

## **Arlington Sports Commission Position Statement for Planning Processes**

October 2016

“The Sports Commission, as requested by the Arlington County Board, seeks to ensure that Arlington has high quality sports activities, facilities and policies. It serves as a conduit for information about sports and physical fitness programs among community organizations, agencies of the County government and the Board.

The Sports Commission recognizes that any facility development or planning process in Arlington requires input from a variety of stakeholders. Many different parties claim interest in any given process, and typically there are several different outcomes possible in each process. The Sports Commission respectfully recognizes those varying opinions, and it also seeks to reinforce the notion that the entire Arlington community has primary “ownership” of public facilities. It is clear that the inputs of immediate neighbors (those physically close to the facility) need to be considered seriously. Those inputs may suggest the need for specific measures aimed at satisfying those immediately impacted by the facility. However, it is important not to lose sight of the needs and desires of the overall Arlington community, which merit strong consideration. Ideally all parties are in agreement, but when this is not the case, the Sports Commission believes that Arlington County facilities, and the planning processes that produce them, need to represent the interests of all County residents.”