

# PUBLIC SPACES MASTER PLAN (POPS) UPDATES

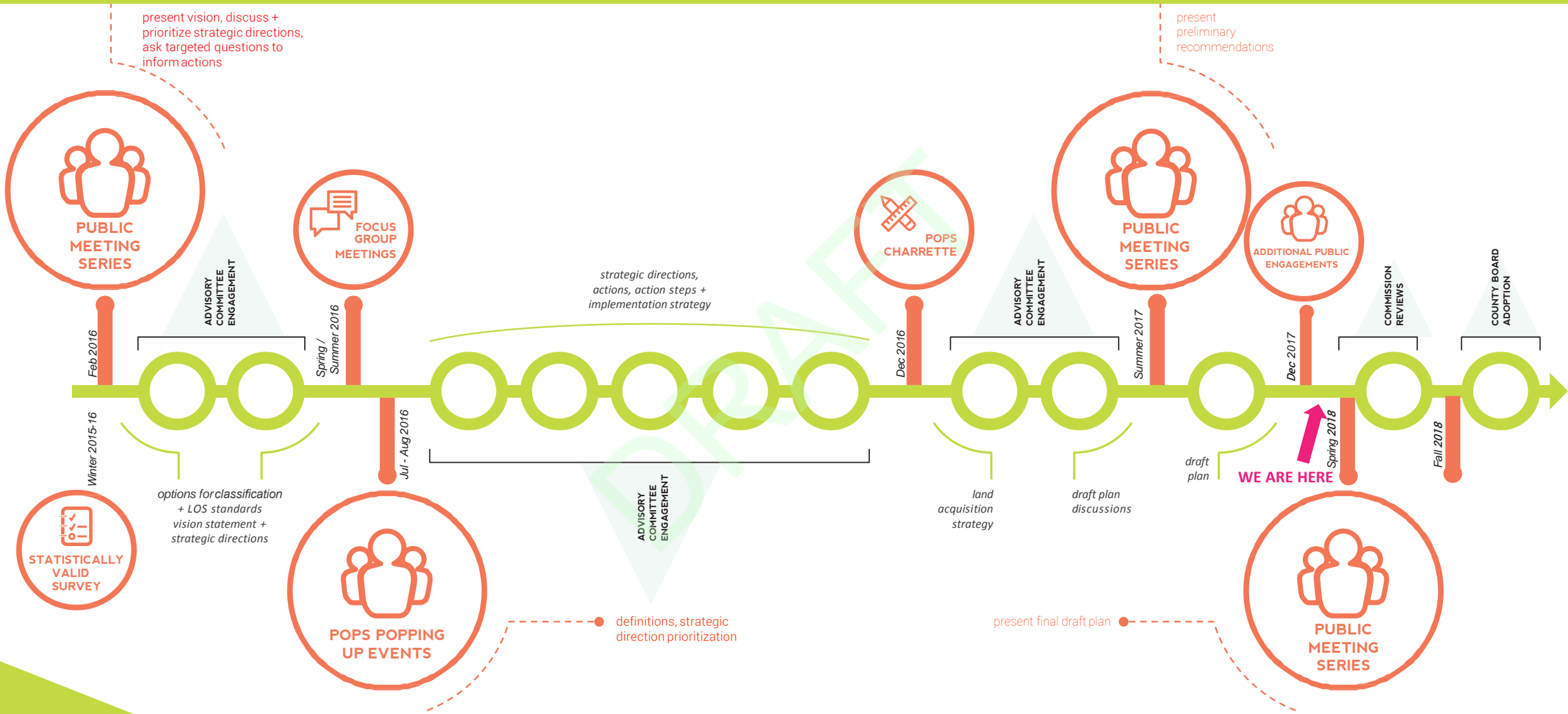
POPS Advisory Committee Meeting  
February 13, 2018

# 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
- Other Plan Elements
- 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

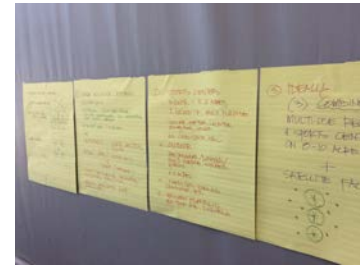


Advisory Committee  
APS  
Aquatics  
BIDs & Partners  
Bike/Ped  
Dog Parks  
Gymnastics  
Natural Resources  
Urban Forestry  
Sports

Millennials  
Seniors  
Teens  
Gen Xers



Over 90 participants



Community Interest and Opinion Survey: Let your voice be heard today!  
Millennials would like your input on high performance parks and recreation opportunities for your 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 greatly appreciate your time!  
These tables at OSC are open Monday through Friday 10:00-5:00 PM. Please stand by each type of facility based on visiting the VLS or VLS next to the right of each type of facility.  
If VLS, please answer the questions to the right of the facility regarding "How well are your needs being met?" and "How much more did you see this type of facility during the past 12 months?"

Type of Outdoor Facility	How well are your needs being met?	How much more did you see this type of facility during the past 12 months?
	Very Well	Very Much More
1. Aquatics	Yes	Yes
2. Art	Yes	Yes
3. Ball fields	Yes	Yes
4. Bicycles	Yes	Yes
5. Biking trails	Yes	Yes
6. Dog parks	Yes	Yes
7. Golf courses	Yes	Yes
8. Gyms	Yes	Yes
9. Ice skating rinks	Yes	Yes
10. Multi-use trails	Yes	Yes
11. Parks	Yes	Yes
12. Picnic areas	Yes	Yes
13. Play areas	Yes	Yes
14. Public art	Yes	Yes
15. Public art	Yes	Yes
16. Public art	Yes	Yes
17. Public art	Yes	Yes
18. Public art	Yes	Yes
19. Public art	Yes	Yes
20. Public art	Yes	Yes
21. Public art	Yes	Yes
22. Public art	Yes	Yes
23. Public art	Yes	Yes
24. Public art	Yes	Yes
25. Public art	Yes	Yes
26. Public art	Yes	Yes
27. Public art	Yes	Yes
28. Public art	Yes	Yes
29. Public art	Yes	Yes
30. Public art	Yes	Yes
31. Public art	Yes	Yes
32. Public art	Yes	Yes
33. Public art	Yes	Yes
34. Public art	Yes	Yes
35. Public art	Yes	Yes
36. Public art	Yes	Yes
37. Public art	Yes	Yes
38. Public art	Yes	Yes
39. Public art	Yes	Yes
40. Public art	Yes	Yes
41. Public art	Yes	Yes
42. Public art	Yes	Yes
43. Public art	Yes	Yes
44. Public art	Yes	Yes
45. Public art	Yes	Yes
46. Public art	Yes	Yes
47. Public art	Yes	Yes
48. Public art	Yes	Yes
49. Public art	Yes	Yes
50. Public art	Yes	Yes
51. Public art	Yes	Yes
52. Public art	Yes	Yes
53. Public art	Yes	Yes
54. Public art	Yes	Yes
55. Public art	Yes	Yes
56. Public art	Yes	Yes
57. Public art	Yes	Yes
58. Public art	Yes	Yes
59. Public art	Yes	Yes
60. Public art	Yes	Yes
61. Public art	Yes	Yes
62. Public art	Yes	Yes
63. Public art	Yes	Yes
64. Public art	Yes	Yes
65. Public art	Yes	Yes
66. Public art	Yes	Yes
67. Public art	Yes	Yes
68. Public art	Yes	Yes
69. Public art	Yes	Yes
70. Public art	Yes	Yes
71. Public art	Yes	Yes
72. Public art	Yes	Yes
73. Public art	Yes	Yes
74. Public art	Yes	Yes
75. Public art	Yes	Yes
76. Public art	Yes	Yes
77. Public art	Yes	Yes
78. Public art	Yes	Yes
79. Public art	Yes	Yes
80. Public art	Yes	Yes
81. Public art	Yes	Yes
82. Public art	Yes	Yes
83. Public art	Yes	Yes
84. Public art	Yes	Yes
85. Public art	Yes	Yes
86. Public art	Yes	Yes
87. Public art	Yes	Yes
88. Public art	Yes	Yes
89. Public art	Yes	Yes
90. Public art	Yes	Yes

3. Which FOUR of the OUTDOOR facilities from the list in Question #1 are MOST IMPORTANT to your community? (Please list the numbers of the facilities in the order of importance.)

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) 6-8 pm (02) 9-10 pm (03) 11-11 pm (04) 11-midnight  
Weekends: (01) 6-8 pm (06) 9-10 pm (08) 11-11 pm (09) 11-midnight

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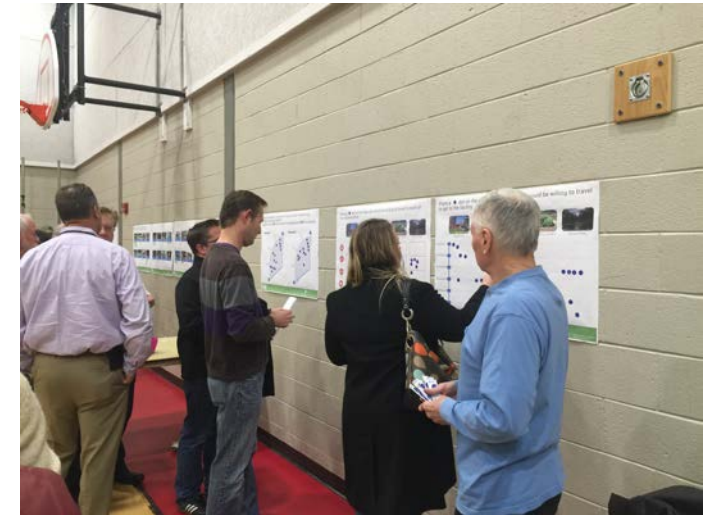
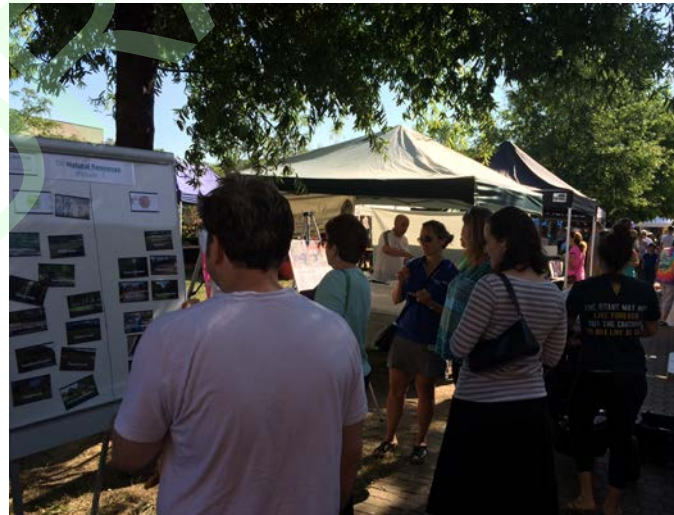
# POPS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Co-Chairs:

- Caroline Haynes, Park and Recreation Commission
- Jane Rudolph, Department of Parks and Recreation

## Other Members:

- Jane Siegel, Planning Commission
- Jim Feaster, NCAC
- Janet Kopenhaver (Leo Sarli- alternate), Arlington Commission for the Arts
- Elizabeth Gearin, Park and Recreation Commission
- Dean Amel, Urban Forestry Commission
- Justin Wilt, Sports Commission
- Claire O'Dea, E2C2
- Lisa Grandle, Department of Parks and Recreation
- Toby Smith, At Large
- Carrie Johnson, At Large
- William Gillen, Arlington Public Schools



# PRELIMINARY DRAFT

- Online feedback gathered July 11 to August 31

ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Public Spaces  
Master Plan

**PRELIMINARY DRAFT 7/11/2017**



ARLINGTON  
VIRGINIA

AN ELEMENT OF ARLINGTON COUNTY'S  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

# PRELIMINARY DRAFT- CONTENTS

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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.

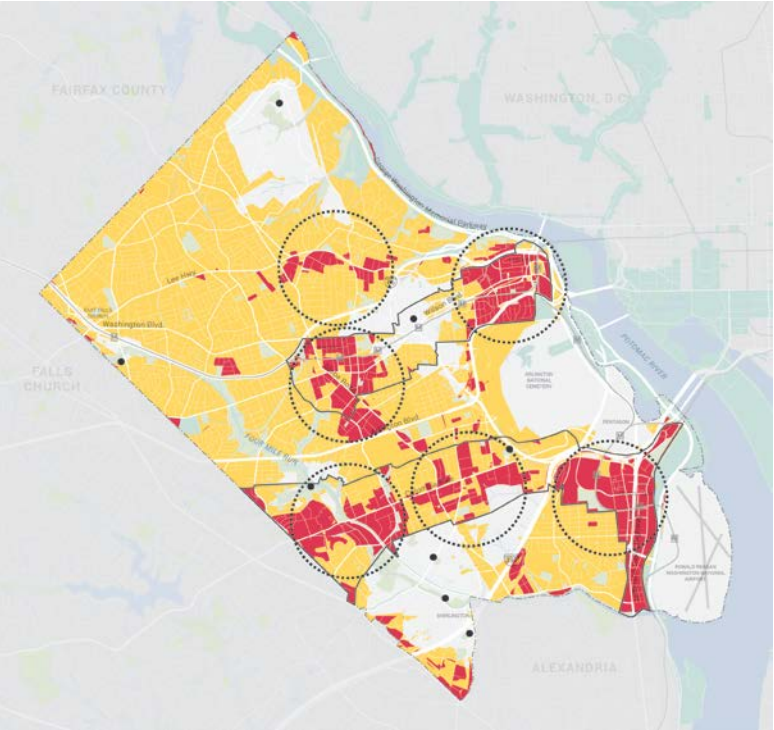
Strategic Direction 8

## FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

Enhance the financial sustainability of Arlington's public spaces.



# FRESH APPROACHES



Level of Service

207

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.*



Casual Use Spaces



Synthetic Turf & Lighting

# 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

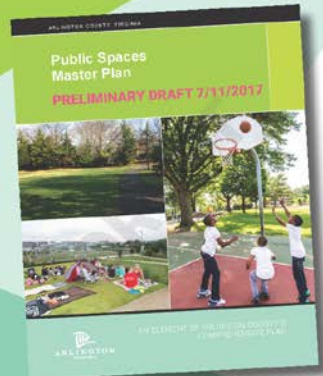
COME TO ANY OR ALL OF THESE PUBLIC MEETINGS. YOUR INPUT WILL HELP US FINE-TUNE OUR PUBLIC SPACES MASTER PLAN.

Get more information at [parks.arlingtonva.us](http://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

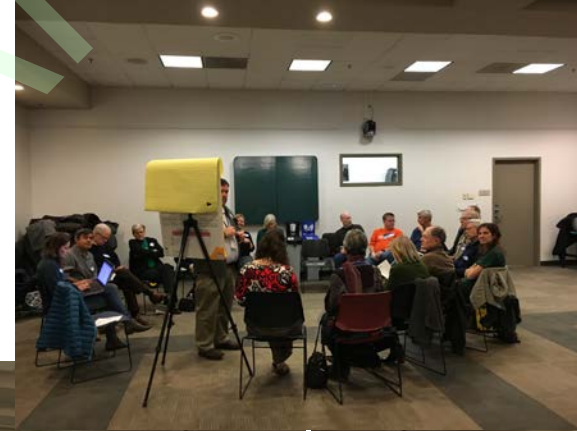
Stewarding Tree Canopy, Natural Resources & Casual Use Spaces  
**THURSDAY**  
**December 14**  
CENTRAL LIBRARY  
6:30 – 9pm



**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.

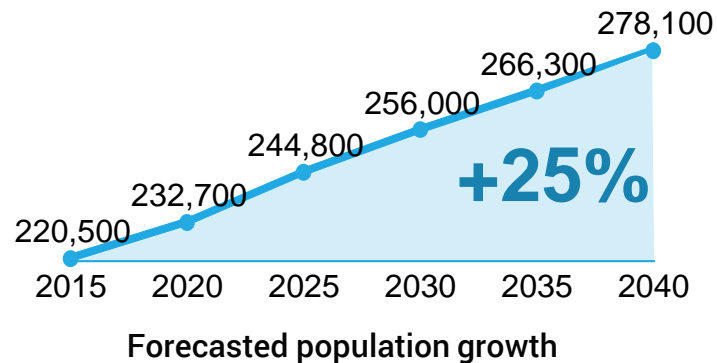
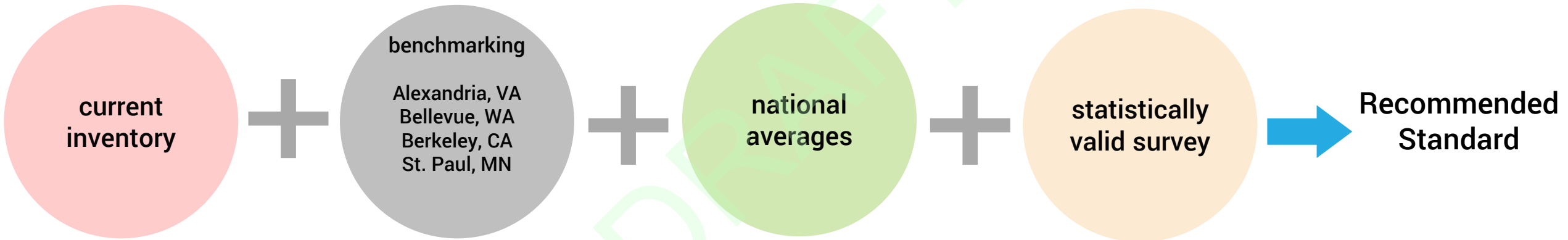


**LEVEL OF SERVICE  
APPROACH**

# LEVEL OF SERVICE - APPROACH

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

## Population-Based + Access Standards

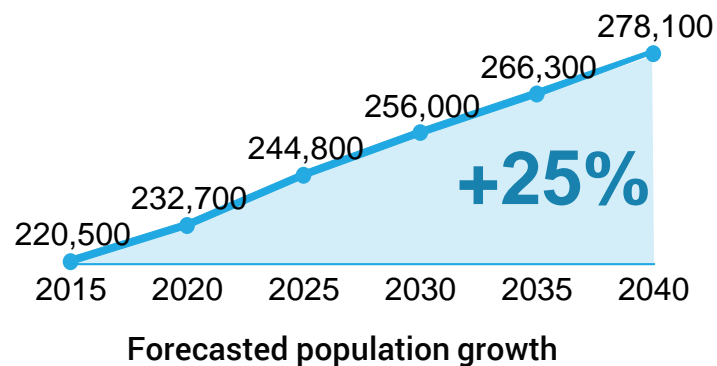
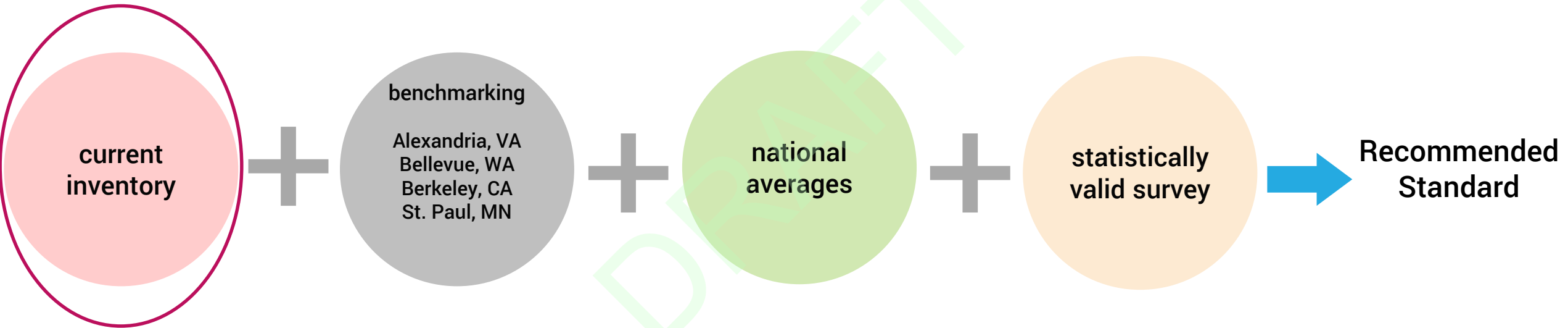


Population Based Standards						Incremental Needs			
Example	Current LOS	Bench-marking	National Average	Survey	Recommended standard	Current	2025	2035	Total by 2035
<u>Basketball Courts</u>	2,533	2,132	6,000	Medium	3,000	0	0	2	2

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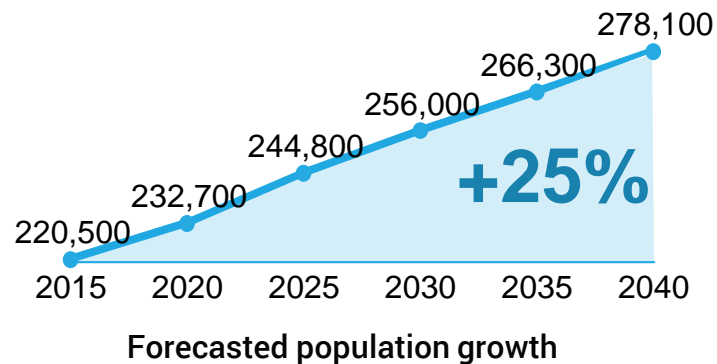
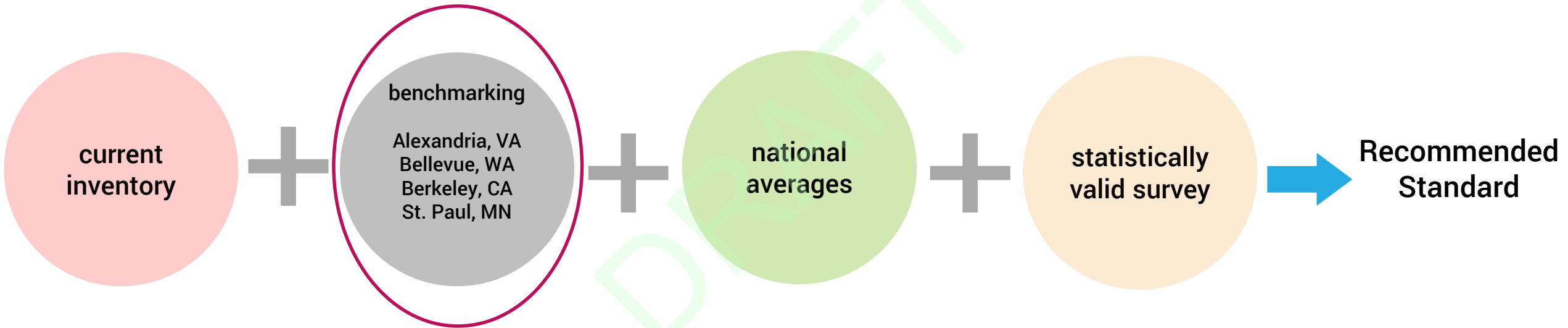


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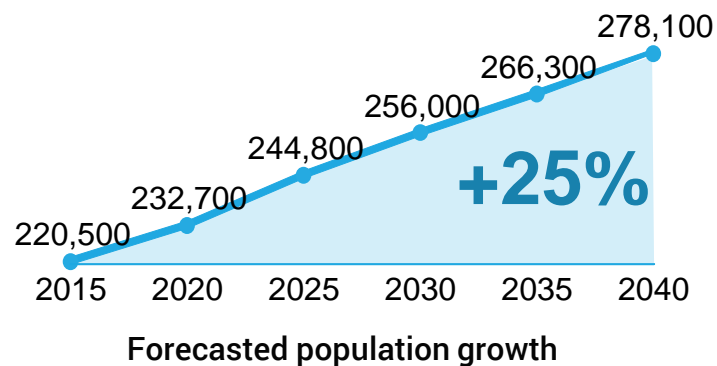
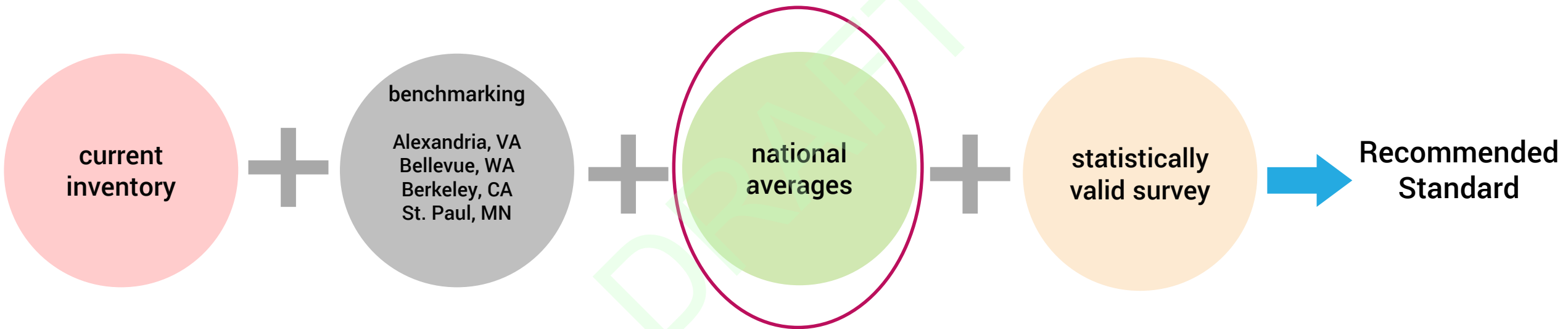


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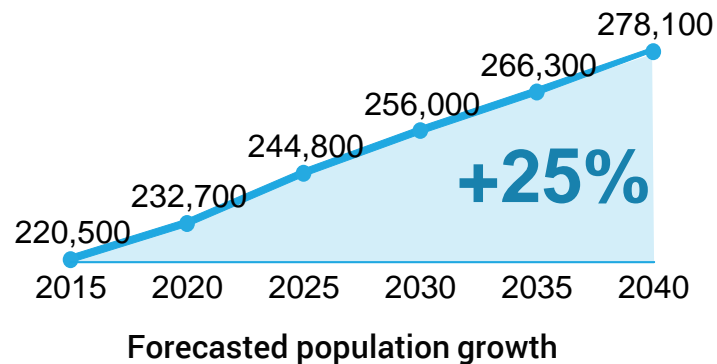
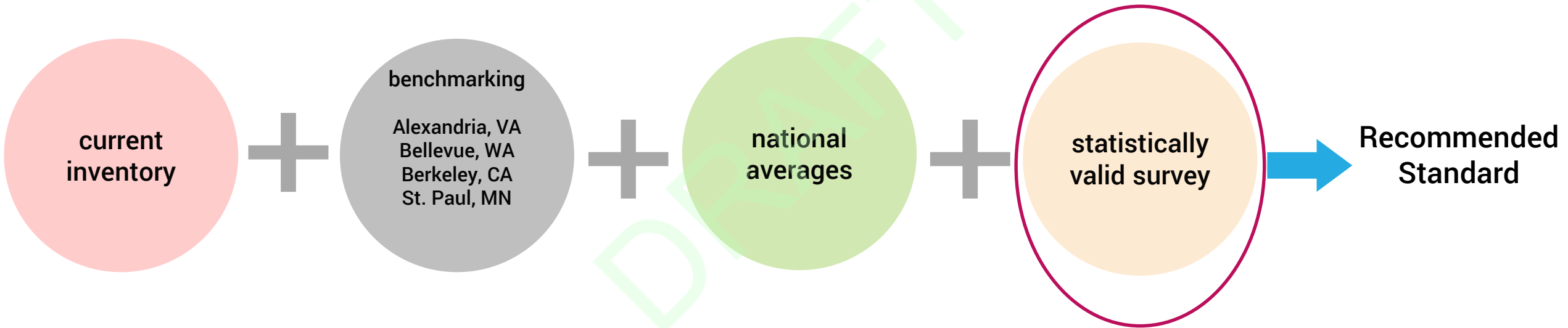
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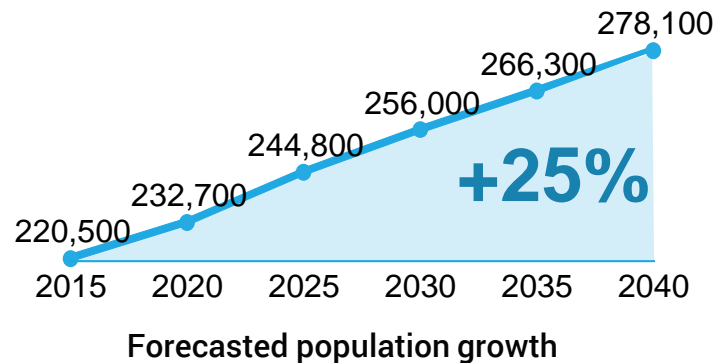
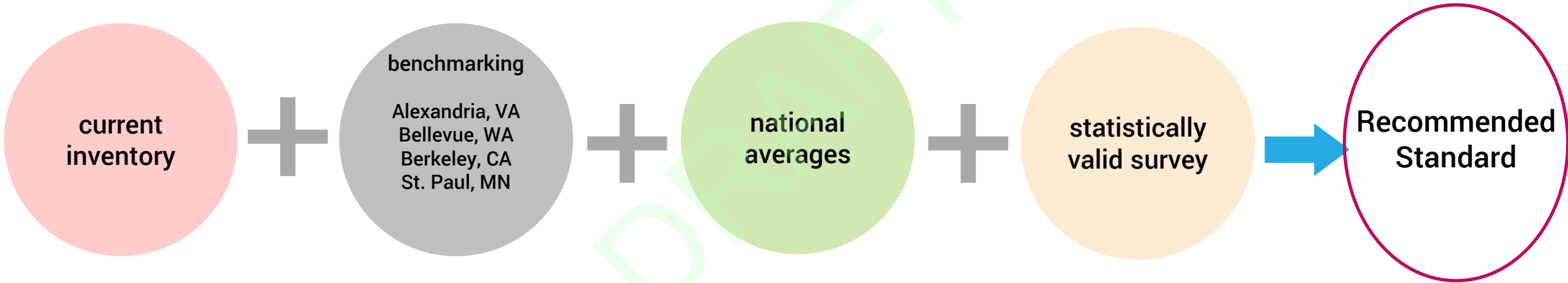


Example	Population Based Standards					Incremental Needs			
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POPS Draft: 1.4. Use a context-sensitive, activity-based approach to providing amenities.

## Population-Based + Access Standards



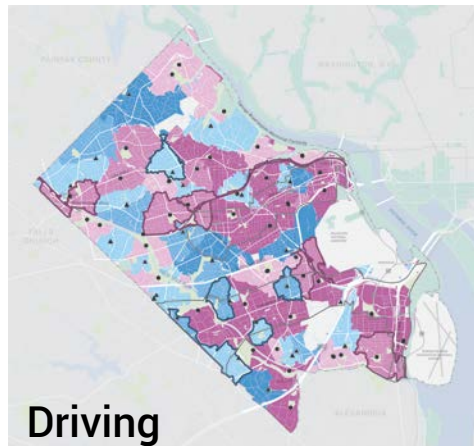
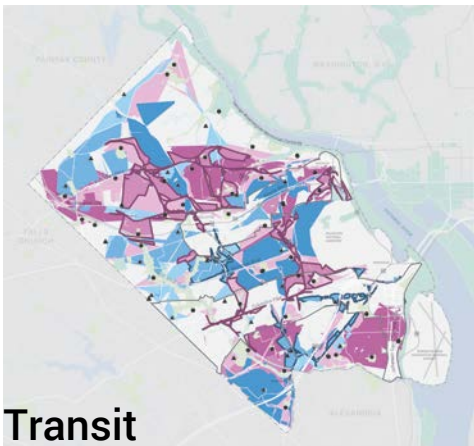
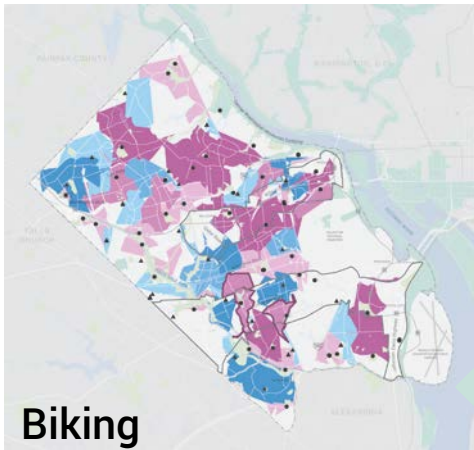
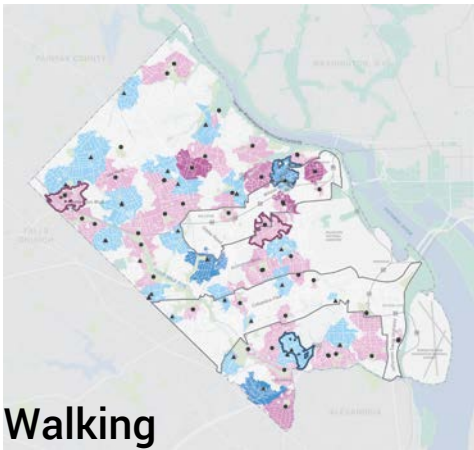
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Example	Current LOS	Benchmarking	National Average	Survey	Recommended standard	Current	2025	2035	Total by 2035
<u>Basketball Courts</u>	2,533	2,132	6,000	Medium	3,000	0	0	2	2

# 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

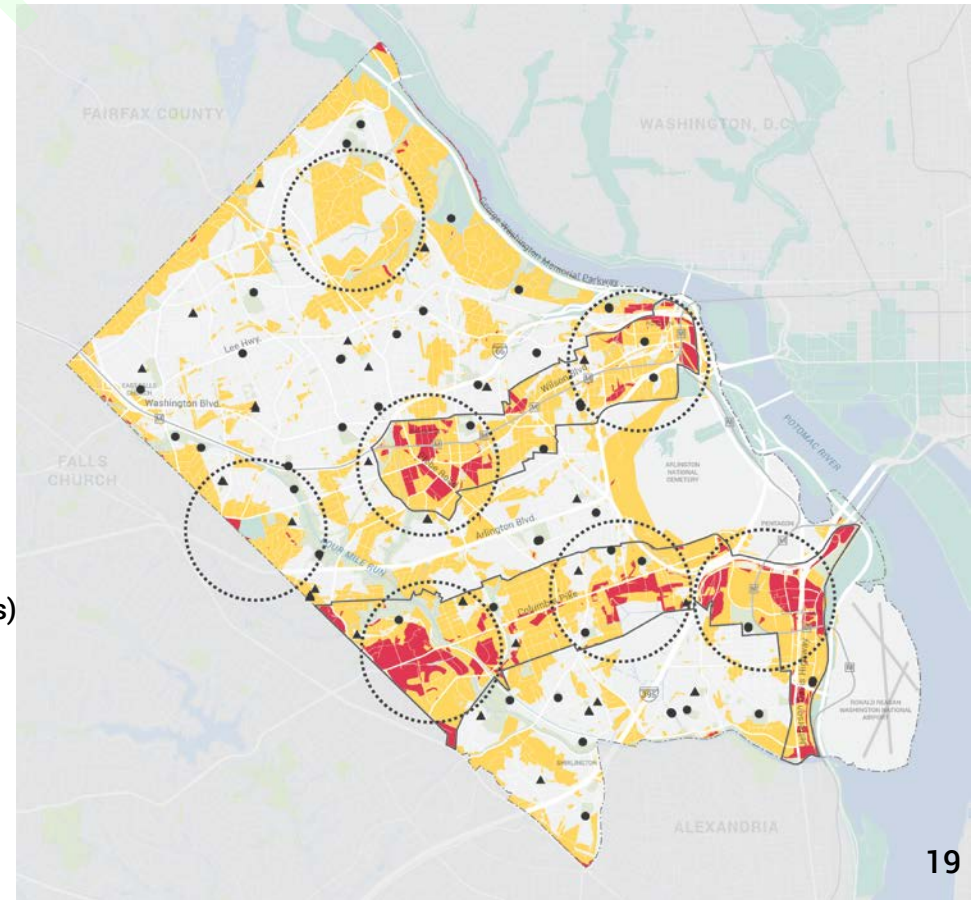
Example: Access to basketball courts



### Access Ranking

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

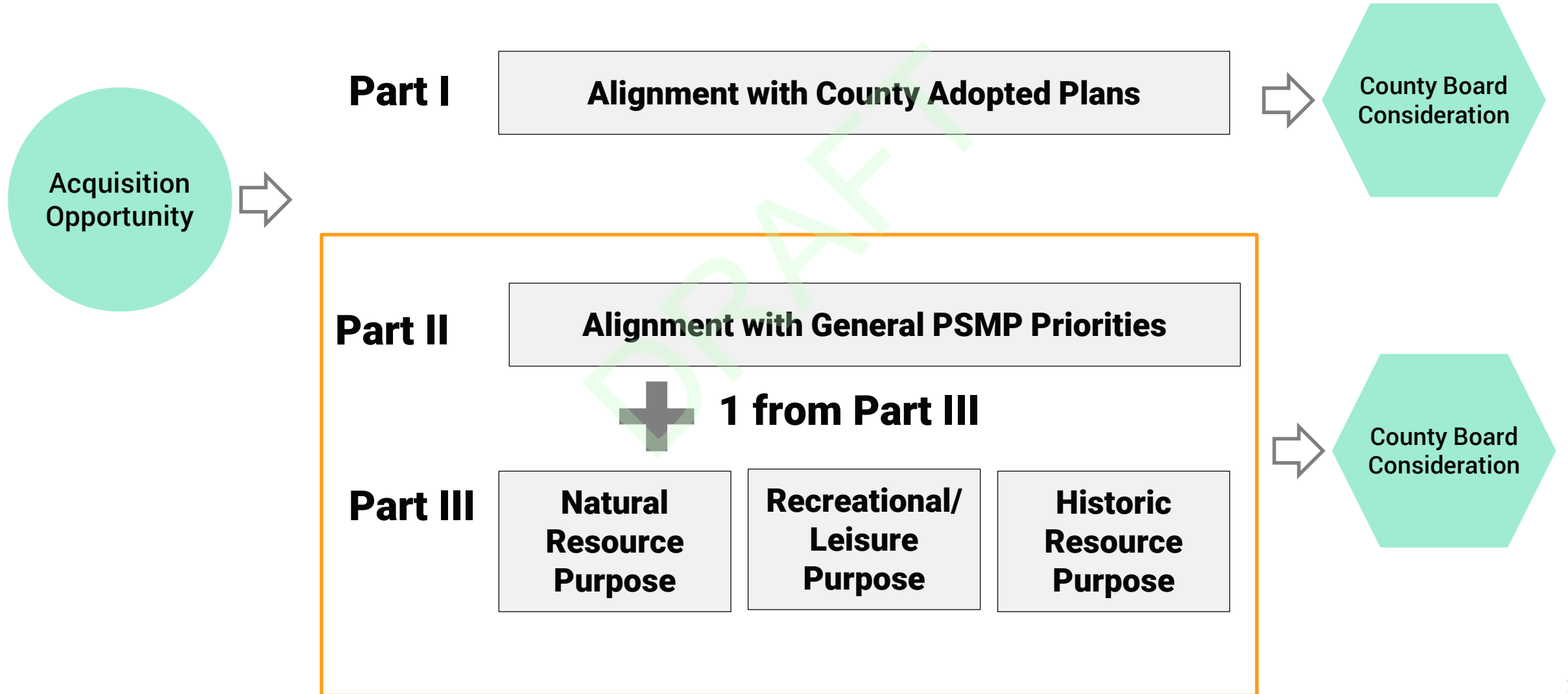
- Negotiated Purchase & Sale
- Dedication in Fee Simple
- Deed of Gift
- Acquisition of State or Federal Surplus Real Property
- Right of First Offer
- Right of First Refusal
- Option to Purchase
- Life Estate with Reversion to the County
- Acquisition with Restrictive Covenant
- Easement
- Sponsorships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

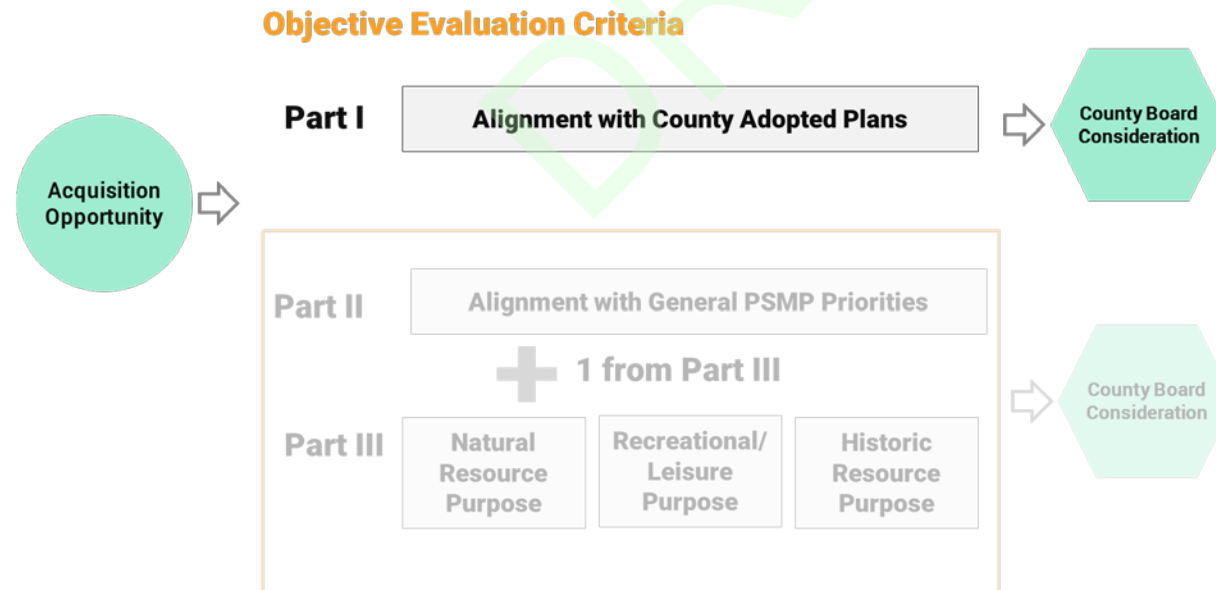
## Objective Evaluation Criteria





# 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

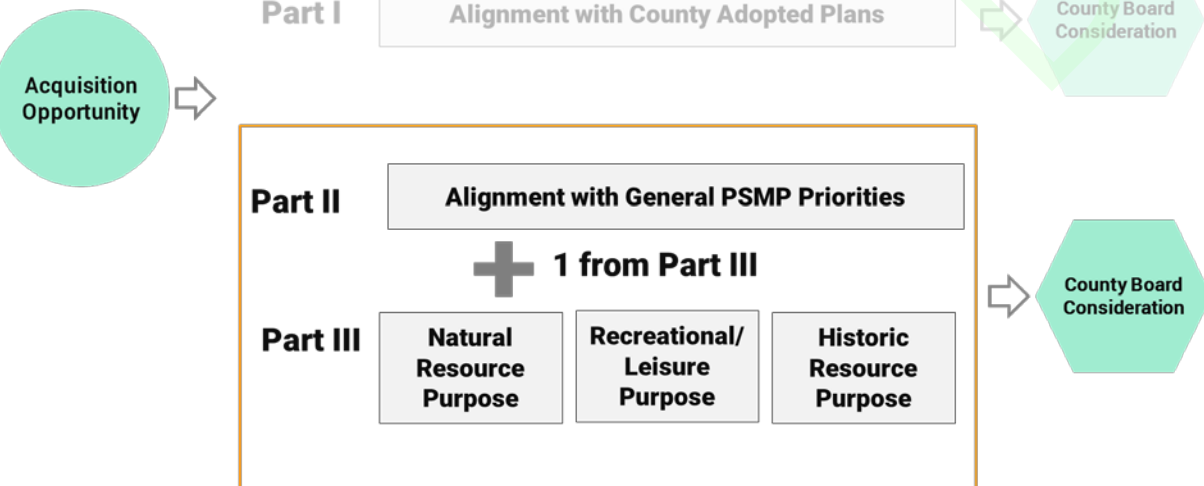
## Associated with existing parks:

- 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.)
- The site is located in one of the major planning corridors identified in GLUP: Rosslyn-Ballston, Jefferson-Davis and Columbia Pike Corridors.

### Objective Evaluation Criteria



POPS AC  
suggestion

# PART 3: ALIGNMENT WITH PSMP PRIORITIES/SITE PURPOSE

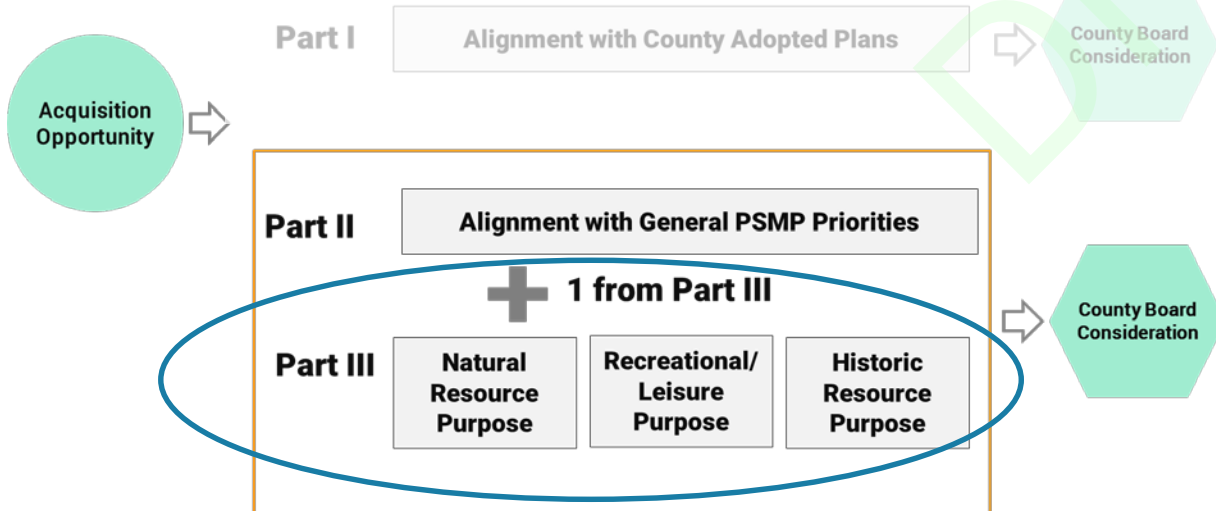
## Natural Resources Purpose (examples):

- 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.

### Objective Evaluation Criteria



## 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.

# WHAT WILL BE INCLUDED IN POPS?



### 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

Compile all future public spaces identified in the County Board adopted plans



Include a list of potential acquisition sites. Similar lists were included in the 1994 & 2005 Plans.

Example from the 2005 PSMP: Benjamin Banneker Park Along the south side of North 18<sup>th</sup> Street from North Van Buren to North Tuckahoe Street adjacent to existing park land.

Examples: Clarendon & Crystal City Sector Plans

**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.

## (Preliminary 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: based on LOS estimates by 2045 & assumption that all synthetic fields will be lit.**
- 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

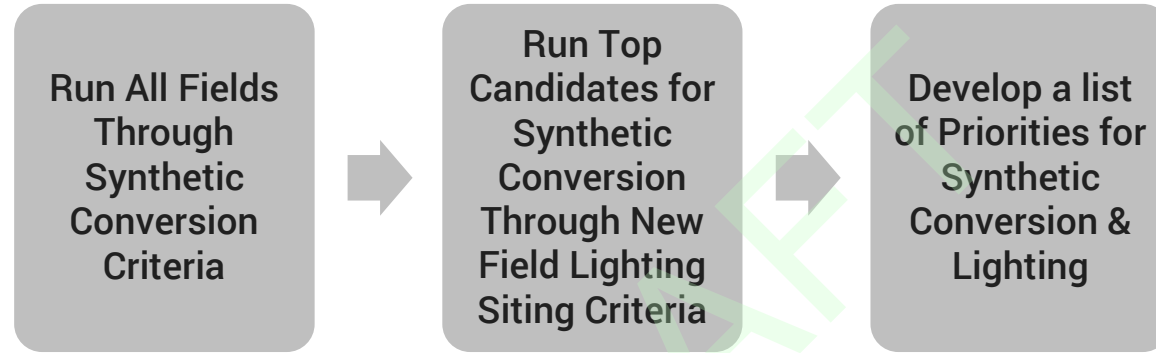
- Curfews
- limiting special events
- Staff presence
- No use of amplification
- Seasonally-adjusted hours

### 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?

Note: Asterisk (\*) Indicates new criteria developed after the December 6, 2017 meeting.

# 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/STANDARDS

## Environmental Context

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

11. Is the anticipated long-term damage to trees and tree canopy from construction and installation, as determined by Arlington's urban foresters, minimized?

UFC  
suggestion

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.

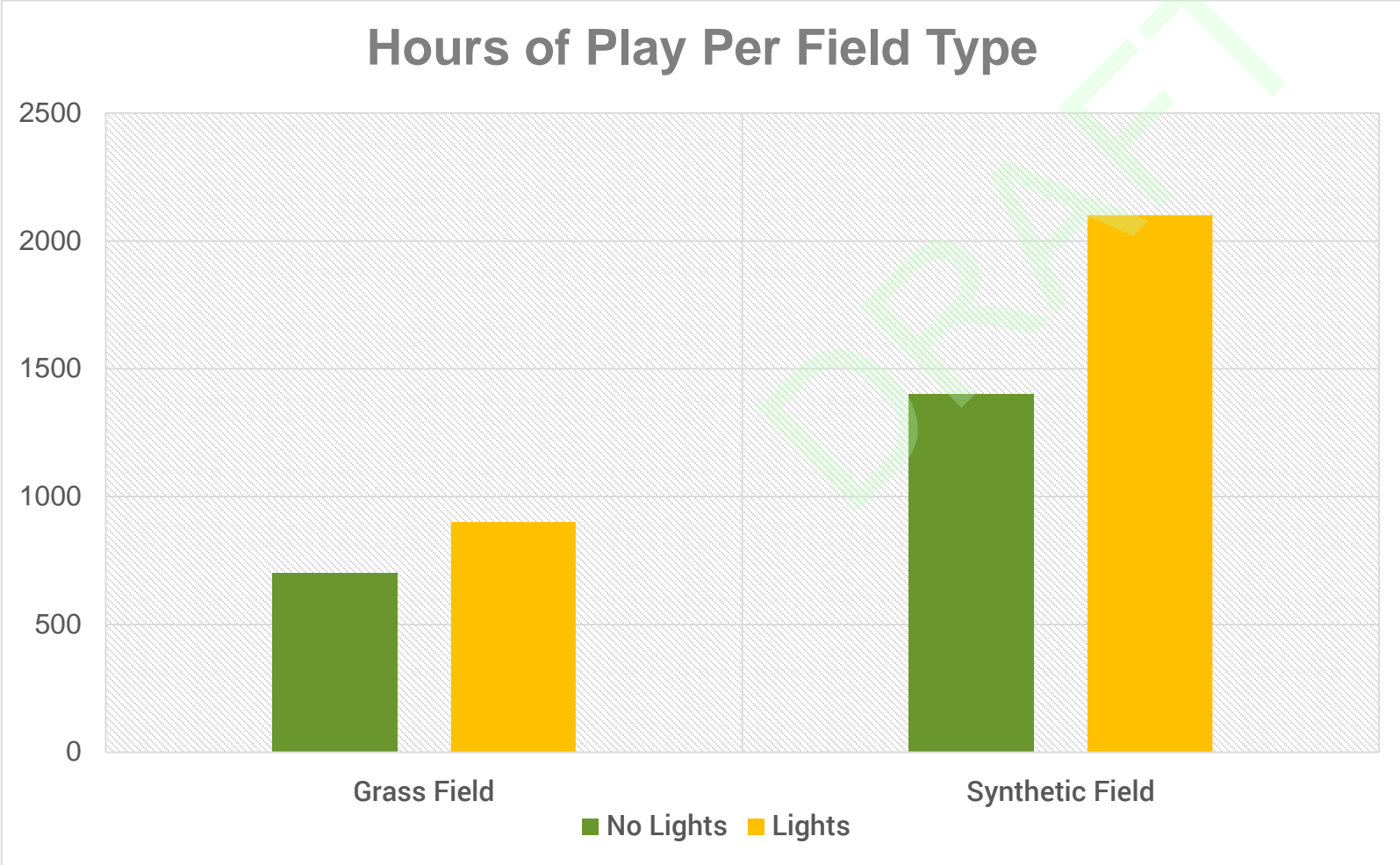
New standard

## Location & Context

12. 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? (\*)

10. Is the anticipated long-term damage to trees and tree canopy from construction and installation, as determined by Arlington's urban foresters, minimized?

UFC  
suggestion

### 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.

New standard

### Location & Context

11. 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"><li>- Rectangular</li><li>- Diamond</li></ul>	30 fc. 50 fc. Infield, 30 fc. Outfield
High School, College & Stadium Fields <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Rectangular</li><li>- Diamond</li></ul>	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.

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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)

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

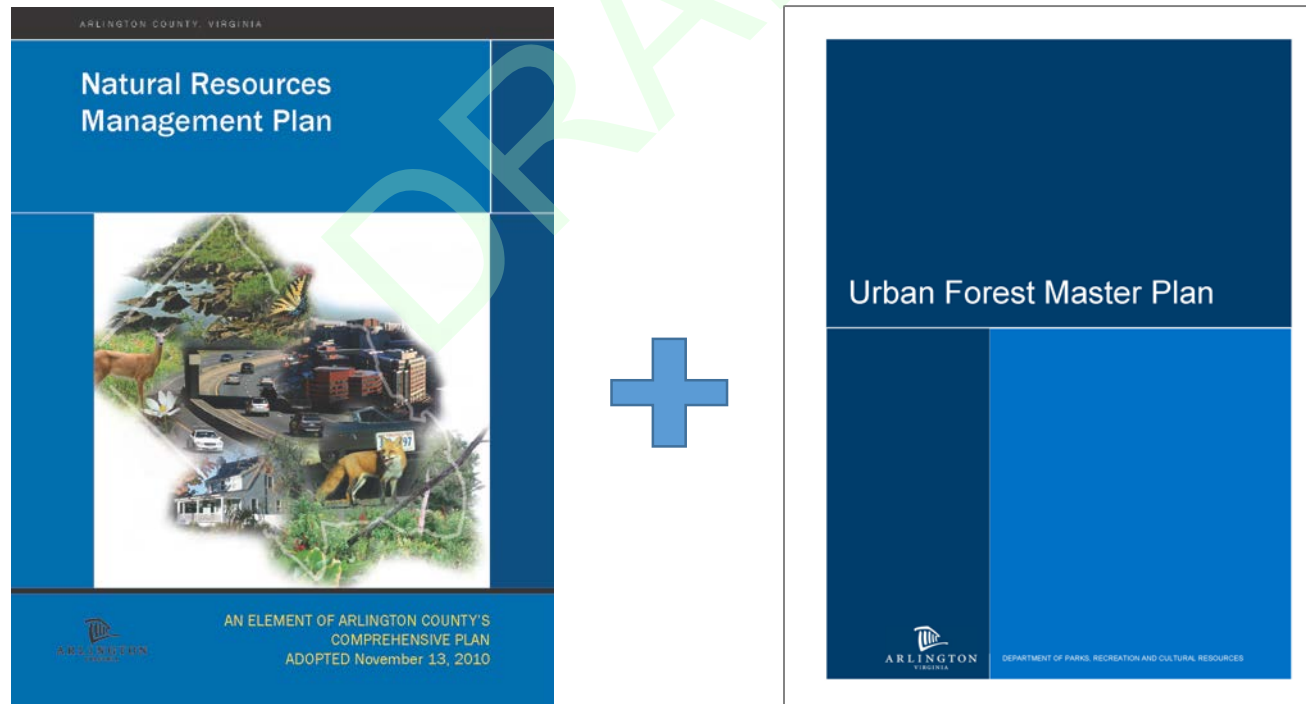
## Trees

- 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 poisoning
  - 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

Examples:

- 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

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

**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.

**Definition:** 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.



# WHAT TYPES OF SPACES SUPPORT CASUAL USE?

## Casual Use Spaces Include:

*some available always, some at times*

- open lawn with/without seating
- grill/picnic areas (including shelters)
- accessible forested areas
- accessible landscaped areas
- plazas
- esplanades
- fields with community use
- amphitheaters
- schoolgrounds

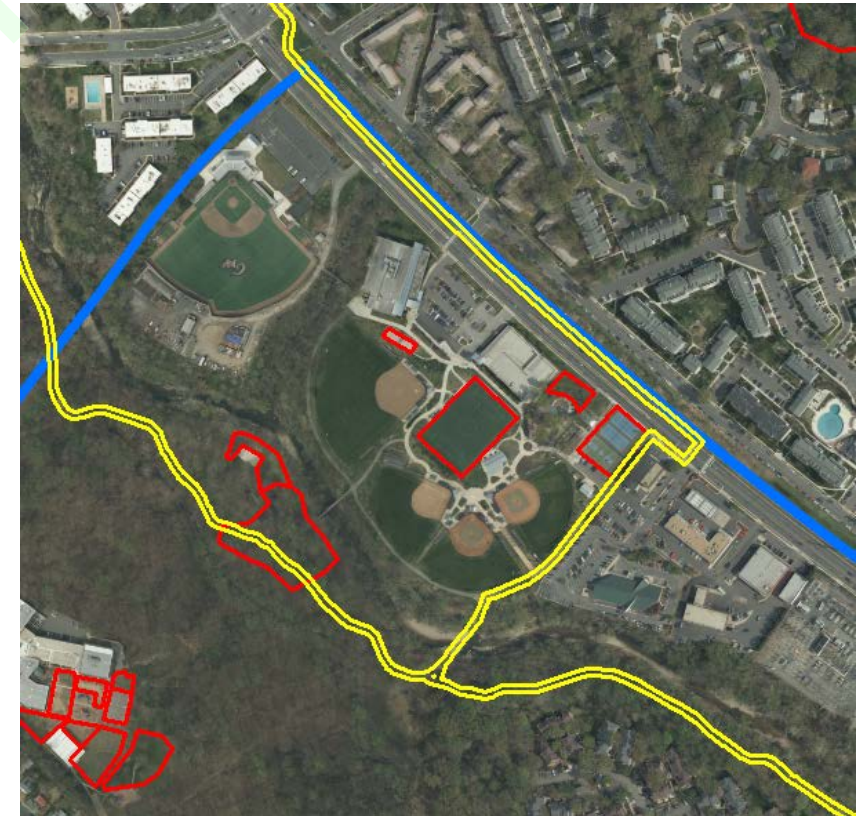
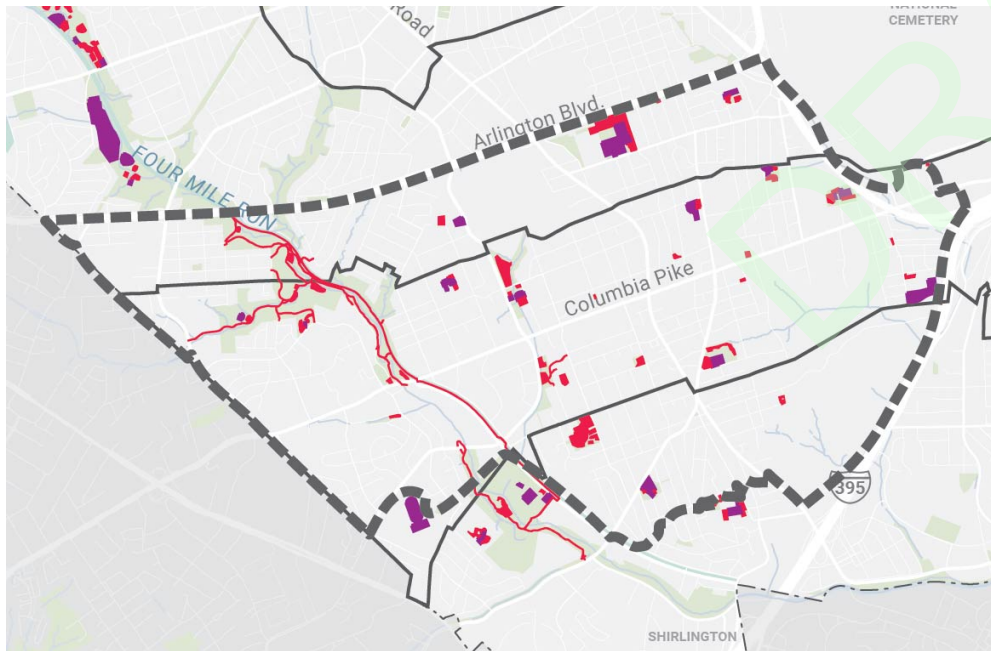
## Casual Use Spaces Do Not Include:

- multi-use, paved courts
- community gardens
- parking lots
- spraygrounds
- batting cages, dugouts
- indoor or outdoor pools
- permit only fields
- skateparks
- playgrounds
- disc golf
- outdoor tracks

# 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 characteristics

### 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



# OTHER PLAN ELEMENTS

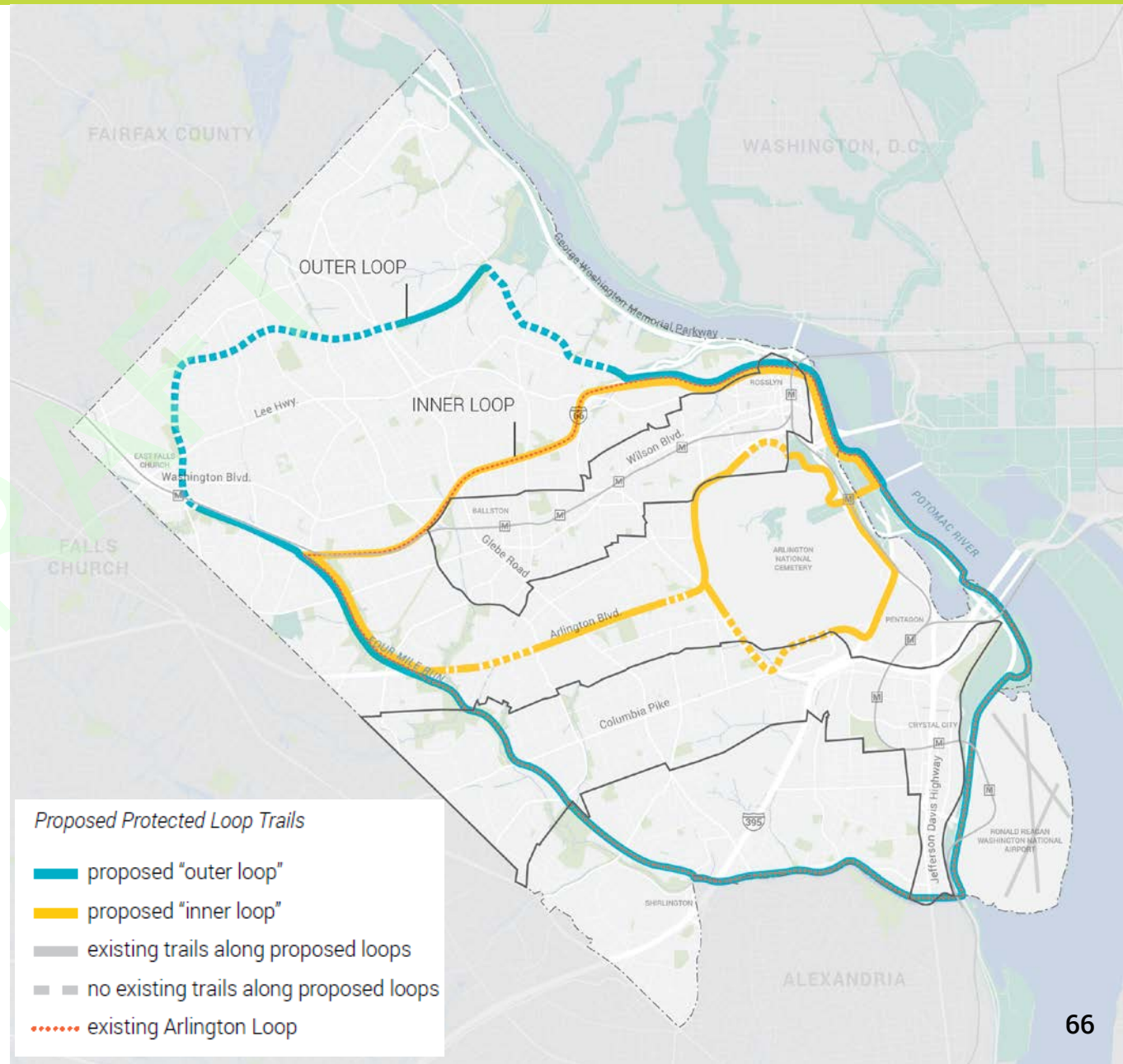
# FRESH APPROACH- TRAIL LOOPS

## Preliminary POPS Draft:

### 2.1. Expand Arlington's network of connected multi-use trails.

2.1.1. Complete an "inner loop" of protected routes that connects the Custis, Four Mile Run, Arlington Boulevard, and Mount Vernon Trails.

2.1.2. Complete an "outer loop" of protected routes that connects the Four Mile Run, Mount Vernon, and Zachary Taylor Trails.



# FRESH APPROACH- DEFINITIONS



## APPENDIX G

# Definitions

under development

**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.

**green space** — A publicly accessible area with natural vegetation, such as grass, plants, or trees that may include built environment features, such as urban parks, as well as less managed areas, including woodland and nature reserves.

**green street** — A tree-lined street that is designed to serve as an extension of the public space system. Offers pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers a more attractive travel experience, provides shade in the heat, blocks wind in the cold, and may integrate stormwater management features.

**hiking trail** — An unpaved corridor that tends to be located primarily along streams and stream valleys in Arlington and is used primarily by pedestrians and hikers.

**historic resource** — An area with a defined historical architectural, archaeological, or cultural component. May be a County-owned historic building (community center, school, office), civil-war fort, cemetery, Native American site, structure (such as a bridge or road), or other site determined to have historical value or interest to the community.

# FRESH APPROACH- DOG PARK & RUN STANDARDS

	Dog Parks	Dog Runs
Size	10,000+ ft <sup>2</sup>	2,000-7,500 ft <sup>2</sup>
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.	

# PRIVATELY OWNED PUBLIC SPACES- DEVELOP GUIDELINES ON DESIGN CHARACTERISTICS



# OTHER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

## Preliminary POPS Draft:

1.2.10. Review and study possible modifications to the County's regulations and codes – including zoning and other requirements related to setbacks, lighting, parking, signage, height, and temporary use of public and private property as public space – to allow more flexibility in park planning and respond to high-density contexts.

1.5.2. Revise County regulations to allow the County to issue permits for the sale of alcoholic beverages in programmed public spaces at specified times at permitted special events as well as in high density corridors.

1.1.6. 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.

1.2.5. Construct 2 new multi-use activity centers to provide year-round access to indoor athletic courts and fields.

# NEXT STEPS

# POPS NEXT STEPS (ANTICIPATED)

- 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