

PUBLIC SPACES MASTER PLAN- IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PSMP-IAC)

Hybrid Meeting

April 20, 2023

AGENDA

- **Introduction**
- **Hybrid Meeting Ground Rules**
- **Public Comment**
- **Annual PSMP Update**
 - **County Board Guidance - Progress**
 - **Selected Recommendations – Progress**
- **Next Steps**

HYBRID MEETING GROUND RULES

- Thank you for being here!
- This meeting is being recorded & posted on the PSMP-IAC website
- Public comments go first

For virtual participants, please:

- Mute your microphone unless you are speaking
- Raise your hand using the “raise hand” feature to ask questions
- If you’re on a phone, dial “*6” to mute and unmute yourself
- Use the “Chat” option for technical issues
- Do not interrupt Committee’s discussion

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Speakers (3 minutes each):

- 1 public speaker (Tim Dellinger)

Written Comments:

- 2 written comments (Roy Gamse, Tim Dellinger)
- Shared with the PSMP-IAC
- Will be posted online

COUNTY BOARD GUIDANCE – BRIEF UPDATES

TASKS	PROGRESS & ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE
Appoint the PSMP Implementation Advisory Committee (PSMP-IAC)	Kick-off meeting- October 1, 2019, 14 meetings so far
Refine the Casual Use Space concept (Action Steps 1.3.1, 1.3.2 page 61)	Initiated in Spring 2020, anticipated completion Winter 2024
Update the Natural Resources Management & Urban Forest Master Plans (Priority Action 10, Action 3.1., page 96)	Initiated in Summer 2020, Final Draft engagement in Spring/Summer 2023
Field availability & utilization (Priority Action 4, Action Step 1.2.5., page 60)	Virtual engagement held in early 2021, next engagement opportunity in Spring/Summer 2023
Update the County's zoning regulations as they relate to parks and public spaces (Action Step 1.5.10., page 68)	Phase 1 completed in March 2023, Phase 2 to be completed in 2023
Review options and identify a preferred formal process for adding lights to athletic fields (Action Step 1.5.5., page 67)	TBD

COUNTY BOARD GUIDANCE - PROGRESS

PUBLIC SPACES MASTER PLAN-IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PSMP-IAC)

Progress:

- The PSMP-IAC was appointed by the County Manager in Fall 2019
- 14 meetings held so far

Membership:

- Co-Chairs:
 - Shruti Kuppa, Park and Recreation Commission
 - Jane Rudolph, Department of Parks and Recreation
- Arlington Public Schools: Bill Gillen
- Bicycle Advisory Committee: Gillian Burgess
- Climate Change, Energy and Environment Commission (C2E2): Mikaila Milton
- Economic Development Commission: Daron Coates
- Fiscal Affairs Advisory Commission: Peter Robertson
- Forestry and Natural Resources Commission: Caroline Haynes
- Park and Recreation Commission: Sergio Enriquez
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee: Andrea Walker
- Planning Commission: Elizabeth Gearin
- Sports Commission: Nancy Sharkey
- Department of Parks and Recreation: Erik Beach

COUNTY BOARD GUIDANCE - PROGRESS

FIELD AVAILABILITY & UTILIZATION

PSMP Recommendation:

Priority Action 4

1.2.5. Analyze athletic field utilization to improve data on the current use and assess future athletic field needs.

The County will work with the community to determine a set of use assumptions that will enable consistent evaluation of field utilization and capacity. This will be used in conjunction with the Level of Service recommendations (see 1.2.4.).

Progress:

- 4 meetings with the PSMP-IAC
- Online engagement conducted in early 2021, with input from 107 participants
- Presented the draft framework of [Athletic Field Availability and Utilization](#) to PSMP-IAC on October 18th, 2021

Next Steps:

- Final Engagement in Spring/Summer 2023
- Present final recommendation to the PSMP-IAC in Fall 2023
- Brief the County Manager and County Board in Winter 2024
- Start implementation in Spring 2024



COUNTY BOARD GUIDANCE - PROGRESS

CASUAL USE SPACES

Priority Action 5: 1.3. Ensure access to spaces that are intentionally designed to support casual, impromptu use and connection with nature.

1.3.1. Undertake an **inventory** of casual use spaces to better understand their distribution and gaps.

Casual use space is a new concept, and as such, has not been inventoried. Further refining this concept should enable an inventory to be completed.

1.3.2. Explore opportunities to develop **standards** for casual use spaces.

As this concept is new and there is no inventory or benchmarking data available, the County should explore ways to develop standards for casual use spaces.

1.3.3. When developing plans for public spaces, **include** intentionally designed casual use spaces where appropriate.



Progress:

- Incorporated casual use space concept in various park master plans and site plans

Next Steps:

- Presenting any concept refinements & exploring standards (Fall 2023)
- Finalizing Inventory (Winter 2024)

COUNTY BOARD GUIDANCE - PROGRESS

FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN

PSMP Recommendation:

Priority Action 10

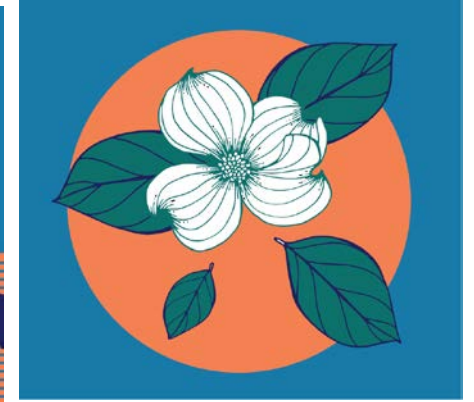
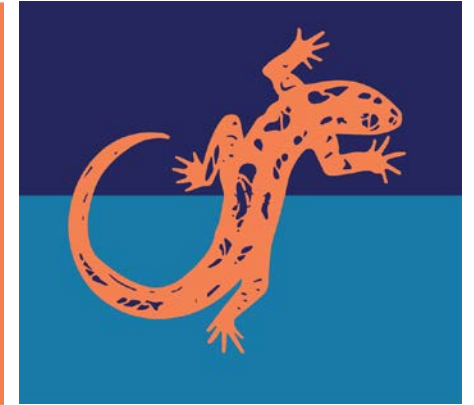
3.1. Update the Urban Forest Master Plan and the Natural Resources Management Plan through a combined process.

Progress:

- Draft Plan engagements held in Summer/Fall 2022
- Summary of the feedback on the Draft can be found on the [project website](#)
- Staff & consultants working on the final draft
- Regular check-ins with NRJAG

Next Steps:

- Public engagements on the Final Draft (Spring/Summer 2023)
- Anticipated adoption (Winter 2023/2024)



COUNTY BOARD GUIDANCE - PROGRESS

ZONING ORDINANCE STUDY

PSMP Recommendation:

1.5.10. Review and consider updating the County's zoning regulations related to parks and public spaces in "S-3A" and "PS" districts, and other County codes as needed, related to setbacks, athletic field and other lighting, parking and parking options, dog parks and dog runs, signage, height, water features, fencing and temporary use of public and private property as public space.

Progress:

- Phase 1 completed in March 2023, focused on:
 - Stormwater management
 - Placement
 - Setbacks
 - Maximum height for fence & walls

Next Steps:

- Phase 2, to be completed in QTR 4 2023:
 - County Board authority to approve increased height, reduced setbacks, and reduced parking amounts on a case-by-case basis (Use Permit req.)
- Phase 3, targeted timing to be commenced in 2024 :
 - Comprehensive study, with proposed support from consultant team
 - Identify best practices for flexible zoning standards for public spaces
 - Topics to evaluate include definitions/terms, new standards for height/setbacks, sign regulations, and by-right parks outside S-3A district

2023

Zoning Ordinance

Arlington County, Virginia



COUNTY BOARD GUIDANCE - PROGRESS

FIELD LIGHTING PROCESS

PSMP Recommendation:
Action Step 1.5.5.: Define a transparent civic engagement process for adding lights to athletic fields.

Progress:

- N/A

Next Steps:

- Contingent upon the Zoning Study



**SELECTED PSMP
RECOMMENDATIONS
PROGRESS**

PSMP CONTAINS 200+ RECOMMENDATIONS

Progress:

- Tracking of progress & responsibilities
- PSMP-IAC regular meetings

Next Steps:

- Continuing collaboration with other County departments & APS on implementation & updates to the PSMP-IAC

Strategic Direction 1. Ensure equitable access for recreation, play and enjoying nature by adding and improving public spaces.

Action 1.1. Add at least 30 acres of new public space over the next 10 years.

Responsible Parties	Potential Partners	Potential Funding Sources	Time Frame	Cost Range Est.
1.1.1. DPR	Acquire land strategically according to acquisition guidelines and parcels identified in this plan (see Appendix II, Land Acquisition). Private funding	Capital budget, grants	continuous	\$\$\$
1.1.2. DPR, CPHD, AED	Secure or expand the public spaces envisioned by sector, corridor and other plans adopted by the County Board – including the Clarendon Sector Plan, Virginia Square Plan, Courthouse Sector Plan, Rosslyn Sector Plan, Crystal City Sector Plan and Columbia Pike Form Based Codes – and ensure they provide amenities that meet County needs. PRC, SC, UFC, PC, BIDs, community organizations, private funding	Capital budget, private funding	continuous	\$\$\$
1.1.3. CPHD, DPR, DES, AED	Incorporate the recommendations of this PSMP into future sector, corridor and other County plans, and use County-wide needs and level of service analyses to guide the inclusion of additional public space in those plans. PRC, SC, PC, HALRB, BIDs, community organizations, property owners	Operating budget	continuous	\$
1.1.4. DPR, CPHD, DES	Ensure that privately owned public spaces conditioned in Board adopted plans, like site plans, are informed by this plan's level of service analyses and guided by the Privately Owned Public Space Design Guidelines (see Appendix III, Design Guidelines). As developer projects are completed, the County will ensure that the required public access easement is platted, recorded and enforced. Property owners, AED	Operating budget	continuous	\$
1.1.5. DPR, DES	Continue to acquire ownership or easements from willing sellers for land adjacent to County waterways, particularly Four Mile Run. NVCT, property owners	Capital budget, operating budget, grants	continuous	\$\$\$
1.1.6. CPHD, DPR, CAO, AED	Explore strengthening and expanding the use of the County's Transfer of Development Rights policy as a tool to create and consolidate future public space. PRC, PC, property owners	Operating budget	short term (0–5 years)	\$
1.1.7. DPR, DES, CPHD	Work with the Commonwealth of Virginia and County-owned street system network to explore opportunities to create new deck parks over I-56 or other highways and primary streets to mitigate highway widening or reclaim public space. VDOT	Capital budget, state and federal funding	continuous	\$\$\$
1.1.8. DPR, DES, CPHD	Conduct a study of residual rights-of-way to determine if such spaces could be used for public space purposes on a temporary or permanent basis. VDOT	Operating budget	short term (0–5 years)	\$

Action 1.2. Utilize level of service as a planning tool to manage public space assets efficiently.

Responsible Parties	Potential Partners	Potential Funding Sources	Time Frame	Cost Range Est.
1.2.1. DPR, DES	Identify opportunities to add or change park and recreation amenities or enhance multi-modal access based on Level of Service Analysis. CPHD, citizen associations	Capital budget	continuous	\$
1.2.2. DPR	Based on level of service and other planning tools and policy, determine where to reduce duplication of services without reducing the overall quality of service provided to the community. Capital budget	Capital budget	continuous	\$

NEW PUBLIC SPACES - PROGRESS

PSMP Recommendations:

- Priority Action 1: 1.1. Add at least 30 acres of new public space over the next 10 years.
- Priority Action 2: 1.1.2. Secure or expand the public spaces envisioned by sector, corridor and other plans adopted by the County Board – including the Clarendon Sector Plan, Virginia Square Plan, Courthouse Sector Plan, Rosslyn Sector Plan, Crystal City Sector Plan and Columbia Pike Form Based Codes – and ensure they provide amenities that meet County needs.

Progress (land secured):

Park/Public Space	Approximate Acreage Added	Type of acquisition
Zachary Taylor Park	0.92	Land dedication
	Total: 0.92 acres	



Site plans w/public spaces approved since Spring 2022 (various construction & easement timelines):

Future privately owned public space	Estimated Acres	SP Approved by the County Board
PenPlace – SP & PDSP #105	2.75	April 2022
Crystal Plaza 5	0.27 (2 new public spaces)	January 2023
	Total: 3.02	

Anticipated site plans to be considered by the County Board in near future:

Associated Site Plan (SP)	Estimated Acres
ARVA – Summer/Fall 2023	0.23
Bingham Center – Summer/Fall 2023	0.14
	Total: 0.37

PSMP & OTHER COUNTY PLANS

PSMP Recommendations:

- 1.1.3. Incorporate the recommendations of this PSMP into future sector, corridor and other County plans, and use County-wide needs and Level of Service analyses to guide the inclusion of additional public space in those plans.

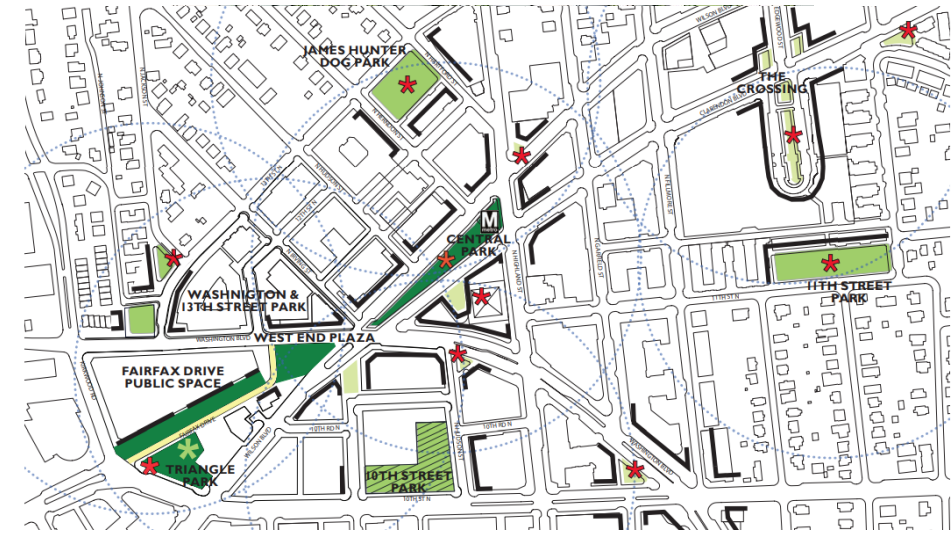
Progress:

- Clarendon Sector Plan Update adopted in April 2022.
 - Includes recommendations for new public spaces such as the Future Fairfax Drive Public Space along with potential acquisition sites to expand existing public spaces and biophilic design elements informed by the PSMP.
- Courthouse West Special GLUP Study adopted in September 2022
 - Includes recommendation for the creation of a new public space on the corner of N. Danville St. and Clarendon Blvd. when redevelopment of the site occurs.

Next Steps:

- Plan Langston Boulevard - anticipated adoption in 2023.

Clarendon Sector Plan Update 2022 – Public Spaces



Courthouse West SGLUP Study 2022 – Public Spaces

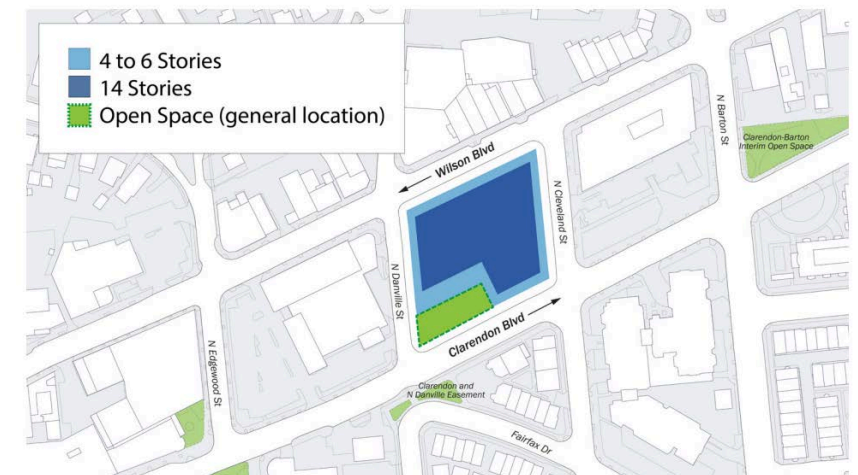


Figure 3-14 Recommended Building Heights Map of Study Area

NEW PARK MASTER PLANS

PSMP Recommendation:

Priority Action 7: 1.5.9. Develop park master plans for all new parks or when renovation of an existing park requires a major rearrangement of park amenities.

Progress:

- [Adopted FY 2023 - FY 2032 Capital Improvement Plan](#) identifies future park master plans for Gateway Park, Boathouse, Crystal City Parks (ongoing), Three Urban Parks (FY 2023), Virginia Highlands Park/Nearby Public Space (FY 2028), Fairfax Drive Public Spaces (FY 2029), Quincy Park, Shirlington Park (FY 2031).

Next Steps:

- Master planning for Three Urban Parks, Gateway Park & Boathouse & anticipated to begin in 2023/2024.

Three Urban Parks



ADOPTED PARK MASTER PLANS IMPLEMENTATION

PSMP Recommendations:

- Priority Action 6: 1.5.2. Complete the implementation of adopted park master plans.

Progress:

- Jennie Dean Park Phase 1 opened in Summer 2022.
- Met Park under construction. Anticipated park opening in Summer 2023.

Next Steps:

- Jennie Dean Park Phase 2 - Community engagement and design to occur during 2nd half of 2023. Construction anticipated during 2024.
- Arlington Junction Park - in design, construction anticipated to begin late 2023.
- Short Bridge Park - Adopted FY 2023 - FY 2022 Capital Improvement Plan identifies funding for the park master plan implementation (design & construction). Design process anticipated to begin late 2023.

Jennie Dean Park



Met Park construction progress – January 2023



PICKLEBALL

PSMP Recommendation:

- 1.4.3. Establish a dedicated pickleball facility to meet the growing demand.

Progress:

- Conducted 2nd engagement on outdoor court needs in Spring 2022
- Developed criteria for outdoor pickleball courts
- [Walter Reed](#) tennis courts identified as a location for a dedicated pickleball facility in the [adopted FY23-2032 CIP](#) & 1st engagement held in February 2023
- Potential courts identified for restriping based on the criteria

Next Steps:

- County Board Recessed Meeting, April 25, Pickleball Update
- 2nd engagement on Walter Reed anticipated in Spring 2023
- Court restriping anticipated in Summer/Fall 2023



Lubber Run Park

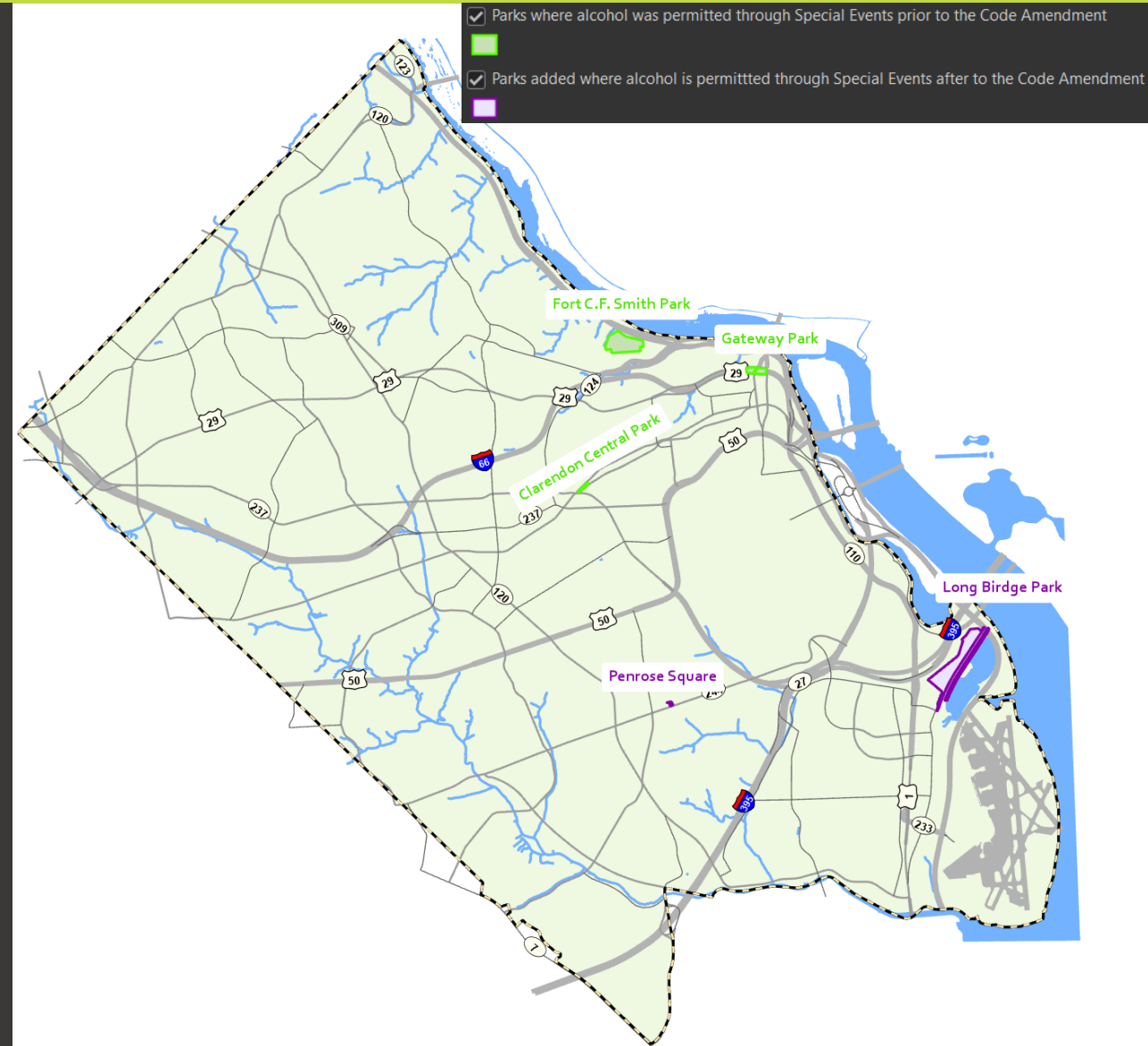
ALCOHOL POLICY

PSMP Recommendations:

- 1.6.2. Explore the revision of Section 17-2 of the Arlington County Code to allow the County to issue permits for the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages in designated parks.

Progress:

- In January 2023, the County Board adopted changes to the Arlington County Code to add Penrose Square and Long Bridge Park to the list of parks where alcohol sale and consumption is permitted.



NATURAL SURFACE TRAILS

PSMP Recommendations:

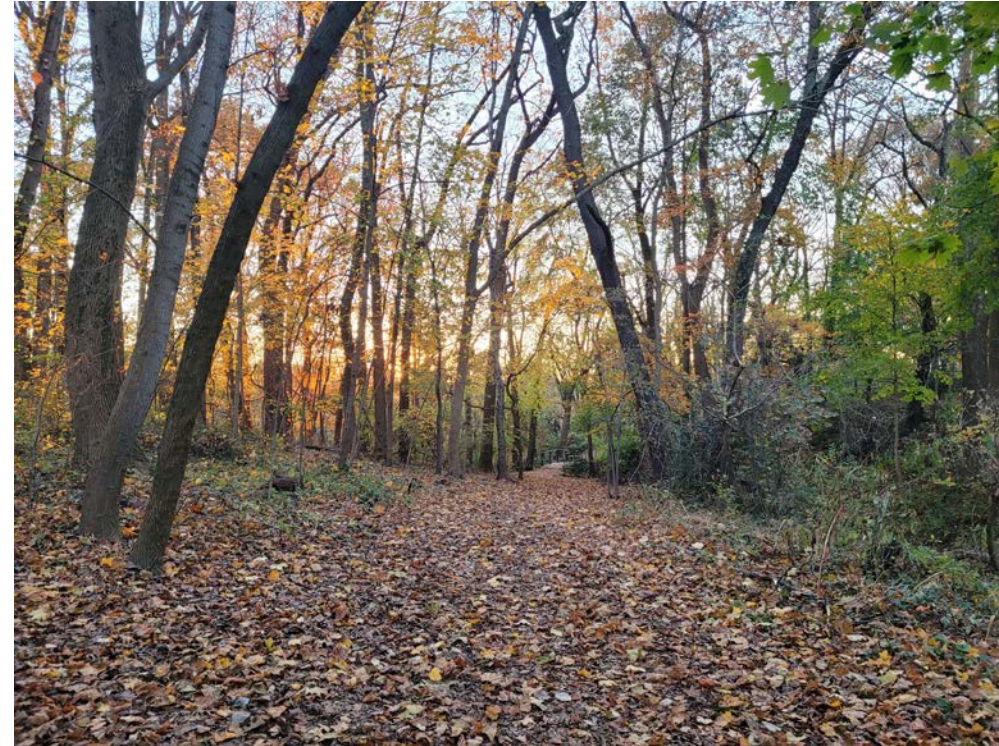
- 2.1.7. Explore opportunities to provide a space for pump tracks and cyclocross on a temporary or permanent basis, while balancing potential impacts on natural resources and trees.
- 2.4. Provide or make better connections to hiking trails.

Progress:

- This is a two-phase study; we are currently in Phase 1: Inventory and Assessment. Phase 2: Implementation Plan is anticipated to begin in Winter 2023/2024.
- Phase 1 of the study is nearing conclusion. Fieldwork wrapped up in Summer 2022, and the consultant team is finalizing data analysis and mapping.
 - This data, and feedback from public engagement, will be used to support Phase 2 of the planning effort.

Next Steps:

- Phase 1 public engagement is anticipated to begin in Fall 2023.



Natural Surface Trail at Douglas Park

TRAILS

PSMP Recommendations:

- Priority Action 9: 2.1. Expand Arlington's network of connected multi-use trails.
- 2.2. Improve existing trails that currently do not meet design standards or user demands.

Progress:

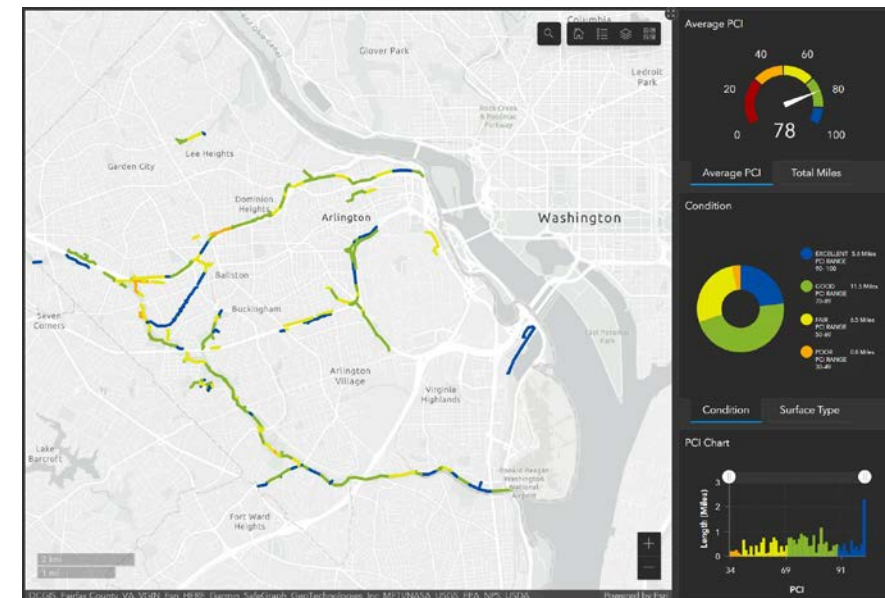
- Trail Pavement Assessment: In summer of 2022, DPR assessed the condition of Arlington's off-street, multi-use trails. Overall, the trail system is in good condition and this assessment was used to mill and repave the Four Mile Run Trail from George Mason Drive to Walter Reed Drive.
- Arlington Boulevard Feasibility Study: This study will identify the preferred routing and associated trail improvements along the North and South segments of the Arlington Boulevard Trail between N Jackson St to N George Mason Dr to guide future capital investment. It is currently in the draft report phase and public engagement for the project is underway.
- Army Navy Country Club Connector: The project will provide a new trail connection between Memorial Drive at the ANCC entrance gate and 13th Rd. S. at the Hoffman-Boston campus. It is currently in the conceptual design phase.

Next Steps: Continue interdepartmental coordination on DES trail projects, continue milling and repaving the least performing trail segments per the pavement assessment throughout 2023.

Arlington Blvd. Trail Study Area



Trail Pavement Assessment



BIOPHILIC PRINCIPLES

PSMP Recommendation:

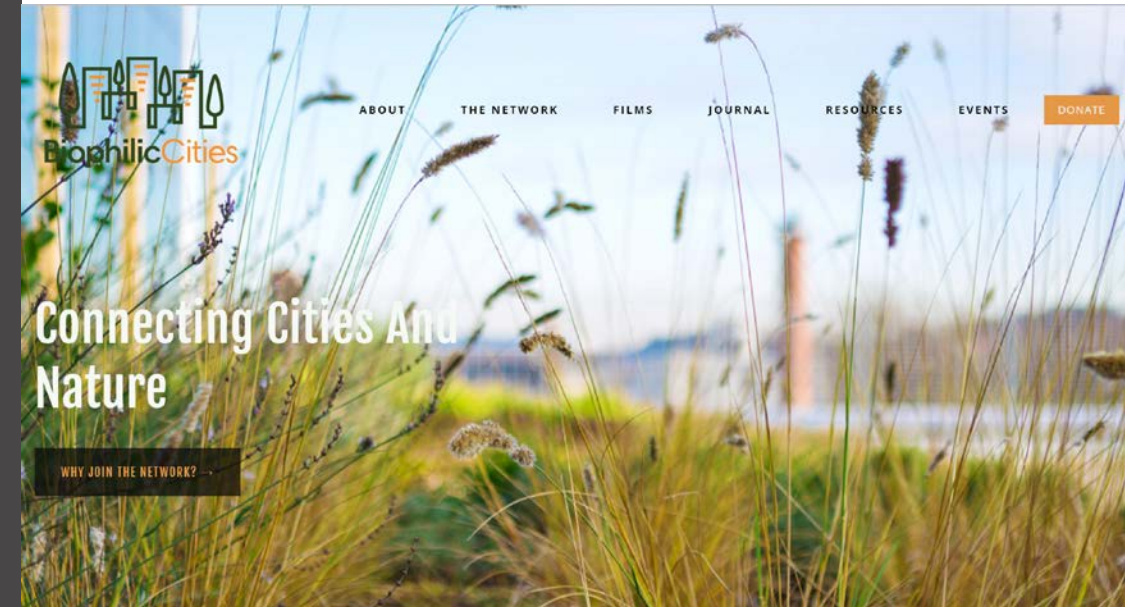
3.3.1. Explore opportunities to participate in and join the Biophilic Cities movement.

Progress:

- CPHD & DPR staff participate in monthly meetings of the Biophilic Cities Network
- County appointed its first Climate Policy Officer in March 2023
- Natural Resiliency Program included in the CIP
- Incorporated biophilic design recommendations in park master plan, site plans and other plans

Next Steps:

- Adopt recommendations in the FNRP
- Continue to encourage biophilic design principles in public & private projects and plans
- Track implementation/progress



NATURE IN PARKS

PSMP Recommendations:

- 3.3.9. Explore opportunities to use public art to interpret natural resources.
- 3.4.1. Enhance and expand nature-based interpretive and educational opportunities for children, starting at pre-school age, as well as adults and seniors.

Progress:

- DPR partnered with AED and the Art Truck this Fall to educate about local native plants, birds and benefits of local wildlife. Interacted with a total of 1,660 people during the multiple events.
- Partnered with the National Park Service to provide virtual and in-person educational and interpretive nature programs.
- Added more nature hikes with an educational component.
- Organized intergenerational nature walks between seniors and preschoolers at Lubber Run.

Next Steps:

- Planning Earth Day activities
- Continue incorporating virtual and in-person nature-based interpretative and educational programming across populations from preschool to seniors and for individuals with disabilities



PROGRAMMING

PSMP Recommendations:

- 5.1.1. Undertake a demand and capacity analysis of existing programs offered by DPR and program partners in Arlington County.
- 5.1.2. Continue to monitor local and national recreation trends and best practices and incorporate new and innovative recreation programs to sustain community participation.

Progress:

- Analysis of the camp registration process was completed (benchmarking, engagement with staff and the community, and research of registration data). Resulted in programmatic changes for summer camp 2023, including:
 - increasing elementary age (ages 5-10) programming
 - increasing focus on nature and adventure programs
 - increasing tween (ages 10-14) camp offerings
 - increasing the number of full day camps
 - converting two preschools (ages 3-5) from half-day to full-day to meet childcare needs in the community.
- Fitness, socialization and art continue to be in high demand for adult individuals with disabilities and adapted aquatics and gymnastics for youth.
- Continuing to assess inclusion needs and trends across all programming areas.
- 55+ continues to respond to trends by offering pickleball and virtual programs.
- Youth Services launched a new Esports program for tweens/teens and is planning to offer an adult league in FY24.



NEXT STEPS

- **2023 Topics:**
 - FNRP
 - casual use spaces
 - zoning study phase 2
 - field availability & utilization
 - natural surface trails
 - pickleball
 - park master planning & implementation
 - plan for a 5-year review
- **Next Meeting –Summer/Fall 2023**

**PUBLIC SPACES MASTER PLAN-
IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PSMP-IAC)**

Hybrid Meeting

April 20, 2023