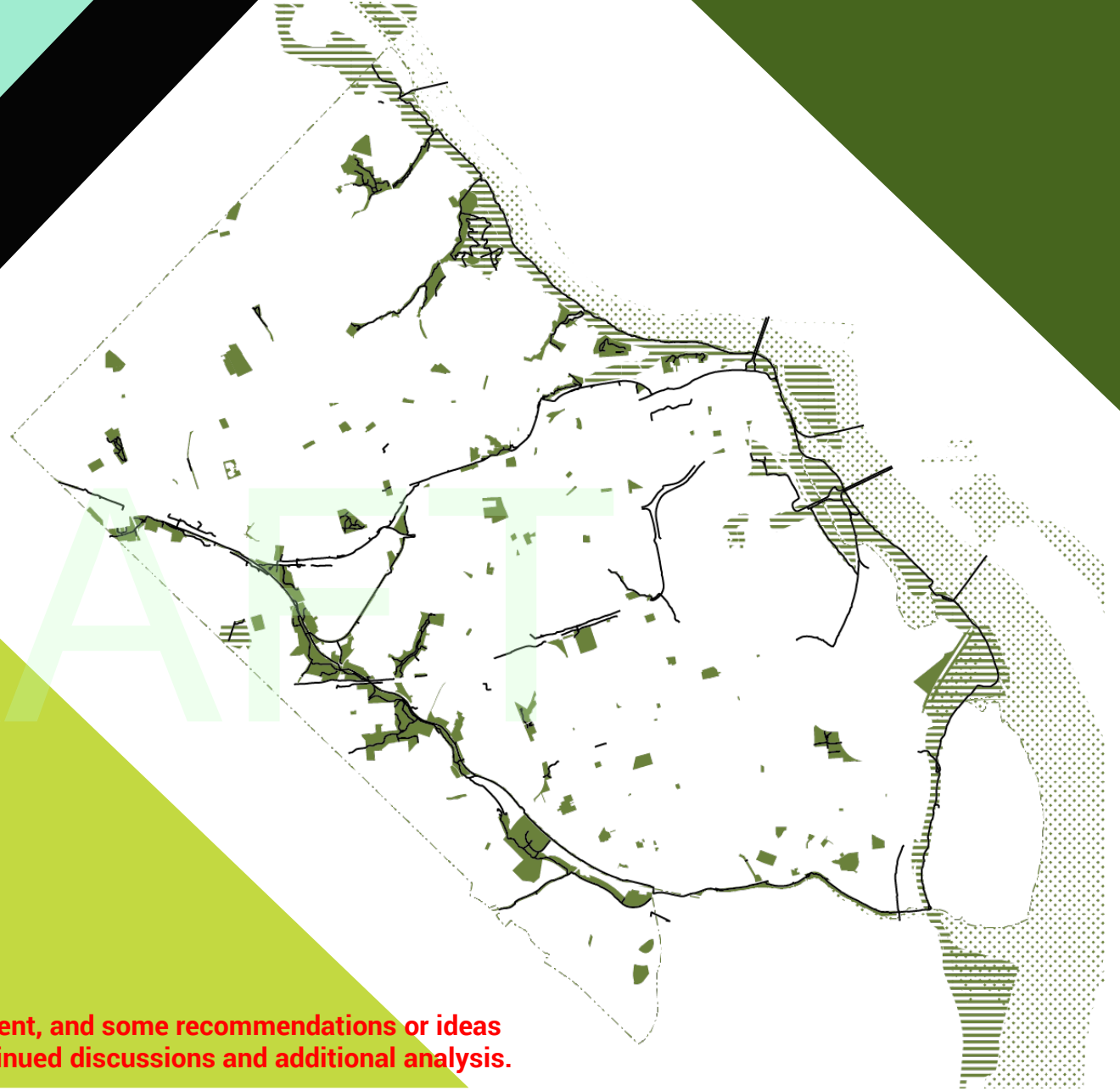


PUBLIC SPACES MASTER PLAN



NOTE: This presentation is a working document, and some recommendations or ideas may have evolved or changed based on continued discussions and additional analysis.

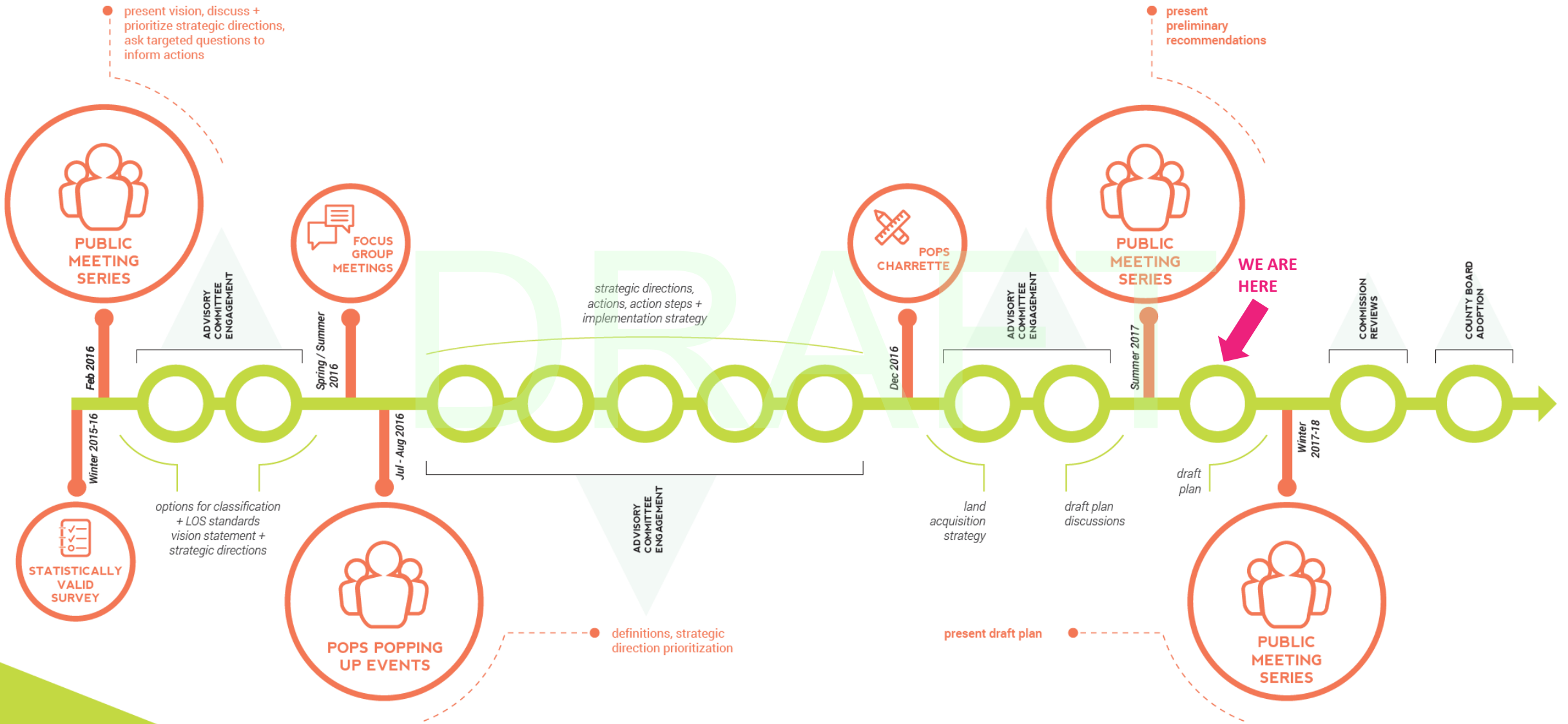
POPS Advisory Committee Meeting
October 05, 2017

AGENDA

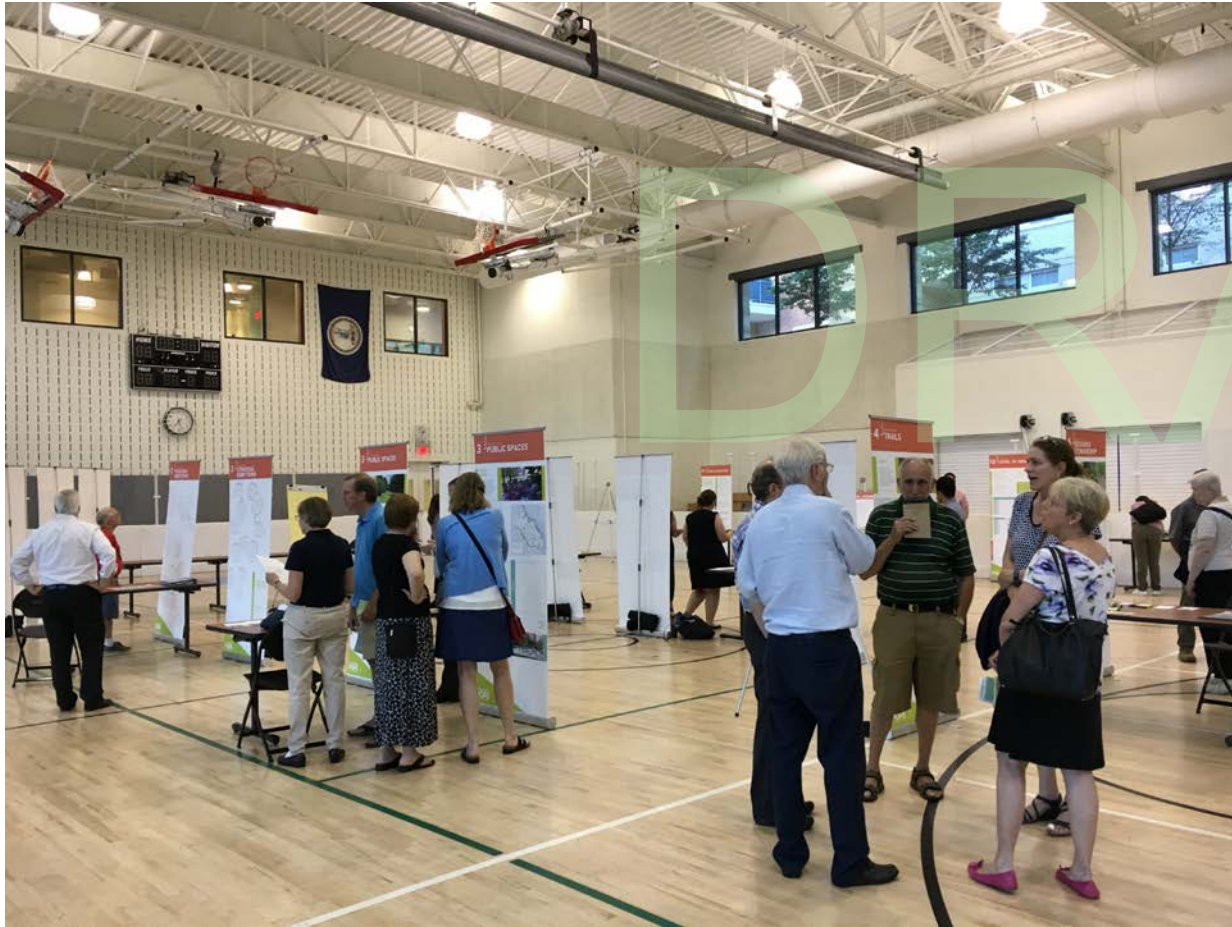


- Introduction & Project Schedule 15 minutes
- Summary of Community Feedback 30 minutes
- Specific Items for Further Discussion 20 minutes
- Next Steps 20 minutes

SCHEDULE



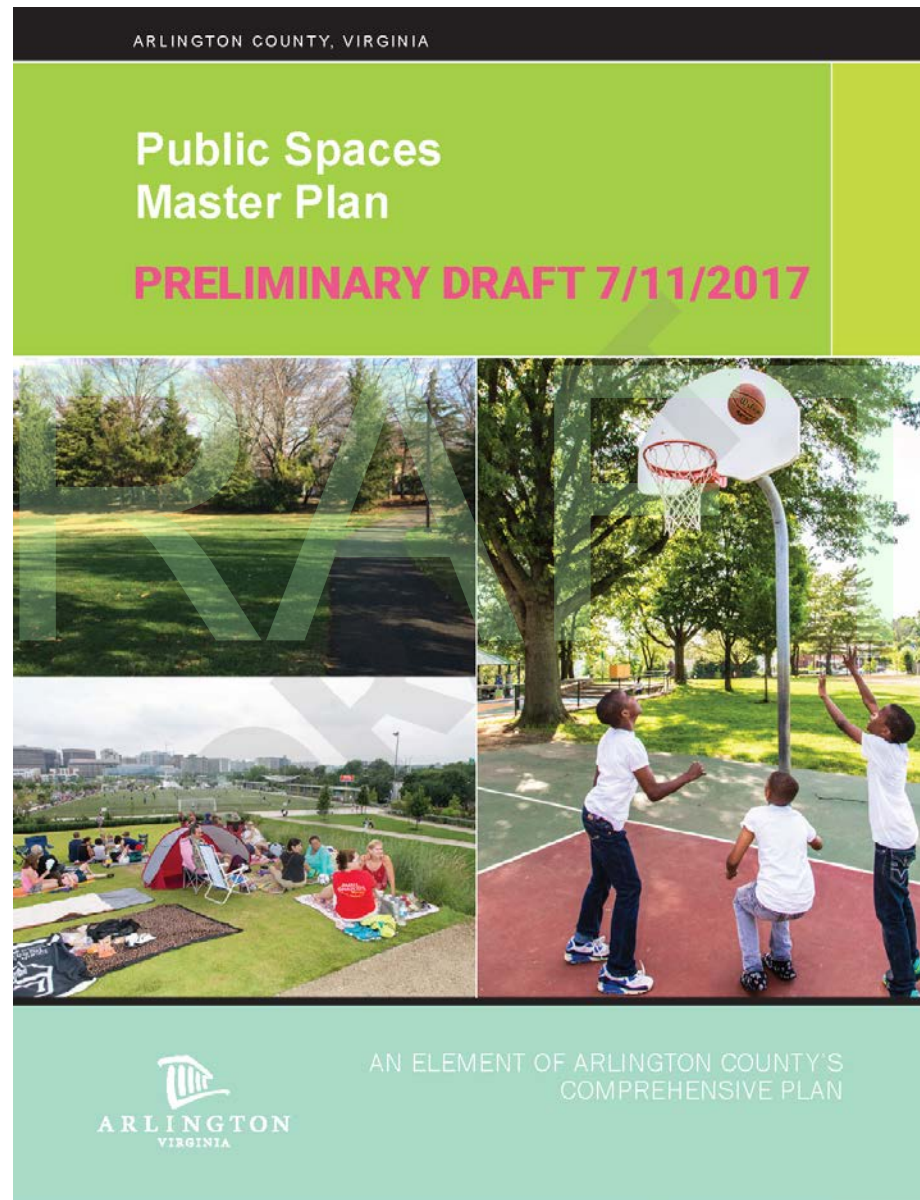
JULY 13-15 PUBLIC MEETINGS



PRELIMINARY DRAFT

- Online feedback gathered July 11 to August 31

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**SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY
FEEDBACK**

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK- SUMMARY

- 398 online comments
- Over 430 comments via email
- Over 290 comments during July public meetings

POPS DRAFT-07-11-17-Comment Matrix-10-04-17-REVISED.xlsx - Excel

Commented On:	Comments:	Commented By	Comment Method	Response
Online Commenting Tool	Sorry to send comments on the master plan to your e-mail, but I can't seem to get the CiviComment Tool to work. Thank your for creating this document. I think it is a great idea to have it, and make it so public. I have three comments, and put in the paragraph numbers where I think they are most appropriate. I hope it is understandable.	Chris Hargett	Email	
Online Commenting Tool	I read through the draft master plan and have a few comments. First, the procedure for comment is cumbersome. Having to set up an account with a password to then page through a 270+ page document on a website to make a comment is almost like you do not want comments. I'll just email.	Michele Ver Ploeg	Email	
Online Commenting Tool	Since last Saturday, I've endeavored to comment on the draft report online. However, I've found the process extremely cumbersome. Consequently, we're instead attaching a document containing my comments. We're attaching it in Word format so that you or whomever easily can cut and paste my comments into other relevant formats or fields.	Michael Grace (PRC)	Email	
Online Commenting Tool	I am knee deep in reviewing/commenting on the draft plan and have to admit that it is rather daunting/time consuming to work through it, try to understand it, and develop cogent comments. It is quite likely as result that my comments may not all be entered this week and may come in next week as well. I hope that those beyond the formal deadline will also be considered.	Rick Epstein	Email	
Online Commenting Tool	Because of problems with inserting comments into the online version, as well as the length, I am sending you my comments directly in a separate document which hopefully will be acceptable. Again, because of the length, as well as the time that this is consuming, I am doing this in sections.	Rick Epstein	Email	
Online Commenting Tool	I have been unable to use the feedback tool for submitting comments on the Preliminary Draft Public Spaces Master Plan.	Bernard H. Berne	Email	
Online Commenting Tool	A truncated version of these comments may already have been received online, but I had so many problems with the platform that I gave up partway.	Natasha Atkins	Email	
Online Commenting Tool	I found that the interactive draft loaded far too slowly to use reasonably, so I am reading it in a PDF and typing my comments here:	Jeff Bunting	Email	

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK- THEMES (GENERAL)

- **Online commenting tool-** transparent, but slow, cumbersome, time intensive
- **Document organization-** introduction is lengthy; the context section should be rearranged; the layout could be simplified; executive summary would be helpful; national trends section could be condensed
- **Park acreage & ownership-** what is counted as parkland? (e.g., G-W Parkway, APS land/buildings)

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK- THEMES (SPECIFIC)

Level of Service (LOS)

- methodology/maps need to be clarified & simplified; impact of trends on LOS
- LOS & Casual Use Spaces
- Sports Commission- increase recommended standards for diamond and rectangular fields

Do these calculations factor in whether a sport is declining or increasing in popularity, or only whether the population will increase? If a sport is declining in popularity faster than the population is increasing, shouldn't there be a declining LOS in the future?

The LOS "heat maps" are confusing and not necessarily intuitive to understand. Same goes for the tables. They are valuable tools but I am concerned that they can be easily misinterpreted. I would recommend a more detailed explanation of how one is created, maybe step by step in an illustrative example.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK- THEMES (SPECIFIC)

Trails

- Overall positive feedback, especially on “inner” & “outer loops”; “learning loop”; improving trail signage & reducing conflict
- Recreational vs. commuter use of trails
- POPS & Bike Element of MTP
- Hiking trails (need vs. impact on natural resources)

As a long time resident of Arlington and avid cyclist, HOORAY for more bike trails and protected lanes and bike-friendly planning!

4 THE DRAFT PLAN TRAILS

TRAILS

IMPROVE THE NETWORK OF TRAILS TO, WITHIN, AND BETWEEN PUBLIC SPACES TO INCREASE ACCESS AND ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY.

(Find it in the draft plan on p. 107-117)

PROPOSED LOOPS

place a dot on each scale below:

HOW LIKELY WOULD YOU BE TO USE THE "OUTER LOOP?"

unlikely likely

HOW LIKELY WOULD YOU BE TO USE THE "INNER LOOP?"

unlikely likely

16mi OF TRAILS

where users can travel off-street continuously on the Arlington Loop

PRIORITY ACTION

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

Arlington has an extensive trail system that connects many of its public spaces. A trail network that is easily accessible and creates connections among different public spaces can result in a more widely used system of public spaces. Cyclists have more opportunities to stop and use public space amenities, and public space users have protected routes that allow them to discover what amenities are available in other public spaces across the County. Protected routes increase safety and encourage more novice users to participate. Many of the strategies listed below tie into recommendations in the Master Transportation Plan.

GIVE US YOUR INPUT

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK- THEMES (SPECIFIC)

Casual Use Space

- Overall positive feedback on the recognition of this type of open space; LOS; definition (fields, school ground, natural resources, paved areas, etc.)

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Only include spaces that have minimal man made elements.

Make a better use of rooftops, they can be casual use spaces too.

Provide amenities (e.g. movable seating) that promote socializing;

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK- THEMES (SPECIFIC)

Synthetic Conversion/Lights

- Support & disagreement; impact of lights on surrounding residential properties; separate synthetic turf from lighting; synthetic turf & health impact
- Suggestions: create criteria for field conversion; develop a list of priority candidates for conversion; develop clear lighting standards; better explain the relation between LOS and proposed conversions

Why not address "need" by converting existing lighted turf fields to synthetic?

Making recreation areas more accessible is our responsibility. Increase turf fields and lighting.

Consideration must be given to character of neighborhood- whether lighted + urban or dark and quiet & impacts on neighbors' quality of life.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK- THEMES (SPECIFIC)

Dog Parks & Dog Runs

- Increase maximum size for dog runs to 10,000 SqFt (currently- 7,500 SqFt); optimal size for dog parks should be 30,000 SqFt; use more natural materials (e.g., grass, dirt); existing dog parks & RPA

Reevaluate current zoning to allow Dog Runs to be provided on private land with public easements.

There is no mention if these standards are for new dog parks only or that existing dog parks would be grandfathered to the existing standards when they originated.

I have observed that natural turf and sod is the best surface for dog parks.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK- THEMES (SPECIFIC)

Natural Resources

- more detailed actions are needed; preservation and expansion of natural resources should be priority; support for NRMP & UFMP updates; impact of development on natural resources should be minimized

Trees

- loss of tree canopy; impact of private development; removal of mature trees

Though the PSMP talks a lot about the value of trees, it provides NO MEANINGFUL PROTECTIONS for Arlington's remaining tree canopy

We appreciate the plan's recognition that the community prioritizes the preservation of natural areas and the tree canopy of the county and commend the inclusion of specific actions calling for expansion of natural areas in high density corridors and promoting the planting, preservation and maintenance of canopy trees. (UFC)

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK- THEMES (SPECIFIC)

Land Acquisition

- General support for additional 30 acres over 10 years; future acquisitions should include balance between recreational & natural resources/casual use spaces; disagreements about privately owned public spaces; ensure appropriate funding

Is there a plan for acquiring funds to purchase additional acreage?

Strongly agree with adding at least 30 acres of new public space. Even distribution throughout County should be priority, not economic development.

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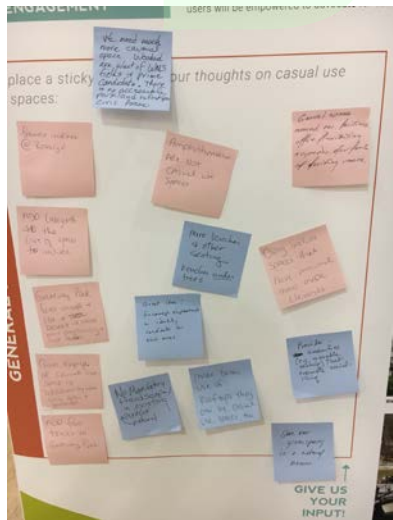
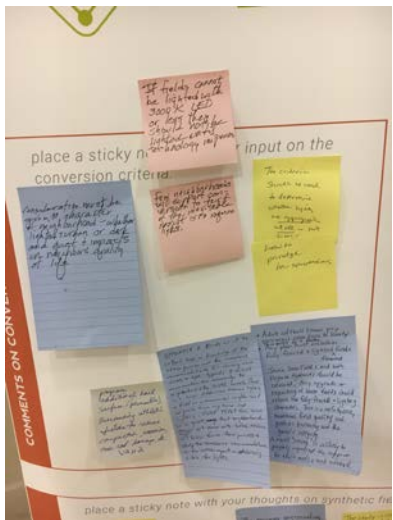
**SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR
FURTHER DISCUSSION**

SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION



- Based on the feedback received, there are several areas that need further discussions:
 - Casual Use Space
 - Natural Resources/Trees
 - Level of Service
 - Synthetic Turf Conversion & Lighting
 - Land Acquisition

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SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Casual Use Space

- What to include in this document vs. what will be done as an implementation step (post-adoption)?
 - **Definition-** Inclusion of fields, school grounds, natural resources, paved areas?
 - **Principles for Design**
 - **LOS & Mapping-** Implementation Step
- Additional public engagements in November/December

SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Casual Use Space- Principles for Design

Casual use spaces shall be:

OPEN

- unobstructed or minimally obstructed (e.g., minimal fencing)
- usable and occupiable
- available to the public, at least at specified times
- visible from surrounding areas

GREEN

- host to substantial natural features, trees, vegetation, and/or grass

FLEXIBLE

- flexibly designed to enable multiple types of casual use
- equipped with features that encourage use (e.g., benches, picnic tables, and walking paths)

DELIBERATE

- intentionally designed, rather than leftover, spaces
- marked by visible signage

SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Natural Resources/Trees

- Review/clarifications/strengthening of specific draft recommendations
- Establish timeline for UFMP & NRMP updates
- Additional public engagements in November/December

SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Level of Service

- How did we get to the recommended standards?
- Needs assessment will be updated every 5 years
- Additional public engagements in November/December

Amenity

Level of Service

	Unit	Current	Peer Med.	Typical	Survey Pri.	Recm. Std.
Diamond Fields (includes ½ combination fields)	each ^{1/}	5,153 ^{1/}	4,107 ^{1/}	6,000 ^{1/}	Low ^{1/}	6,000 ^{1/}
Tennis Courts (includes half courts)	each ^{1/}	2,408 ^{1/}	3,768 ^{1/}	4,000 ^{1/}	Medium ^{1/}	3,000 ^{1/}
Picnic Areas	each ^{1/}	4,924 ^{1/}	N/A ^{1/}	6,000 ^{1/}	Medium ^{1/}	5,000 ^{1/}
Rectangular Fields (includes ½ combination fields)	each ^{1/}	4,180 ^{1/}	3,643 ^{1/}	6,000 ^{1/}	Medium ^{1/}	4,200 ^{1/}
Volleyball Courts	each ^{1/}	22,156 ^{1/}	N/A ^{1/}	12,000 ^{1/}	Low ^{1/}	20,000 ^{1/}

SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Synthetic Turf & Lighting

- Criteria for Conversion
- Evaluation of all fields through criteria
- Additional public engagements in November/December

SPECIFIC ITEMS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Land Acquisition

- Review/revisions to criteria & scores
- Additional Public engagements in November/December

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POPS NEXT STEPS (ANTICIPATED)

- **October 30 (meeting starts at 7:00pm)**
 - Additional POPS Advisory Committee meeting (topics for upcoming public meetings)
- **November/December (Ideas?)**
 - Additional Public Engagements: natural resources (trees) + casual use spaces; LOS & synthetic turf/lighting; land acquisition
- **December**
 - Additional POPS Committee meetings (Placeholder)
- **January 2018**
 - County Board Work Session
- **February**
 - LRPC
- **February**
 - Final POPS draft posted online

POPS NEXT STEPS (ANTICIPATED)

- **February/March 2018**
 - 3rd Series of Public Meetings
- **April-June 2018**
 - **Commission Reviews**
 - Urban Forestry Commission
 - Environment and Energy Conservation Commission (E2C2)
 - Sports Commission
 - Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC)
 - Arlington Commission for the Arts
 - Natural Resources Joint Advisory Group
 - Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 - Bicycle Advisory Committee
 - Transportation Commission
 - Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board (HALRB)
 - Arlington County Civic Federation
 - Economic Development Commission
 - Disability Advisory Commission
 - Park and Recreation Commission
 - Planning Commission
- **July 2018**
 - CB Review/Approval

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Q & A