

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

Virtual Meeting

April 17, 2024

AGENDA

- Introduction
- Virtual Meeting Ground Rules
- Public Comment
- Annual PSMP Update
 - County Board Guidance - Progress
- Natural Surface Trails Updates
- PSMP Refresh
- Next Steps
- Appendix - Selected PSMP Recommendations Progress

VIRTUAL MEETING GROUND RULES

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

For this meeting:

- PSMP-IAC members & staff will have access to cameras & mics
- Mics and cameras for general public attendees will be disabled
- Public members who signed up to speak prior to the meeting, will have access to cameras and mics during their timeslot
- If you're on a phone, dial "*6" to mute and unmute yourself
- "Chat" option is disabled for this meeting
- Please do not interrupt Committee's discussion

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Speakers (3 minutes each):

Written Comments:

COUNTY BOARD GUIDANCE – BRIEF UPDATES

TASKS	PROGRESS & ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE
Appoint the PSMP Implementation Advisory Committee (PSMP-IAC)	16 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 2025
Update the Natural Resources Management & Urban Forest Master Plans (Priority Action 10, Action 3.1., page 96)	Completed in December 2023
Field availability & utilization (Priority Action 4, Action Step 1.2.5., page 60)	Framework Developed in 2023
Update the County's zoning regulations as they relate to parks and public spaces (Action Step 1.5.10., page 68)	2 Phases 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
- 16 meetings held so far

Membership:

- Co-Chairs:
 - **Shruti Kuppa**, Park and Recreation Commission
 - **Jane Rudolph**, Department of Parks and Recreation
- Bicycle Advisory Committee: **Gillian Burgess**
- Climate Change, Energy and Environment Commission (C2E2): **Mikaila Milton**
- Fiscal Affairs Advisory Commission: TBD
- Forestry and Natural Resources Commission: **Caroline Haynes**
- Park and Recreation Commission: **Jill Barker**
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee: **Andrea Walker**
- Planning Commission: **Peter Robertson**
- Sports Commission: **Nancy Sharkey**
- Department of Parks and Recreation: **Erik Beach**

COUNTY BOARD GUIDANCE - PROGRESS

FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN

PSMP Recommendation:

Priority Action 10

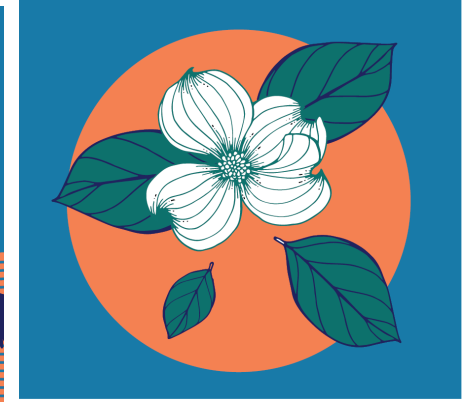
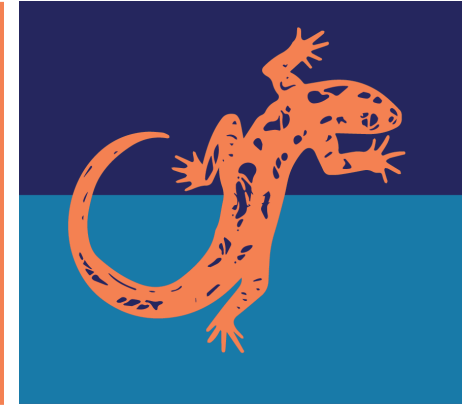
3.1. Update the Urban Forest Master Plan and the Natural Resources Management Plan through a combined process.

Progress:

- The FNRP was adopted by the County Board in December 2023

Next Steps:

- Implementation Planning
- Tree Canopy Study
- Deer Management Project
- Natural Surface Trails Study



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
- Phase 2 completed in December 2023:
 - County Board authority to approve increased height, reduced setbacks, and reduced parking amounts on a case-by-case basis (Use Permit req.)

Next Steps:

- Phase 3, to be initiated in the future (TBD):
 - 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

CASUAL USE SPACES

PSMP Recommendations:

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:

- Workshop w/PSMP-IAC (July)
- Concept refinements & exploring standards (Fall/Winter)
- Finalizing Inventory (Winter 2025)

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:

- 5 meetings with the PSMP-IAC
- Presented the framework of [Athletic Field Availability and Utilization](#) to PSMP-IAC on November 2, 2023.

Next Steps:

- Implementation will begin in Spring 2024 to include:
 - Eliminate drop in field classification
 - Preserve community use time at fields throughout the County
 - Pilot a Check-in process in Spring 2024 to compare actual use versus scheduled use.
 - In 2025, report annual utilization rates for all athletics fields.



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



PSMP CONTAINS 200+ RECOMMENDATIONS

Progress (additional details in the Appendix):

- Land acquisition
- New park master plans & implementation
- Pickleball
- Trails
- Biophilic principles
- Natural resource conservation & management
- Programming
- Community gardens

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-66 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. DPR	Capital budget	continuous	\$

NATURAL SURFACE TRAILS UPDATES

NATURAL SURFACE TRAILS

PSMP Recommendations:

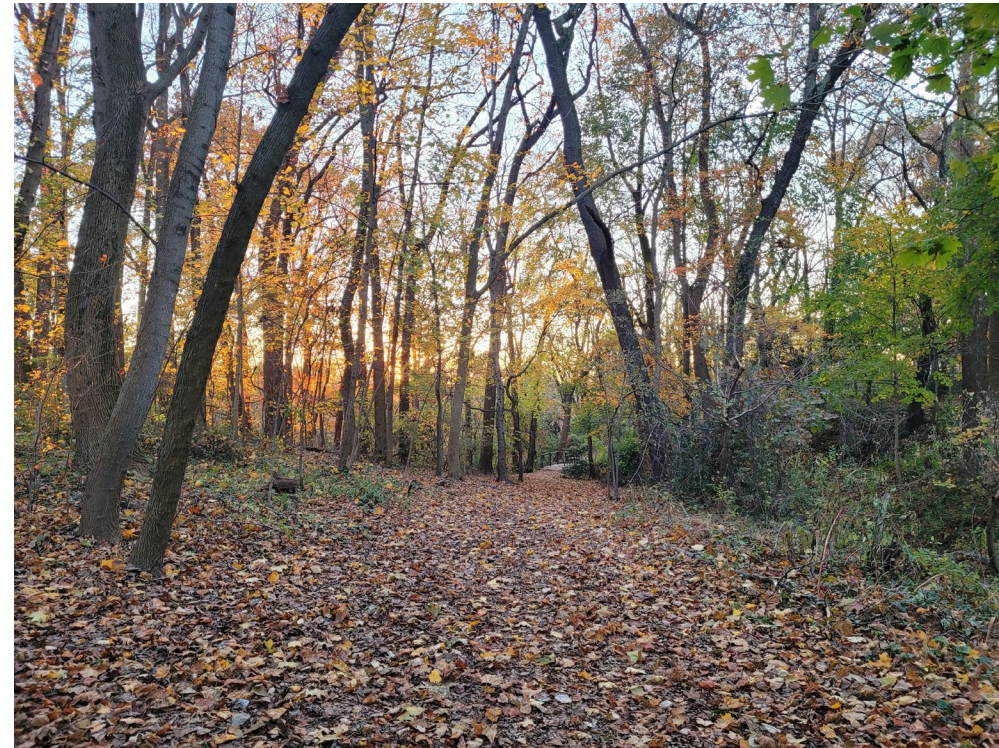
- 2.1.7. Explore opportunities to provide a space for pump tracks and cyclocross on a temporary or permanent basis, while balancing potential impacts on natural resources and trees.
- 2.4. Provide or make better connections to hiking trails.

Progress:

- Phase 1 is complete and the results of the trail inventory, sustainability assessment, and public engagement have been published.
- Phase 2 began in March with a second round of fieldwork.

Next Steps:

- Begin development of Trail Management Framework
 - This will include recommended trail improvements, new maps, and recommended best management practices.



Natural Surface Trail at Douglas Park

Project Background



- Derived from recommendations in the PSMP & FNRP to enhance natural surface trails and adopt sustainable management practices
- The goal is to ensure Arlington’s natural surface trails are sustainable and provide high-quality access to nature
- A **2-phase** study; Inventory and Assessment and Trail Management Framework

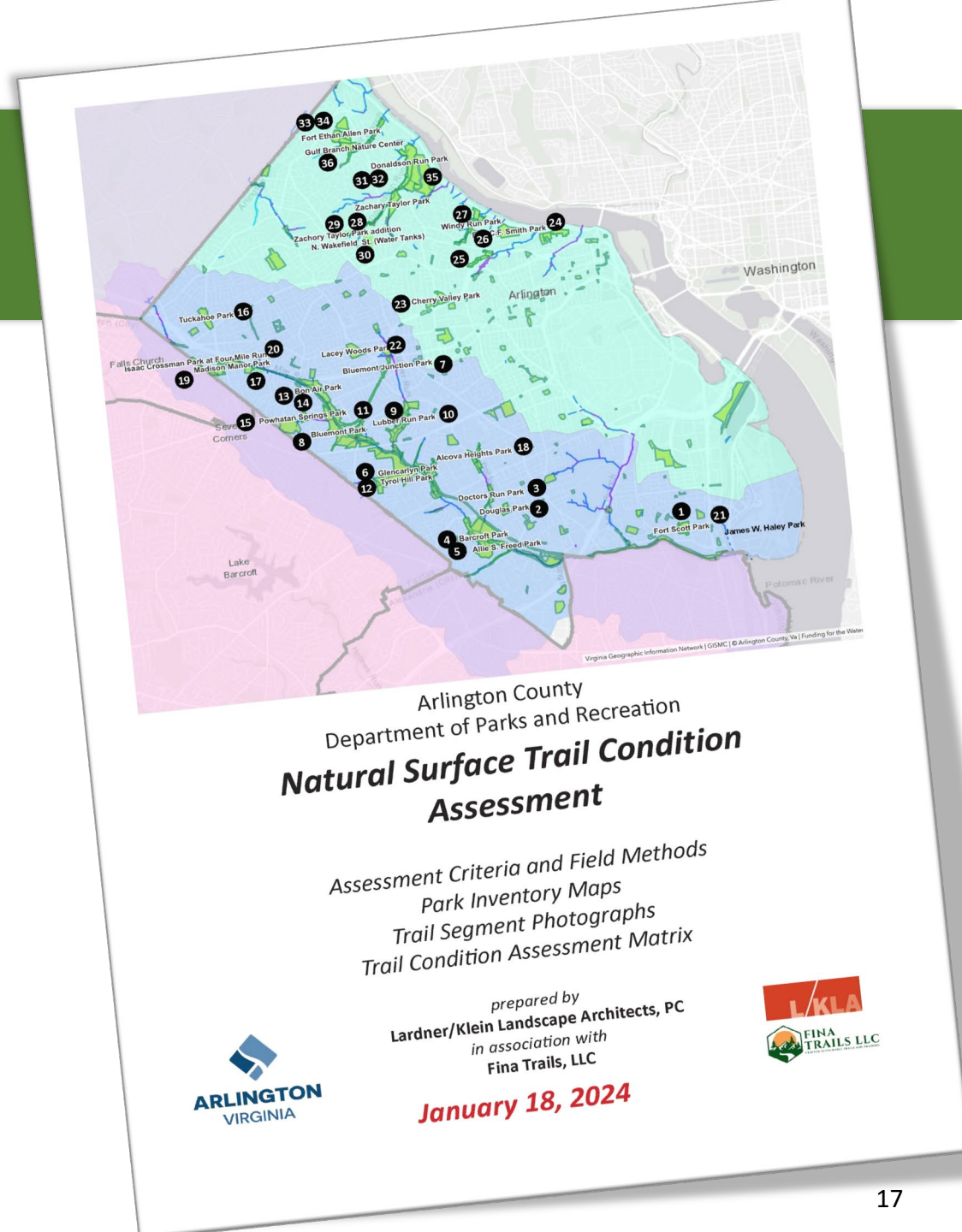
Status Update



- Phase 1, The Inventory and Assessment is complete.
- [Report published](#) and virtual public engagement opportunity, including an [educational video](#) and [presentation](#) opened in mid-January.
- Finalizing analysis of engagement feedback.
- The consultant team completed Phase 2 fieldwork—evaluating possible trail improvements and re-routes, this month.

Inventory and Assessment Overview

- Focused on County-owned land
- 29 parks were found to contain natural surface trails
- 20+ miles of natural surface trails inventoried



What is in the Report?

- Assessment Criteria
- Field Methods
- Park by Park Inventory Maps
- Trail Segment Photographs
- Trail Condition Dataforms

Arlington Natural Surface Trails Assessment: <i>Index</i>											
Map (pg #)	Trail	Acres	FIELD WORK		TRACKS (OBJECT ID)			POINTS (OBJECT ID)			NOTES
			DATE	DATE	from	to	plus	from	to	plus	
1 (4)	Fort Scott Park 2800 FORT SCOTT DR	11.65	1/28/22	1/28/22	1	13		1	57		
2 (6)	Douglas Park 1718 S QUINCY ST	6.80	1/28/22	1/28/22	24	41	60-61	83	112		
3 (8)	Doctors Run Park 1301 S GEORGE MASON DR	5.82	1/28/22	1/28/22	14	23	57	58	82		
4 (9)	Barcroft Park 4200 S FOUR MILE RUN DR	62.61	1/28/22	1/28/22	43	56		113	182		
5 (9)	Allie S. Freed Park 2465 S CULPEPER ST	12.48	1/28/22	1/28/22							included with Forest
Arlington Natural Surface Trails Field Assessment Feb 2022 - Field Observations Feb 2022 - points											
6 (12)	Glencaryn Park 301 S HARRISON ST	100.11	2/2/22	3/21/22	1	54		3	416	3006-3011	
			2/8/22					80-81	526	545	
			3/21/22					651-704	595	722	
7 (30)	Bluemont Junction Park 747 N EMERSON ST	23.59	2/9/22	2/10/22	83	88	108	723	799	802	
8 (30)	Bluemont Park O N MANCHESTER ST	50.60	2/9/22	2/9/22				804	809		no natural surface trails
9 (32)	Edison Park 213 N EDISON ST	0.39	2/9/22	2/9/22	59	59		430	432	434	included with Lubber Run Park
10 (32)	Lubber Run Park 300 N PARK DR	30.49	2/9/22	2/9/22	55	79		417	525		
11 (36)	Mary Carlin Woods at Bluemont Park 341 N KENNINGTON ST	6.56	2/9/22	2/9/22	82,88	83(part)		546	573	3312-3313	
12 (12)	Tyrol Hill Park 5101 7th RD S	3.36	2/9/22	2/9/22		39		252	254		included with Glencaryn Park
13 (38)	Bon Air Park 850 N LEXINGTON ST	21.13	2/10/22	2/10/22	121	126		810	850	3214	
14 (40)	Benjamin Banneker Park 1680 N SYCAMORE ST	12.46	2/17/22	2/17/22	198	204		1123	1156		
15 (42)	Powhatan Springs Park 6020 WILSON BLVD	5.33	2/17/22	2/17/22	128				851	858	
16 (44)	Luckahoe Park 2400 N SYCAMORE ST	12.25	2/17/22	2/17/22	222	236			1215	1245	
17 (46)	Parcel 11040142 Madison Manor Park addition	1.30	2/17/22	2/17/22							
18 (52)	Alcova Heights Park 901 S GEORGE MASON DR	12.24	2/18/22	2/18/22	263	265		1300	1319		
19 (46)	Madison Manor Park 6225 12th RD N	13.10	2/17/22	3/22/22	133	195			859	1116	
20 (54)	Isaac Crossman Park at Four Mile Run 1900 N WESTMORELAND ST	2.84	2/18/22	2/18/22	215	221			1180	1214	
FALLS CHURCH SIDE INVENTORIED BUT NOT REPORTED											
21 (53)	James W. Haley Park 2400 S MEADE ST	2.57	2/18/22	2/18/22	266	275			266	275	
22 (56)	Lacey Woods Park 1200 N GEORGE MASON DR	13.86	2/18/22	2/18/22					1246	1299	
23 (58)	Cherry Valley Park 1731 N QUINCY ST	9.84	2/21/22	2/21/22	276	290			1360	1414	
24 (60)	Fort Bennett Park and Palisades Trail 2220 N SCOTT ST	10.54	2/21/22	2/21/22	323	339			1500	1593	
25 (62)	Thrifton Hill Park 2814 23rd ST N	8.64	2/21/22	2/21/22	291	316			1415	1499	
26 (64)	Fort C.F. Smith Park 2411 24th ST N	19.04	2/25/22	3/2/22	379	416			1739	1911	
27 (67)	Windy Run Park 2420 N KENMORE ST	15.06	2/25/22	2/25/22	340				1594	1738	
28 (70)	Zachary Taylor Park 2900 MILITARY RD	22.29	3/2/22	3/2/22	432	459			1987	2194	
29 (70)	Parcel 03063008 Zachary Taylor Park addition	3.87	3/2/22	3/2/22							included with Zachary Taylor Park
30 (76)	Parcel 05005072 2400 N WAKEFIELD ST (Lee Heights Reservoir)	8.91	3/2/22	3/2/22	417	431			1912	1986	
31 (78)	Donaldson Run Bike Trail 4712 26th ST N	3.38	3/2/22	3/2/22							included with Donaldson Run Park
32 (78)	Donaldson Run Park 4020 30th ST N	29.82	3/4/22	3/4/21	460	534			2195	2574	
33 (86)	Fort Ethan Allen Park 3829 N STAFFORD ST	14.77	3/15/22	3/15/22	535	537546-551			2575	2595	
34 (86)	Glebe Road Park 4211 N OLD GLEBE RD	9.87	3/15/22	3/15/22	538	545352, 599-649			2596	2632	
35 (78)	Marcey Road Park 2722 N MARCEY RD	2.84	3/15/22	3/15/22							included with Donaldson Run
36 (88)	Gulf Branch Nature Center 3608 MILITARY RD	27.00	3/15/22	3/16/22	599	650			2633	2669	

Arlington Natural Surface Trails Assessment: *Criteria and Field Methods*

Trail Assessment Matrix Key

Segment. This is the segment number that keys to the relevant map. Segments have generally similar characteristics. Segments vary in length.

Forest Service Trail Class. Trail classification system used by the United States Forest Service.

1. Single track, often hard to identify and follow. Unimproved. Low use.
2. Single track obvious and easy to follow. Unimproved. Often rough. Higher use.
3. Obvious to follow. Wider. May be a built trail or social trail. Fewer obstacles. High use.
4. Constructed trail often surfaced gravel or wood chips. Obvious to follow. Few obstacles.
5. Constructed trail usually with a hard surface. Stone, boardwalk. Obvious to follow. No obstacles.

Width-feet. Average range of trail widths measured in feet within the section.

Slope Percent (%). Elevation change for every 100 feet of trail length. Optimal range is 3-10%. Above 10% sustainability falls off quickly. Below 3% may be too flat to drain.

Trail Slope Alignment (TSA) The relationship of the prevailing landform slope and the alignment of a trail on that slope.

1. **0-22 degrees.** Trail is straight down the slope. Fall line and very low sustainability.
2. **23-45 degrees.** Close to fall line. Low sustainability.
3. **46 to 67 degrees.** Fair sustainability.
4. **68 to 90 degrees.** Close to contour alignment. High sustainability.

Slope % and TSA work together to determine sustainability. Optimal trail has a trail slope between 3-10% with TSA of 3 or 4.

Surface. Walking surface of Trail. Generally either soil or gravel sometimes wood chips.

Outslope. This is the cross slope of the trail that determines how well the trail drains to the side rather than down the trail. Generally 5%-8% is optimum.

OK Adequate cross slope to drain.
TS Too steep. Too out-sloped for comfortable walking.
NA Generally fall line so water runs down trail, no cross slope.
(See "Incsed" below for related condition)

Soil loss. Is the trail eroding? Is there evidence of soil loss? Exposed roots, rocks? Is the trail turning into a gully?

Y yes
N no
NA not applicable

Typically where there is hardened trail, bedrock, or trail is in creek bed.

Incsed. Is trail gullied, cupped, or otherwise concave shaped to hold water on the trail.

Assessment (R,Y,G) Color Designation. Sustainability assessment for each trail segment based on Trail Slope, TSA and other factors (flood plain, soil type).

Green (G) Sustainable with minimal maintenance intervention.

Yellow (Y) Could be sustainable with some maintenance interventions, or there are built structures requiring more routine maintenance than a trail with no structures.

Red (R) Trail is not sustainable. Generally too steep, TSA rating 1 or 2, or in a flood prone or wet location.

Notes. Additional comments briefly describing trail issues by segment.

Segment Recommendation. Sustainability suggestions for each trail segment.

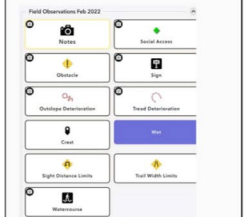
- **No action.** Trail is sustainable in its current condition. Trail that is in flood plain of infrequently used and does not merit any remediation.
- **Harden.** Pave, gravel, or geo grid. Some type of engineered improvement specific to that trail section.
- **Close/reroute.** The trail is not sustainable and cannot reasonably be made to be sustainable in its current alignment. Close and reclaim the existing trail, and build a new sustainable trail with a different alignment.
- **Add RGD-#.** Add a rolling grade dip (RGD). The trailing number is the minimum number of RGD recommended for each section.



Field Data Capture Methods



1. **User mapped social trails** - included GPX files downloaded from AllTrails.com or Strava.com
2. **Unmapped social trails** meeting the following criteria:
 - i) Accessible from public property
 - ii) Visible evidence of recent human use
 - iii) At least 18" wide
3. **Officially mapped (or marked) natural surface trails:** map published by Arlington County, or marked in the field by Arlington County (e.g., trail markers at Long Branch Nature Center)
4. **Reinforced Natural Surface Trail:** includes water bars, steps, retaining walls, gravel placement or other tread reinforcement or engineered fill
5. **Existing Paved Trail:** collected where the pavement is along the mapped or marked natural surface trail (such as near a trail head, a park use area, or where it approaches or crosses an existing paved trail)
6. **Structure:** bridges, boardwalk, culvert

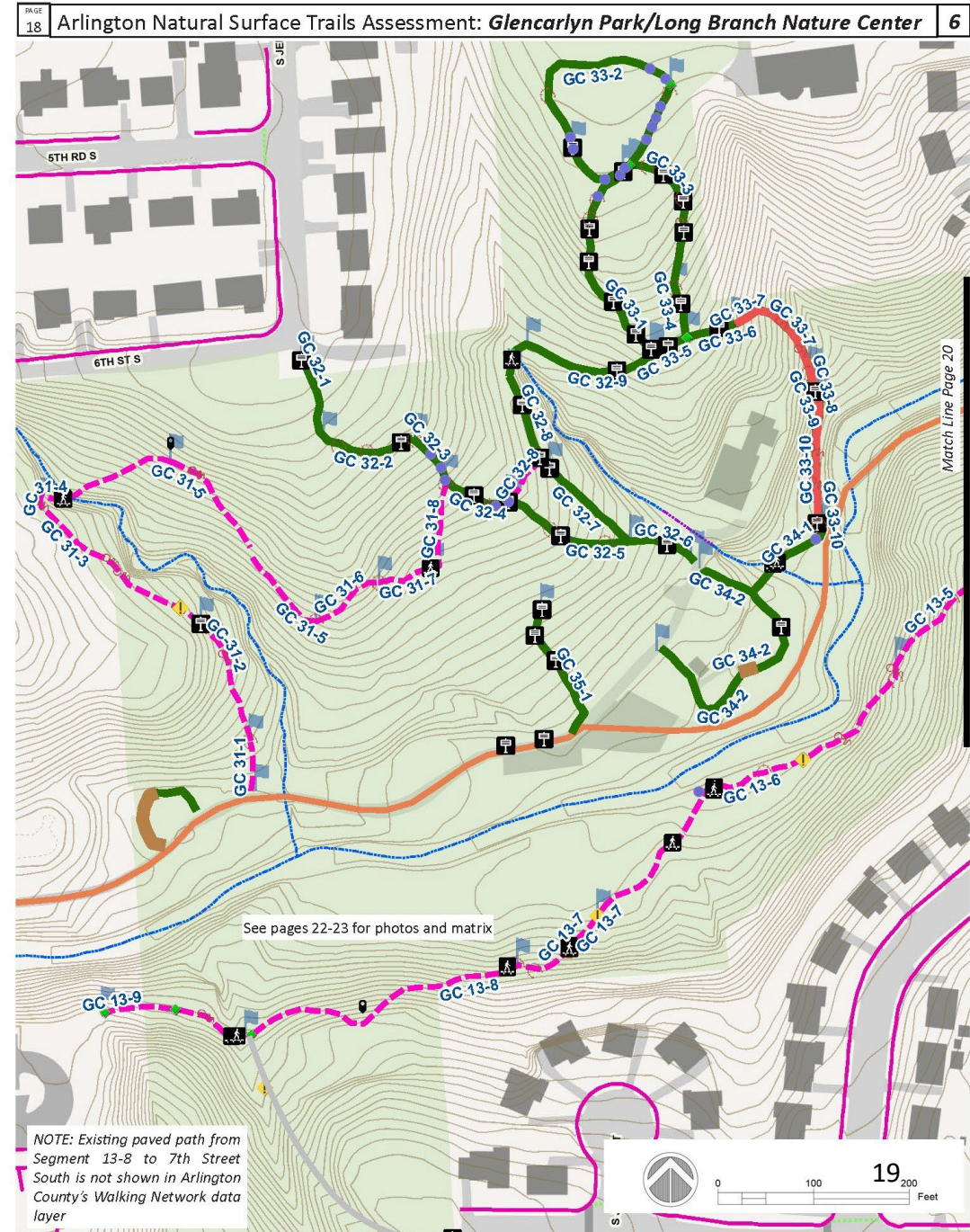


Natural Surface Trail Point Features

1. **Notes:** Photographs captured at beginning and end of each distinct trail segment (see flag symbol on maps)
2. **Social Access:** Points where social access trails have developed from private access to park trails or recreational use within the park
3. **Obstacle:** located on trail causing user to divert path (primarily a tree fall)
4. **Sign:** located along trail (also includes other point features such as trail markers)
5. **Outslope Deterioration:** includes evidence of sliding (footprint), side slope erosion, and placement of temporary barriers to prevent further deterioration (such as logs or other reinforcement)
6. **Tread Deterioration:** evidence includes tree root exposure, cupping, soil loss from surface runoff, soil loss from trail use, etc.)
7. **Crest:** along profile (including potential sight distance issues for future bicycle use)
8. **Trail Width Limits:** narrow tread width on side slopes, or caused by obstacles or mature trees, etc.
9. **Wet Areas:** evidence of seasonally high-water table, poor soil drainage, hydric soils, or blocked surface runoff
10. **Watercourse Crossings:** includes trails crossing defined concave surfaces where runoff first collects, intermittent and perennial streams

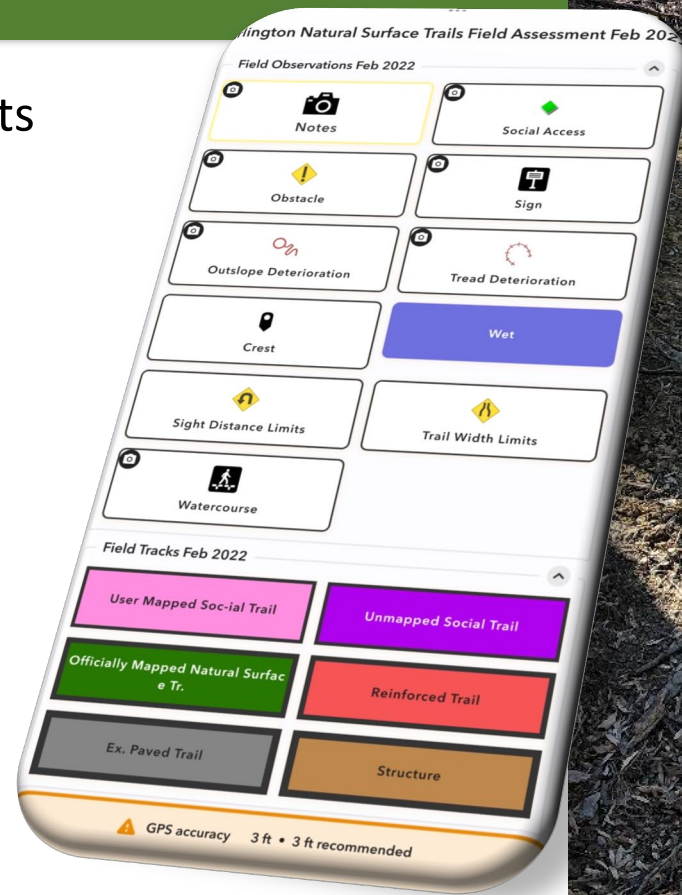
Types of Trails Inventoried

- Officially Mapped Trails (by Arlington County)
- User-mapped Social Trails (by apps like AllTrails)
- Unmapped Social Trails (discovered during the inventory)



Inventory Methods

- User-created access points
- Obstacles
- Sign locations
- Outslope deterioration
- Tread deterioration
- Crest
- Trail Width Limits
- Watercourse Crossings
- Wet Areas
- Watercourse Crossings



Assessment Methods – Sustainability Grade

- Green (G) – Sustainable with minimal maintenance intervention
- Yellow (Y) – Could be made sustainable with some maintenance interventions, or there are built structures requiring more routine maintenance.
- Red (R) - Trail is not sustainable. Generally, it is too steep, located in a wet area, or impacts an inventoried natural resource

Fort Scott Park 1.28.22
Small neighborhood park, mostly social trails on side hill.

Map Segment	Forest Service Trail Class	Width (feet)	Trail Slope (%)	Trail Slope Angle	Surface	Trail Outslope	Soil Loss	Incised	Assessment (R,Y,G)	Notes	Segment Recommendation
1.1	2	2-3	10	2	soil	NA	Y	Y	Yellow	carrying drainage from parking.	Add RGD
1.2	2	2-3	10	2	soil	NA	Y	Y	Yellow	water bars.	remove water bars, add RGD
1.3	2	2-3	<5	1	soil	OK	N	N	Green	nice RCA	No action
1.4	2	2-3	<5	4	soil	NA	Y	N	Yellow	connector to field	no recommendation
1.5	2	2-3	7	1	soil	OK	N	N	Green	nice RCA	No action
1.6	2	2-3	<5	4	soil	OK	N	N	Green	nice RCA, two sets of scout built steps. Need work.	re do steps
1.7	2	2-3	<5	4	soil	OK	N	N	Green	nice RCA	No action
1.8	2	2-3	5-15	1-2	soil	OK	Y	Y	Red	whole network of braided trails here mostly too steep.	close/reroute
1.9	2	2-3	5-15	1-2	soil	OK	Y	Y	Red	whole network of braided trails here mostly too steep.	close/reroute
1.10	2	2-3	5-10	3-4	soil	OK	N	N	Green	whole network of braided trails here mostly too steep.	close/reroute
1.11	2	2-3	15-20	1-2	soil	OK	Y	Y	Red	whole network of braided trails here mostly too steep.	close/reroute
1.12	2	2-3	5	4	soil	OK	N	N	Green	whole network of braided trails here mostly too steep.	close/reroute
2.1	2	2-3	5-15	1	soil	OK	Y	Y	Red		add RGD (4)
2.2	2	2-3	5-10	3-4	soil	OK	N	N	Yellow		add RGD (3)
2.3	2	2-3	5-10	2-3	soil	OK	N	N	Yellow		add RGD (3)
2.4	2	2-3	5-10	2-3	soil	OK	N	N	Yellow		add RGD (4)
2.5	2	2-3	15-30	1-2	soil	OK	Y	N	Red	very eroded steep area	close/reroute
2.6	2	2-3	8-13	4	soil	OK	Y	N	Yellow	trail to street. Down hill edge lined	remove edge
3.1	2	2-3	30	1	soil	NA	Y	Y	Red	exposed roots rocks gullied fall line	close/reroute
4.1	2	2-3	33	1	soil	NA	Y	Y	Red	exposed roots rocks gullied fall line	close/reroute
4.2	2	2-3	<10	4	soil	OK	N	N	Green		add RGD (3)

Big Picture:
The south and west sides of this park have good potential for a sustainable trail or trails.

Engagement Summary

794 Participants

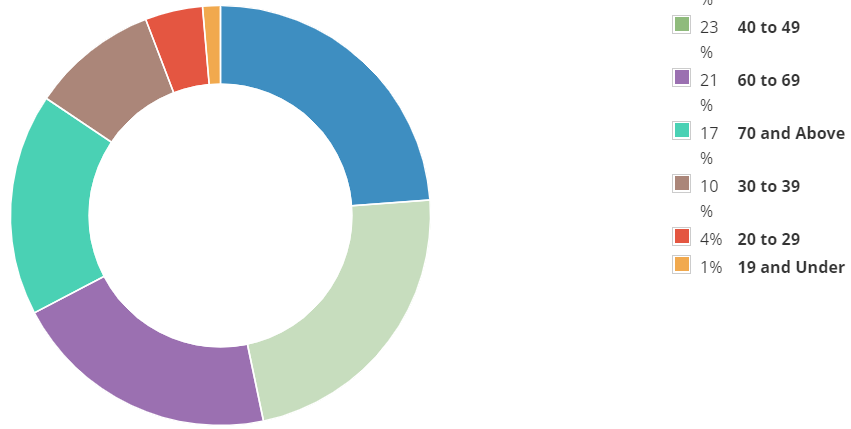


ONLINE FEEDBACK FORM

794 Online Feedback Form Responses

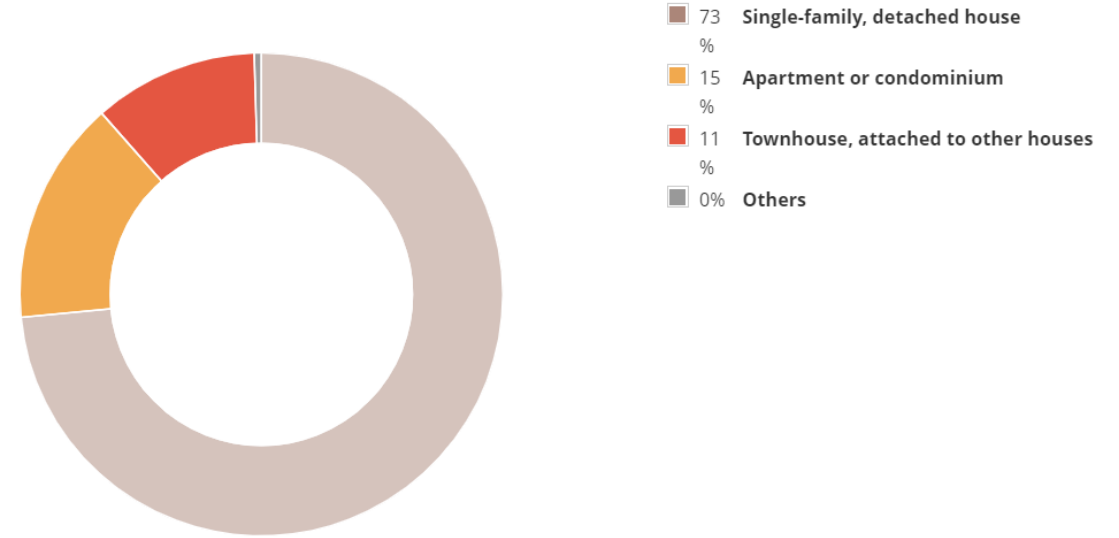
Through these responses, we received 1,974 comments

Age Range



655 respondents

Which of the following best describes your current home?



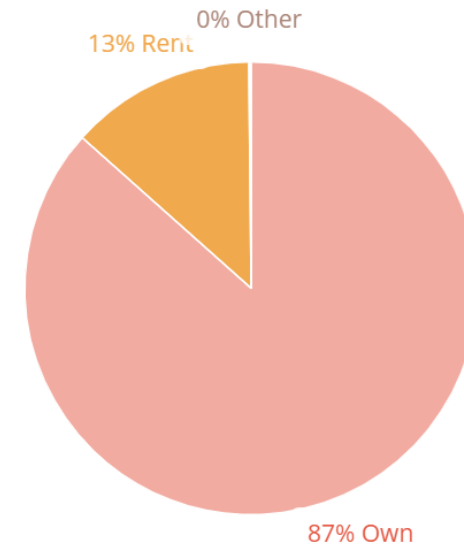
624 respondents

Which of the following describes your race or ethnicity? Select all that apply.

90%	White	392 ✓
6%	Hispanic or Latino	25 ✓
3%	Other	13 ✓
3%	Asian	11 ✓
2%	Black or African American	8 ✓
1%	Native American	5 ✓
1%	Pacific Islander	4 ✓

437 Respondents

Do you rent or own your current home?



634 respondents

Key Themes

General Enthusiasm for Trails	Maintenance and Connectivity	Diversity in Trail Experience	Youth and Mountain Biking
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Widespread support and enthusiasm for preserving and enhancing Arlington's natural trails.Trails valued for fostering social interaction and enhancing physical and mental well-being.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintenance of existing trails is a high priority, with emphasis on erosion control and natural aesthetics.Demand for more interconnected trails providing a variety of experiences and improved accessibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Community calls for a range of trail types to cater to different skill levels, ensuring rugged and natural features are preserved.Interest in trails that offer a graded difficulty level, from easy for accessibility to challenging for seasoned hikers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Majority supports the exploration of mountain bike trail access, with consideration for safety and environmental impact.Strong interest in youth-friendly trail infrastructure and programs, aligning with support for mountain biking access.

Key Themes

Preservation of Natural Experiences	Control of Off-Leash Dogs	Trail Signage and Information	Natural Experience and Wildlife
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The experience of nature is a key feature that the community values highly.• Minimal change and low-impact enhancements preferred to maintain the trail's natural integrity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Majority of responses on this topic advocate for enforcing leash laws to ensure safety and enjoyment for all trail users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A desire for more intentional and educational signage to assist with navigation and to enrich the trail experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Many respondents emphasized the importance of trails for experiencing and learning about nature and local wildlife.• A preference for sustainable, low-impact trail enhancements that support wildlife habitats and biodiversity.

Question Highlight – If you haven't used the trails, why not?

36%	Other	65 ✓
31%	I did not know about them	55 ✓
22%	Hard to access / poor signage	39 ✓
19%	Too far away	35 ✓
16%	They do not feel safe or welcoming to me	29 ✓
11%	Trails are hard to navigate	20 ✓
6%	They do not accommodate those with different mobility needs	10 ✓

180 Respondents

Next Steps



- Finalize Engagement Analysis and Publish Summary – April 2024
- Field data analysis – April 2024
- Develop Draft Framework – Spring/Summer 2024
- Engagement #2 – Summer 2024
- Engagement #3 – Summer/Fall 2024

Project Links



- [Project Page](#)
- [Natural Surface Trails Educational Video](#)
- [Inventory and Assessment Report](#)
- [Introduction to the Inventory and Assessment Presentation](#)

PSMP REFRESH & NEXT STEPS

PSMP REFRESH

PSMP Recommendations:

1.2.4. Conduct a public space needs assessment, including a statistically valid survey and Level of Service analysis, on a 5-year cycle.

Review to include:

- Statistically valid survey
- Equity considerations
- Inventory update
- Level of Service update
- Land acquisition criteria, methodology and priorities review
- General text updates

Anticipated Timeline:

- Consultant on board for specific services (Fall)
- Kick-off with the PSMP-IAC (Fall/Winter)
- Broader community engagements to be initiated (Winter)



NEXT STEPS

- **2024 Topics:**
 - park master planning & implementation
 - casual use space
 - 5-year review
 - natural surface trails

- **Next PSMP-IAC Meetings:**
 - Casual Use Space Workshop (July 2024)
 - Final concept refinements (definition, design characteristics)
 - 2-3 hour in-person workshop
 - During day or early afternoon

 - PSMP Refresh kickoff with PSMP-IAC (Fall 2024)

**APPENDIX
SELECTED PSMP RECOMMENDATIONS
PROGRESS**

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.

Site plans w/public spaces approved since Spring 2023 (various construction & easement timelines):

Future privately owned public space	Estimated Acres	SP Approved by the County Board
Bingham Center/Silver Diner (ROW conversion)	0.14	Sept. 2023
ARVA	0.23	July 2023
Crystal Towers 3 (expended easement)	0.01	June 2023
	Total: 0.38	

Progress (land secured):

Park/Public Space	Approximate Acreage Added	Type of acquisition
Jennie Dean Park (3520 and 3522 S. Four Mile Run Dr.)	0.15	purchase
Met Park (1400 S. Eads St. & 501 15th St. S.)	2.47	public access easement
VDOT (4175 41st ST N)	7.5	purchase
Water Park (1601 Crystal Drive)	1.38	public access easement
Lang Street Garden (1128 28th St. S.)	0.28	purchase
Center Park (1901 S Bell St)	1.03	public access easement
Lang Street Garden (1126 28th St. S.)	0.31	purchase
Lang Street Garden (2814 S. Arlington Ridge Road)	0.29	purchase
Drew Park (2402 S. Kenmore St.)	0.07	purchase
	Total: 13.48 acres	

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

Associated Site Plan (SP)	Estimated Acres
12th St. Landings PDSP – Spring/Summer 2024	0.5
Pentagon Centre PDSP (temporary space) – May 2024	0.23
Crystal City Block W – Spring/Summer 2024	0.87
	Total: 1.6

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).
- The Gateway Park master planning process started in early 2024. The draft existing conditions report is being reviewed by staff and the 1st engagement launched on April 11.

Next Steps:

- Master planning for Three Urban Parks & Boathouse anticipated to begin in 2024.
- Metro Market Square park master plan process to be initiated in Spring 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:

- Met Park opened in Summer 2023 and contains various amenities (dog run, casual use space, etc.) and special events and other recurring uses (open-air markets, etc.).

Next Steps:

- Jennie Dean Park Phase 2 – WETA will be moving out of their studio in the second half of 2024. Design to convert the property into park space and implement the 4MRV Park Master Plan will be happening over the second half of 2024 and first half of 2025. Construction on phase 2 to start sometime in 2025.
- Arlington Junction Park - construction anticipated to begin in 2024 includes casual use area, plantings, stormwater facilities, and seating.
- Short Bridge Park – design process anticipated to begin in 2024 (master plan includes a dog run, casual use area, plaza, playground, meadow and site planting).

Met Park in Pentagon City



PICKLEBALL

PSMP Recommendation:

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

Progress:

Walter Reed Updates:

- Project will construct 6 dedicated pickleball courts, lighting, sound mitigation, fencing, sport accessories, seating, shade structures, 4 additional parking spaces, stormwater management and landscaping.
- DPR held three public engagements and a pop-up starting in February 2023. The first two were open houses where staff engaged with residents to discuss various related topics of concern. The last engagement was a video presentation in November 2023.
- Construction plans are currently in permitting.

of pickleball courts restriped:

- A total of 14 pickleball courts have been striped at existing tennis courts in Fort Scott, Hayes, Marcey Road and Virginia Highlands Parks. Acoustical liners have been installed.

Next Steps:

- Walter Reed is anticipated to start construction in Winter 2024/2025.

Walter Reed Park dedicated pickleball facility



MULTI-USE TRAILS

PSMP Recommendations:

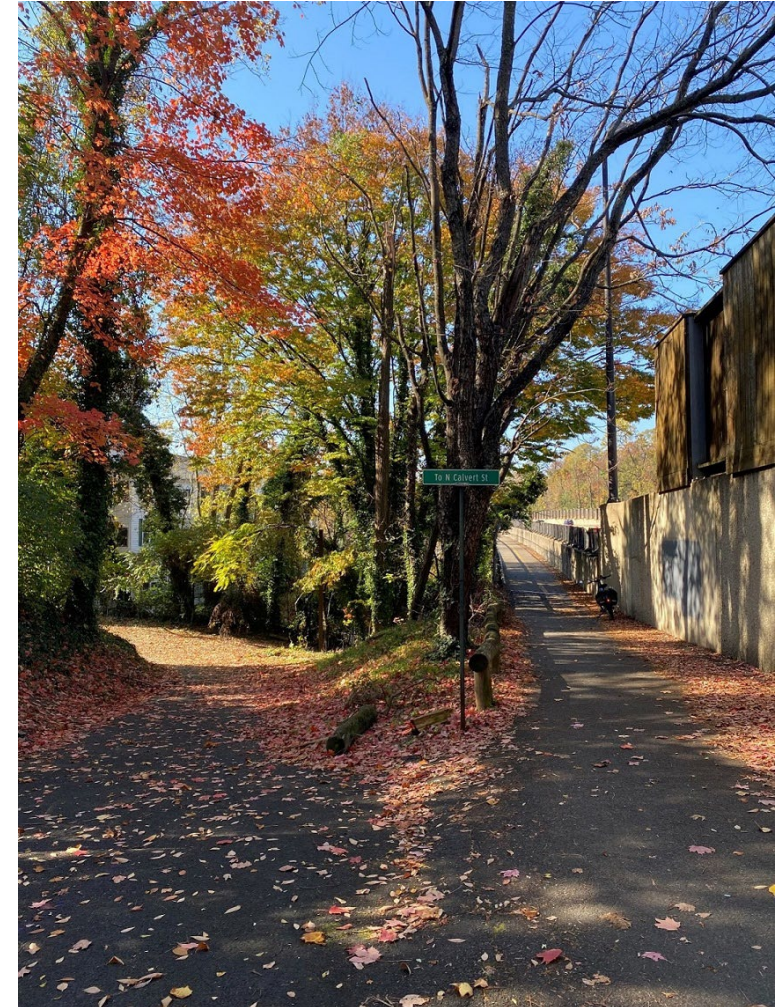
- Priority Action 9: 2.1. Expand Arlington's network of connected multi-use trails.
- 2.2. Improve existing trails that currently do not meet design standards or user demands.

Progress:

- Custis Trail Needs Assessment: In the winter of 23/24, County staff conducted an existing conditions analysis, infrastructure inventory, and public engagement to support the needs assessment. Preliminary infrastructure recommendations and a draft report are anticipated Spring 2024.
- Long Bridge: The proposed bike/ped bridge will land at Long Bridge Park, connect with the Mount Vernon Trail, and on to DC. Currently in the planning stages, the state released the RFP for the southern segment of the crossing in February 2024.
- Arlington Boulevard Trail South Side Improvements: This project will advance the recommendations in the 2023 feasibility study and widen the existing sidewalk to a multi-use trail, provide a buffer from the roadway, and improve trail crossings between S. George Mason and S Glebe. The County was awarded federal funding for design this Spring.

Next Steps: Continue interdepartmental coordination on DES trail projects and interjurisdictional coordination on Long Bridge and the Mount Vernon Trail, continue milling and repaving the least performing trail segments per the 2023 pavement assessment.

Custis Trail Access at N. Calvert St.



BIOPHILIC PRINCIPLES

PSMP Recommendation:

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

Progress:

- FNRP adopted – the plan incorporates biophilia throughout and includes guidance on biophilic design for public and private projects
- CPHD & DPR staff participate in monthly meetings of the Biophilic Cities Network
- Incorporated biophilic design recommendations in park master plan, site plans and other plans

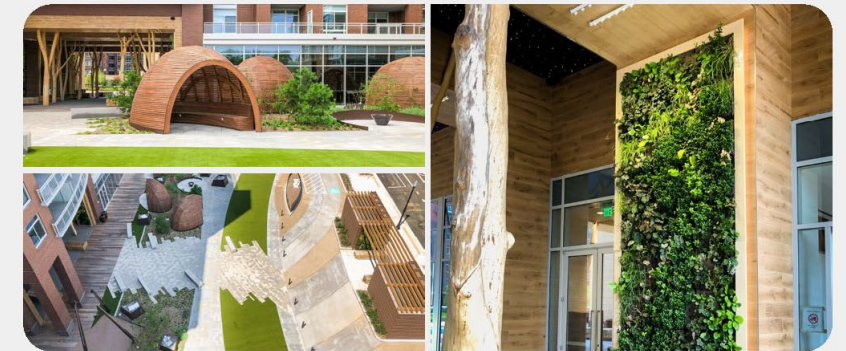
Next Steps:

- Continue to encourage biophilic design principles in public & private projects and plans
- Improve Biophilic website
- Track implementation/progress

BIOPHILIA IN ARLINGTON COUNTY

The following selection of completed projects demonstrate effective practice of biophilic design, and serve as models for future projects in Arlington, across public and private spaces:

PRIVATE PROPERTY



Above: The Sur in Crystal City

STREETSCAPES



Above Left: John Marshall Drive Green Street

Top Right: Williamsburg Boulevard Green Street
Bottom Right: 2nd Street South Green Street

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

PSMP Recommendations:

- 1.9.5. Promote the planting, preservation, maintenance and increase of canopy trees on public and private land.
- 3.2.4. Collaborate with Arlington Public Schools to identify, preserve, enhance and maintain natural and historic resources on school properties.
- 3.2.10. Create pollinator corridors within parks and street medians, where appropriate.

Progress:

- Updated the County Code to encourage conservation landscaping, rain gardens, native, and agricultural plantings, enabling private property owners to contribute to biodiversity and habitat.
- DPR received a \$25,000 matching grant from VDOF to plant trees on APS land.
- Developed pollinator habitat at Met Park, with similar designs completed for Pen Place and Arlington Junction Parks

Next Steps:

- Coordinate with FNRP implementation planning to further conservation goals
- Continue tree planting programs and native plant restoration
- Continue to provide assistance to APS on conservation, planting, and environmental education.

Green roof with trees at APS's Heights Building



NATURE PROGRAMMING IN PARKS

PSMP Recommendations:

- 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.
- 5.5.3. Increase and diversify nature based programs to provide educational opportunities for residents to better understand and interact with natural resources.

Progress:

- Weeklong Park Corp program where teens are introduced to natural resource management tasks and concepts.
- Working with grade schoolers on play about deer impacts on forest health.
- Family events at the Long Branch Nature Center to expose families with a member with a disability to the natural spaces and activities.
- Nature Center staff provide nature themed activities to preschoolers.
- The Youth Teens and Families unit regularly include nature-themed activities and the Nature Center staff and 4-H have provided activities at teen night programs.
- Families Unplugged featured an anthropology program where families learned about fossils and excavating artifacts from the earth.
- In partnership with National Park Services, provided educational hikes for seniors in Arlington and in other jurisdictions.



ASSESSING PROGRAMMING NEEDS

PSMP Recommendations:

- 5.1.1. Undertake a demand and capacity analysis of existing programs offered by DPR and program partners in Arlington County.

Progress:

- An assessment of the needs of participants with disabilities resulted in the creation of an additional Adapted Gymnastics class for ages 6-16 years to accommodate the participants as they age.
- To promote equitable access to events that have a limited number of spots, the TR Unit staggered Social Club registrations and removed TR camps from the early registration process (except for fee reduced participants).
- Analysis of the 55+ Survey, registration data, and trends showed that seniors want to participate in meaningful, adventurous trips which informed programming decisions.
- The Fitness Unit utilized drop-in class attendance to inform decisions on class offerings.
- In January 2024, Fitness class participation spiked for the first time since the pandemic and the inclusion of classes at Long Bridge in membership has increased some class attendance.

Next Steps:

- Fitness program satisfaction evaluations are being planned for the coming months.



PROGRAMMING TRENDS

PSMP Recommendations:

- 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:

- Expanded fitness programming for people with disabilities and added a new Adapted Zumba class.
- 55+ staff participate in an inter-jurisdictional technology collaboration called the Virtual Center for Active Adult (VCAA) to stay abreast of technology trends and to adjust programs to meet the demand.
- Demand for programs about technology safety and privacy continues to grow as older adults increasingly engage online. Therefore, the 55+ Unit offered programs on Password Managers and Artificial Intelligence.
- 55+ onsite programming demand continues to increase as participants desire increased social connection. As a result, table games grew in popularity, and the 55+ staff offered several new games including Mexican Train Dominoes, Ticket to Ride, Samba, and BUNCO. Pickleball continues to grow, and classes fill within minutes.
- Introduced teen pool nights, which encouraged teens to swim at Long Bridge. Transportation was provided this summer as part of the pilot. The program was a success and staff will continue to offer teen swim nights. The two events this year attracted 160 teens to the program.

Next Steps:

- Staff continues to participate in conferences to explore emerging trends.



COMMUNITY GARDENS

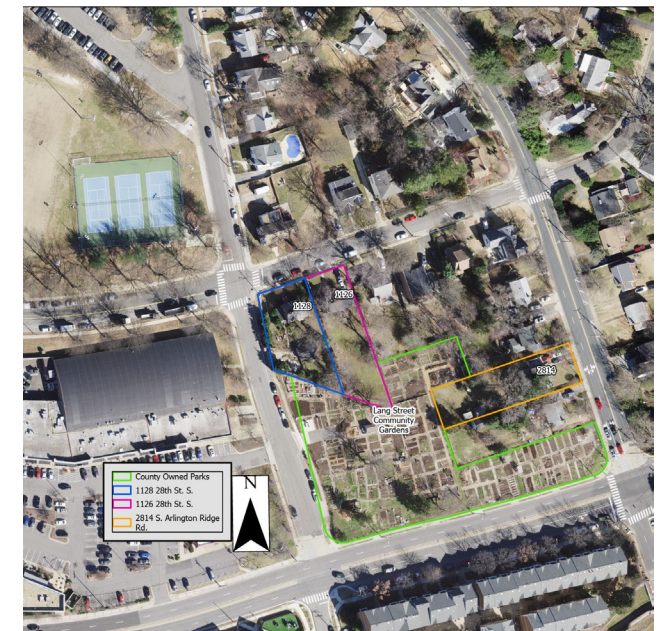
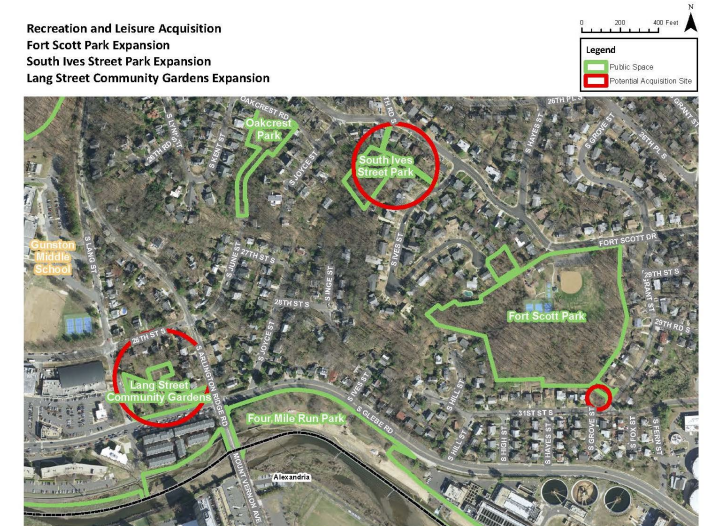
PSMP Recommendations: 1.4.4. Seek opportunities to enlarge or add space for community gardens and urban agriculture.

Progress:

- Purchased 3 new properties adjacent to Lang Street Garden for expansion.

Next Steps:

- Deconstruct houses and prepare new gardens at Lang Street
- Review process and explore developing criteria for more equitable plot assignment
- Review/update agreements with existing garden associations



Lang Street Garden – recently acquired properties

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

Virtual Meeting

April 17, 2024