Mount Jefferson Park Plan
Park and Recreation Commission Public Hearing

May 21, 2015
EXISTING DOG EXERCISE AREA
- Drainage, access and safety concerns due to proximity to Raymond Ave

ADJACENT BUILDINGS DIRECTLY FACE PARK

EXISTING CHAIN LINK FENCE AT STEWART AVE

EXISTING BUILDING AND PARKING LOT ENCROACH INTO PARK

MT. JEFFERSON PARK BOUNDARY

AREA OF BUILDING/ROAD ENCROACHMENT INTO PARK

EXISTING TRAIL (approximate alignment)
2013 Parks and Recreation
Citywide Needs Assessment

Greatest Identified Need by Household
* Walking Trails (81%)
* Natural Areas and Wildlife Habitat (67%)
* Biking Trails (53%)

Most Important Need for Action by Household
* Improve Existing Trails that Connect Parks (94%)
* Improve Existing Neighborhood Parks (91%)
* Develop New Trails that Connect to Parks (85%)
Advisory Group and Community Meetings (June to October 2014):

* Retain “naturalistic” character of the park
* Consider widening the park and/or providing a buffer along the Oakville boarder
* Improve safety of the park, create “eyes on the park”
* Address drainage problems and concerns with dog exercise area
* Provide connection between Del Ray and Oakville Triangle through the park

* The City’s website includes information regarding each of the Advisory Group meetings, often with discussion of Mount Jefferson Park: http://www.alexandriava.gov/planning/info/default.aspx?id=83465
* Preserve character of park – more park trail, less commuter focus
* Separate dog area from trail
* Provide dog exercise area in new development instead
* Improve drainage and provide mosquito abatement
* Reroute trail so it doesn’t look into houses
* Incorporate history of the site into plan for the park
November 18 Public Meeting Top Priorities

Park Character
• Retain/enhance natural area for wildlife
• Keep the topography, berm and trail
• Retain walking path, but provide buffers and mitigation for neighbors on East Randolph
• Move the path from the top of the berm to the east side of the park at grade with Route 1
• Promote quiet activities (e.g. “no cell phone use” and “quiet please” signs)
• Minimize noise from Route 1
Dogs in the Park

- Move the off-leash dog area away from Raymond Ave.
- Remove the off-leash dog area from the park
- Create a time restricted off-leash dog zone throughout the entire park (6-9am and 4-7pm only)
- Better enforcement of rules
- Develop separate trail for people so they are away from the off-leash dogs
- Minimize noise from dogs
- No fenced dog area
Park Access

- Limit access to Raymond and Route 1 to maintain linear trail
- Put access at Calvert, not Stewart to minimize splitting up the park
- Enhance the path and access from Raymond to the new Oakville Triangle shops and cafes
- Formalize entrances to Oakville Triangle site
March 12, 2015 Public Meeting Feedback

* More enclosure vs. less enclosure (conflicting viewpoints)
* Like the additional plantings and berms – creates fewer “desire paths” and limits entry points
* Extend dog area and address stormwater
* Consider future redevelopment of sites to the north and adjust trail
* Make trail more accessible to strollers and kids on bikes
* The Oakville Triangle open space(s) should relate to Mount Jefferson Park
* Encourage the developer to move the Park Road to the inside of the townhomes
* Keep fence along Route 1 for children’s safety
Majority of respondents

* Agreed that the “draft plan reflects and balances the community needs and comments received to date”
* Preferred the dog area options that included fencing along the trail and a retaining wall
* Preferred a secondary trail connecting to Calvert and offering additional plantings
Survey on Draft Park Plan
What We Heard

* Connections between Oakville Triangle and existing Del Ray neighborhoods is extremely important
* End only access should be seriously reconsidered
* Accommodate bicycles and wheelchairs on trail
* Stormwater improvement should be the highest priority
* Keep the park as natural and continuous as possible
Proposed Mount Jefferson Park Plan

Goal: Maintain and Enhance the Existing Park Character

General Park Improvements:
1. Improve Dog Exercise Area
2. Trail Improvements
3. Trail Connection
4. Improve Signage and Wayfinding
5. Enhance Buffer
6. Phased Removal of Invasive Species
7. Improve Stormwater Management and Drainage
8. Enhance Raymond Ave. and Route 1 Entrances
Mount Jefferson Park Sections

- North Section: Raymond Avenue to Stewart Trail Connection
- Central Section 1: Swann/Stewart Crossing
- Central Section 2: Fannon Spur Trail
- South Section: Trail to Route 1
Mount Jefferson Park
North Section
Mount Jefferson Park
Central Section 1
CENTRAL SECTION "1" - Swann/Stewart Crossing

Central Primary Elements/Improvements
- Park Road Frontage
  - Landscape berms with a mixture of flowering/understory trees and shrubs. Approximate height 3' with variable width, 6-8 berms total.
  - Street trees along the entire frontage of Park Road (to be located within park boundary)

Central Primary Elements/Improvements
- Swann Avenue/Stewart Avenue Crossing
  - Park entrance signage
  - Directional signage within park
  - Reseeding of park open areas
  - Addition of flowering/understory tree and shrubs along western edge of park for additionalbuffering of residences
  - Removal of invasive species and additional pruning of trees to remain
  - Undergrounding likely required to address standing water at crossing (tie-off direction to the north)
  - Additional soil and berming

Central Primary Elements/Improvements
- Multi-Use Trail
  - 6' wide trail (surfaced to be pervious material such as permeable paver household, Total length: 2,668 ft. +/-
  - Regrading required for slope transitions along trail
Mount Jefferson Park
Central Section 2
Central Primary Elements/Improvements

Park Road Frontage
- Landscape berm with a mixture of flowering/understory trees and shrubs. Approximately 3’ with variable lengths/widths, 3-8 berm total.
- Street trees along the entire frontage of Park Road (to be located within park boundary).

Central Primary Elements/Improvements

Multi-Use Trail
- 6’ Multi-Use Trail (surface to be pervious materials such as Filtercrete or equivalent. Total length 2,600’ x 6’.
- Ramping required for slope/transition along trail.

Central Primary Elements/Improvements

Multi-Use Trail
- Potential future rail alignment.

* NOTE: POTENTIAL FUTURE MULTI-USE TRAIL IS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED A PART OF THE IMPROVEMENTS DEPICTED IN THIS PLAN. THIS ALIGNMENT IS SHOWN FOR REFERENCE ONLY.

Central Section "2" - Fannon Spur Trail
Mount Jefferson Park
South Section
Potential Future Multi-Use Trail

South Primary Elements/Improvements

- Wetland / Concrete Swale Area
  - Existing concrete swale area to have invasive species and debris removed. The concrete channel will be addressed with the final engineering plan for stormwater drainage.

South Primary Elements/Improvements

- Rt. 1 Entrance
  - Park Entrance Signage
  - Directional signage within park
  - Screening of park open areas
  - Addition of flowering/ornamental trees and shrubs along western edge of park
  - Removal of invasive species required and additional pruning of trees to remain
  - Additional fencing at entrance (60 ft. +/-)
  - Existing net to be repaired

Multi-Use Trail

- 8' Multi-use trail (surface to be various material such as Restauro or sand)
  - Total length: 2,055 ft.
  - Note: The section of trail immediately approaching the Rt. 1 entrance will not be accessible per ADA regulation

*NOTE: POTENTIAL FUTURE MULTI-USE TRAIL IS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED A PART OF THE IMPROVEMENTS DEPICTED IN THIS PLAN, THIS ALIGNMENT IS SHOWN FOR REFERENCE ONLY.*

SOUTH SECTION
Next Steps

Pending endorsement by the Park and Recreation Commission:

* Develop engineered stormwater/drainage and grading plan
* Further develop plans for Oakville Triangle on site open space
* Incorporate any interpretive elements based on Mount Jefferson Park’s history and character
* Submit site plan for approval