Restroom upgrades	CK-15-02	Cora Kelly Center	Executing	95%
FY 2015	Natatorium Door Replacement	CN-15-03	Chinquapin Park Rec Center	In Proucurement	-0-
FY 2015	Windows Repair-Glazing	CN-15-01	Chinquapin Park Rec Center	In Queue (Outlying FY)	-0-
FY 2015	Lockers in Pool Office, Ph. 2	CN-15-02	Chinquapin Park Rec Center	In Queue (Outlying FY)	-0-
FY 2015	LED Lighting Upgrade	CN-15-04	Chinquapin Park Rec Center	Executing	-0-
FY 2015	Natatorium Doors Replacement	CN-15-05	Chinquapin Park Rec Center	In Procuremnt	-0-
FY 2015	Floor system repairs	CO-15-01	Colasanto Arts Center	Executing	50%
FY 2015	New Flooring and Wall base	OD-15-02	Oswald Durant Arts Center	In Queue (Outlying FY)	-0-
FY 2015	Sump Pump Installation	OD-15-01	Oswald Durant Arts Center	Completed	100%
FY 2015	Decommission AC Units	OD-13-01	Oswald Durant Arts Center		-0-
FY 2015	New Flooring in Corridor	OD-15-01	Oswald Durant Arts Center	In Queue (Outlying FY)	-0-
FY 2015	Stage Lighting System	OD-14-02	Oswald Durant Arts Center	On Hold/Delayed	-0-
FY 2015	Water Damage-Fan Coil Unit	OD-15-05	Oswald Durant Arts Center	Equipment on Order	-0-

FY	Project Name	Project Code	Facility Name	Status	% Complete
FY 2015	Interior Painting	OD-15-04	Oswald Durant Arts Center	In Procurement	-0-
FY 2015	Millwork Replacement (Multiple Areas)	LC-14-01	Lee Center	On Hold	-0-
FY 2015	Exterior lighting upgrades	LC-15-05	Lee Center	Material Procurement	-0-
FY 2015	Replace Cabinets in Kitchen	LC-14-02	Lee Center	On Hold	-0-
FY 2015	Replace Corridor Water Cooler	LC-15-01	Lee Center	Preliminary Phase	-0-
FY 2015	Window replacement	LC-15-06	Lee Center	Procurement	-0-
FY 2015	Restrooms Wall covering Replacement	LC-15-03	Lee Center	In Queue (Outlying FY)	-0-
FY 2015	Paint corridor	LC-15-06	Lee Center	Executing	75%
FY 2015	Fenestration System Replacement	LC-15-02	Lee Center	In Queue (Outlying FY)	-0-
FY 2015	Fire Panel Replacement	LC-13-04	Lee Center	Executing	85%
FY 2015	RTU#2 replacement	LC-15-06	Lee Center	Executing	50%
FY 2015	Cooling tower replacement	LC-15-07	Lee Center	Completed	100%
FY 2015	Roof replacement	MV-15-02	Mt. Vernon Center	Completed	100%
FY 2015	Exterior lighting upgrades	MV-15-03	Mt. Vernon Center	Executing	-0-
FY 2015	Reception desk upgrade	MV-15-01	Mt. Vernon Center	Executing	90%
FY 2015	Ceiling Upgrade	MV-15-04	Mt. Vernon Center	Procurement	-0-
FY 2015	Activity Room Ceiling Replacement	MV-14-02	Mt. Vernon Center	Old Hold	-0-
FY 2015	New Fitness Equipment	NL-15-01	Nannie J. Lee Center	In Queue (Outlying FY)	-0-
FY 2015	Painting - Interiors	NL-15-02	Nannie J. Lee Center	Executing	-0-
FY 2015	Restroom Renovations	WR-15-01	William Ramsay Center	Executing	-0-
FY 2015	New Fitness Equipment	WR-15-01	William Ramsay Center	On Hold/Delayed	-0-

FY	Project Name	Project Code	Facility Name	Status	% Complete
FY 2015	Install Sound Baffles	WR-15-02	William Ramsay Center	On Hold/Delayed	-0-