



**PARK AND RECREATION
COMMISSION
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 414
Arlington, Virginia 22201**

Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2022

****Due to the Countywide precautions taken during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Park and Recreation Commission (PRC) meeting was held virtually on Microsoft Teams.***

Commission Members Present:

Shruti Kuppa, Chair
Jill Barker, Vice Chair
Sarah Baryluk
Sergio Enriquez
Dean Foster
Colt Gregory
Peter Harnik
Gretchen Hickey
David Howell
Mark Lincoln
Kevin Manuel
Drew Murray (Sports Commission Liaison)
Adam Rasmussen
Melissa Riggio

Guests:

Duke Banks
Alyssa Cannon
David Cheek

County Staff:

Marco Rivero, Principal Planner, PRC Staff Liaison
Erik Beach, Parks Planning Division Chief, DPR
Diane Probus, Associate Planner, DPR
Rebecca Schmitt, Assistant to the Department Director, DPR

PRC members not in attendance:

Neal Hunter

Chairman’s Introduction and Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes

PRC Chair, Shruti Kuppa provided a brief introduction and PRC Staff Liaison, Marco Rivero reviewed details associated with Microsoft Teams. Mr. Rivero also specified that this would be a recorded meeting of the PRC.

The Commission considered its amended, March 15, 2022, Park and Recreation Commission (PRC) meeting minutes (amended language provided based on PRC discussion at the April 19, 2022, meeting) and its April 19, 2022, meeting minutes. With no objections, the Commission approved the March 15 and April 19 minutes as presented.

Public Comment

- **Duke Banks** spoke as the President of Friends of Gulf Branch, which made a recommendation to the County Board about nature center hours. The recommendation was to resume nature center hours as provided pre-COVID-19 pandemic. There were documents circulated by Mr. Banks regarding this and other considerations. The PRC should consider sending a letter to the County Board possibly jointly with the Forestry and Natural Resources Commission (FNRC). Furthermore, as part of a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) consideration, the County should fund upgrades for nature centers, because they are public park assets that have not received them previously.
- **David Cheek**, President of the Clarendon Courthouse Civic Association, spoke on the 11th Street North and North Danville Street park area. Three items in particular were noted. First, the naming for the park. The participation was irregular at first, but after staff created an engagement tool for the naming, 11th Street Park seemed to be the name most people supported. Secondly, as part of the Clarendon Sector Plan Update, the PRC supported the 50,000 sq. ft. park along 10th Street North. The County Board did not move forward with this option. However, the smaller, public space that is planned at this location may be a good option for the Nguyen Ngoc Bich Park name, honoring Mr. Bich’s contributions to the County and the area’s Vietnamese history. Thirdly, regarding the 11th Street North and North Danville Street park area, there are cars that race around this area that impact pedestrians, residents, and cyclists. This is a serious safety issue and there should be follow up regarding how this is impacted by the Vision Zero initiative. Families, children, and adults should be able to enjoy this space without fear of being run over.

Agenda Items

Information Item on Potential Park Renaming

- Park Naming Options for Public Space at 11th Street North and North Danville Street

Diane Probus, DPR, provided an initial presentation on the potential park renaming of the public space located at 11th Street North and North Danville Street. Several options were presented accordingly. Furthermore, Alyssa Cannon of the Clarendon Courthouse Civic Association (CCCA) spoke on this item stating that the CCCA is excited about this park project. 11 respondents provided initial comments. An online engagement forum was created by staff to provide an additional engagement opportunity, which provided for 146 respondents. “11th Street Park” was the preferred name provided by the community.

Commissioner comments included but were not limited to the following:

- PRC Chair Kuppa supports the community’s input and looks forward to public feedback from the various committees.
- PRC Vice Chair Barker asked for clarity on the current name of the public space. Ms. Probus confirmed that the current park’s name in the DPR public spaces inventory shows it as “11th Street North and North Danville Street Park”.
- Commissioners acknowledged that it was a good idea to provide an additional feedback opportunity for the park name as part of an online feedback forum.
- There is early PRC support for the “11th Street Park” naming option, given the community’s support.
- Is there an opportunity to honor Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Bich with possible historical signage or something else that honors the Little Saigon history within Clarendon?
- The corner of the park meets up with the Clarendon Crossing area (off Clarendon Boulevard). Staff should make sure that the physical and visual connections will be present and also noted with signage. This public space could serve as an opportunity for historical signage about the whole area in the context of Clarendon/surrounding neighborhood and not only the public park space.

Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 – FY 2032 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Presentation and Discussion

Erik Beach, DPR, provided a presentation and discussion on the proposed FY 2023-2032 CIP to the PRC. Additional DPR staff were present for this discussion item (Rebecca Schmitt). There will be a County Board work session on the CIP item for Parks and Recreation on June 14. Additional open houses and other engagement opportunities will be provided.

Commissioner comments included but were not limited to the following:

- PRC Chair Kuppa thanked staff for the thorough presentation and supports the return of CIP monies for potential, land acquisition. PRC Chair Kuppa was also excited about the Emerging Uses program and other new programs, natural resiliency and adding more opportunities to increase the County’s natural capital.
- Further details regarding the proposed \$5 million to the land acquisition program. Noticed that public spaces identified in the Clarendon Sector Plan Update (adopted by the County Board in April 2022) were not included. Is “triangle park” identified in Clarendon? How will this be incorporated within the CIP? Mr. Beach stated that there are parks that have been purchased or conveyed accordingly as per the Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP). There are also future, privately-owned public space since 2020 that have estimate acreages provided as part of site plan/private development approvals. For example, “Triangle Park” as identified within the Clarendon Sector Plan Update is listed and shown in a long-range planning document and would likely come forward as part of a future site plan project.
- Synthetic fields and funding for their improvements and incorporation are appreciated. Much of the funding is provided to rectangular fields and not specifically for conversion of diamond fields to synthetic turf. Mr. Beach clarified that this is an evolving conversation; the sports groups that had much desire to convert fields were mainly for rectangular field sports and not necessarily diamond field users. However, this is changing particularly with the success at the synthetic field conversion at Gunston Park. The projects identified will continue to evolve and may see more inclusion in future discussions.
- There should be an updated presentation provided to PRC members in advance of the County Board work session on June 14. Three points provided: 1. Condition of assets, would like to see the inclusion of natural assets as part of the assessments done (including

the removal of invasives). 2. Master plan initiatives, the Natural Resiliency Program, it makes sense that the second bullet on staff's presentation could apply to all park master plans done by the County (which includes forest restoration, stream improvements, large scale invasive removal, implementation of biophilic principals, etc.). This can all be included as part of overall "landscape improvements" through the various park projects. 3. Funding sources slide, line for "stormwater utility" this may not be within DPR's purview, and mainly described as a project to be determined with the Department of Environmental Services (DES). What may be anticipated in the out years? Mr. Beach detailed regarding the final point that there is no further information yet, and this is mainly a DES-led initiative for their use of funds.

- Regarding the Natural Resiliency program, how will this get started? Mr. Beach clarified that the Emerging Uses and Natural Resiliency Programs will alternate years for when they are initiated. Biennial request for Emerging Uses Program begins in FY2023 and Biennial request for Natural Resiliency Program begins in FY2024.
- How will these programs be renewed? Mr. Beach clarified that these programs are currently requests to the County Board, and staff will be reviewing additional funds at future CIP discussions in two years.
- The program summary shows \$149 million as a combination of all projects as part of potential park master plans. There is separate funding for maintenance capital as part of the PAYG (pay as you go) projects and short-term funding projects.
- Embed the natural capital philosophy in future discussions and CIPs.
- What does maintenance capital mean? Mr. Beach clarified that it is a program that the County has that is funded out of the operating side of the house. The CIP are part of bonds. Maintenance capital is funded yearly and at a smaller amount than detailed in the CIP. Small replacements of playgrounds, court replacements of some parks, and other similar examples are paid mainly from PAYG funding opportunities. Ms. Schmitt also mentioned that large-scale maintenance with PAYG funding is a replacement like-for-like on existing amenities for parks. Larger scale CIP efforts contain opportunities for funding for new master planning and visioning of park amenities at various park sites.
- Why is the synthetic turf funding all on the County's budget and not on Arlington Public Schools (APS)? Mr. Beach clarified that there is cost-sharing on APS/County-use fields; however, no cost sharing occurs with fields that are only used by the County (for example, the rectangular field replacement at Rocky Run Park).
- Why is the Metro Market Square public space considered a "retail-oriented area"? Mr. Beach stated that this park will be surrounded by retail. The surrounding area is mainly urban in context and some flexible areas may be created. There will be a master plan and design process for this effort.
- Quincy Park will be pushed back by FY 2031-32, thought this process would come forward sooner. Mr. Beach explained that this would be only for master planning purposes, and design/construction would need to be discussed in future CIPs. What is proposed are out-year funding priorities, and this funding may move up in future CIP discussions prior to FY 2031-32.
- Synthetic field program summary funding. At Long Bridge Park, some fields are used by universities and are these under the "Other" funding lines? Also, proposals of dates/years considering the density/usage of fields is one big factor that may put maintenance of these fields either at a more or less urgent timeframe. Mr. Beach stated that it is correct for both assumptions. There is a cost-sharing and other funding source for usage and partnerships with universities. Fields generally have an 8-year or so use time, there needs to be planning for this usage and replacement. There is the flexibility to adjust funding in future CIP years as needed. The field utilization study continues, and that will continue through the fall with continued engagement.

- Maintenance category discussion. The definition of what's under maintenance for what DPR uses in the CIP is not transparent, and that should be accompanied by a definition either parenthetical or in other attachments/documents that are used to show what is involved for maintenance. Mr. Beach detailed that the maintenance capital program does provide a definition in the CIP document, but maybe it should be clarified further.

Staff Report

11th Street North and North Danville Street Neighborhood Conservation (NC) Park Project

The County Board approved the Fall 2020 Neighborhood Conservation funding round at the April 2021 board meeting. The design meetings were coordinated with the civic association and held July 15, 2021, and September 16, 2021. The design was approved by the Clarendon Courthouse Civic Association (CCCA) and the project has moved into LDA permit review.

- The first public engagement for naming the park was completed on March 22.
- A second engagement will be launched in April to provide the community with an opportunity to give input on a short list of proposed names.

23rd and Eads Park Renovation (501 23rd Street South)

The purpose of the project is to provide minor park improvements that will complement the character of the neighborhood and provide a place for visitors to gather and rest. The Park improvements will enhance the visibility and aesthetics of the site, and this space will continue to offer visitors a casual use experience. This project is funded via the adopted FY2022 CIP through TIF funds, and the budget is \$250,000 for design and construction. The first engagement is scheduled for April/May 2022.

4MRV – Jennie Dean Park (3630 27th Street South)

- Construction is progressing on the park and is nearing completion. The park should re-open this month.
- Remaining work includes site accessories installations, topsoil/sod installation, tree planting, and sign installations.

APS Projects

- **Cardinal Elementary School (1644 N. McKinley Rd.)**

County Project – [Stormwater Vault](#)

DES held a meeting February 23 to update the community on the project.

- [February 23 Presentation](#) and [Q&A Summary](#)
 - The construction began in December 2021 and is anticipated to be completed in the first quarter of 2023. The APS diamond and rectangular athletic fields will be restored at the end of the project.
- **The Heights Building (1601 Wilson Blvd.)**
 - APS a use permit amendment for construction of a 75-space parking garage with a synthetic athletic field over it.
 - APS will provide information about the project to PRC in April.
 - The County Board will consider the use permit amendment in May.

Ballston Pond Retrofit/Beaver Pond Park Improvements (4747 Fairfax Dr.)

- The contractor conducted a non-native invasive treatment (mostly cut stump) and invasive tree removal in early March. As part of the treatment, they removed invasive pear trees along the Custis trail spur.
- A portion of the planned vegetation were planted in early April.
- The project is estimated to be completed in the first quarter of 2023. See [Ballston Pond Restoration](#)

Bell Street Interim Public Space (located north of the Crystal City Metro Station in ROW and JBG property, no address available)

The purpose of this project is to provide simple, temporary amenities that will be in place until

the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) begins their Route 1 improvement plans. The Route 1 construction is anticipated to begin in 2025 and will impact the entire Bell Street project area, which is the reason the improvements are temporary. Given that the Bell Street improvements are temporary, this project aims to use site furnishings and materials that are intended for removal and may be re-used in other public spaces. There are no plans to replace the Bell Street temporary improvements once the Route 1 work is complete. This project is funded via the adopted FY2022 CIP through TIF funds, and the budget is \$250,000 for design and construction. The first public engagement is scheduled for April/May 2022.

Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award

- DPR and County Board Office staff are coordinating on a potential, 2021 Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award presentation and reception for the recipient, the Bon Air Park Extension Master Gardener Demonstration Garden Leaders.
- This will likely occur during a future recessed, County Board meeting (date/time to be determined).

Crystal Substation

- Dominion is requesting a below grade easement to create a duct bank, allowing for the connection of existing utility lines and new utility lines.
 - This was approved on the consent agenda

Crystal Plaza 5

- CPHD led development project that will include two parks identified in the Crystal City Sector Plan: Park #10 (23 Street Plaza) and Park #11.
- Going to the LRPC on April 11 to discuss the proposals consistency with the Crystal City Sector Plan
- Staff have highlighted several inconsistencies:
 - The context surrounding Park #10 has changed from retail adjacent to no retail near the park. Additionally, park #10 would be completed in phases.
 - The location of Park #11 was changed to the interior of the development.

Dominion Glebe Substation Renovation (3225 S Eads Street) New

- Dominion is replacing the existing overhead transmission line with a new underground line and renovating the existing substation infrastructure. The site is located along Four Mile Run Trail and the stream.
- Dominion anticipates closing the trail for four months, starting sometime in May. During that time, they will build a boardwalk trail detour which will be in place through late 2025 when Dominion completes their project. A temporary detour will be in place during the trail closure.
- Dominion presented the [project](#) to the Transportation Commission and the Bicycle Advisory Committee recently. They plan to host a virtual community meeting in May.

Donaldson Run Stream Restoration Work Tributary B (DES Project) (Donaldson Run Watershed in North Arlington near Zachary Taylor Nature Area, 2900 Military Rd.)

- The Zachary Taylor hike-bike trail along Donaldson Run Tributary B is closed during construction.
- From March 28-April 4 updates: The crew plans to complete Step Run 22 and Step pool 15 in the stream at the pedestrian bridge - this work is in the vicinity of the contractor's temporary stream crossing. The contractor is likely to complete tree removal, access road removal and seeding below the pedestrian bridge, and may begin restoring the trail below

the pedestrian bridge. The stacked stone wall on the right (trailside) bank has not been constructed to enable stream access, but the crew may begin construction this wall.

Clarendon Sector Plan Update

- Went to go before the Planning Commission on April 6, 2022
- Going before the Park and Recreation commission for a brief presentation on April 19, 2022
- Going before the County Board for Board for adoption later in April.
- On the project page, staff posted the Draft Staff Report, Draft 2022 Clarendon Sector Plan Text, Maps & Exhibits, Draft Zoning Ordinance Amendments and Proposed Changes to the Sector Plan Maps

Forestry and Natural Resources Plan Update – No Updates

- Internal review period for the preliminary draft concluded on March 4th
- DPR staff currently editing the preliminary draft in response to comment and anticipate releasing the updated draft for public review in late Spring 2022.

Fort Scott Park Restroom and Parking Lot Renovation (2800 Fort Scott Dr.)

- Interior mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) work ongoing.
- Parking lot asphaltting complete.
- Anticipated completion 2nd Quarter 2022.

Glencarlyn Pedestrian Bridge Replacement (301 S. Harrison St.)

Bridge was installed on February 14 with remaining area work to be completed. Anticipated completion 2nd Quarter 2022.

Gunston Park Enclosed Athletic Facility (1401 28th Street South)

- Compaction testing results find soils very wet. Contractor working on excavation for the foundations based on this information.
- Anticipated completion 2nd Quarter 2022.

Gunston Park Playground Renovation (1401 28th Street South) - No Updates

This Parks Maintenance Capital project will design and construct demolition, site work, new playground, picnic shelter, grading and drainage, site circulation, site furnishings, landscaping, and storm water management. No new amenities are planned for this project. Design process has started and will continue through 2022. Construction anticipated to begin in the 1st quarter of 2023.

Hillside Park (1601 N. Pierce St.)

This NC project will focus on the natural elements of the park, such as invasive species control, planting native trees and understory with a focus on pollinator planting, replacing picnic tables and adding new site furnishings, and adding boulders and a sculptural element such as a tree carving to add natural play interest in the southern part of the park. This project was approved by the NCAC in 2021 and the County Board approved the NC package in February 2022. A topographic survey and tree inventory has been conducted. Invasive plant removal will commence in April or May 2022.

John Robinson Jr. Town Square (24th Road South and Shirlington Road)

- Dominions four poles has been removed; the contractor to install concrete and trees at these areas. Dominion installed the lights around the park and energized the park. There

will be a commissioning of the lights within the park this month. Dominion has one pole left to install that is close to the meter cabinet, currently experiencing fabrication issues.

- The FREED sculpture has been installed with panels complete. The lighting of the sculpture took place on March 29 and the light fixtures need to be adjusted to enhance the light onto the sculpture.
- Precast repair work is complete and needs to be reviewed and approved on the color to use.
- Anticipated completion in April 2022 (depending upon completion of work by Dominion, Sculpture installation).

Lubber Run Park Pedestrian Bridge Replacement (300 N. Park Dr.) – No Updates

Construction drawings for the chosen bridge location are being prepared by the engineer. Project construction is anticipated to begin 3rd Quarter 2022.

Madison Manor Park Restroom Renovations (6225 12th Road North)

- Interior mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) works ongoing.
- Skylights have been installed.
- Anticipated completion 2nd Quarter 2022.

Marcey Road Park (2722 Marcey Rd)

- Retaining wall is underway with soil lifts and inspections are being conducted.
- Best Management Practices (BMP) construction started week of April 4.
- Submittal reviews in progress.
- Anticipated completion 4th Quarter 2022.

Natural Resources Management Unit

- Jennifer Soles is Acting Deputy Division Chief while a replacement for David Farner is found. Interviews have concluded and the new Deputy Division Chief should be announced by mid-May if not sooner. Staff have begun the process of hiring a new NR Technician.
- A deer assessment RFP to interpret results from the deer drone survey and to make recommendations on future actions has completed internal review and will hopefully go out later this month.

Natural Surface Trails Inventory and Assessment

- The contractor for the inventory and assessment began fieldwork on 1/28. Fieldwork will continue through April.
- DPR staff developed a project [webpage](#) for this effort.

New Park at South Eads Street and Army Navy Drive (former “Teardrop Parcels” off Army Navy Drive, South Eads Street, and 12th Street South)

- Park concept plan updated in coordination with site utility considerations. DPR is preparing a design presentation for an online feedback opportunity in March.
- Continued coordination with park master plan concept, current design, and utility considerations.
- Park project is developing in tandem with DES Street redesign and streetscape work. DPR staff in coordination with DES team to keep projects aligned.
- Staff is coordinating with Real Estate Bureau and Zoning staff to ensure all County Board considerations are accounted for. The following approvals are necessary before construction:

- Abandonment of ROW
- Vacation of ROW
- Resubdivision
- Either rezoning or use permit
- Staff is preparing to begin the park naming process, to be taken to the County Board concurrently with the above approvals.
- Online feedback concluding April 8, 2022
 - The vast majority of feedback was positive, with 91% feeling as if the revised plans were consistent with what was proposed in the park master plan. Multiple comments in the short answer question voiced support for the change from workout equipment to a casual seating area.

Oakland Park (3701 Wilson Blvd.) – No Updates

The irrigation work will be revisited in the spring with an irrigation contractor that is familiar with the installation of solar powered irrigation systems. Spring 2022 completion timeframe anticipated.

Site Plan Review

- **PenPlace (block bound by Army Navy Drive, 12th Street South, South Fern Street, and South Eads Street; formerly 550 Army Navy Drive)**
 - The proposal includes approximately 3.3 million square feet divided across four buildings.
 - Three 22-story office buildings with ground floor retail
 - One destination- and amenity-focused building called “The Helix,” a unique biophilic double helix structure with plantings native to the Mid-Atlantic region.
 - In addition, the proposal includes a 2.75-acre public space, detached retail pavilions, and underground vehicular access. Specific details of the public space were evaluated through a Park Master Plan (PMP) process which occurred concurrently with the site plan review.
 - The draft PMP and Design Guidelines document will be reviewed by the County Board alongside the site plan (the draft document is also posted on the project’s [website](#)). PRC and FNRC reviews of the proposed public space and site plan occurred at their 3/15 and 3/24 meetings respectively. County Board consideration of this development project is scheduled for the Saturday, April 23 meeting (item will be on the County Board’s regular agenda).
- **2025 Clarendon Blvd – Wendy’s Site – Site Plan #435)**
 - Approved by the County Board on March 19, 2022.
 - County Staff worked with the applicant regarding updated design changes to the proposed public plaza which will incorporate more biophilic design elements, increased plantings, public seating and enhance the pedestrian experience along this corridor.
 - The applicant, Greystar, proposes to develop the site (“Wendy’s Site”) with a 16-story mixed-use building, consisting of ground floor retail and residential dwelling units above. The project includes a 104,789 sq. ft. Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) from Site Plan #417 (“Wakefield Manor”). The Applicant also proposes a public pedestrian plaza at the intersection of N. Courthouse Road, Wilson Boulevard, and Clarendon Boulevard of approximately 1,497 square feet.
 - “New” Site Plan (C-O-2.5 district):
 - 16-story residential building, with ground level retail
 - 231 total residential units

- 4,000 sq. ft. of retail GFA
- 0.32 parking spaces per dwelling unit
- Site Plan infrastructure and improvements include:
 - New public plaza and monetary public space contribution
 - Utility fund contribution
 - Streetscape improvements
 - Public art contribution
 - Affordable housing contribution
 - LEED Gold certification
- **701 N. Glebe Road - Ballston Macy's - Site Plan #193**
 - 2nd SPRC is anticipated later in the Spring of 2022
 - 1st SPRC was held on March 24, 2022
 - Walking Tour is anticipated for March 15th - Meet on site at 701 N. Glebe Road at the entrance to Macy's department store on Wilson Blvd.
 - Online Engagement Opportunity occurred February 7th-14th.
 - The applicant, Insight Property Group, proposes the demolition of the existing Ballston Macy's department store and vacant office space above the store and the development of a residential building with a grocery store anchor on the ground floor. To facilitate the density proposed with this project, Insight is proposing to transfer development rights from "The Haven" site along Columbia Pike through a Zoning Ordinance Amendment and Use Permit process. Additional Project Details include:

Residential building:

 - 16 Stories
 - 555 Units
 - Construction of two levels of underground parking and one level of above grade parking

Proposed modifications for:

 - Required residential parking (.4 spaces per unit)
 - Density Exclusions
 - Bonus Density achievement through LEED Gold Certification
 - Transfer of Development Rights of 235 units from Haven residential site along Columbia Pike
- **1616 Fort Myer Drive - Xerox Site - Site Plan #85 - No Update**
 - SPRC is anticipated to start Spring of 2022
 - The applicant proposes to construct a 31-story, 290-foot-tall residential building with 647,746 square feet of residential gross floor area with a 9.95 Floor Area Ratio. To accomplish this development the applicant proposes: (1) a rezoning from C-O to C-O-Rosslyn, and (2) a major site plan amendment to SP #85, with requested modifications to the zoning ordinance regarding parking requirements, requested exclusions of certain areas from counting as Gross Floor Area, additional density. Additional Project Details include:

Site Plan infrastructure and improvements include:

 - Underground Utility fund contribution;
 - Affordable housing contribution or on-site affordable units;
 - Streetscape improvements;
 - On-site Public art or contribution to public art in Rosslyn;
 - Proposed LEED Gold certification.

Thomas Jefferson Upper Field Conversion (3501 2nd Street South)

- Rough subgrade installed around the site.

- Turf installation is about 95% completed. Tufting in the field lines yellow and white and installing goal lock boxes. Sand and rubber infill should be starting by mid next week.
- Railings, fence fabric and the two tops to the existing storm structures should start next week.
- Anticipated completion 2nd Quarter 2022.

Towers Park Playground Renovations (801 S. Scott St.)

- The closing of the existing playground being slated for demolition and reforestation will start on April 4.
- Concrete placed for the walkway on the north side of the playground.
- Stone and formwork for the south walkway by the basketball court started.
- Anticipated completion 3rd Quarter 2022.

Urban Forestry Office Updates

- Staff continue working on our 5th batch of **preventive pruning** in Fairlington (S Stafford St, 36th St S and 35th St S) 72 trees have been marked for this location. Three batches of preventive tree maintenance were completed in the last month
- Staff met with Cherrydale civic association leadership to discuss tree maintenance and planting at the **Cherrydale ponds**, and around the neighborhood, after trees were removed around the pond by the contractor.
- **Deer study:** staff is responding to comments from the Finance department before posting the Request for Proposal
- **FNRP:** Staff is working with the contractor to answer interdepartmental questions and will be posting an updated timeline on the website soon.
- **Crestmont Redevelopment Conceptual Plan:** Staff reviewed a conceptual plan of a project on the corner of Key Blvd and N Quinn St. The project site has a wooded area that staff will review for impact from the proposal.
- **2025 Fairfax Dr (Wakefield Manor)** has a site plan submission. The site has a significant tree on it, and staff is trying to work with the applicant to conserve the tree as part of the project. More information can be found here: https://archives.arlingtonva.us/publicaccess/permitarlington.aspx?OBKey_789_1=SPLN22-00001
- Staff reviewed proposals for a **multi-use trail in Potomac Yards**, from Alexandria to Long Bridge Park. The current proposal shows significant planting areas, but analyses on impact to existing trees have not been performed yet.
- We are working to limit tree loss on DES outfall projects in natural stream beds on public land in the NW part of the county, are assisting with a much-needed **culvert replacement on Dumbarton Street** where private residences are involved and have worked to add reforestation trees in the **Sparrow Pond restoration**, in addition to the scheduled planting.
- Staff are reviewing plans for the **ART bus parking lot** in Shirlington. Tree impact is low, and primarily to trees growing out of the flood wall. The site is partially in a Resource Protection area, and staff are working to maximize the value of the space in that area.
- The **New Park** (Cottonwood Park) Core Team 60% Review took place internally by the forestry department. The idea of this meeting was to combine shared comments of the agency to be presented to planners and developers. Most of the comments were addressed before moving towards the next step of the 90% Review phase. The DES review and the Park review were coordinated to conserve the Cottonwood.
- **Tuckahoe Park Playground Surfacing** meeting took place with a County Landscape Architect. The purpose of the meeting was to determine the best placement of the

proposed trees to reduce the effects of compaction, erosion, and drainage by the playground.

- **Jennie Dean Park** is finalizing planting of trees. There were still some trees rejected that will have to be replaced.
- **Glencarlyn Bridge Replacement** took place and PNR is waiting for one tree to be planted for sign-off to be granted.
- **A railroad project along Long Bridge Project** will be taking place from Arlington and into Washington D.C. Trees around the George Washington Memorial Pkwy will be impacted by the construction.
- The tree planting coordinator is exploring new ways to grow less common native trees, with a pilot program at the County nursery.
- The forestry team is exploring best ways to provide Soil volume calculations by private projects and discussed potential lists of native lists that we could share with developers for use on their sites.

Commission Member Reports

- 55+ (Dean Foster)
- Alcovia Heights Park Renovations (Colt Gregory)
 - *Preconstruction has begun on Phase 1 of the park. Note that Phase 1 & 2 construction contracts have been combined. Another site tree walk to mark major trees has been scheduled.*

- Arlington Public Schools (APS) (Gerald Brandt)
- Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award 2021 (Dean Foster/Melissa Riggio)
- Clarendon Sector Plan Update (Sarah Baryluk)
 - *Clarendon Sector Plan Update was approved by the County Board on April 23, 2022 (update provided by Commissioner Howell).*

- Community Energy Plan Implementation (Jill Barker)
- Courthouse West Special GLUP Study (Sarah Baryluk)
- Crystal City Citizen Review Council (Shruti Kuppa)
- Forestry and Natural Resources Commission (Colt Gregory)
 - *The April meeting of the Forestry and Natural Resources Commission included a presentation and discussion on Equity and the Tree Canopy Fund (Phil Klingelhofer-Jill Barker), Soil Profile Rebuilding (Vincent Verweij), Notable trees (John Wingard) and Strategic Investment and Stewardship.*
 - *Equity and the Tree Canopy fund - The Commission considering a letter to the Board. Points to include are recommendation to establish a Tree Canopy equity program as an adjunct to the Tree Canopy fund; change site plan contributions rate per 'replacement tree' from \$2,400 to at least an inflation adjusted \$3,225 to \$10,000; and create efficiencies to the tree planting review process by creating a Grant review committee.*
 - *FNRC sent a letter to the County Board endorsing policy recommendations by David Howell regarding the stewardship of Arlington's natural capital and the urgent need for funding enhancements. Highlights supported by FNRC include Data Collection and Analysis, Invasive and Threatening Response Program, Adequate Forestry and Natural Resources Management staffing, and recognition of the value of our natural capital.*

- Forestry and Natural Resources Plan Update (David Howell)
 - *The draft plan document is expected to be released for public review and comment in June 2022.*

- Four Mile Run Joint Task Force (David Howell)
 - *The Task Force has not met in 2022, but four projects have been announced that are relevant to the lower 4MR area. The bridge over Four Mile Run at South Glebe is under renovation in a joint effort by Arlington County and the City of Alexandria. Similarly, the bridge connecting Arlington Ridge Road and Mt Vernon Avenue at their intersection with South Glebe is scheduled for renovation after additional planning and design work. Both projects have web pages. Additionally, beginning this summer the lower 4MR segment will undergo a several-month dredging project to remove silt, improve water flow, and reduce flooding hazards during heavy rainstorms. Finally, Dominion Energy will place underground, and under 4MR, the high-voltage lines that currently run from the power station next to the water treatment plant to the corner of the shopping center at Rt 1. The tall high-tension*

poles in the stream will be removed. this project will take a few years. The Dominion website has a page on this project.

- Gulf Branch Stream Restoration (Colt Gregory)
 - *The Gulf Branch Stream Restoration has restarted with an Advisory Group meeting. We resumed activities after a 2-year hiatus with a project review and stream walk with project design team (Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc (WSSI)).*

- Jennie Dean Park, Phase 1 Construction (Colt Gregory)
 - *Construction at the park is complete and the park had reopening ceremonies on Sat. May 21st. Includes an **increased buffer zone** between park and Four Mile Run stream with a **stream overlook**, new playgrounds and restrooms, reoriented baseball diamond, basketball, tennis courts, and native landscaping. Stop by. It looks good.*

- Natural Resources Joint Advisory Group (NRJAG) (Barker/Kuppa/Baryluk)
- Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) (**Vacant**)
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) (Neal Hunter)
 - *The PAC discussed numerous options for a planned Army Navy Drive connector that will allow residents within Arlington Ridge an access point across the 395 north of Memorial Drive. This project is aligned with the focus of the 2019 Public Spaces Master Plan and would introduce a new multi-modal trail connector between the two neighborhoods.*
 - *They also discussed potential relocation of Arlington Fire Department at the park. Time was spent focused on the space requirements necessary for the fire department and what currently is planned.*

- PenPlace Park Master Plan (PMP) and Design Guidelines Process (David Howell)
 - *This is approved. Unless there will be formal public engagement post approval, it can be moved to staff reports for implementation follow-up.*

- Plan Langston Boulevard (Shruti Kuppa)
- Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP) Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) (Shruti Kuppa/Sergio Enriquez)
- Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC) (Sergio Enriquez)
- Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) and Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC)
 - Crystal City Building Heights Study (Shruti Kuppa)
 - Crystal Plaza 5 (**Vacant**)
 - Fort Henry Gardens (David Howell)
 - *On hold indefinitely for additional planning.*
 - Macy's (Dean Foster/Melissa Riggio)
 - Melwood Property (750 23rd Street South) Special GLUP Study (Kevin Manuel)
 - *Arlington County Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) held a meeting on Thursday, May 12th at 7 pm to address the proposed Melwood GLUP Amendment. This is currently in the Tier I phase of a GLUP study, which is a multi-tier review process overseen by the LRPC and Planning Commission. Tier I would determine completeness and if it would be appropriate to move towards a Tier II study (determining what the best way to study/assess the proposal would be and seek further elaboration from the proposing firm on their plan, impact, etc.)*

- *As a reminder, the Melwood proposal is to turn the current structure on 23rd Street into a multi-use facility that would include a refurbishment of their training facility on the first floor with 104 residential units built on additional 5 floors. Of the 104 units, all would be affordable housing, with 30 reserved for disability housing. The current site plan considers the area to be Public (this category includes schools, parks, libraries, cultural facilities, etc.). The building previously held a school, but since being purchased by Melwood in 1981, the facility has been used for disability training programs. According to Melwood, the categorization of Public has not been appropriate since its purchase in 1981 (stating that a new designation would be accurate, as well as help the county achieve its goals of increasing affordable housing and services/housing for people with disabilities).*
 - *The current proposal/plan would not affect or seek to change the current size of Custis Park which is located behind the building. The site, which is divided into two parcels (A&B) would not make any changes to Parcel B (which contains egress to Custis Park). Several concerns were raised regarding questions on the impact of increased traffic and parking around the park space, effects of construction, an increase in residents/patrons using the park, etc. These questions cannot be answered at this time as they would begin to be addressed and investigated during additional phases of the GLUP process (tier II, Site review, etc.).*
 - *Several members of the LRPC indicated a willingness to allow this to move to Tier II for further study by County Staff; as did multiple Representatives from other commissions present (transportation, parks & rec, housing, etc.). During public comment, members of the Aurora Highlands Civic Association voiced opposition to approval to move to Tier II. Several members of the AHCA encouraged the LRPC to deny Tier I and reject the proposal outright citing major concerns of the initial proposal to construct a 6-story facility on the site. The AHCA previously voted in May to object to this proposal on the grounds that it would dramatically change the neighborhood, and not allow for the preservation of the single-family neighborhood.*
 - *LRPC indicated they would be making a final decision on their recommendation in the coming week on whether to support moving towards a Tier II.*
- Sparrow Pond Restoration Project (David Howell)
 - *Geology sampling is complete. Design work is scheduled to be completed in fall 2022. Construction will begin in 2023.*
- Sports Commission (Mark Lincoln/Adam Rasmussen)
 - *Youth Officiating – Author Ben Glass: This was a presentation on the state of youth officiating in sports, the lack of officials, bad behavior by coaches, and spectators, and strategies to try to make the situation better for growing the number of youths officiating sports.*
 - *In Person versus Virtual Meetings: Starting in September, virtual meetings will be limited to three (3) non-consecutive virtual meetings in a calendar year. The Sports Commission will be planning how to handle this going forward.*
 - *Combating Hate Working Group Notes 05-02-22: This meeting was dedicated to continuing work on the implementation framework for the specific youth sports organizations in Arlington County as well as reviewing the pledge for the players in youth sports in Arlington County. Discussion on the framework focused on how to roll it out and whether it will be part of a mandate for youth sports organizations to*

be partner organizations in Arlington County. Some on the working group are concerned that the language of the framework should avoid mandated penalties for failure to implement it while others voiced the opinion that without a mandate, the framework will be an afterthought. A final decision on the language for implementation is still to be determined.

- Vision Zero Action Plan Updates (Neal Hunter)
 - *The Vision Zero External Stakeholders Group held an open house on May 11th at the Lubber Run Community Center. This open house was designed to outline some of the project updates from year one and share the plans for year two. They also highlighted the results from the annual feedback survey.*

Other Business

- Letters to the County Board
 - Duke Banks Item (Nature Centers)
 - PRC will consider this opportunity with FNRC colleagues moving forward.
 - Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 – FY 2032 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
 - Commissioners Rasmussen, Harnik, and Howell will review the letter and Vice Chair Barker will begin drafting a letter in time for the 6/14 DPR work session with the County Board.
- PRC Discussion on Potential Meeting Locations for August Field Trip
 - The PRC voted on the potential date for the August field trip. Of the two dates advertised, August 16 and August 23, 2022, the PRC voted to hold the field trip on Tuesday, August 23, 2022. This meeting date will be advertised accordingly on the PRC's website (the time of the field trip is still to be determined).
 - Suggested locations for the potential, field trip include (but are not limited to):
 - **Alcova Heights Park** (Alcova Heights Park has a Phase 1 and 2 renovation process that possibly staff could provide an update to the PRC).
 - **Jennie Dean Park, Phase 1** (the first phase of the renovated park opened in May 2022; staff could possibly provide a tour of this park).
 - The PRC Chair and Vice Chair will be discussing which location (or others) may be selected for the August field trip.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.