

PUBLIC SPACES MASTER PLAN (POPS) UPDATES

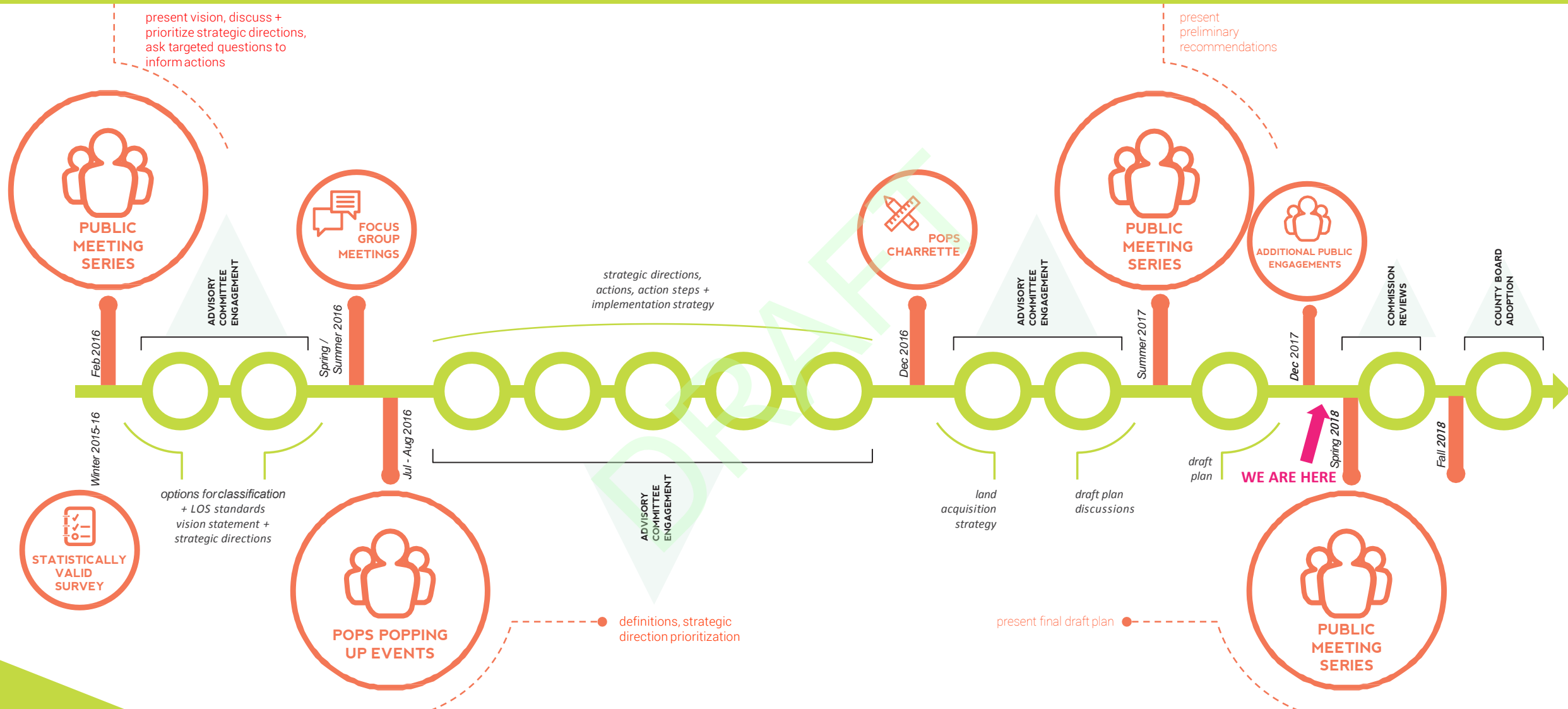
POPS Advisory Committee Meeting
February 07, 2018

AGENDA



- Introduction
- POPS Process
- Public Input
- Draft Plan
- Focused Topics (Feedback & Proposed Approach):
 - Land Acquisition
 - Fields-Synthetic Turf & Lights
 - Natural Resources/Trees
 - Casual Use Spaces
- Discussion
- Next Steps

TIMELINE



PUBLIC INPUT (COLLABORATIVE PROCESS)

Statistically Valid Survey
Winter 2015/2016

Public Meetings
February 2016

Stakeholder Interviews
Winter/Spring 2016

Focus Groups
Spring/Summer 2016

POPS Popping Up
Summer 2016

Charrette
December 2016

Public Meetings
July 2017

Goal: 800
Actual: 1,470

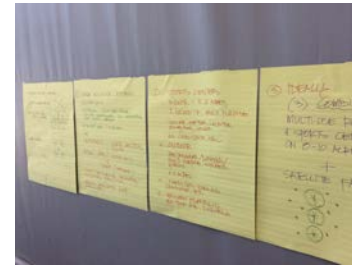


Advisory Committee
APS
Aquatics
BIDs & Partners
Bike/Ped
Dog Parks
Gymnastics
Natural Resources
Urban Forestry
Sports

Millennials
Seniors
Teens
Gen Xers



Over 90 participants



Community Interest and Opinion Survey: Let your voice be heard today!
 We're going to need like your input to help determine park and recreation priorities for our community. This survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your completed survey to the nearest public park, outdoor sports center, or recreation center.
 Please indicate if YES or NO to each question. If you are unsure, please check the "Not Sure" box. Based on checking the YES or NO next to the right of each type of facility.
 If YES, please answer the questions to the right of the facility regarding "How well are your needs being met?" and "How many times did you use this type of facility during the past 12 months?"

Type of Outdoor Facility	How well are your needs being met?	How many times did you use this type of facility during the past 12 months?						
Yes	No	1-6	7-12	13-18	19-24	25 or more		
1. Recreational sports fields (baseball, softball, tennis, etc.)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
2. Recreational sports courts (volleyball, basketball, etc.)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
3. Recreational sports courts (badminton, table tennis, etc.)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
4. Recreational sports courts (racquetball, etc.)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
5. Recreational sports courts (pickleball, etc.)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
6. Recreational sports courts (tennis, etc.)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
7. Recreational sports courts (hockey, etc.)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
8. Recreational sports courts (other)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
9. Dog parks	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
10. Dog parks (off-leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
11. Dog parks (leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
12. Dog parks (other)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
13. Dog parks (no leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
14. Dog parks (leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
15. Dog parks (off-leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
16. Dog parks (leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
17. Dog parks (off-leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
18. Dog parks (leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
19. Dog parks (off-leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
20. Dog parks (leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
21. Dog parks (off-leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
22. Dog parks (leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
23. Dog parks (off-leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
24. Dog parks (leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
25. Dog parks (off-leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
26. Dog parks (leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
27. Dog parks (off-leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
28. Dog parks (leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
29. Dog parks (off-leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6
30. Dog parks (leash)	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5	6

3. Which FOUR of the OUTDOOR facilities from the list in Question #1 are MOST IMPORTANT to your community? (Please list the numbers of Question #1 above please write in the numbers of the OUTDOOR facilities that are your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices in order.)

1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____ 4th _____ SCORE _____

4. What is the best time in the evening you would consider using outdoor recreation facilities? (Please check ONE of the options for weekdays and ONE for weekends.)

Weekdays: _____ (05:00-07:00 pm) _____ (07:00-09:00 pm) _____ (09:00-11:00 pm) _____ (11:00-midnight)

Weekends: _____ (05:00-07:00 pm) _____ (07:00-09:00 pm) _____ (09:00-11:00 pm) _____ (11:00-midnight)

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PRELIMINARY DRAFT

- Online feedback gathered July 11 to August 31



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PRELIMINARY DRAFT- STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Strategic Direction 1

PUBLIC SPACES

Ensure equitable access to high quality public spaces that provide opportunities to recreate, play, and enjoy nature by adding and improving public spaces.

Strategic Direction 2

TRAILS

Improve the network of trails to, within, and between public spaces to increase access and enhance connectivity.

Strategic Direction 3

RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

Protect, restore, expand, and enhance natural and historic resources, and increase resource-based activities.

Strategic Direction 4

PARTNERSHIPS

Clarify partnerships to set mutual expectations and leverage resources.

Strategic Direction 5

PROGRAMS

Ensure program offerings continue to respond to changing user needs.

Strategic Direction 6

ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION

Improve community engagement and communication to enhance user satisfaction.

Strategic Direction 7

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

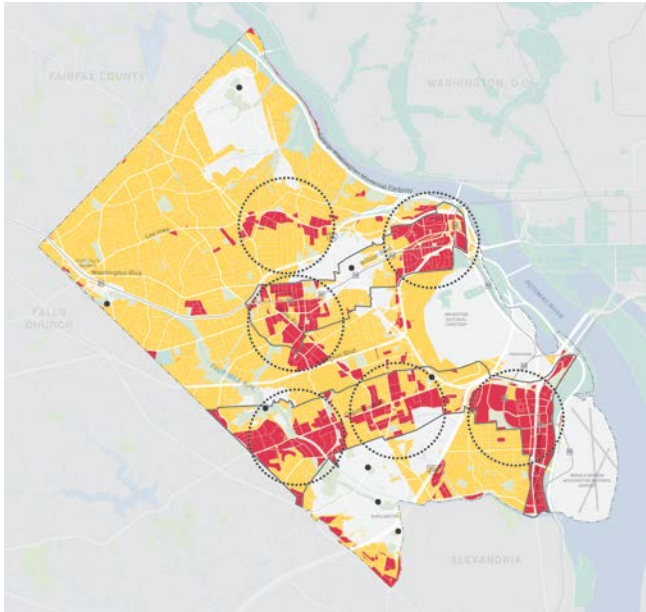
Ensure County public spaces and facilities are operated and maintained efficiently and to defined standards.

Strategic Direction 8

FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

Enhance the financial sustainability of Arlington's public spaces.

FRESH APPROACH



Level of Service



Casual Use Spaces



Synthetic Turf & Lighting

APPENDIX G

Definitions

athletic activity — An activity that involves the use of physical skills or capabilities such as strength, agility, or stamina.

casual use space — Space that supports casual, impromptu use, including relaxation, reflection, informal activities, or connection with nature. May be generally available or only available at designated times.

community center — A building that is designed to accommodate a wide range of community-focused and civic programs and events, which may include recreation.

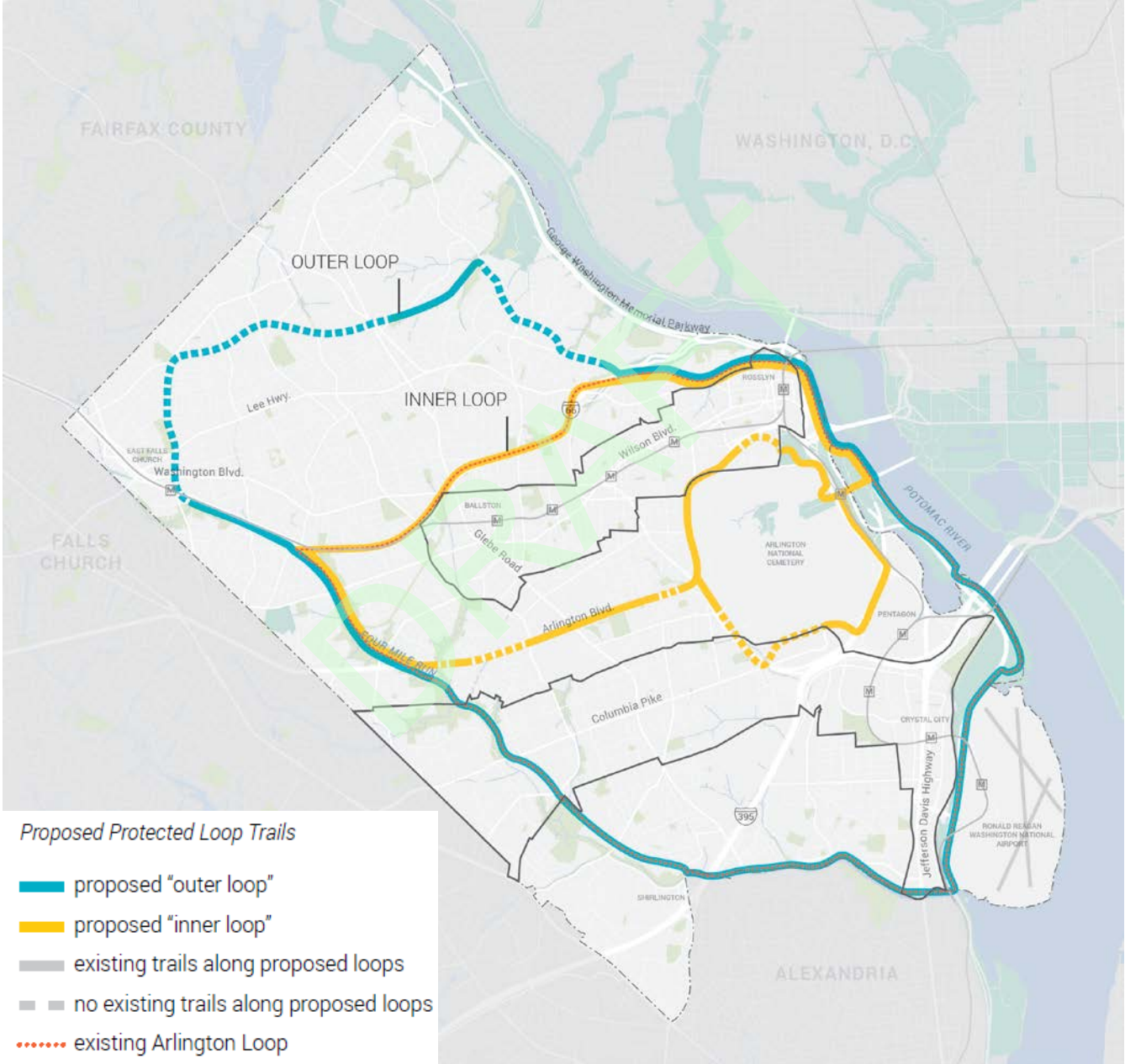
connecting trail — A small segment of paved trail that provides a connection between primary and secondary trails, streets, neighborhoods, park elements, and other destinations.

APPENDIX A

Land Acquisition Criteria

Priority Action 1.1 of this plan calls for adding at least 30 acres of new public space over the next 10 years. Having clear guidelines for public space land acquisition, used in coordination with the County's level of service analysis for public space amenities, provides the County with a way to objectively evaluate potential acquisition opportunities against the broader public space goals of this plan.

FRESH APPROACH- TRAIL LOOPS



FRESH APPROACH- DOG PARK & RUN STANDARDS

	Dog Parks	Dog Runs
Size	10,000+ ft ²	2,000-7,500 ft ²
Hours (unlighted)	Sunrise-1/2 hr after sunset	N/A
Hours (lighted)	Sunrise-10:00pm	
Layout	Separate small/large dog areas	
Lighting	Recommended	Required
Location	Outside Resource Protection Areas	On public or private property
Sponsorship	Required – with formal agreement	Recommended
Standard Amenities	Fencing, double gates, water source (for dogs), shade, benches, signage, trash and recycling receptacles, dog waste receptacles	
	Water source (for humans), visual screens if needed, information board	Lights
Resource Protection Areas	All new dog parks and dog runs shall be developed outside of RPA.	

PRELIMINARY DRAFT- PUBLIC FEEDBACK

- Over 1,100 overall comments grouped around:
 - Land Acquisition
 - Fields- Synthetic Conversion & Lights
 - Natural Resources/Trees
 - Casual Use Spaces

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC MEETINGS IN DECEMBER

Help Arlington Plan for our Parks and Recreation Places and Spaces

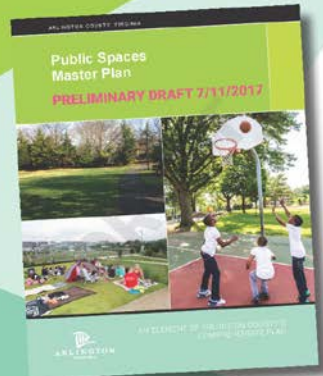
COME TO ANY OR ALL OF THESE PUBLIC MEETINGS. YOUR INPUT WILL HELP US FINE-TUNE OUR PUBLIC SPACES MASTER PLAN.

Get more information at parks.arlingtonva.us, search POPS.

Chat about Land Acquisition
FRIDAY
December 1
COURTHOUSE PLAZA
11:30am – 1pm

Deeper Dig on Strategies to Expand Field Capacity with Synthetic Turf & Lights
WEDNESDAY
December 6
NAVY LEAGUE BUILDING
6:30 – 9pm

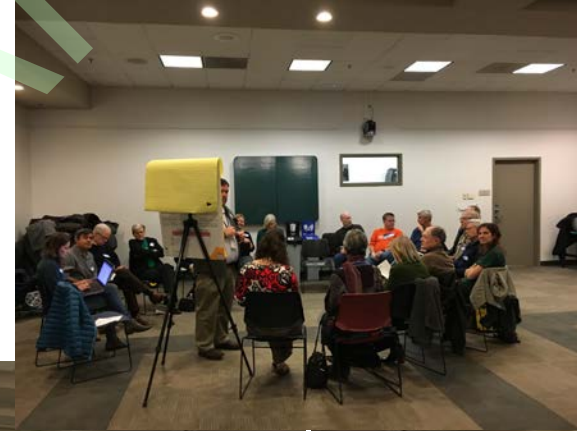
Stewarding Tree Canopy, Natural Resources & Casual Use Spaces
THURSDAY
December 14
CENTRAL LIBRARY
6:30 – 9pm



ARLINGTON
POPS
A Plan for Our Places and Spaces



We can provide reasonable modifications for people with disabilities upon request. Podemos proveer modificaciones razonables conforme la Ley de Personas con Incapacidades (ADA) con previo aviso al 703-228-3206. TTY: 711.

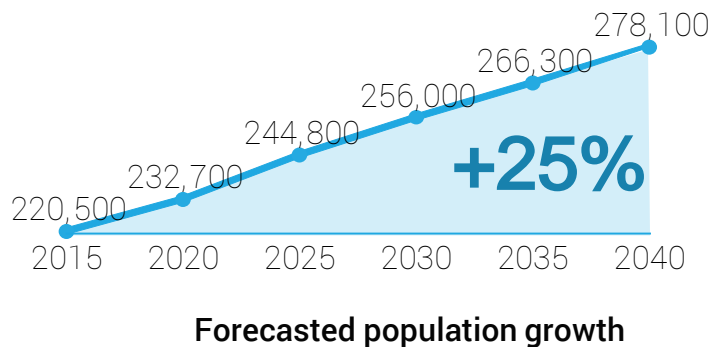
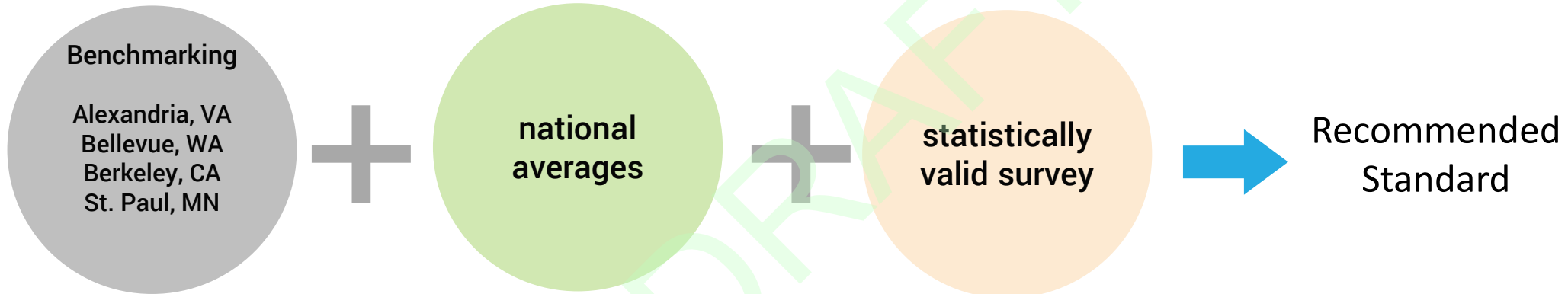


PROPOSED APPROACH
Level of Service

LEVEL OF SERVICE

POPS Draft: 1.4. Use a context-sensitive, activity-based approach to providing amenities.

Population-Based + Access Standards



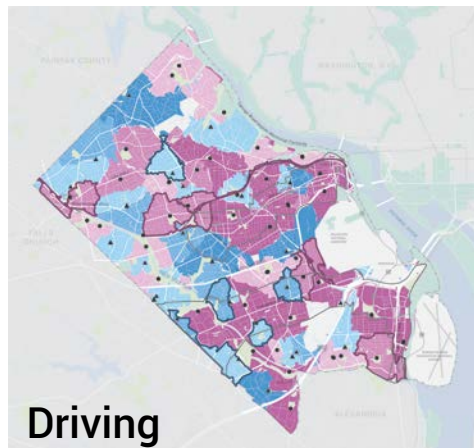
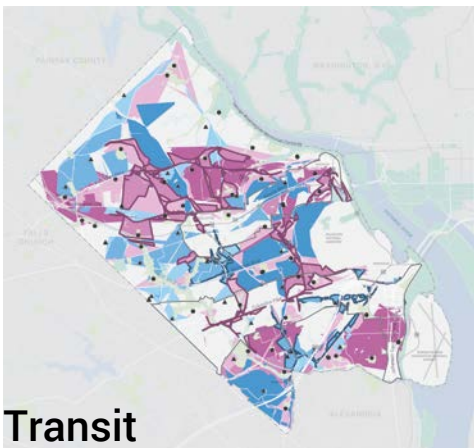
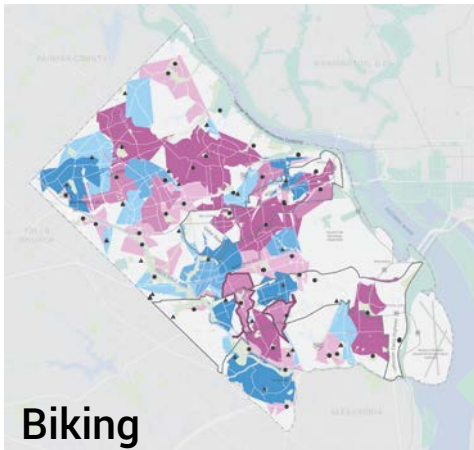
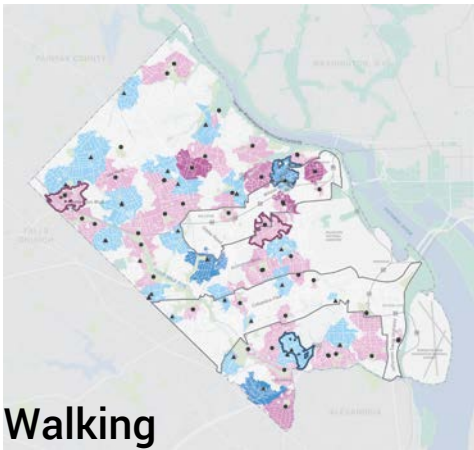
	Population-Based Standards						Incremental Units Needed				
	Units	Inven- tory		Current LOS	Recommen- ded LOS		2016	2025	2035	2045	Total
Basketball Courts	each	87	1/	2,547	1/	3,000	0	0	2	8	10
Community Gardens	each	7	1/	31,651	1/	30,000	1	1	0	1	3
Multi-Use Trails	miles	48.4	1/	4,577	1/	3,300	19	7	7	7	40
Off-Leash Dog Parks	each	8	1/	27,695	1/	25,000	1	1	1	1	4
Playgrounds	each	126	1/	1,758	1/	3,000	0	0	0	0	0

LEVEL OF SERVICE- PLANNING TOOL FOR ASSET MANAGEMENT



POPS Draft: 1.4. Use a context-sensitive, activity-based approach to providing amenities.

Population-Based + Access Standards

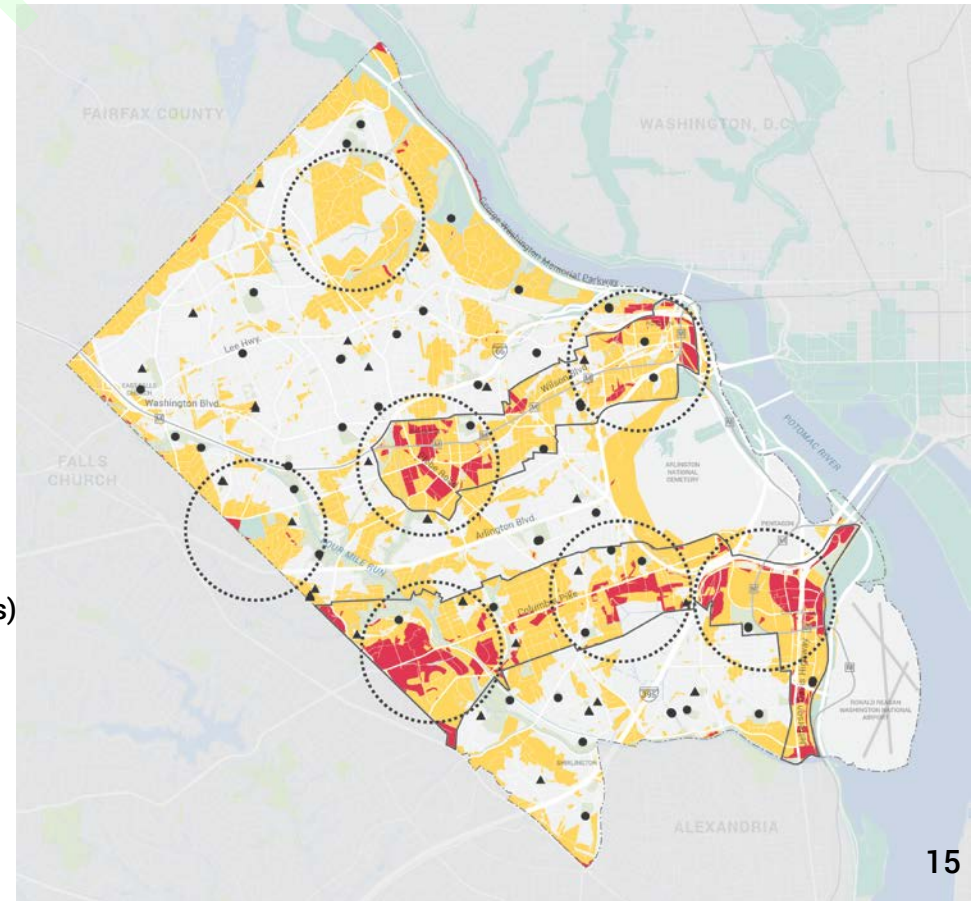
Example: Access to basketball courts



Access Ranking

-  most need (limited access)
-  least need (best access)

-  potential areas of focus



CURRENT POPS DRAFT – NEEDS ASSESSMENT

6.1.1.

Conduct a public space needs assessment, including a statistically valid survey and level of service analysis, at least every 5 years.

DRAFT

**FEEDBACK SUMMARY &
PROPOSED APPROACH
Land Acquisition**

LAND ACQUISITION- PUBLIC FEEDBACK SUMMARY

- General support for additional 30 acres of new public space over the next 10 years, as recommended on the POPS draft
- Identify funding sources & acquisition mechanisms
- Identify priority areas- purpose of the site
- Identify potential acquisitions in the document
- Be transparent- clarify the process of making decisions to purchase the property

LAND ACQUISITION-COMMON SCENARIOS

POPS Draft Recommendation: 1.1. Add at least 30 acres of new public space over the next 10 years.

Acquisition Mechanisms

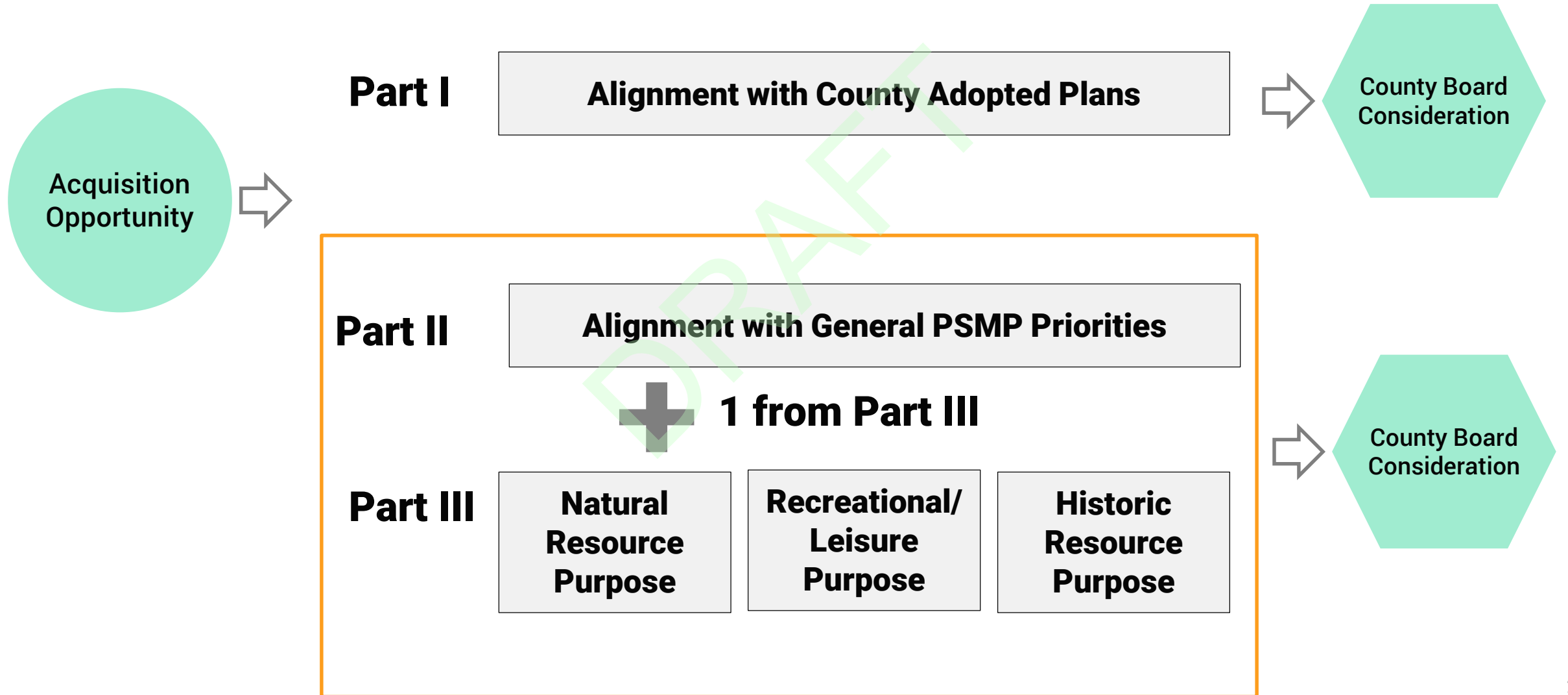
- Negotiated Purchase & Sale
- Dedication in Fee Simple
- Deed of Gift
- Acquisition of State or Federal Surplus Real Property
- Right of First Offer
- Right of First Refusal
- Option to Purchase
- Life Estate with Reversion to the County
- Acquisition with Restrictive Covenant
- Easement
- Sponsorships
- Partnerships with Non-County Entities:
 - Conservation Org and Land Trusts
 - Development Partners
- Eminent Domain/Condemnation

Acquisition Funding Sources

- Park Bonds
- PAYG
- Funds from TDR
- Developer Contributions
- Donations

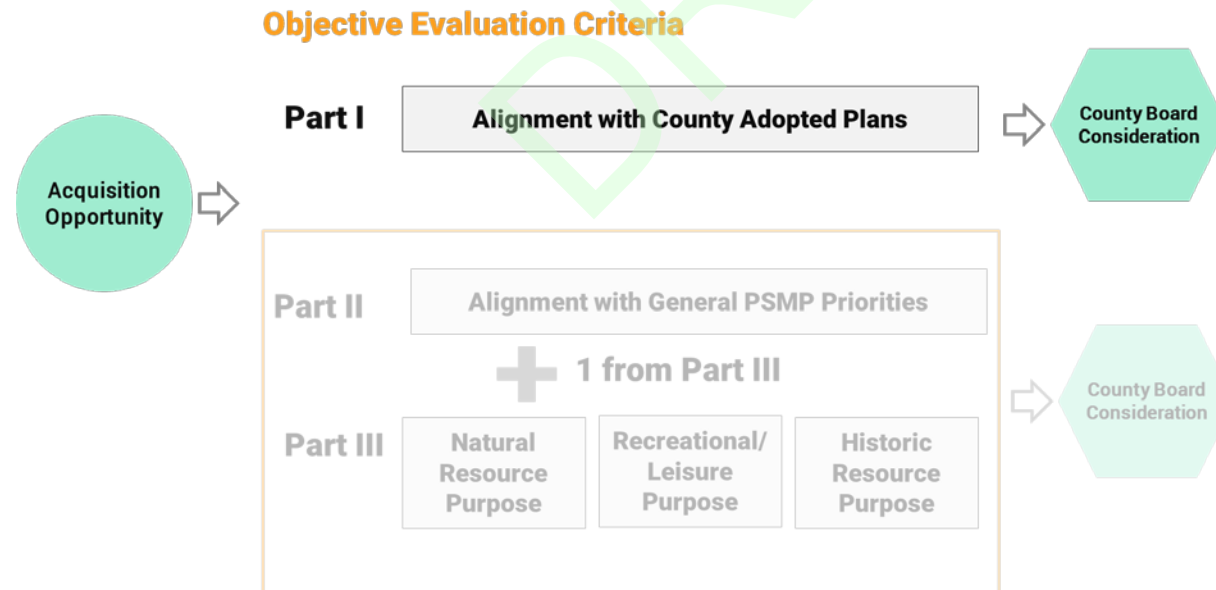
LAND ACQUISITION- HOW DOES IT WORK?

Objective Evaluation Criteria



PART 1: ALIGNMENT WITH COUNTY ADOPTED/ACCEPTED PLANS

- The site is identified within an existing approved park master plan or park framework plan.
- The site is identified as future parkland in an adopted comprehensive plan element or sector, area, or corridor plan.
- The site is suggested as future parkland in an existing neighborhood conservation plan.



PUBLIC SPACES IDENTIFIED IN ADOPTED PARK MASTER PLANS

EXAMPLE: MOSAIC PARK MASTER PLAN (ADOPTED IN 2009)



PUBLIC SPACES IDENTIFIED IN SECTOR PLANS

EXAMPLE: CRYSTAL CITY SECTOR PLAN (ADOPTED IN 2010)



CRYSTAL CITY MASTER PLAN

TABLE 3.7.1 - OPEN SPACE DESIGN CONCEPTS

PARK NUMBER*	NAME	SIZE (SQ. SF.)**	DEFINED BY BUILD-TO LINES	PARK DESIGN RECOMMENDATION
1	NORTH GATEWAY PLAZA	14,200	NO	OPEN SPACE WITH A PATH, BENCHES AND OTHER PARK ELEMENTS SUCH AS A WATER ELEMENT OR OTHER ATTRACTIVE FEATURE
2	GATEWAY PARK	54,500	YES	DESIGN CONCEPT PROVIDED, SEE PAGE 84
3	GARDEN PARK	33,500	YES	DESIGN CONCEPT PROVIDED, SEE PAGE 80
4	WATER PARK (IMPROVEMENTS)	60,000	YES (EXISTING)	DESIGN CONCEPT PROVIDED, SEE PAGE 85
5	POCKET PARK	7,800	NO	LANDSCAPED SPACE WITH INTERACTIVE ELEMENTS (SEE DEFINITION BELOW) TO ACTIVATE THE SPACE, A PATH, AND SEATING
6	METRO MARKET SQUARE	43,900	YES	DESIGN CONCEPT PROVIDED, SEE PAGE 83
7	CENTER PARK	74,200	YES	DESIGN CONCEPT PROVIDED, SEE PAGE 81
8	PARK/PLAZA	9,700	NO	PARK WITH TREES, GARDENS AND BENCHES ALONG A PATH CONNECTING THE PARK TO CRYSTAL DRIVE
9	POCKET PARK	8,400	NO	LANDSCAPED SPACE WITH INTERACTIVE ELEMENTS TO ACTIVATE THE SPACE, A PATH, AND SEATING
10	23RD ST PLAZA	13,000	YES	DESIGN CONCEPT PROVIDED, SEE PAGE 82
11	PLAZA	3,300	NO	LANDSCAPED PLAZA WITH TABLES AND SEATING FOR OUTDOOR DINING

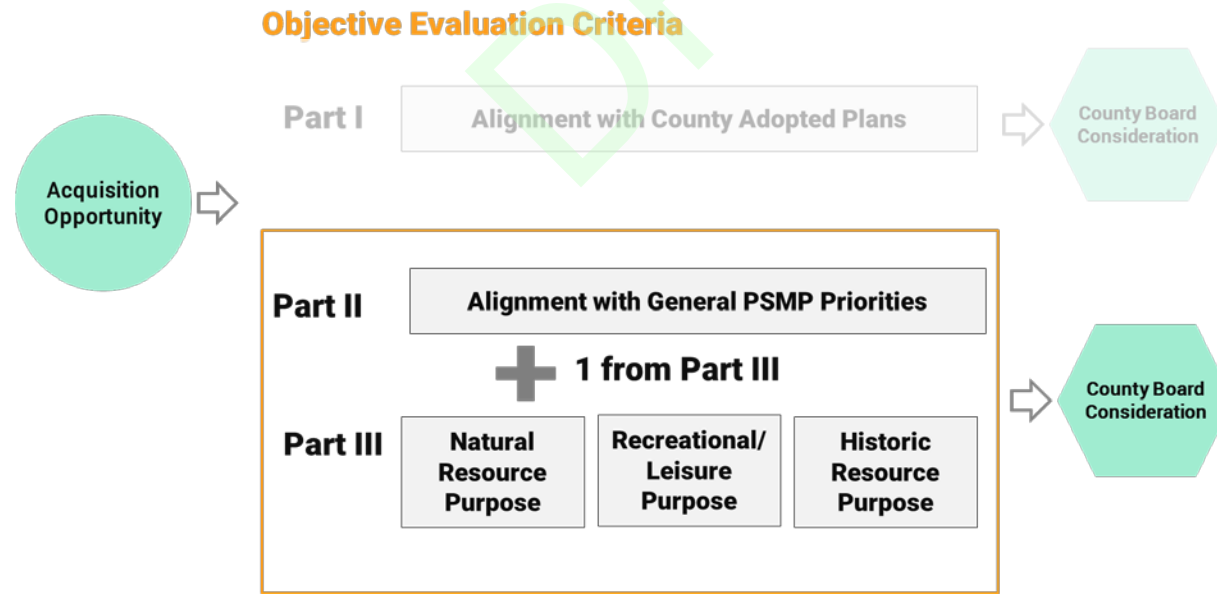
PART 2: ALIGNMENT WITH GENERAL PSMP PRIORITIES

Associated with existing parks:

- The site shares its perimeter with an existing public space and is essential to the expansion of an existing public space.
- The property is an infill property of an existing park, located on the corner of a park or would serve to “normalize” a park boundary or shape.
- The site will allow the creation of new pathway connections to improve pedestrian and bicycle access to the existing park.

Creation of a new park:

- The site has been identified as one of the sending sites eligible for the transfer of development rights.
- The site could be used to create a new park and offers future potential expansion opportunities that would result in a park of at least ¼ acre.
- The site is a “Generational” opportunity that if not acquired at the point of time of the offer, would not be an opportunity again.
- The site has been identified as a defunct private indoor or outdoor recreation facility (e.g., golf courses, swimming pools, community houses, etc.)



PART 3: ALIGNMENT WITH PSMP PRIORITIES/SITE PURPOSE

Natural Resources Purpose (examples):

- The site could be used to protect or expand a Natural Resource Protection Area.
- The site could increase the diversity of habitats for critical species.

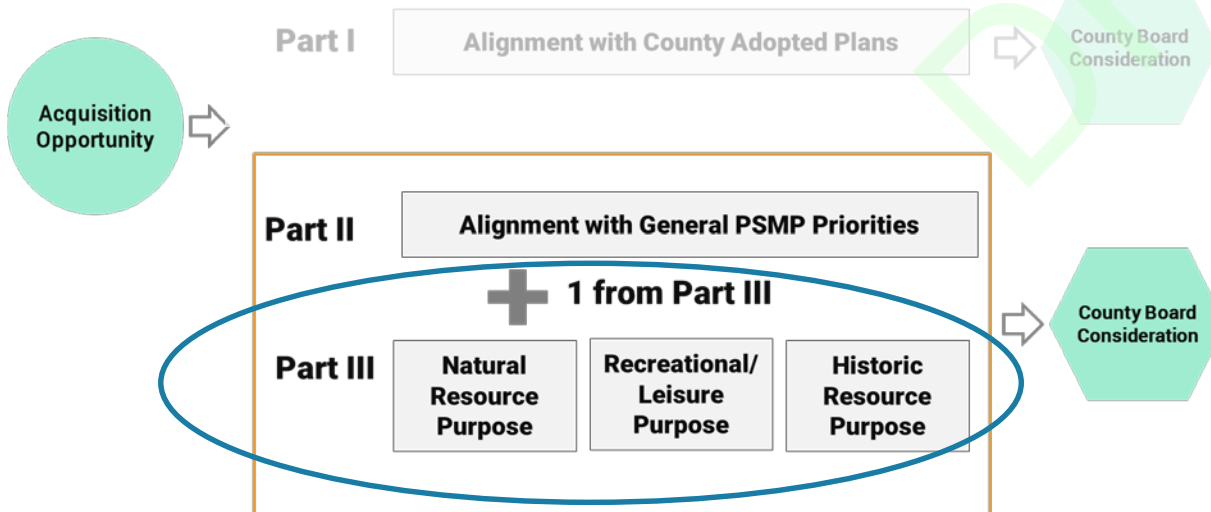
Recreational/Leisure Purpose (examples):

- The site could improve connections to trail systems within or beyond the County, includes a segment of a future planned trail, or widen an existing trail.
- The site could be designed to support casual, impromptu use or connection with nature.

Historic Preservation Purpose (examples):

- The site is individually listed on or eligible for individual listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
- The site is called out for acquisition based on its historical and/ or cultural value by an accepted Neighborhood Conservation Plan.

Objective Evaluation Criteria



WHAT WILL BE INCLUDED IN POPS?

APPENDIX A

Land Acquisition Criteria

Priority Action 1.1 of this plan calls for adding at least 30 acres of new public space over the next 10 years. Having clear guidelines for public space land acquisition, used in coordination with the County's level of service analysis for public space amenities, provides the County with a way to objectively evaluate potential acquisition opportunities against the broader public space goals of this plan.

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

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APPENDIX K - POTENTIAL PUBLIC SPACE ACQUISITION SITES

This list of potential public spaces acquisition sites was identified in the 1994 *Open Space Master Plan*. Several other potential sites were identified through recent major public planning processes and adopted by the County Board.

Alcova Heights Park (1994 OSMP)

- North side of South 8th Street at the intersection of South Randolph Street adjacent to existing park land.

Barcroft Park (1994 OSMP)

- Southeast of and adjacent to existing park between Barcroft Park and Jennie Dean Park along Four Mile Run Drive.

Benjamin Banneker Park (1994 OSMP)

- Along the south side of North 18th Street from North Van Buren to North Tuckahoe Street adjacent to existing park land.
- Between existing park land, North Tuckahoe Street, North 19th Street, and North Roosevelt Street.
- Between existing park land and North Sycamore Street, North 17th Street and North Roosevelt Street.

Bluemont Park (1994 OSMP)

- Along the east side of North Manchester Street to existing park land.
- Road adjacent to existing park land.

- Corner of Wilson Boulevard and North Manchester Street adjacent to existing park land.

Bon Air Park (1994 OSMP)

- Along the west side of North Lexington Street from the 9th Road cul-de-sac to existing park land.

Butler Holmes Park (1994 OSMP)

- Along the north and east sides of South Barton Street and South 1st Road adjacent to existing park land.

Cherrydale Park (1994 OSMP)

- Service strip fronting on North Quincy Street between Lee Highway and existing park land.

Douglas Park (1994 OSMP)

- Along the south side of South 16th Street from South Randolph Street to South Quincy Street adjacent to existing park land.

Drew Community Center (1994 OSMP)

- North side of South Lowell Street adjacent to existing park land.

Ft. Barnard Park (1994 OSMP)

- Corner of Walter Reed Drive and South Oakland Street adjacent to existing park land.

Glencarlyn Park (1994 OSMP)

- Former Virginia Power Barcroft Substation site at South Pershing Drive and South 5th Street adjacent to existing park land.

Highview Park (1994 OSMP)

- North Dinwiddie Street immediately adjacent to existing park land.

Jennie Dean Park (1994 OSMP)

- Along the south side of South 27th Street adjacent to existing park land.

Lacey Woods Park (1994 OSMP)

- Along North Frederick Street from the existing park to North 10th Road.

Langston Brown Community Center (1994 OSMP)

- Wooded area southeast of existing park along North Columbus Street.

Long Branch Nature Center (1994 OSMP)

- Between the dead end of South Illinois Street, existing park land and South Harrison Street.

Madison Manor Park (1994 OSMP)

- Along North Powhatan Street from North 12th Road to existing park land.

Marymount Area (1994 OSMP)

- Corner of Old Dominion Drive and North 26th Street adjacent to existing open space.

Maury Park (2002 Virginia Square Sector Plan)

- Along North Lincoln Street and N. 8th Street adjacent to existing open space.

Acquisition Mechanisms

- Negotiated Purchase & Sale
- Dedication in Fee Simple
- Deed of Gift
- Acquisition of State or Federal Surplus Real Property
- Right of First Offer
- Right of First Refusal
- Option to Purchase
- Life Estate with Reversion to the County
- Acquisition with Restrictive Covenant
- Easement
- Sponsorships
- Partnerships with Non-County Entities:
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Acquisition Funding Sources

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- Developer Contributions
- Donations

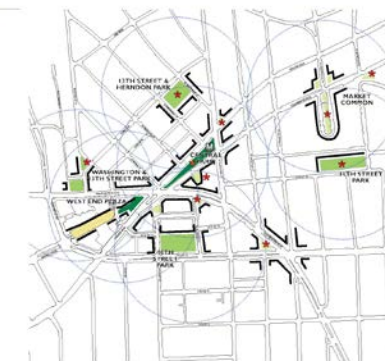
Combine information from existing plans

CLARENDON SECTOR PLAN

PUBLIC SPACES

Map 2-F

- Centering Streets
 - Central Park
 - West End Plaza
- Other Parks
 - 13th Street & Washington Boulevard Park
 - 13th Street & Ivy Street Park
 - 28th Street & Harrison Street Park
 - 11th Street Park
 - 10th Street Park
- Plaza
 - Western Boulevard & N. Highland Street
 - Washington Boulevard & King Street
 - 13th Street
 - 10th Street & Washington Boulevard
- Public Commons
 - Clarendon Boulevard & N. Dinwiddie Street
 - Clarendon Boulevard & Edgewood Street
- MVA User Area
 - Earl Warren Drive
- Building Frontages Creating Public Spaces
- 1/8 Mile Rule
- Existing Public Spaces



List of potential acquisition sites were included in the 1994 & 2005 Plans

Example: Benjamin Banneker Park
 Along the south side of North 18th Street from North Van Buren to North Tuckahoe Street adjacent to existing park land.

**FEEDBACK SUMMARY &
PROPOSED APPROACH
Synthetic Turf & Lights**

FIELDS: SYNTHETIC TURF & LIGHTS IN POPS DRAFT PUBLIC FEEDBACK SUMMARY

Field Conversion

- support & disagreement
- separate synthetic turf from lighting
- create criteria for field conversion
- develop a list of priority candidates for conversion

Field Lighting

- impact of lights on surrounding residential properties
- separate synthetic turf from lighting
- develop a list of priority candidates for conversion
- develop clear lighting standards

SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD PROGRAM

- In 2002, the first full synthetic field was installed at Gunston Park.
- In 2003, a citizen/staff Synthetic Grass Working Group submitted their recommendations regarding conversion of athletic fields from natural grass to synthetic grass.
- As a result of this report, several fields were identified as candidates for synthetic surfacing, and some of them were converted.
- In the County adopted 2005 Public Spaces Master Plan, the first guidelines for synthetic conversion were developed.
- Today, the County has 15 existing synthetic fields. 3 field conversions are planned at: Gunston Park (2018), Wilson School (2022), Long Bridge Park field #2.
- The current Adopted FY 2017 – FY 2026 Capital Improvement Plan calls for 4 synthetic turf fields conversions (locations: TBD).

FIELDS-SYNTHETIC TURF & LIGHTING

Need

- Arlington's fields are heavily used, and demand is growing
- Based on LOS, by 2035 we will need additional 11 rectangular and 2 diamond fields.

(Current POPS Draft)

- 1.2.8. Convert an additional 12 existing rectangular fields and 4 existing diamond fields to synthetic turf as funding is available. *(Note: numbers will decrease with LOS changed to 2035)*
- 1.2.9. Add lighting to synthetic fields and other multi-use fields, according to field lighting guidelines.
- All new synthetic turf fields and synthetic field conversions will include lighting. (p. 216)

FIELDS-SYNTHETIC TURF

Synthetic Turf Benefits:

- Reduces weather related cancellations
- Reduces maintenance and utility costs (water)
- Improves quality of fields (consistency of playing surface)
- Allows year-round use
- Increases durability

FIELD CONVERSION CRITERIA- PREVIOUS EFFORTS

2003 Synthetic Grass Working Group

CRITERIA TO APPLY TO SPECIFIC FIELDS:

- Size of Field
- Existing Condition of Turf
- Current Field Uses
- Field Lighting Currently Available
- Restroom Facilities (Year-round, Seasonal, Portable) Currently Available
- Off-Street Parking Currently Available
- Site Amenities (Water fountains, paths to Field, Spectator Capacity or Shelters) Currently Available
- Impact to the Environment is Minimal (e.g., Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance, Tree Master Plan)
- Impact of Increased Use on the Immediate Community is Minimal
- Likelihood of Support for Increased Usage
- Potential for Supporting Multiple Uses
- Potential for Conflict Between Uses
- Projected Lifespan of Field
- Likelihood that Field will Relocate/Realign as Part of an Upcoming Master Plan/Redevelopment is Minimal
- Potential for Financial Partners

CRITERIA TO APPLY TO THE OVERALL PRIORITIES:

- Geographic Balance
- Support for Multiple Sports
- Youth – Adult Balance
- Scholastic – Recreational Balance

FIELD CONVERSION CRITERIA- PREVIOUS EFFORTS

2005 Public Spaces Master Plan Recommendations

- Convert a minimum of one natural grass field per year to synthetic grass based on the analysis and recommendations of the 2003 Synthetic Grass Working Group.
- All synthetic grass conversions should have existing lighting or a plan for installing “dark sky” lighting as a part of the synthetic grass installation.
- Continue to explore new technologies and practices for managing and maintaining natural grass athletic fields.

FIELD CONVERSION CRITERIA- PREVIOUS EFFORTS

2017 Williamsburg Field Site Evaluation Workgroup Report

- Lighting should be part of the original master planning for the field
- State of development of the area
- Topography of the surrounding area
- Physical features of the site which may mitigate light spill
- Presence of existing lighting in the immediate area
- Proximity of homes
- Environment Impacts

FIELDS-DRAFT SYNTHETIC TURF & LIGHTS CONVERSION CRITERIA

- **Started with:**
 - 2003 Report
 - 2005 PSMP
 - 2017 Williamsburg Field Site Evaluation Workgroup Report
- **Grouped into:**
 - General
 - Site Amenities & Investment
 - Environmental Context
 - Location & Context

POPS: CRITERIA FOR SYNTHETIC CONVERSION & LIGHTS

POPS goals:

- develop transparent process to identify potential sites for synthetic field conversions & lights
- establish objective + measurable criteria
 - Develop a set of criteria for new synthetic turf conversion that can be objectively applied to all fields
 - Develop a set of criteria for siting of new field lighting
 - Develop a set of lighting standards
- Develop a list of priority candidates for conversion to synthetic & lights

CRITERIA FOR SYNTHETIC CONVERSION & LIGHTS- PRESENTED IN DECEMBER

PRELIMINARY LIST OF DRAFT CRITERIA FOR NEW SYNTHETIC TURF CONVERSION

When Should a Field be Converted to Synthetic?

GENERAL

1. Does the field meet the minimum size requirement?
2. Has the field been identified as a synthetic field in a County Board adopted plan?
3. The site has not been identified for school or public facility expansion?

SITE AMENITIES & INVESTMENT

4. Is the field already lit?
5. Are there existing or planned in the CIP year-round restroom facilities with public access during the times of the field use?
6. Are there existing, or planned in the CIP, ADA accessible pathways to the field?
7. Does the financial (cost sharing) partnership with APS or another partner exist?

8. Is the field used for scholastic sports programs?

Fields that are used for scholastic sports programs require a higher standard of maintenance than that of recreational level competition. These include the middle school and high school athletic teams.

9. Is this a community field?

A community field is used year-round for non-structured drop in play with limited scheduled use for youth structured practices and/or games during the spring and fall season.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

10. Is the estimated disturbance to the trees and tree roots associated with surrounding trees minimized?

LOCATION & CONTEXT

11. Is the field located in an area identified in the POPS Line of Service (LOS) access analysis as an area where access gaps exist for this type of amenity? (See LOS Maps)

PRELIMINARY LIST OF DRAFT CRITERIA AND STANDARDS FOR NEW FIELD LIGHTING LOCATIONS

When Should a Field be Lit?

DRAFT CRITERIA FOR NEW LIGHT PLACEMENT

1. Is the field already synthetic?
2. Is this a community field?

A community field is used year-round for non-structured drop in play with limited scheduled use for youth structured practices and/or games during the spring and fall season.

3. Has the field been identified as a lighted field in a County Board adopted plan?

DRAFT NEW LIGHTING STANDARDS

- A. A minimum of 25 feet shall exist between the edge of the field and the property line of the adjacent, residential properties.
- B. The proposed lighting shall not increase the pre-existing, normal ambient light levels at the property line adjacent to residential properties by more than 0.5 foot candles.
- C. LED or any other advanced lighting system should be used to achieve efficiency, light uniformity and visual comfort while minimizing light spillage.
- D. The above requirements shall not apply for athletic fields adjacent to uses other than residential.
- E. Illuminance levels for recreation, high school or stadium fields.

ILLUMINANCE LEVELS	FOOT CANDLES
Recreation Fields	
- Rectangle	30 fc.
- Diamond	50 fc. infield, 30 fc. outfield
High School, College & Stadium Fields	
- Rectangle	50 fc.
- Diamond	100 fc. infield, 50 fc. outfield

If lighting is proposed for athletic fields not meeting the above requirements, a proposal to provide athletic field lighting may be considered through a separate process.

POTENTIAL MITIGATION MEASURES

GLARE AND SPILL REDUCTION TECHNIQUES

- Shielding
- Dimming controls
- Wattage
- Mounting height
- Aiming angles

DESIGN TECHNIQUES

- Planting
- Other physical buffers

OPERATIONAL TECHNIQUES

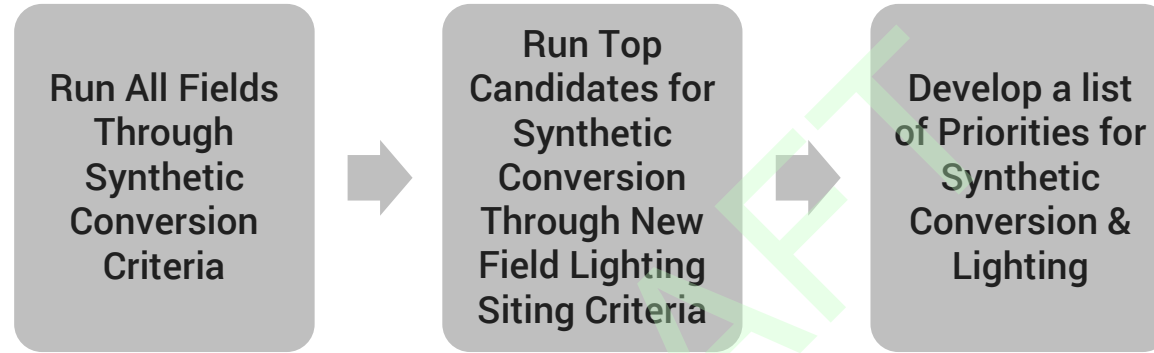
- Curfews
- limiting special events
- Staff presence
- No use of amplification
- Seasonally-adjusted hours

COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

- Formal Memorandum of Agreement with community organizations
- Regular meetings

PROPOSED REVISED APPROACH

Process Presented at the Meeting in December :



Proposed Synthetic Turf Conversion Process:



Proposed Field Lighting Process:



SYNTHETIC CONVERSION CRITERIA

SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK RECEIVED IN DECEMBER

- general support for the criteria
- support for the minimum field size requirement
- support for taking into consideration existing amenities
- environmental context should include impact on natural resources
- community fields: support & disagreement
- consider location and neighborhood context
- concern that adopted plans could be outdated

PRELIMINARY LIST OF DRAFT CRITERIA FOR NEW SYNTHETIC TURF CONVERSION

When Should a Field be Converted to Synthetic?

GENERAL

1. Does the field meet the minimum size requirement?
2. Has the field been identified as a synthetic field in a County Board adopted plan?
3. The site has not been identified for school or public facility expansion?

SITE AMENITIES & INVESTMENT

4. Is the field already lit?
5. Are there existing or planned in the CIP year-round restroom facilities with public access during the times of the field use?
6. Are there existing, or planned in the CIP, ADA accessible pathways to the field?
7. Does the financial (cost sharing) partnership with APS or another partner exist?
8. Is the field used for scholastic sports programs?

Fields that are used for scholastic sports programs require a higher standard of maintenance than that of recreational level competition. These include the middle school and high school athletic teams.

9. Is this a community field?

A community field is used year-round for non-structured drop in play with limited scheduled use for youth structured practices and/or games during the spring and fall season.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

10. Is the estimated disturbance to the trees and tree roots associated with surrounding trees minimized?

LOCATION & CONTEXT

11. Is the field located in an area identified in the POPS Line of Service (LOS) access analysis as an area where access gaps exist for this type of amenity? (See LOS Maps)

PROPOSED SYNTHETIC TURF CONVERSION CRITERIA- WHEN SHOULD A FIELD BE CONVERTED TO SYNTHETIC?

General

1. Does the field meet the minimum size requirement: 35,000 SqFt for rectangular & diamond & 65,000 SqFt for combination fields?
Examples:
 - Rectangular Field: Barcroft Park (Field #5)
 - Diamond Field: Barcroft Park (Field #1)
 - Combination Field: Jamestown Back Field
2. Has the field been identified as a synthetic field in a County Board adopted plan?
3. The site has not been identified for school or public facility expansion?

PROPOSED SYNTHETIC FIELDS CONVERSION CRITERIA

Site Amenities & Investment

4. Is the field already lit?
5. Are there existing or planned in the CIP year-round restroom facilities with public access during the times of the field use?
6. Are there existing, or planned in the CIP, ADA accessible pathways to the field?
7. Does the financial (cost sharing) partnership with APS or another partner exist?
8. Is the field used for scholastic sports programs?
9. Is the field used for physical education classes during school day/year?
10. Does the field provide benefits for both youth and adult sports leagues?

Is this a community field?

Criterion presented in December- removed

PROPOSED SYNTHETIC FIELDS CONVERSION CRITERIA

Site Amenities & Investment

4. Is the field already lit?
5. Are there existing or planned in the CIP year-round restroom facilities with public access during the times of the field use?
6. Are there existing, or planned in the CIP, ADA accessible pathways to the field?
7. Does the financial (cost sharing) partnership with APS or another partner exist?
8. Is the field used for scholastic sports programs?
9. Is the field used for physical education classes during school day/year?
10. Does the field provide benefits for both youth and adult sports leagues?

New
Criteria

PROPOSED SYNTHETIC FIELDS CONVERSION CRITERIA/STANDARDS

Environmental Context

11. Is the estimated disturbance to the trees and tree roots associated with synthetic turf installation minimized?

Standard: If the estimated disturbance from field installation is within 100 feet of a documented, significant natural resource feature, the project will go through the Rapid Environment Impact Review (REIR) process to determine any impact on the natural feature.

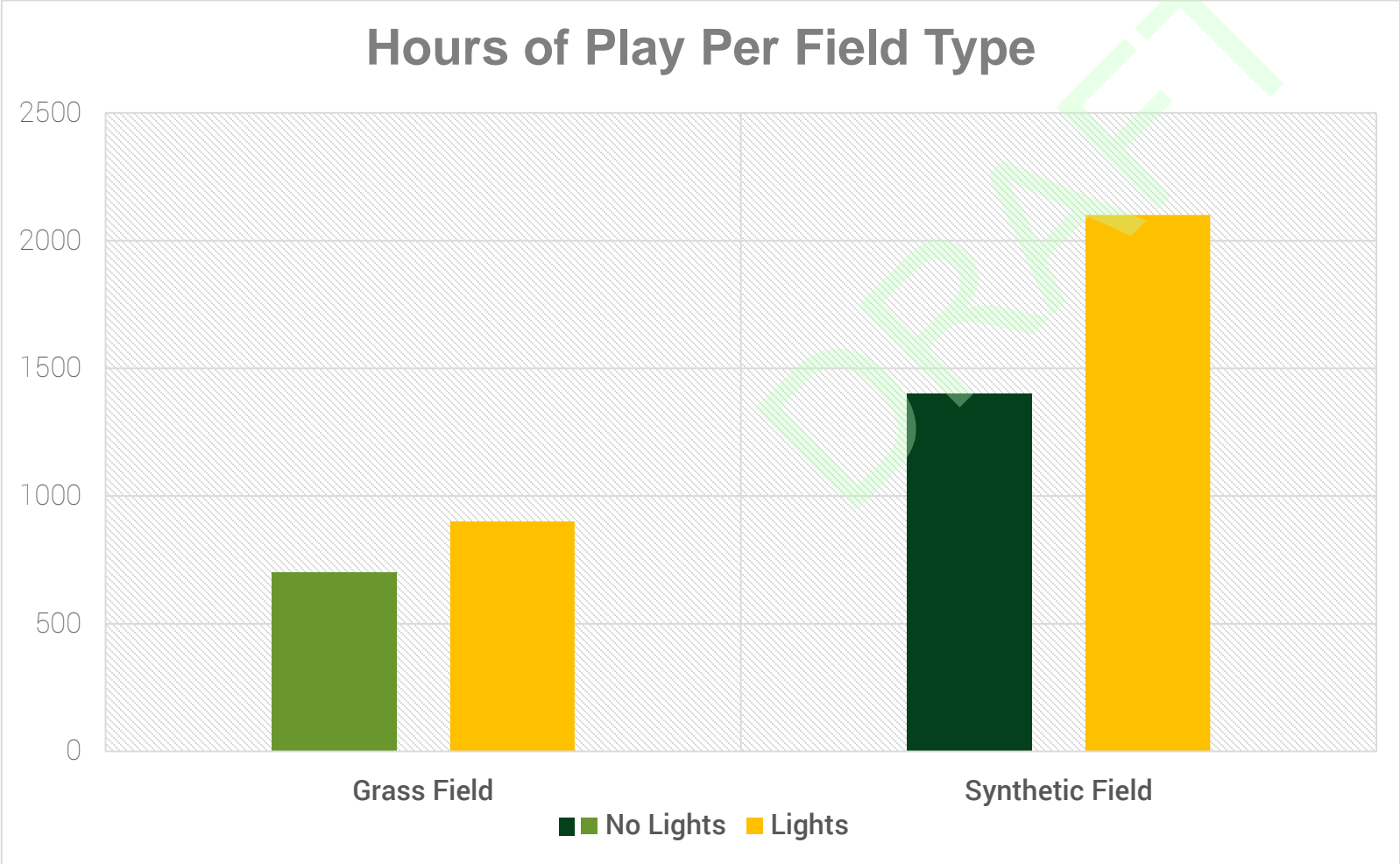
New
standard

Location & Context

13. Is the field located in an area identified in the POPS access analysis (LOS) as areas where access gaps exist for this type of amenity?

FIELD LIGHTING- BENEFITS

- Extends the number of hours of play (lighting is critical to achieve this)
- Allows more benefits to the community



	No Lights	Lights
Grass	700	900
Synthetic	1,400	2,100+

FIELD LIGHTING CRITERIA/STANDARDS

SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK RECEIVED IN DECEMBER

- separate synthetic turf from lighting
- disagreement with the 25ft distance from residential properties (too short or too limiting)
- disagreement on community field- increase in usability, but big investment
- include glare control
- illumination should be balanced between sport standards and needs of the community
- consider proximity to residential areas
- concern that adopted plans could be outdated, but support for transparency

PRELIMINARY LIST OF DRAFT CRITERIA AND STANDARDS FOR NEW FIELD LIGHTING LOCATIONS

When Should a Field be Lit?

DRAFT CRITERIA FOR NEW LIGHT PLACEMENT

1. Is the field already synthetic?
2. Is this a community field?

A community field is used year-round for non-structured drop in play with limited scheduled use for youth structured practices and/or games during the spring and fall season.

3. Has the field been identified as a lighted field in a County Board adopted plan?

DRAFT NEW LIGHTING STANDARDS

- A. A minimum of 25 feet shall exist between the edge of the field and the property line of the adjacent, residential properties.
- B. The proposed lighting shall not increase the pre-existing, normal ambient light levels at the property line adjacent to residential properties by more than 0.5 foot candles.
- C. LED or any other advanced lighting system should be used to achieve efficiency, light uniformity and visual comfort while minimizing light spillage.
- D. The above requirements shall not apply for athletic fields adjacent to uses other than residential.
- E. Illuminance levels for recreation, high school or stadium fields.

ILLUMINANCE LEVELS	FOOT CANDLES
Recreation Fields - Rectangle - Diamond	30 fc. 50 fc. infield, 30 fc. outfield
High School, College & Stadium Fields - Rectangle - Diamond	50 fc. 100 fc. infield, 50 fc. outfield

If lighting is proposed for athletic fields not meeting the above requirements, a proposal to provide athletic field lighting may be considered through a separate process.

FIELD LIGHTING-NEW FIELD LIGHTING CRITERIA

WHEN SHOULD A FIELD BE LIT?

General

1. Does the field meet the minimum size requirement? (35,000 SqFt for rectangular & diamond & 65,000 SqFt for combination fields)
2. Has the field been identified as a lighted field in a County Board adopted plan?
3. The site has not been identified for school or public facility expansion?

Is this a community field?

Criterion presented in December- removed

FIELD LIGHTING-NEW FIELD LIGHTING CRITERIA

WHEN SHOULD A FIELD BE LIT?

Site Amenities & Investment

5. Are there existing or planned in the CIP year-round restroom facilities with public access during the times of the field use?
6. Does the field support both diamond and rectangular sports?
7. Does the field provide benefits for both youth and adult sports leagues?
8. Does the financial (cost sharing) partnership with APS or another partner exist?
9. Is the field used for scholastic sports programs?

Is the field already synthetic?

Criterion presented in December- removed

FIELD LIGHTING-NEW FIELD LIGHTING CRITERIA

WHEN SHOULD A FIELD BE LIT?

Environmental Context

10. Is the estimated disturbance to surrounding trees and tree roots associated with installation of lights minimized?

Standard: If the estimated disturbance from light installation is within 100 feet of a documented, significant natural resource feature, the project will go through the Rapid Environment Impact Review (REIR) process to determine any impact on the natural feature.

Location & Context

13. Is the field located in an area identified in the POPS access analysis (LOS) as areas where access gaps exist for this type of amenity?

FIELD LIGHTING (DRAFT STANDARDS)

New Lighting- Standards:

- A. The proposed field lighting will be designed and installed to ensure less than or equal to 0.5 foot candles increase at adjacent residential property lines.
- B. LED or any other advanced lighting system should be used to achieve efficiency, light uniformity and visual comfort while minimizing light spillage. As lighting technology improves, the County will continuously review and update these standards.
- C. The above requirements shall not apply for athletic fields adjacent to uses other than residential.
- D. Illuminance levels for recreation, high school or stadium fields.

Example:
0.5 foot-candles used as an acceptable maximum limit for illumination at the property lines that border their facilities
Source: Fairfax County Park Authority- White Paper - Athletic Field Lighting and Control of Obtrusive Light Pollution

Illuminance Levels	Foot Candles
Recreational Fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rectangular- Diamond	30 fc. 50 fc. Infield, 30 fc. Outfield
High School, College & Stadium Fields <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rectangular- Diamond	50 fc. 100 fc. Infield, 50 fc. Outfield

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(1 ft candle was included in the POPS draft)

Illuminance Levels	Foot Candles
Recreational Fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rectangular- Diamond	30 fc. 50 fc. Infield, 30 fc. Outfield
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- C. The above requirements shall not apply for athletic fields adjacent to uses other than residential.
- D. Illuminance levels for recreation, high school or stadium fields.

(1 ft candle was included in the POPS draft)

Draft Standard Presented in December-~~removed~~:
A minimum of 25 feet shall exist between the edge of the field and the property line of the adjacent, residential properties.

Illuminance Levels	Foot Candles
Recreational Fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rectangular- Diamond	30 fc. 50 fc. Infield, 30 fc. Outfield
High School, College & Stadium Fields <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rectangular- Diamond	50 fc. 100 fc. Infield, 50 fc. Outfield

If lighting is proposed for athletic fields not meeting the above requirements, a proposal to provide athletic field lighting may be considered through a separate process.

FIELD LIGHTING-POTENTIAL MITIGATION MEASURES

Summary of Feedback:

- Overall support for the draft measures
- Positive experience with MOAs, but they need additional enforcement
- Keep up with new technologies to increase light control

Glare and Spill Reduction Techniques

- Shielding
- Dimming controls
- Wattage
- Mounting height
- Aiming angles

Design Techniques

- Planting
- Other physical buffers

Operational Techniques

- Curfews
- Limiting special events
- Staff presence
- No use of amplification
- Seasonally-adjusted hours

County Board Approved Community Agreements and Standing Committees

- Formal Memorandum of Agreements with civic associations or partner organizations
- Regular meetings

**FEEDBACK SUMMARY &
PROPOSED APPROACH
Natural Resources/Trees**

NATURAL RESOURCES/TREES-FEEDBACK SUMMARY

Natural Resources

- Support for the Natural Resource Management Plan Update
- Impact of population growth & development on sensitive natural resources
- Access vs. impact of use
- Balance of recreation and resource protection
- Secure funding for protection, expansion & maintenance
- Land acquisition: prioritize expansion/protection of natural resources

Natural Resources

Minimal impact / no significant impacts
Relation to waterways
100ft buffer around significant NR
Wooded Areas - outside significant → how managed
Classify natural resources → those subject to use
Significant are most important
How to add interpretation
How to value in regards to users
Improve trails in less significant
Make low value areas more accessible
Woodlands play big role in urban areas
Streams horribly eroded
Losing resources to death
Maintained vs unmaintained trails vs informal trails
Connectivity of natural areas
Flexible standards to reduce impacts (e.g. trails)
Growth in # of fields
Discussion of conflict with other uses
Annual state of natural resources
More outreach on N.R. from County
Policy to reduce informal trails
Too many fields
Look outside the county for field use
Zero net loss of natural resources

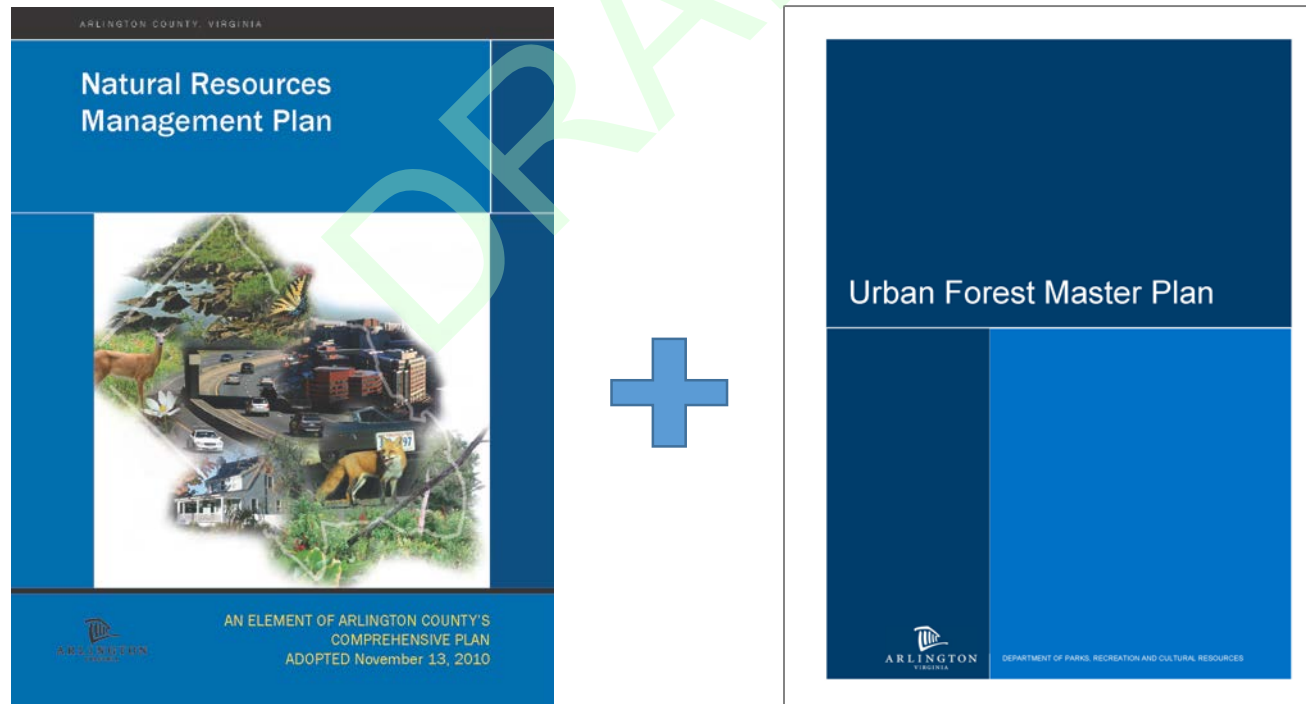
Trees

- Support for the Urban Forest Master Plan Update
- Impact of development
- Loss of tree canopy & removal of mature trees
- Secure funding for tree protection and expansion
- Land acquisition: prioritize expansion/protection of trees

- ① - Need more urgency about trees in plan
 - Losing trees at accelerated pace
 - Move careful tree impact analysis for APS & County actions
 - Should be maintenance for natural space
 - ↳ preservation / protection from poison ivy
 - give more priority to trees in nat. resource areas - perhaps space used by turf fields
 - Develop a partnership w/ other entities
 - ↳ APS, citizen volunteers, science curriculum
 - Success from tree planting initiative on private property
 - Preserving the trees that we have are more important than planting more
 - roads & buildings take up space occupied by trees

NATURAL RESOURCES/TREES-PROPOSED APPROACH

- Revise the POPS draft by strengthening recommendations on natural resources & trees
- Update the Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP) & Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) after POPS completion
- Integrate NRMP and UFMP into one unified document



NATURAL RESOURCES/TREES-PROPOSED APPROACH

- Revise the POPS draft by strengthening recommendations on natural resources & trees & balancing what is more appropriate to be included in UFMP & NRMP
- Impact of private development to be studied in the UFMP
- Add data from the Tree Canopy Study in the final POPS document

Examples:

Current POPS Draft	Proposed Changes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.6. Ensure high-quality visual and physical access to the Potomac River, Four Mile Run, and their tributaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.6. Ensure high-quality visual and physical access to the Potomac River, Four Mile Run, and their tributaries, while improving the tree canopy and other natural resources along waterways.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3.3. Protect, restore, and expand natural resources, particularly in riparian corridors along County waterways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3.3. Protect, restore, and expand natural resources, particularly in riparian corridors along County waterways.• Make 3.3. a priority action.• Add new: "Improve processes for earlier review of public projects, to minimize impact on tree canopy and natural resources"

**FEEDBACK SUMMARY &
PROPOSED APPROACH
Casual Use Spaces**

CASUAL USE SPACES

POPS Draft:

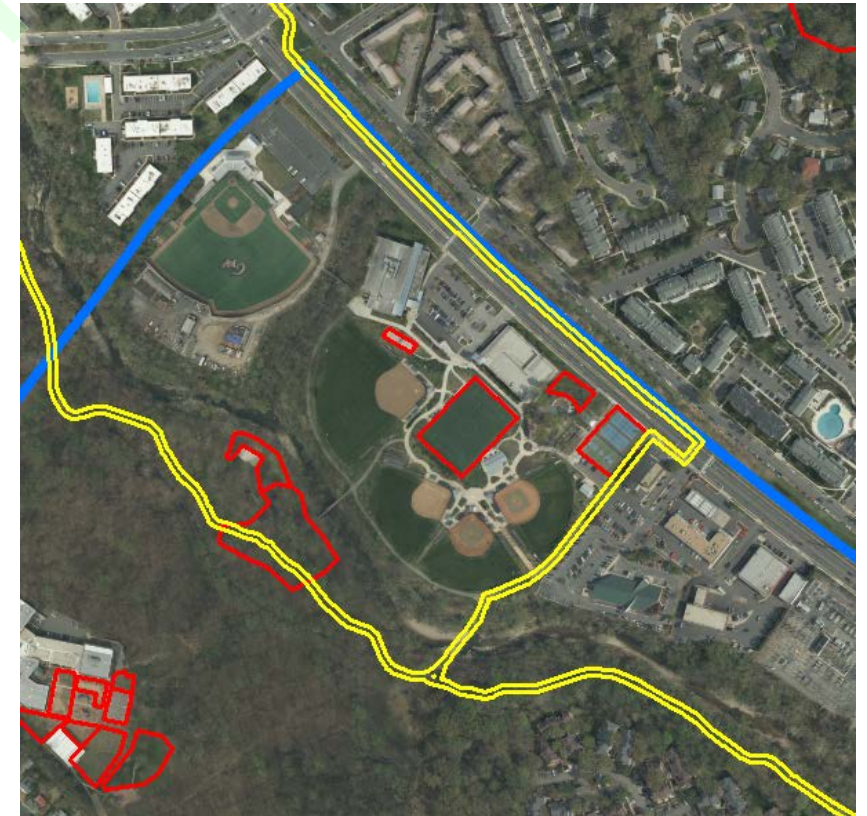
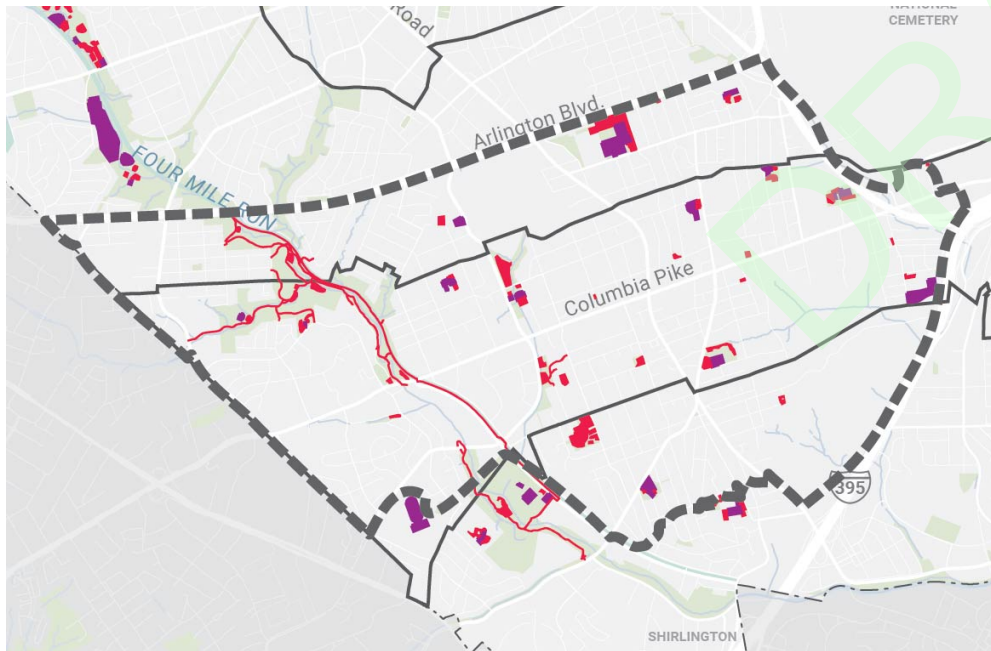
1.3 Ensure access to spaces that are intentionally designed to support casual, impromptu use and connection with nature.



CASUAL USE SPACES- FEEDBACK SUMMARY

Casual Use Spaces

- Overall positive feedback on the recognition of this type of open space
- Definition differences (What to include: fields, natural resources, always or partially available, etc.?)
- How to measure? - Mapping & Level of Service
- How to design? - What amenities to include?



Mapping Challenges-
Barcroft Park Example

CASUAL USE SPACES- PROPOSED APPROACH

How the PSMP Supports Enhancing and Creating Casual Use Spaces?

Short Term (Include in the POPS document)

- Working with the POPS Advisory Committee to better define this term
- Highlight the need for this type of spaces as a priority
- Develop design principles

Long Term (Implementation item after POPS adoption)

- Access standards (If these spaces can be inventoried): use access standards to determine where access to casual use spaces is lacking
- Perform access analysis for these spaces (if they can be mapped)
- Explore developing standards

What Are We Already Doing to Plan for Casual Use Spaces?



Benjamin Banneker Park Framework Plan adopted by the County Board in December 2017



Short Bridge Park Master Plan adopted by the County Board in January 2018

NEXT STEPS

POPS NEXT STEPS (ANTICIPATED)

- February 7 & 13
 - February POPS Advisory Committee Meetings
- February 20
 - County Board Work Session
- March/April
 - Additional POPS Committee meetings
- Spring
 - Revised/final POPS draft posted online
 - Final Public Outreach
- Spring/Summer- Review Process
 - Commission Reviews
- Fall 2018- Review/Approval Process
 - Park and Recreation Commission
 - Planning Commission
 - County Board