

City of Alexandria, Virginia

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

Thursday, April 21, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Charles Houston Center – 901 Wythe Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Agenda

- I. Call to Order: Jennifer Atkins, Chair
- II. Presentations:
 - A. Update on Potomac Yards Metrorail Station: Concept Plans for Potomac Greens and Potomac Yard Parks, and Metro Station design
- III. Items for Information:
 - A. Public Comments – non agenda items.
 - B. Updates:
 - Patrick Henry School and Recreation Center
- IV. Items for Action:
 - A. Approval of Minutes: February 18, 2016
 - B. Eisenhower West/Landmark Van Dorn Implementation Advisory Group P&RC Representative
- V. Division Updates: Recreation Services, Park Operations, Planning and Waterfront.
FY17 Operating Budget and CIP
- VI. Commission Business: Verbal Reports from Commissioners by District:
- VII. Next Meeting: May 19, 2016.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 21, 2016

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

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

SUBJECT: RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES REPORT, ITEM V

Program Wrap-Ups

- On March 2, Mount Vernon Recreation Center participated in **Read Across America Day**. This nationwide reading celebration takes place annually, and thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers participate by bringing together kids, teens, and books. Participants were read books written by Dr. Seuss, and given books to take home.



- On March 5, Cora Kelly Recreation Center cheerleaders participated in the **Bowie State Cheerstarz Cheerleading Competition** at Bowie State University. The girls competed in the Pee Wee Level 1 Division against 9 other teams. They received an award for best choreography and earned the title of Pee Wee Level 1 Champions for highest overall score. They now advance to the U.S. Finals in Virginia Beach next month. Congratulations to the Cora Kelly Cougars and their coach Shatavia Lipscomb!



- On March 11, **Family Fun Night** featuring Patrick Henry Elementary School took place at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatics Facility. Participants enjoyed swimming, basketball relays, a floating obstacle course, a racquetball clinic, a nature center exhibit, pool safety tips and swimming assessments for youth. Attendance reached

87 people, and revenue for the evening was \$348. Upcoming Family Fun Nights are scheduled for April 15, April 22, and May 6.

- The **Lil' Rookies Basketball League** ended its first season on March 20. Players were divided up by recreation districts into four teams. The players received a 25 minute instruction session before each game, then played four 6 minute quarters. This program focuses on the basic fundamentals of basketball like dribbling, shooting, passing and catching. The program had 32 participants, generating \$2,400 in revenue.



- Cora Kelly Recreation Center's **Indoor Futsal Soccer League** held its Championship Game on March 19. This 6 on 6 competitive league is for ages 16 and older. The league consists of a 12 week regular season with play-off and championship games. Trophies and medals were awarded to the winners. This season the program included twelve teams, generating \$7200 in revenue. An increase of \$700 from 2015.



- RPCA's **Annual Basketball Championship** took place on March 19 at T.C. Williams High School. Throughout the season, each team selected a player from the opposing team who would receive a bracelet stating "RPCA SPORTSMANSHIP PLAYER OF THE GAME" based on sportsmanship, hustle, leadership, conduct and teamwork. The bracelets were a hit with players from all leagues excited to receive them and over 800 distributed. 1,178 participants played in 10 divisions, with \$77,220 in revenue.



- To get into the swing of Spring, the following recreation centers sponsored Egg Hunt events for city residents:

- On March 26, Cora Kelly Recreation Center and The National Community Church co-sponsored the second annual **Egg-stravaganza** at the Conservatory Center at Four Mile Run Park. Kids enjoyed cotton candy, popcorn and prizes. Over 5,000 people participated in this event.



- The **Underwater Egg Hunt** took place on March 26 at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility. Participants enjoyed pictures with Alex the Bunny, climbing on the aqua challenge floating obstacle course, and many other themed games and activities. Revenue was \$630 with 117 attendees.



- On March 26, Nannie J Lee Recreation Center in partner with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. hosted its annual **Egg Hunt and Spring Extravaganza**. Egg hunts were facilitated throughout the afternoon and families from the community were engaged in games, crafts, spring activities, petting zoo demonstrations, music and FUN! 10 baskets were awarded and free refreshments were offered throughout the event. Over 150 people attended this free event.



- On March 31, youth at William Ramsay Recreation Center participated in an **Egg Hunt** event. The program featured fun activities including arts & crafts, sack relay races, an egg toss and egg hunt. The youth had a ball as they searched for the eggs throughout the center and around the center grounds. There were hidden treats in the eggs along with a few surprise eggs with a one dollar bill inside. The dollar bills were donated by the center staff to add some additional excitement.

- On March 26, Charles Houston Recreation Center partnered with the Alexandria Police Department to host its **Spring Egg Hunt**. Families were entertained by soft play activities and a family friendly movie in the gym. Outside, families got to visit with a bunny while hunting for hundreds of eggs.

- This spring RPCA offered 10 **Spring Break Camps** including, Soccer, Basketball, Tennis, Lacrosse, Lego and Minecraft. We served a total of 124 participants, generating \$27,400 in revenue. Compared to 2015, that's an increase of 4 camps, 21 participants, and \$10,900 in revenue.
- The City of Alexandria recognized **National Safe Place Week**, March 20-26, with daily themed activities at Safe Place sites to raise awareness about the issues youth face and the resources available in Alexandria. Themed activities included informative presentations to youth enrolled in the OSTP and teens who frequent



recreation centers. Participants watched Safe Place awareness videos and went on a Safe Place walk. This week was also used to bring awareness to the Mayor's Campaign to End Bullying. The youth had a discussion on what bullying is and how to report it. Hundreds of City of Alexandria youth participated in Safe Place Week activities.

- Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center's **FUN-tastic Spring Break Camp** engaged campers in a variety of activities and field trips. Some of the activities and trips included Old Town Waterfront, Rebounderz Trampoline Park, bowling, crafts, reptile demonstrations and a Paint Ball Party. Both parents and campers were so impressed with the camp that it prompted 5 families to enroll in Camp Adventure this summer. The camp had 41 participants, and generated \$5,825.30 in revenue.



- The **Dance for All Ages** was held on April 1, at T.C. Williams High School. This year's theme was Seniors Prom so as the guests entered they were crowned with tiaras, fancy top hats or fedoras. Approximately 110 participants 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. The event was hosted by the Successful Aging Committee and the T.C. Williams High School, Student Government Association.



- The **Rec Expo** took place on April 2, at the Lee Center Complex. This event highlighted many of the programs and services RPCA offers. Participants had an opportunity to meet instructors and center staff, and engage in free class demos and sports clinics. Onsite registration was available.



Program Updates

Out of School Time FY13 through FY16 Summer/School Year Participant and Revenue Comparison

	FY-16 YTD School Year 15-16 3-31-16	FY-15 Actuals School Year 14-15 3-31-15	FY-14 Actuals School Year 13-14	FY-13 Actuals School Year 12-13	FY-16 Summer 2015 YTD	FY-15 Actuals Summer 2014	FY-14 Actuals Summer 2013
Program Fee	\$415	\$415	\$300	\$250	\$125/\$300 (as of 7/1)	\$100	\$50
Satisfaction % *mid-year report	90%*	92%	92%	92%	90%	96%	92%
Registration #	1,196	1,185	1,243	1,296	1,352	1,332	1,373
OSTP Revenue	\$353,864	\$348,008	\$268,536	\$212,225	\$130,750	\$103,100	\$54,352
Fee Assistance (Discounts)	\$124,478	\$123,648	\$87,608	\$73,050	\$41,060	\$28,715	\$13,798
Fees Charged	\$498,440*	\$493,039*	\$366,071	\$308,031	\$174,060	\$133,965	\$68,622

*Fees paid in installments.

- American Red Cross Learn to swim programs** is essential to the water safety of the community. The winter enrollment served 1177 participants, 59 waitlisted in 278 class offerings generating \$125,527 in revenue. 135 Individual swim lesson clients contributed \$37,692 of this revenue. Compared to 2015, registration is up 317 participants and \$46,938 in revenue. Registration is complete with classes ending at the end of April.

Spring & Summer enrollments have started for classes occurring between May to August at both Chinquapin & Charles Houston pools. Ongoing registration so far has 148 classes with 396 enrolled generating \$37,649 in revenues.

- William Ramsay and Patrick Henry Recreation Centers are participating in the pilot **Power Swim program**. The program was developed to provide swim lessons for 150 children enrolled in William Ramsay and Patrick Henry's Power On Programs (OSTP). At the Chinquapin Park Recreation and Aquatics Facility, lifeguards assessed the skill levels of all participants, followed by weekly lessons in basic fundamentals of swimming and water safety. There are 14 children from William Ramsay and 21 children from Patrick Henry currently participating. The registration fee for this program is \$19. 29 participants were given 100% subsidy.



- Every Tuesday in April, the 4-H program of Virginia Cooperative Extension sponsors **Nutrition Classes for seniors** at Mount Vernon Recreation Center. These classes will focus on healthy eating, weight loss and physical activity.

Upcoming Programs & Events

- The annual **Alexandria Spring Invitational Cheer Competition** will take place on Saturday, April 16, at T.C. Williams High School. The competition features 3 age categories of youth cheerleading teams from neighborhood recreation centers and the metropolitan area. Local teams include Charles Houston, Cora Kelly, Mt. Vernon and William Ramsay Recreation Centers. Each team will receive a team trophy at the awards presentation immediately following the competition.
- On April 23, Cora Kelly Recreation Center hosts its **Annual After-School Dance Recital**. Over the last 4 months, both beginner and intermediate level students have been training in ballet and modern dance on a weekly basis.
- The **ASTEAM Family Carnival** takes place on April 23, at Charles Houston Recreation Center. The Carnival is designed to showcase new activities for youth who are enrolled in the Out of School Time Program. Activities for the day are built around STEM with two additional add-ons, Aviation and Art. We are very excited about the potential implementation of the ASTEAM Program through a partnership with the Northern VA Urban League and their vendor Smart Learning Solutions.
- On April 29, Cora Kelly Recreation Center hosts its 18 and over dance party, **“Let’s Dance, Dance...Dance!”** Put on your dancing shoes and come enjoy a toe tapping good time. Join instructor Glenda Davis as she leads you through the dance moves. She will have you grooving in no time. This event is \$5 and refreshments will be served.
- On April 30, the **Girls Fast-Pitch Softball Opening Day Ceremony** will be held at Armistead Booth Park. This ceremony will honor the 2016 players, coaches and sponsors.
- **Miracle League Opening Day Ceremonies** will be held at Kelly Cares Miracle Field on April 20, for child participants, and April 23, for adult participants. The Miracle League of Alexandria provides a non-competitive environment where children and adults with mental and/or physical challenges can go at their own pace.

Special Features

- **Public Pools Capital Improvement Project** replacing the Training Pool fence at the Old Town pool is complete. Old Town Pool bathhouse door replacements are in progress and tiling the pool ramp entry at Memorial Pool has begun. The hot water heater replacement at Old Town pool was moved up in priority to be completed prior to the Pool opening in May.

- **Picnic Reservation season** spans from April-October, with pre-reservations beginning in March. Picnic locations include Fort Ward, Ben Brenman, Joseph Hensley, Chinquapin and Armistead Booth parks, and the new picnic area at Lee Center located in the rear of the building. March reservations totaled \$10,915, which is an increase of \$340 from March 2015 and \$3890 from March 2014.
- **Renovations at Lee Center** are underway. All areas will receive new paint. To date, 50% of the building has been completed, including: the auditorium, exhibit hall and main lobby areas. Painting will continue through the month of April, along with bathroom renovations for the 2nd floor and Exhibit.

Staff Updates

- March 13-18, eight staff members attended the **Revenue Development & Management School Training** in Wheeling, WV. This was a good opportunity to learn and share with recreational professionals from different areas of the country about where our profession is going with user fees and cost recovery, and how we might best prepare our leadership and front line staff to face the rapid changes coming our way. RPCA attendees included Rodney Bates, Bryan Williams, Candice Goines, Lucresha Murphy, Bertha Coleman, Kelly Gilfillen, Glen Harriott and Barbara Farrington.
- Congratulations to **Tamika Coleman**, Recreation Manager for the Sports Section, for winning the Viola Lawson Award from the Alexandria Commission for Women. Tamika is recognized for her achievements that have made a significant impact on women and girls in the City of Alexandria. The 36th Annual Salute to Women Awards Banquet was held on March 28. A total of twelve women were honored for their accomplishments in civic life and for the improvements they have brought to the well-being of Alexandria's women. The awards are presented for achievement in a wide range of private and governmental pursuits, including the arts, business, service to youth, public policy, health and safety, public service and civic leadership.



Admin

- Staff submitted RPCA's space use request for programs during the 2016-2017 school year and 2017 summer program.
- The CYMP OSTP Work Group established by the City Council and School Board and reporting to the Children, Youth and Family Collaborative Commission, is working on the implementation plan for Out of School Time Programs as it relates to goals of the Children

and Youth Master Plan (CYMP). A survey was conducted in March with the assistance of the City IT/GIS unit to map the current programs provided throughout the City. This project will help the community understand the existing array of afterschool programs targeting elementary, middle and high school students. The Work Group will use the mapping as a first step to evaluate the current programs available to children and their families and to look for ways to align Out of School Time Program services to close gaps, expand opportunities, improve quality and measure success.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 21, 2016

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: DINESH TIWARI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR - PARK OPERATIONS, RPCA

THROUGH: JAMES SPENGLER, DIRECTOR, RPCA

SUBJECT: PARK OPERATIONS' MONTHLY UPDATE – ITEM V

1. PARK AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

a. Park Maintenance

- With the arrival of spring, athletic field staff have de-winterized all fields and made them playable for the spring season. Improving irrigations systems and turf management have been a primary area of concentration.
- Construction at Eugene Simpson Stadium has begun; this project will focus on replacing the dated backstop and press box. This renovation and modernization project will improve observation and socialization areas within the park.
- To alleviate bare areas and promote turf growth at Ft. Ward Park, staff hydro seeded multiple areas including; Picnic Area 1, Picnic Area 2, Picnic Area 3, and outside the restrooms and Bastion wall. Staff also did erosion control from the top of the road adjacent to area 2, down to the playground. This improvement will help slow the flow of surface water and alleviate the washout which occurs in the playground.
- To prepare for spring uses, staff has been pressure washing park signs, playground equipment and park furniture.

b. New Development Management/Turf Maintenance

- Staff preformed seasonal painting of all synthetic fields in the city. Fields continued to be groomed, aerated and



Hydro seeding, Ft. Ward Park



Sign renovation



Painting park equipment

lined. Ongoing turf repair efforts will continue to focus on identifying excessive wear patterns, potential hazards, so that mitigation processes can be immediately implemented to assure a safe playing surface. Staff also performed early spring over-seeding on several natural turf fields within the City.

- Park Operations accepted maintenance responsibility of Potomac Greens Park. In anticipation of an active and heavy use season at Braddock Interim Park, staff performed several minor furniture repairs.
- Adopt-a-Park Orientation was held in preparation for the new season which began on April 1st. Volunteer groups met and were introduced to fellow program participants in an open-forum style meeting. On May 11th the City Council scheduled to review and hopefully approve the docket request to submit the 2016 grant application for program funding in FY2017.
- On March 22nd Alexandria City Police's Special Operations Team held a memorial beautification project at Charlie Hill Park. Volunteers mulched trees, picked-up litter, and planted flowers in memory of Corporal Charles W. Hill who was killed in the line of duty on March 22, 1989. The Special Operations Team adopted Charles Hill Park in 2008.

c. Park Facilities Maintenance

- Staff continues to work on de-winterization of the irrigation systems and water fountains. The de-winterization schedule is expected to be completed by the end of April.
- Park Shop staff continues to work on equipment conversion, general inspection and corrective maintenance for all turf equipment in preparation for the growing season.
- Staff started the third playground safety inspection.
- Staff completed the replacements of timber walls at Chinquapin Park Gardening Plots for better wheelchair accessibility.
- Staff completed the construction of four storage pins at Chinquapin Park Gardening and planter renovation.

2. URBAN FORESTRY MANAGEMENT

- The 2016 Spring Native Plant Sale sponsored by RPCA is underway, and will conclude with all the plants being picked up at the Jerome "Buddie" Ford Nature Center on May 21.



Seasonal painting



Charlie Hill Park



Renovated retaining walls.



Wheelchair accessible garden plot

Orders can be placed through May 7 either at the Nature Center or online at alexandriava.gov/webtrac. The selection of plants includes white oak, scarlet oak, eastern red cedar, and native sumac and viburnums. The purposes of the Plant Sale include promoting the use of native plants in the landscape and expanding tree canopy cover in Alexandria.

- The Urban Forestry Section's Spring tree-planting season began March 15. Our goal is to plant 250 trees along city streets and in parks. Specific areas that will be addressed this spring include North Van Dorn Street, West Braddock Road, and Fort Ward Park. The Fort Ward Park plantings will include those called for in the Park Management Plan and funded by the CIP. Residents who wish to have trees planted in the right-of-way in front of their homes can submit requests through the City Call-Click-Connect System. The Urban Forestry Section will inspect the location and provide information to residents about what species are available.

3. JEROME "BUDDIE" FORD NATURE CENTER

a. Programs/Updates:

The Naturalist staff of the Jerome "Buddie" Ford Nature Center conducted 91 interpretive programs in March that were attended by 1,525 participants. The programs conducted included 2 preschool programs, 2 weekend programs, 2 outreach classes at the libraries, 3 birthday parties, Science Night at MacArthur Elementary School, and 2 outreach events at Chinguapin Recreation Center. The combined total of visitors and program participants for March was 2,964 people.

Science Night at MacArthur Elementary School:

The nature center was invited to participate at the annual "Science Night at MacArthur Elementary School". The City Naturalist and a former MacArthur student volunteer Will Yeingst, displayed native and non-native amphibians from the nature center. The focus of their table was amphibians. Due to habitat loss, the exotic pet trade, and a fast spreading disease called Chytrid, many species of frogs, toads, newts, and salamanders are rapidly disappearing. More than 600 students and their parents visited the nature center's table.

Afterschool Buddies Program:

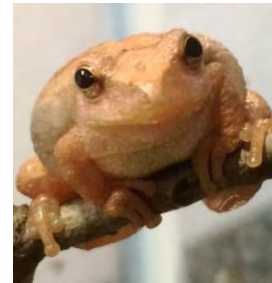
Despite being off for a week during spring break, the Nature Buddies had a busy month packed with fun and guest speakers. Now that it's spring, the buddies are doing yoga in Dora Kelley Nature Park! On March 18th, Alexandria police officer Charles Lloyd conducted a program on Safety. He instructed the children on the proper procedure when calling 911, ways to identify strangers, and taking safety precautions. Later that week, in Honor of National Safe Place week, the Safe Place



New mulch and wood chip areas.



Will Yeingst stamps a "Science Night Passport" when MacArthur students visit the nature center's exhibit.



Spring peeper.



Yoga outdoors.

Coordinator spoke to the buddies about how to deal with bullying, and how it affects others. On March 30th, a City Arborist conducted a program followed by a hike in Dora Kelley Nature Park. The purpose of this hike was to learn how to identify trees by their bark. Later, the children created bark rubbings. Children and their parents were thrilled with the speaker and provided great positive feedback.

Outreach Program at Chinquapin Recreation Center:

On March 17, staff conducted a program about turtles at Chinquapin Recreation Center. The six students were from RPCA's Therapeutic Recreation. Everyone got a close-up look at the many turtles from the nature center's collection.

b. Volunteers and Interns:

A total of 3 volunteers provided 33 hours of service during the month of March.

c. Noteworthy:

Frog Watch Survey. This year's annual Frog Watch was conducted from March 7 to 17 in Dora Kelley Nature Park. More than 30 volunteers and nature center staff participated in the survey. When comparing the data from the previous three years, the numbers for peepers and salamanders were "off the chart" for this year. The great weather made it near perfect nights for the patrols. For the first time, we were able to run the patrols straight through from beginning to end without having to cancel for snow or cold. The fact that the sewer work had to be done, which pushed back our start date, meant that we missed the larger wood frog migration. Fortunately, most of the volunteers still heard or saw many frogs including wood frogs, spring peepers, cricket frogs, and American toads. A special thank you goes out Kasha Helget for all of the organization and data compiling for this survey. Also, thanks to Linda Shapiro for sharing her wonderful photos.



Wood frogs mating

4. NATURAL LANDS MANAGEMENT

a. Invasive Plant Management and Ecological Restoration

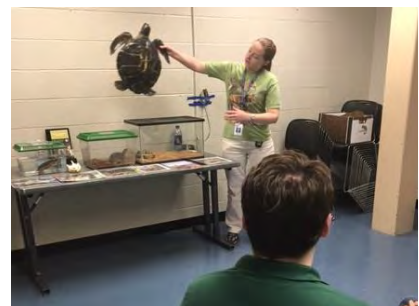
- Staff supervised our contractor Invasive Plant Control



Arborist Matthew Barker conducting program on native trees found in Dora Kelley Nature Park.



Officer Lloyd holding a tarantula after the buddies' safety program at the nature center.



Turtle program at Chinquapin.

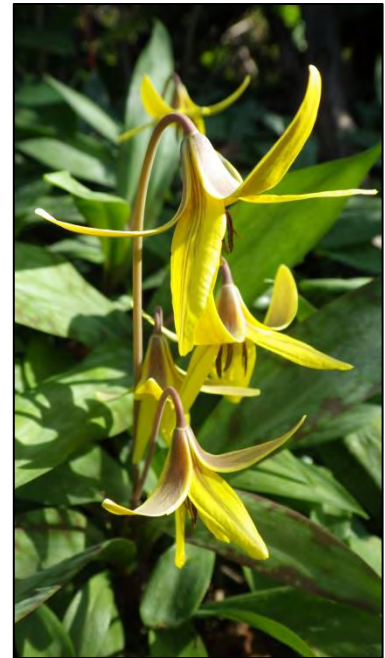


Touching the Box Turtle.

(IPC) with non-native invasive plant removal work along Holmes Run at Dora Kelley Nature Park, Holmes Run Scenic Easement, Holmes Run Park, and Tarleton Park; as well as the Telegraph and Duke Meadow and interchanges.

b. Cooperative Initiatives

- Staff sent maps of locations of all extant, state-listed and tracked R,T,&E species in the City of Alexandria to State Botanist John Townsend.
- Staff assisted Open Space Coordinator, property owner, and residents in providing an environmental assessment of 635 Upland Place for Open Space Property Nomination.
- Staff assisted T&ES, Stormwater Division, in providing Best Management Practices to remedy the underbrush clear-cutting and removal at the intersection of 5079 Polk Avenue and N. Pegram Street.
- Per request, staff assisted Auburn Village Condominium in providing Best Management Practices for the care of their old-age trees, and especially in the recommendation to NOT preemptively remove the healthy and sound State Champion Swamp White Oak along E. Glebe Road just because it's very large.
- Staff assisted Park Planning in providing review, comments, and Best Management Practices for the Wakefield-Tarleton Civic Association MOU.
- On April 9, staff led a Spring Wildflower Walk at Dora Kelley Nature Park for the Ford Nature Center.
- Staff assisted Maryland Biodiversity Project and Maryland Native Plant Society in reviewing and providing comments regarding the identification of native blueberries and huckleberries.
- Staff assisted Alexandria Beautification Commission by providing a list of natural area sites suitable for volunteer workday efforts.
- On April 16, staff supervised Christopher Rainey's (Troop 129) excellent Eagle Scout Project to restore and improve the south entrance to Monticello Park.
- On April 17, staff led a field trip to Chapman State Park in Charles County, Maryland for the George Washington University Sustainable Landscapes Graduate Program students and instructors.



Trout Lily



GWU field trip

Christopher Rainey Eagle Scout Project



Park operations City Works Report

FY 2016- As of April 8,2016

Service Requests

	Currently Open/Reviewed	Currently Past Due	YTD Closed	Notes:
Natural Resources (trees, nature programs and natural lands)	70	0	700	
Park Maintenance	8	2	114	reassigned to another dept.
Park Facility Maintenance	1	0	60	
All Park Ops	79	2	874	

Work Orders

	*Currently Open/Recurring	Currently Past Due	YTD Closed	
Trees (UrbanForestry)	287	0	1388	
Nature Center	0	0	1	
Natural Lands	28	0	78	
Park Maintenance	278	0	431	
Park Facility Maintenance	115	0	128	
ROW	0	0	0	ROW at 0 and is being investigated by IT for program error
Schools	13	0	589	
Horticulture/Landscaping	22	0	125	
All Park Ops	743	0	2740	

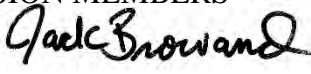
*Current open/recurring work orders include items related
to service requests and planned annual maintenance tasks

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 21, 2016

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: JACK BROWAND, DIVISION CHIEF 
PARK PLANNING, DESIGN & CAPITAL PROJECTS
RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION: ITEM V. DIVISION UPDATE

SIMPSON PARK PLAYGROUND AND PASSIVE LAWN RENOVATION **Project Manager: Dana Wedeles, Urban Planner III**

In November 2014, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation awarded the City with a Land Water Conservation Fund matching grant to renovate the playground and adjacent passive lawn (the 1-acre area between the western playground fence and the western tennis court fence) in Simpson Park. Funds are available for both design and construction.

In February 2016, the City hired [Lardner/Klein](#) as the landscape architect to work with the community to design the site. In March 2016 the Office of the Arts hired [May + Watkins](#) to develop public art within the site. The artist will work concurrent with the landscape architect, and hold an integrated community input and design process.

The City and Lardner/Klein will host a community meeting on May 25, 2016 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the park with the Mobile Art Lab facilitating an activity that encourages attendees to "see the park" through different perspectives. At 7:30 p.m., attendees will move into the conference room at the Reingold Building, 433 E. Monroe Ave, to provide feedback on three alternative designs. An online survey will also allow community input.

Over the summer, the design team will refine the design. We expect to finalize the design in fall 2016, develop construction drawings over winter 2017 and begin construction in spring 2017.

BEN BRENNAN DOG PARK RENOVATION

Project Manager: Dana Wedeles, Urban Planner III

On April 5, 2016, the Planning Commission and, subsequently, City Council, approved the lights and expansion of the Ben Brennan Dog Park on April 16. As a result of the addition of lights, the hours of use in Ben Brennan Park will be changed from “sunrise to sunset” to “6 a.m. to 10p.m. in lighted areas of the Park.” Park signage will be changed to reflect the hours of use.

The lights will use solar technology as there are no electrical utilities on the south side of Cameron Run. Staff will begin the design in late Spring 2016 and will hold a community meeting in the summer. We expect to have the lights installed before the end of Day Light Savings time in the Fall.

FOUR MILE RUN WETLANDS RIBBON CUTTING

Project Manager: Dana Wedeles, Urban Planner III

The City of Alexandria and the Four Mile Run Joint Task Force cordially invite you to the Ribbon Cutting of the Four Mile Run Wetlands on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.

- **Invitation** (Attachment 1)

BEVERLEY PARK RENOVATION UPDATE

Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III

Park Planning hosted two community meetings on March 9 and March 21 to obtain feedback about the proposed park security lighting. The Alexandria Police Crime Prevention unit also attended the meetings and discussed park security, and the advantages and disadvantages of lighting. Police were concerned about the lights attracting nighttime use and the enforcement of park operating hours. Based on this information, the North Ridge Civic Association and adjacent homeowners decided against adding lighting in the park. Park Planning has withdrawn the Special Use Permit application required for the lights. The park renovation is currently in the design phase with construction documents at 90% completion. Construction is anticipated to begin fall 2016.

TANEY AVENUE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III

A Special Use Permit (SUP) has been submitted to Planning and Zoning to add a play area and associated park improvements at Taney Avenue Park, 4149 Taney Avenue. The play area and associated improvements are recommended in the 2015 Neighborhood Park plan. The park is zoned POS, requiring a Special Use permit for children’s play areas. Improvements will include climbing equipment, a park entry area, pedestrian trail improvements, park identification signage, and invasive plant removal. The SUP is currently docketed for the June 7 Planning Commission meeting. Park Planning will also schedule community meetings in early May and release an online survey to obtain further feedback about the proposed park improvements (Refer

to attached draft site plan). Through the PARKnership program, several community organizations will also be collaborating with the Department to fund and implement the improvements this coming fall of 2016.

- **Taney Avenue Park Improvement Plan** (Attachment 2)

POTOMAC YARD DOG PARK

Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III

The Pulte Group has begun construction of the Potomac Yard Dog Park located at 561 East Monroe Avenue. Construction is anticipated to take three months and end summer 2016. The land is currently owned by Potomac Yard Development and will be deeded to the City upon completion and City acceptance of the dog park.

The new .50 acre fenced dog park will include a small and large dog area, two double-gated entry-exits, seating, a trough-style dog fountain, multiple waste stations, a landscaped perimeter, and decomposed granite surfacing. Plantings and streetscape improvements around the Dominion Substation and along Monroe Avenue will also be completed.

The dog park is an approval condition of the larger Potomac Yard Development and was approved by City Council in 2010.

APRIL 2016 RPCA ACTIVE PROJECTS

- Attachment 3

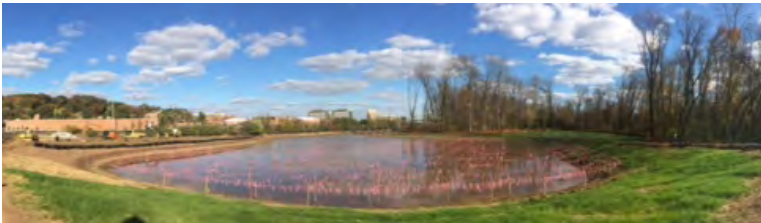


The City of Alexandria and
the Four Mile Run Joint Task Force
cordially invite you to
the Ribbon Cutting of the

Four Mile Run Wetlands

Saturday, May 14, 2016
8:30 a.m.

4131 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia



This event will be held rain or shine.

Parking will be available both on-street and at the parking lot on Mt. Vernon Avenue. Following remarks, the Project Manager will conduct site tours.

For more information, please call Dana Wedeles, Park Planner with the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, at 703.746.5491 or e-mail dana.wedeles@alexandriava.gov

Taney Avenue Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

4149 Taney Avenue

Draft Concept Site Plan

April 2016

City of Alexandria

Department of Recreation,
Parks and Cultural Activities



Active Park Planning Projects

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
VDOT				
	Four Mile Pedestrian Bridge	DW RK	60% Design	31-Dec-15
Notes:	NVRC and VDOT resolving payment issues. Once resolved, NVRC will reactivate project with Buro Happold.			
TE&S				
	Oronoco Outfall Project	JB		
Notes:	The project is under review.			
	Potomac Yard Metrorail Station	BZ DT		
Notes:	Public outreach for the station and park redesign is currently underway through the Potomac Yard Metrorail Implementation Work Group (PYMIG).			
T&ES				
	Holmes Run trail Feasibility Study	DW JL		01-Mar-16
Notes:	DPI is at 90% with design to put pedestrian bridge at the stairs from the fair weather crossing at Ripley Street.			
RPCA/ACPS				
	Patrick Henry Recreation Center Renovation	Ron, Beth, Laura, D	20%	01-Jun-16
Notes:	A/E contract approval by School Board January 28. Community Advisory Group Meeting on January 13. Begin design work Feb. 1, 2016. Next community meeting early February.			
RPCA				
	Add Canopy Structure at All Veterans Park	JL, AV	10% Design	30-Jun-16
Notes:	Identified in Holmes Run Plan. Custom design options being developed by manufacturer. Installation anticipated Spring 2016 depending on lead times for engineering and fabrication of structure.			
	Armistead L. Boothe Park Restrooms	DG	98% Design	30-Jun-16
Notes:	The RFP is anticipated to be released in March.			
	Beverley Playground Renovation	JL	5% Construction Docs	01-Dec-16
Notes:	Community meetings to be held March 9 and 21 to obtain input on proposed lighting. Lighting not supported. Cdocs currently under City review process. Procurement anticipated May/June 2016.			
	Carlyle Dog Park Improvements	DR JN	15%	01-Feb-16
Notes:	This project will improve surfacing and park facilities, and combine with Living Landscape Dedicated Contributions. The project is under construction and is anticipated to be complete in March.			
	Chinquapin Feasibility Study	RMK LD	in progress	30-Sep-15
Notes:	Hughes Group analyzed alternative construction methods and completed the geotechnical analysis to reduce the cost estimate; two options are within/close to the proposed budget.			

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	Chinquapin Playground Repair-Upgrade	JL	80%	02-May-16
Notes:	Replacement parts installed July 30, 2015. Fence repairs and asphalt repair to be completed May 2016. Playground recommended to be re-located in 10 years--full renovation on hold.			
	CIP Planning/Budget	BZ, DW		
Notes:	The FY 2016 budget was adopted May 7. The Draft Budget for FY 2017 was released on February 23. The public hearing is scheduled for March 14.			
	City Marina Seawalls Planning	JB	5%	01-Jun-16
Notes:	Engineering study to evaluate the condition of the existing seawalls in order to determine the priority and level of repair needed. Project is being coordinated with DPI.			
	City Marina Utility Upgrade	JB	0%	30-Jun-17
Notes:	Engineering/planning in FY16. The project contract has been awarded.			
	Entry Portal Signs	RT, OM	0% Construction	01-Jun-16
Notes:	The purchase of new signs per the City's Wayfinding guidelines is in procurement and coordinated with T&ES. A partnership for the planting beds is being coordinated with the Beautification Commission.			
	Four Mile Run Connector Design and EA	DW	0%	30-Jun-16
Notes:	DPI provided Volkert with scope of work and is awaiting design and cost estimates.			
	Four Mile Run Restoration	Dana/Ron	90%	15-Apr-16
Notes:	The parking lot in Four Mile Run Park at Mount Vernon Avenue be closed for renovation from March 7 until mid-April. Ribbon cutting scheduled for May 14. Trail repairs occurring on 4/5.			
	Four Mile Run Trail Improvements and Mile Ma	Dan R. and DW	5%	31-Dec-15
Notes:	Mile Markers at warehouse and will be installed after the Four Mile Run Restoration project is complete.			
	George Mason Tennis Court Renovations	ACPS		
Notes:	ACPS Plans to resurface in Spring 2016, before programs begin.			
	Holmes Run Fitness Equipment Phase 2	Judy	20%	29-Apr-16
Notes:	Purchase order request completed. Revised quotes for installation to be obtained.			
	Hunter Miller Basketball Renovation (lights and	BZ, JN	90% Construction	18-Mar-16
Notes:	The replacement lights have been installed and are waiting for Dominion to reconnect power. The court surface renovation is complete.			
	Improve Landscape beds around Rec Centers	BT OM	10% Design	30-Jun-16
Notes:	Plans are being coordinated with Recreation Center Directors. Projects will include Charles Barrett, Durant Center, Mount Vernon and Cora Kelly			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	King Street Gardens Improvements	DR/MH		01-Jun-19
Notes:	RPCA and OEQ are working on the rain garden restoration to bring that part of the artwork back to its original design/purpose. Staff will work with an art conservator and the artist on the restoration			
	Lee Center Landscape Renovation	JL RMK		26-Feb-16
Notes:	Draft Landscape Plan recommendations to be completed Winter 2015. Installation anticipated Fall 2016.			
	Luckett Field Drainage and Backstop	BZ CW	5%	30-Jun-16
Notes:	Recommendation #4 Project scope is in progress.			
	Native Plant Conservation Zone Enhancement	Bob/Rod	30%	30-Jun-16
Notes:	This project will provide long-term improvements to the landscape island and pollinator garden at the Nature Center. Implementation is anticipated in the summer.			
	Old Town Pool Door Replacement	DG, RB	5%	31-Mar-16
Notes:	The purchase order was issued and the work is scheduled for March.			
	Potomac Yard Park	BZ	90% Construction	31-Mar-16
Notes:	Phase I (main body) opened December 14. Phase II (south trail) anticipated to be complete 2016 (punch lists are in progress). Phase III (North Pond) to be separated and complete winter 2016.			
	Recreation Facilities Security	DG	0%	30-Jun-16
Notes:	Internal analysis of the original APD assessment was completed on 8/24/2015. Tasks were prioritized and bundled per work category with highest priority bundle designated for immediate implementation.			
	Replace Old Town training pool fence	DG, RB	90%	11-Mar-16
Notes:	This project will replace the Old Town Pool fence around the training pool. The project is complete and in punch list review.			
	Rubber Surface Repairs	JL, SR,OM		20-Nov-15
Notes:	On-going project. Needed FY2016 repairs to be scheduled weather permitting for Mason Avenue & Judy Lowe. Charles Houston, Mt. Jefferson and Landover completed.			
	Simpson Little Building Demolition/Backstop	BZ, DG	100% Design	30-Jun-16
Notes:	CDs are completed. The project has been awarded and the schedule is being coordinated for the spring/summer.			
	Simpson Park Duncan Ave Entrance Improvement	DG, DW	75% Design	30-Jun-16
Notes:	See Simpson Park Plan. Construction drawings are in progress. Construction is anticipated in late spring/summer.			
	Simpson Playground & Passive Area Renovation	JL, DW	0%	01-Apr-16
Notes:	Lardner/Klein hired as landscape architect. Artist selected. First community meeting scheduled for May.			

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	Taney Avenue Accessible Path to New Benches	JL		
Notes:	Design underway-- To be completed with Fall 2016 in conjunction with other Taney improvements.			
	Taney Avenue Entry Plaza to the Park with Park	JL		
Notes:	Recommendation #3 & 8 of NPP. Design underway. Installation anticipated Fall 2016, in conjunction with other Taney Improvements.			
	Taney Avenue Install climbing/play features	JL	0%	30-Dec-16
Notes:	Recommendation #5 of Neighborhood Park Plan. Scope to be developed. Public/Private partnership project. SUP application aubmitted 3/18/16. On docket for June public hearings.			
	Trail Signage	JN	0%	31-Mar-16
Notes:	The sign improvements are being coordinated by Park Operations			
	Warwick Pool Renovation	DG, JB	5% Feasibility	31-May-17
Notes:	Geotech and structural analysis completed in July. Staff Council update in January. Task Order solicited-No response. New RFP relased through Purchasing. Bid Opening 4/22/16.			
	Wayfinding for Citywide Parks	DW	0%	31-May-16
Notes:	Firm selected and contract underway. Wayfinding plan set to beign in April in FMR, Hensley, Chinquapin, Simpson, Homes Run, and Brenman.			
	Windmill Hill Bulkhead Replacement	JB, BZ	90% Design	01-Jan-17
Notes:	City Council approved an amendment to the 2003 Park Master Plan to build a living shoreline to provide stabilization to the failed bulkhead and shore erosion. 90% drawings were review.			
P&Z				
	Braddock Small Area Plan	LD	90% Planning	
Notes:	Andropogon was hired to complete concept design for one-acre neighborhood park. Concept alternatives presented Fall 2015. Preferred Alternative was presented to PRC in March 2016.			
	Eisenhower ASA/Alexandria Renew Restrooms	BZ, DG	90% Construction	01-Apr-16
Notes:	Staff will schedule a punch list walk in March. Construction is anticipated to be complete in winter/early spring 2016.			
	Eisenhower ASA/AlexRenew Field	BZ, RMK	90 % Construction	01-Mar-16
Notes:	Construction issues resulted in drainage failures in the field. Alex Renew is completing a remedy for the issues. Project website is http://www.alexrenewnmf.com/ Punchlist remains outstanding.			
	Eisenhower Avenue Widening	Beth Z.	90% Design	01-Dec-17
Notes:	Project is expected to be under construction for 18 months starting 2016. 90% Drawings reviewed. ROW acquisition is in progress.			
	Eisenhower West	LD	100% Planning	
Notes:	Planning Commission and City Council approved November 2015. Implementation group will be established in 2016.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	Fitzgerald Square	RMK		
Notes:	The project has been awarded to a consultant team. The project is in concept development. This project is managed by DPI. Community meeting Dec 10.			
	Potomac Yard I/J West and L	BZ	80% 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	90% Construction	31-May-16
Notes:	Phase I (Custis) complete/transferred. Construction of phase II (Howell) complete/under performance bond. As-built punch lists relayed to Pulte and next review is anticipated in the spring.			
	Waterfront Plan	RMK		29-Dec-17
Notes:	The City is embarking on a multi-year capital program to reinvent the City’s Waterfront as a dynamic gateway to historic Old Town. The project is managed by DPI.			
General Services				
	Conservatory at Four Mile Run Park Communit	LD, DG	100%	
Notes:	Improvements to the building are complete. Staff are reviewing and negotiating a final proposal for a non-profit management lease of the building, including newHVAC. Final negotiations Jan. 2016.			
ACPS				
	John Adams Transportation Improvements	DW		31-Aug-15
Notes:	ACPS planning on construction over summer 2016.			