

Park and Recreation Commission Meeting
Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Virtual Meeting Conference Access Links:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

[+1 347-973-6905](#)

Phone Conference ID: 973 977 905#

AGENDA

Chair's Introduction and Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes (7:00-7:05)

- Commission consideration of November 15, 2022 minutes

Public Comment (7:05-7:15)

** Park and Recreation Commission public comment is open to all with a 3-minute limit per person.*

Discussion with Arlington County, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Director, Jane Rudolph (7:15-7:40)

Presentation and Discussion on the NOVA Parks Strategic Plan [Paul Gilbert, Executive Director, NOVA Parks] (7:40-8:05)

Discussion of the 2022 PRC Year End Report and 2023 Plan of Action for the Parks and Recreation Commission [Shruti Kuppa, Chair] (8:05-8:30)

Tentative Dates for 2023 Park and Recreation Commission Meetings [Marco Rivero, DPR] (8:30-8:35)

- *Meetings shall be hybrid and virtual-only (through Microsoft Teams) per the tentative schedule proposed, unless otherwise specified. Meetings to begin at 7 p.m.*

Staff Report (8:35-8:40)

Commission Member Reports (8:40-8:50)

- 55+ (Dean Foster)
 - *Registration started today, November 16 at 10am for all of the Winter programs (Dec-Feb). Overall, it went really well. Online registration went smoothly. At 10am we had 207 in the virtual waiting room, and they were all let into the registration system in under 2 minutes. We had about 25 people in person at Lubber Run for walk in registration. They were all processed in about 30 minutes.*
 - *Within the first 10 minutes we had 5 programs full (2 pickleball classes, Traditional Yoga, SAIL and one trip- Kennedy Center Open rehearsal). Within the first hour all 5 Pickleball, 2 yoga, 1 aqua and the SAIL class and 3 trips were full.*
 - *By 11:30 we had the following enrollments:*
 - *Online - **1613***
 - *Phone & Walk in- **446***
 - ***Total: 2059 (1972 enrolled and 81 waitlisted*)***
 - **Majority of the waitlist were for trips and pickleball classes*
- Alcova Heights Park Renovations (Colt Gregory)
- Arlington Public Schools (APS) (Gerald Brandt)
- Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award 2021 (Dean Foster/Melissa Riggio)
- Crystal City Citizen Review Council (Shruti Kuppa)
- Forestry and Natural Resources Commission (Colt Gregory)
 - *The November 17 in-person meeting of the Forestry and Natural Resources began with a presentation by Vincent Verweij (Arl. Co. Urban Forest Manager) on Tree Canopy Protection and Canopy Calculation. Both topics inform how the Arlington tree canopy goal of 40% may be adversely affected by the Missing Middle zoning proposal. The Commission approved an Advisory letter to the Board and outlining its tree canopy concerns and the MM proposal.*
 - *The Commission discussed and approved the 2022 Commission Year-end report and 2023 Action plan as well as an Advisory letter in support for the first-time inclusion of tree/shrub planting funds into the Arlington County Schools budget.*
- Four Mile Run Joint Task Force (Colt Gregory)
- Gulf Branch Stream Restoration (Colt Gregory)
- Natural Resources Joint Advisory Group (NRJAG) (Barker/Gregory/Baryluk)
- Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) (**Vacant**)
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) (Neal Hunter)
 - *No Updates*
- 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)
 - 2500 Wilson Boulevard Special GLUP Study (Sarah Baryluk/Shruti Kuppa)

- Ballston Holiday Inn (Melissa Riggio/Jill Barker)
- Bingham Center/Silver Diner Site (Sarah Baryluk/Adam Rasmussen)
- Crystal City Building Heights Study (Shruti Kuppa)
- Crystal Plaza 5 (Kevin Manuel)
- Fort Henry Gardens (Jill Barker)
- Joyce Motors Site – 10th and Irving (Sarah Baryluk/Shruti Kuppa)
- Macy's (Dean Foster/Melissa Riggio)
 - *From the December 6th, ARLNOW.Com:*
 - *A proposed left-turn lane off of N. Glebe Road in Ballston could be the smallest, yet most scrutinized traffic change in 10 years.*
 - *As part of the planned redevelopment of the Ballston Macy's, Insight Property Group proposes to add a left-turn option at the intersection of 7th Street N. and N. Glebe Road. It will be for drivers going southbound on Glebe who want to turn onto a proposed private drive abutting the planned grocery store, which will be located at the base of Insight's proposed 16-story, 555-unit apartment building.*
 - *"It was the most thoroughly vetted transportation scenario in the time that I've been with Arlington County," transportation planner Dennis Sellin, who has worked with the county for 10 years, told the Planning Commission last night (Monday).*
 - *During the meeting, the Planning Commission gave a green light to the redevelopment, which will go before the Arlington County Board for approval later this month.*
 - *After the Transportation Commission voted to defer the project solely on the basis of the left turn, Planning Commission members supported a condition for the project that county staff work with Insight and the Virginia Department of Transportation to come up with more pedestrian-oriented options for the intersection.*
 - *"I do not think it's reasonable to hold up the project for this, given that there's apparently continued good faith work on the intersection to improve its pedestrian-friendliness," Commissioner Jim Lantelme said. "I want to make clear that the Planning Commission... expects that any option possible to make this intersection more pedestrian-friendly will be pursued."*
 - *Sellin said a half-dozen staffers, including two top transportation officials, have thoroughly vetted the left-turn lane. They published a 64-page memo justifying the turn lane and will study how the grocery store changes traffic before adding any pedestrian mitigation measures.*
 - *"There's a recommendation to not allow any right turns on red at any of the lights in the intersection," he said. "That's a movement*

we'll take under further consideration. Our primary concern is safety, our secondary concern is operations."

- *The left-turn lane is a non-negotiable for the grocer, who has otherwise been "insanely flexible" as the project has changed throughout the public process, according to Insight's Managing Principal Trent Smith.*
- *"We've shrunk their store, changed their ramps, taken away their parking... we changed their loading, we've done eight or nine things that took all sorts of reworking and they've stuck with us and have been great, reasonable partners throughout," Smith said.*
- *Insight's attorney, Andrew Painter, says the unnamed grocer required the left turn based on "decades of experience in urban configurations." He added that for a decade, the grocer has desired to be in Ballston, which already has a Harris Teeter nearby on N. Glebe Road, a quarter-mile away.*
- *Some Planning Commissioners noted their regret that the project does not do more to provide on-site affordable housing.*
- *"This space here, in the heart of Arlington, in Ballston, where there's access to transit, and now a grocery store, we have nothing," Commissioner Devanshi Patel said.*
- *Insight could become the first developer to use a county tool that allows for the construction of more units in exchange for preserving existing committed affordable housing along Columbia Pike.*
- *Through the project, it is preserving 118 units at the Haven Apartments along Columbia Pike, which Insight acquired in January 2017 for \$20 million and has since renovated.*
- *Some commissioners criticized the tool for its unintended racial and socio-economic consequences of keeping affordable units sequestered to lower-income neighborhoods of Arlington.*
- *"We've missed an opportunity to provide real affordable housing," Patel said. "I get it, your density was satisfied elsewhere, but elsewhere in a place that's not as transit rich, not as accessible to Metro. This is a place where we could've done better here by making more affordable units."*
- *In response to opposition from some Ballston neighbors, who said there needs to be more on-site affordable units, Insight added a dozen committed affordable units — a two-bedroom apartment for a household earning up to 60% of the area median income and 11 units for renters earning up to 80% of the area median income.*
- *"We're doing what we can, from a financial feasibility perspective," Painter said.*

- *Patel said Ballston needs deeper affordability than 60% AMI and should be looking at setting aside units for people earning up to 30% AMI.*
 - *The Planning Commission voted 8-0, with two abstentions, on the overall project. It voted 7-0, with three abstentions on a separate motion specifically related to the transfer of development rights.*
 - Melwood Property (750 23rd Street South) Special GLUP Study (Kevin Manuel)
- Sports Commission (Mark Lincoln/Adam Rasmussen)
 - *Pickleball – Arlington County Tennis Association (ACTA): The current state of pickleball from the perspective of the tennis community was presented. There continues to be friction between the pickleball community and the tennis community especially where tennis courts are being relined to be shared as pickleball courts. There was a comment about how high school stadium fields have multiple sets of lines for use in football, soccer, lacrosse, and field hockey, however, none of those sports must deal with the speed of the ball with respect to the lines when making in bounds and out of bounds calls which makes the situation with pickleball and tennis lines quite unique. There was also mention of the tennis courts at Williamsburg Middle School that previously had trailers on them and how they will be reclaimed. Apparently, APS is planning to resurface them as tennis courts since Arlington has middle school tennis and the tennis players at Williamsburg are currently required to walk to Yorktown High School to play tennis.*
 - *Combatting Hate in Sports Working Group Report: Again, no progress has been made because of lack of focus from the chair of the Sports Commission. He is considering next steps. Sports Commission is still looking to add members.*
- Vision Zero Action Plan Updates (Neal Hunter)
 - *No Updates*

Other Business (8:50-9:05)

- Letters to the County Board
 - DPR Alcohol Policy Update
- Potential Improvements to the South Section of George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) and the Mount Vernon Trail ([National Park Service](#))
- PRC Commissioner Representation (Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC)) (*PRC representation needed prior to 01/05/23*)
 - The Arva (2201 Arlington Boulevard) SPRC Sub-Group (Lyon Park)
 - Crystal Towers 3 (1600 S. Eads St.) SPRC Sub-Group (Aurora Highlands & Crystal City)
 - Wakefield Manor (2025 Fairfax Drive) SPRC Sub-Group (Radnor/Fort Myer Heights)
 - YMCA (3400 13th Street North) SPRC Sub-Group (Ballston-Virginia Square)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 7:00 p.m. (Hybrid In-Person/Microsoft Teams virtual meeting; In-person setting: Bozeman Government Center, 2100 Clarendon Blvd, 7th Floor, Room 715).

2023 PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETINGS

TENTATIVE DATES

All meetings to be hybrid or virtual-only (depending on the month) and beginning at 7:00 p.m. Hybrid meetings to be held at Bozman Government Center (BGC), 2nd Floor, Cherry Conference Room (unless otherwise specified below).

*** = Conflicts with County Board Recessed Meetings**

**** = Virtual-Only Meeting Planned**

^ = Potential Joint Meeting with the Sports Commission (Lubber Run Community Center, Room TBD)

Yellow Fill = Meeting on 7th Floor, Room 715

PRC Meeting Date	County Holidays
Tuesday, January 17, 2023	Monday, January 16, 2023 – Martin Luther King Day
Thursday, February 23, 2023 [^]	Monday, February 20, 2023 – Presidents Day
Tuesday, March 28, 2023 ^{**}	
Tuesday, April 18, 2023	
Tuesday, May 23, 2023	Monday, May 29, 2023 – Memorial Day
Tuesday, June 20, 2023 ^{**}	Monday, June 19, 2023 – Juneteenth (Observed)
Tuesday, July 18, 2023 [*]	Tuesday, July 4, 2023 – Independence Day
Tuesday, August 15, 2023 or Tuesday, August 22, 2023 <i>(potential field trip day off site)</i>	
Tuesday, September 19, 2023	Monday, September 4, 2023 – Labor Day
Tuesday, October 24, 2023 ^{**}	
Tuesday, November 14, 2023 [*]	Friday, November 10, 2023 – Veterans Day (Observed) Thursday, November 23, 2023 and Friday, November 24, 2023 – Thanksgiving Holiday
Tuesday, December 12, 2023	Monday, December 25, 2023 – Christmas Holiday