

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 6, 2012

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: RASHAD M. YOUNG, CITY MANAGER 

FROM: JAMES B. SPENGLER, DIRECTOR 
RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: PROGRESS UPDATE ON JONES POINT PARK, WITTER ATHLETIC COMPLEX, POTOMAC YARD PARK AND POTOMAC YARD / SIMPSON PARK ATHLETIC FIELDS

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a progress update on construction related activities for Jones Point Park, Witter Athletic Complex and Potomac Yard Park and the Potomac Yard / Simpson Athletic Fields. This information is provided in response to an inquiry by Councilman Frank Fannon on January 4, 2012. Additional information for these projects may be found at <http://alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=18078>.

1. Jones Point Park
Construction of Jones Point Park commenced in November 2010. The project is approximately 65 percent complete and the contract completion date remains as mid-June 2012. Upon completion of the project, all park facilities will remain under management, scheduling and maintenance jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Interior-National Park Service.

To ensure that construction activities continue with little disruption, and to provide a forum for open dialogue with the surrounding community, the Virginia Department of Transportation, with participation of the National Park Service and City of Alexandria, has created a Community Liaison Information Group on Jones Point Park Construction. The group is comprised of a representative from resident groups that may be most impacted by ongoing work at Jones Point Park. The Community Liaison Information Group meets quarterly to discuss the project and to allow for members to ask questions and to be briefed on ongoing work. The next meeting of the group is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17, 2012, 7:00 PM at Alexandria's Lee Center.

2. Witter Athletic Complex
Construction of the Witter Athletic complex commenced in March 2011. The project is approximately 40 percent complete. Project delivery is anticipated in Spring 2012 for the two rectangular fields and Fall 2012 for the softball field and site plantings. The project is being constructed by a City contractor with oversight provided by the City. Upon completion, the project will be managed, scheduled and maintained by the City.

3. Potomac Yard Park/Landbay K.
Construction of the approximately 24 acre Potomac Yard Park/Landbay K began in June 2011 and is anticipated to be complete in Spring 2013. The project is approximately 25 percent complete and is being constructed by Potomac Yard Development, LLC as a part of the Potomac Yard development, with in-progress review provided by the City. Upon completion and acceptance by the City, the facility will be managed and maintained by the City.

4. Potomac Yard / Simpson Park Athletic Fields
Two replacement multi-purpose athletic fields were constructed west of US Route 1 and adjacent to Simpson Park in 2010 and 2011. Construction of the fields was completed late 2011, and it is anticipated that the fields will be open for scheduled play in the Spring 2012. The fields were constructed by Potomac Yard Development, LLC as part of the Potomac Yard development and as approved with the Potomac Yard Park / Landbay K plan. Upon completion and final acceptance by the City, the facility will be managed and maintained by the City.

As part of the project, Potomac Yard Development, LLC will demolish the existing restroom and maintenance building in Simpson Park and replace it with a new modern facility on the same footprint. Demolition of the building is anticipated in January 2012 with subsequent completion in the summer, 2012. The existing dog park in Simpson Park adjacent to the existing building will be closed briefly during the demolition work, but is anticipated to remain open during the remainder of scheduled construction.

cc: City Manager Senior Staff