City of Alexandria, Virginia

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Public Hearing & Regular Meeting
Thursday, June 15, 2017
7 p.m.

Charles Houston Community Center
901 Wythe Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

AGENDA

I. Call to Order: Jennifer Atkins, Chair

II. Public Hearing
   a. Cameron Run Park Planning Process

III. Presentations:
   a. FY 2018 Community Matching Fund Follow-up
      i. Project Endorsement – Item for Action

IV. Public Comments – non-agenda items

V. Items for Action:
   a. Approval of Minutes: May 18, 2017
   b. Election of Officers

VI. Project Updates/Information
   a. Park Projects
      i. Warwick Pool
      ii. Patrick Henry K-8 School & Recreation Center

VII. Director’s Report

VIII. Division Updates: Recreation Services; Park Operations; Park Planning, CIP & Marina

IX. Commission Reports (verbal reports by District)

X. Adjournment

XI. Next Meeting: July 20, 2017
DATE: JUNE 15, 2017

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: WILLIAM CHESLEY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES REPORT - ITEM VIII

Program Wrap-Ups

- In honor of Community Service Month (April), OSTP participants at John Adams Power-On After School Program were challenged to complete eight good deeds by May 1. The first 3 people in each age group to complete the challenge were awarded a special prize. Over 90 children took part in the program and received a certificate of participation.

- On May 11, Patrick Henry Recreation Center held its first Mother & Son Dance. Fifty mother-son duos enjoyed an evening of games, prizes, light refreshments and dancing!

- On May 12, Charles Houston Recreation Center held its annual Mother’s Day Jazz Concert. Over 200 friends and family enjoyed an evening of jazz music performed by students of George Washington Middle School and T. C. Williams High School. Music ranged from Herbie Hancock to Big Band Swing and Southern-style Jazz classics. Children enrolled in OSTP honored their mothers in the audience by reciting personal tribute poems.

- On May 13, Cora Kelly Recreation Center hosted its annual Mother and Daughter Tea for a day of appreciation and empowerment for mothers and daughters in the community.
60 attendees enjoyed a tea menu, dancers, singing, a fashion show with the latest hats, hair and make-up tutorials and craft activities.

- On May 13, Recreation Services partnered with TRP Foundation for **Stop the Violence Community Day**. The TRP Foundation is named after Alexandria native and WNBA player, Tierra Ruffin-Pratt. Over 400 people enjoyed food vendors, live musical performances, arts & crafts, face painting and meeting players of the Washington Mystics basketball team.

- On May 18, Recreation Services partnered with Alexandria 4-H Extension for **Rev Your Bev Day** to educate children and adults about how high levels of sugar found in popular beverages, effects your health. Demonstrations were held at all neighborhood recreation centers and participants were given tips to make healthier choices.

- On May 19, Cora Kelly Recreation Center’s **Seniors Lunch Cruise** on the Potomac River entertained 30 seniors with a full day on the Spirit of Washington cruise ship. The event included a historical tour of Washington landmarks, music and a buffet lunch. The rooftop lounge provided a great view of various attractions and the opportunity to snap photos to remember the experience.

- The **Annual Track & Field Meet** took place on May 20, at T.C. Williams High School. The meet enabled over 150 boys and girls to compete in up to three track and/or field events to showcase their speed and talent in many running and field events. The T.C. Williams High School track team volunteered as timers and assisted with the field events. Fifty-eight
participants will advance to the Regional Track and Field Meet on June 17 at Gaithersburg High School.

- On May 20, Cora Kelly Recreation Center partnered with Eudora Ballet Company to present the annual **After School Dance Recital**. Over 60 attendees enjoyed dance performances given by the Cora Kelly Out of School Time weekly ballet program. Throughout the year, the 15 beginner and intermediate level students are challenged creatively, artistically, and physically.

- The **Summer Movie Series** kicked off on May 26, at the Conservatory Center at Four Mile Run Park. Over 350 people were in attendance to view the movie *Sing*. Movies are scheduled for the last Friday of the month, and are preceded by an hour of family games and activities. Families also receive free bottled water, popcorn and snow cones. The next movie night is June 30, and the movie is *LEGO Batman*.

- There have been 3 recent **Family Splash Nights** hosted at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatics Facility. Lyles Crouch Elementary School was highlighted on May 5 with 140 attendees. Polk Elementary School was highlighted on May 19 with 180 attendees. The Howard University swim team was in attendance, and engaged all participants in their swim activities. Cora Kelly Elementary School was highlighted on June 2 with 90 attendees. Participants enjoyed swimming, basketball relays, a floating obstacle course, a racquetball clinic, pool safety tips and swimming assessments for youth. The Chinquapin Advisory Council provides support for the events, including refreshments, help with check-in and decorations. The 3 events totaled $1,640 in revenue.

- After winning 1st place in the U.S. Finals Cheerleading Competition on May 7, the Cora Kelly Recreation Center Cheerleaders were recently notified that they scored higher than other teams competing in the U.S. finals at various locations. They have now earned the title of **Grand National Champions**! An awards ceremony and distribution of championship rings are scheduled for this month.

- On May 30, at the 62nd Annual Alexandria Sportsman’s Club Banquet, William Ramsay Elementary School student Kenaz Sullivan was recognized as the **Alexandria Recreation Department Student-Athlete of the Year**. Kenaz is 8 years old and has participated in RPCA flag football, tackle football, soccer, basketball and track and field over the past 3 years.
Program Updates

Out of School Time FY14 through FY17 Summer/School Year Participant and Revenue Comparison

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<th>FY-16 Actuals School Year 15-16</th>
<th>FY-15 Actuals School Year 14-15</th>
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*Fees paid in installments.

Upcoming Programs & Events

- On June 17, Cora Kelly Recreation Center will host its annual Community Fun Day. This free event includes carnival games, live music, dance performances, food vendors, face painting and more!

- On June 17, Recreation Services will co-present the DMV CommUNITY Soccer Tournament at George Washington Middle School. Youth ages 11-14 from across the DMV will compete in this tournament. The event is led by the Alexandria Gang Task Force, and supported by many other agencies within the metropolitan area.

- On June 17, the Regional Track & Field Meet will take place at Gaithersburg High School. Fifty-eight members of Alexandria’s track and field team will be participating.

- On June 17, Girls Softball Championship games will take place at Witter Field.

- On June 24, RPCA will partner with ARHA and ACPS to host its annual Youth Arts Festival at Mount Vernon Recreation Center. The festival is filled with visual art pieces along with live performances from ACPS students. The event is presented by RPCA, ARHA and ACPS.

- Beginning June 24, William Ramsay Recreation Center will partner with Ms. Yasmeen Neal to facilitate a Youth Robotics Program. This free, 4-week program will teach
City of Alexandria, Virginia

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 13, 2017

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: DINESH TIWARI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR - PARK OPERATIONS, RPCA

THROUGH: JAMES SPENGLER, DIRECTOR, RPCA

SUBJECT: PARK OPERATIONS MONTHLY UPDATE-VIII

1. PARK AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

   a. Park Maintenance
      • Park Maintenance staff continued trail maintenance by cutting brush 3ft from paths, and elevating limbs 10ft from the ground. Staff vacuumed all soft trails, made repairs to park entrance signs and bridges along the trails.
      • The Community Praise Church volunteered to spread three loads of wood chips donated by save-a-tree around the Bicentennial Tree in Holmes Run Park and the surrounding trails.

   b. Park Facilities Maintenance
      • Staff continued irrigation and drinking fountain start up and repairs for the spring season.
      • Staff began time clock management for lights at courts and fields throughout the City parks.
      • Staff continued to respond to emergency repair calls during and after hours.
      • Staff is working to complete the Recreation Center Security Enhancement Project, a funded FY17 Capital Improvement Project (CIP). The project comprised three phases: Phase One: Install new public address system at recreation centers adjacent to schools, providing real-time communication and coordination during school emergency evacuations or lock downs. Work is completed and fully operational. Phase Two: Create evacuation and life safety
plans for each recreation center and the Torpedo Factory. Plans are completed. Preparations are underway to mount framed 8.5” x 11” copies of the plans on all recreation centers’ egress and assembly areas wall in compliance with City code. Phase Three: Install metal protective plates (jimmy-guards) at recreation centers’ selected exterior doors providing additional safeguard against unauthorized entries. Project is currently underway for completion prior to upcoming Fiscal Year.

c. Waterfront Parks
- Staff completed installation of over 3000 Vinca flowers in Montgomery, Oronoco, Founders and Washington Way Parks. After the installation, Waterfront staff hosted a volunteer event with employees from the City’s Department of Human Services who assisted with mulching trees and beds.
- With record rainfall of over 4 inches, staff was also busy with driftwood and sea debris clean-ups.
- In May, City Council approved the submission of a grant application to fund the Adopt-a-Park Program for FY 2018. The grant application was submitted to the State agency and notice of a grant award is expected in the late summer or early fall time period.

2. URBAN FORESTRY & HORTICULTURE

a. Urban Forestry
- The 2017 Spring Tree Planting program is wrapping up with an expected final count of 506 trees planted. The tally for FY 2017 is 865 trees planted.
- The number of trees removed in FY 2017 is expected to rise by about 18% over the FY 2016 total of 590 trees to an expected 700 trees. The reason for this increase can be attributed to two factors: First, the identification of dead and hazardous trees through the Street Tree inventory. As each phase of the five year inventory is completed work orders are generated to remove dead and hazardous trees following a final inspection by an arborist from the Urban Forestry section. Dead and hazardous trees that may have gone unnoticed or not reported are being captured during the inventory process. The second factor is the increasing number of ash trees that are being lost as a result of the infestation of emerald ash borer. Ash trees throughout the City are showing signs of infestation. Unfortunately treatment in ineffective once the first signs of tree decline appear.
• Emerald Ash Borer treatments will be completed on a limited number of prominent ash trees in the City that are not showing signs of infestation. Approximately twenty trees will be selected for treatment with TREE-age (Emamectin benzoate) administered by trunk injection. The injections are applied at a two year rate. Injected trees are tagged and will be monitored for signs of decline.

b. Horticulture
• Staff is working with the Chinquapin Community Gardens Advisory Board to finalize a PARKnership agreement for the gardeners to enhance their maintenance support for the gardens. Staff met with other community groups on other potential PARKnership projects around the city. Staff completed work with the Alexandria Beautification Commission for the Market Square planter project to promote sustainable landscapes in the city.
• Staff worked with Park Planning Division to design a planting scheme for new sustainable landscaped beds at Four Mile Run Park and to begin the process to add a shed structure to Chinquapin Organic Gardens.

3. NATURAL LANDS MANAGEMENT

a. Invasive Plant Management and Ecological Restoration
• Staff removed thousands of Garlic Mustard, Oriental Bittersweet, Japanese Stiltgrass, and Long-bristled Smartweed plants from Dora Kelley Nature Park, Chinquapin Park, Forest Park, Holmes Run Scenic Easement, and Rynex Natural Area, as well as picked up litter and debris from the Telegraph and Duke Meadow Complex.
• Staff planted 4 Winged Sumac shrubs in the hedge along S. Lee Street at Windmill Hill Park.
• Staff installed 1 custom “Native Plant Conservation Zone” sign at the south entrance to Monticello Park.

b. Cooperative Initiatives
• On May 11, 2017, staff gave a presentation on the City’s Natural Lands Management Program to the Alexandria Beautification Commission.
• On May 22, 2017, staff supervised and helped coordinate Jonathan Joia’s Eagle Scout Project at Monticello Park. The project entailed replacing the informational kiosk at the main park entrance; removing an old, outmoded metal sign from the south entrance to the park; and planting 57 site-appropriate native wildflowers at the south entrance.
• On May 30, 2017, City Natural Resource Manager presented “Maryland’s Native Fabaceae (Legume Family) and Their Habitats” to the Maryland Native Plant Society. 65-70 were in attendance.

• Staff delineated the area of the impoundment wetland at Dora Kelley Nature Park to be hand-dredged later this summer.

• Staff participated in the first-ever Arlington County “bioblitz”. See Citizen Scientists in Arlington - The Connection Newspapers, page 4.

4. JEROME “BUDDIE” FORD NATURE CENTER

a. Programs/Updates

For the month of May, there were 66 interpretive programs attended by 887 people. The combined total number of visitors and program participants for May was 1,531 people.

School Programs:

For the month of May, the Naturalist conducted 9 school programs reaching 228 people.

• May 16 and 17 - Students from Lyles Crouch Elementary School came to the Nature Center on their annual field trip. The 91 children and chaperons learned about native animals and habitats. This indoor program was followed by an hour long hike in Dora Kelley Nature Park.

• May 25 - The Naturalist went to Patrick Henry Elementary School to present four programs about animal classifications. The 120 first grade students enjoyed learning about fish, mammals, insects, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

May 26 - The Naturalist was invited to participate in a pre-kindergarten program at Ramsay Elementary School. The students had raised ladybugs and wanted to release them in the school garden. The children were excited to see the ladybugs fly away and land on the flowers.

Nature Center Programs:

During the month of May, there were 4 birthday parties, 26 impromptu programs conducted by staff, 1 girl scout program, a weekday “Nature Story Time” and the monthly “Little Adventures” program. Total participation for these programs was 543 people.

• May 12 - The “Nature’s Story Program” returned to the program schedule. This month’s book was “Planting a Rainbow” by Lois Ehlert. After the reading, the children worked with the Naturalist to make paper flowers to bring home.
May 19- “Little Adventures” class was all about turtles. The children learned about sea turtles, tortoises and turtles. They had the opportunity to feed the Nature Center’s turtles. The children enjoyed making a turtle craft. On the hike, they encountered painted turtles sunning at the marsh and a young snapping turtle travelling from the stream to the marsh.

Outreach Programs:
For the month of May, the Naturalist staff conducted 1 program reaching 40 people.

- May 6- Water Discovery Day was a family friendly event that serves as an Open House and dedication for new Alexandria Renew Environmental Center but more importantly as a means to build community with education, water stewardship and family fun activities. The Nature Center tabled this event by bringing water dependent reptiles and amphibians.

Afterschool Buddies Program:
The buddies began the very rainy month learning about the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates. Later they met the Nature center’s residence invertebrates including a hermit crab, millipedes, earth worms and Madagascar hissing cockroaches. The exploration of the nature surrounding Holmes Run Stream continued. The buddies were able to find plants in bloom such as mountain laurel. Wildlife were also numerous including a juvenile black rat snake, fish, herons and too many cicadas to count. On May 18, the buddies travelled to the planetarium at TC Williams High School. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this hour long program.

b. Volunteers and Interns
A total of 22 volunteers provided 54 hours of service during the month of May.

c. Noteworthy
The Nature Center’s Naturalist attended a week-long professional development program entitled Animal Welfare: Evidence Based Management. The focus of this program was animal behavior, animals in captivity and care (housing, diet and veterinary) of animals in a collection. The training, held at the Brookfield Zoo, was hosted by Chicago Zoological Society and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.
participants to design, build and compete in robotics.

- June 26 kicks off the **summer camps season** and the **Summer Food Service Program**. These programs serve thousands of youth across the City.

- On July 15, **Tons of Trucks** will take place at Chinquapin Park. Children of all ages will have the unique opportunity to explore their favorite vehicles, get behind the wheel, and meet the people who protect, build, and serve our City.

- On August 7, RPCA kicks off a new program offering, **Animation Flix Camp**. This one-week camp gives kids ages 7-13 an opportunity to let their imagination be their guide as they create an exciting Minecraft world for a movie they create. With 2 months before its start date, this camp has reached 11 participants and generated $4,554 in revenue.

**Special Features**

- William Ramsay Recreation Center’s gym lights have been replaced with new florescent lighting. The gym is brighter and the lights are more energy efficient.

**Staff Updates**

- In May, 29 Recreation Services staff members participated in an on-site Program Management Institute facilitated by Learning Resources Network (LERN)’s Vice President and Co-founder Greg Marsello. In addition to learning recreation industry best practices, the week-long training was customized for RPCA, reinforcing the Department’s existing Programming, Data Collection, Customer Service, and Promotion systems. At the completion of the training, five Recreation Services staff earned their Certified Program Planner (CPP) designation and the 22 who had previously received their CPP designation received an advanced level refresher course. LERN, founded in 1974, is the world’s largest association in continuing education and lifelong learning offering training, information and consulting services to about 6,000 members worldwide.
MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 15, 2017

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION EMBERS

FROM: JACK BROWAND, DIVISION CHIEF PARK PLANNING, DESIGN & CAPITAL PROJECTS

SUBJECT: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION DIVISION UPDATE ITEM VIII.

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BEVERLEY PARK RENOVATION
Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III
Construction of renovations to Beverley Park, 520 North Overlook Drive continues. Site work completed May through mid-June, include the new timber retaining walls, timber wall repairs, placement of the new storm manhole #1, and delivery of the new play equipment. Due to differing field conditions in the existing stormwater system, a revised design for the playground underdrain connections was submitted to the Transportation Site Plan Divisions for approval. Playground underdrain and related storm drain work will be on hold until the plan revisions are approved. The play equipment installation will commence in June. Weather permitting, construction will conclude in late August.

ALL VETERANS PARK SHADE STRUCTURE
Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III
A new seasonal shade structure and picnic improvements are planned for All Veterans Park, 299 North Pickett Street. The improvements are identified in the 2012 Citywide Parks Plans as a way to add informal picnic and family gathering areas in the Holmes Run Park System. Other improvements include adding an additional ADA accessible picnic table, a grill, and an accessible pathway to the picnic area. A Special Use Permit SUP) is required for the shade structure. The SUP request is anticipated to be docketed for the September 2017 Planning Commission and City Council Public Hearings.

POTOMAC YARD DOG PARK CONSTRUCTION
Project Manager: Bethany Znidersic, Principal Planner & Judy Lo, Urban Planner III
The Pulte Group has resumed construction of the new Potomac Yard Dog Park located at 561 East Monroe Avenue. New fencing and storm drain improvements have been installed to date. Weather permitting construction is anticipated to be complete by fall 2017. The land is currently owned by Potomac Yard Development and will be deeded to the City upon completion and City acceptance of the dog park.
The new fenced dog park will feature a small and large dog area, two double-gated entry-exits, seating, a trough-style dog fountain, multiple waste stations, a landscaped perimeter, and decomposed granite surfacing. Plantings and streetscape improvements around the Dominion Substation and along Monroe Avenue will also be completed. The dog park is an approval condition of the larger Potomac Yard Development and was approved by City Council in 2010.

**PARK WATER FOUNTAIN UPGRADES**

**Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III**

Water fountain improvements in various parks and athletic facilities will be installed this summer at Windmill Hill Park, Taney Avenue Park, Witter Recreational Fields, and Simpson Park Restrooms. Publicly available water is a critical piece of infrastructure to support park users and minimize the environmental impacts of bottled water. The new fountains will have ADA accessible components and combination jug and bottle filler components. The majority of these fountains have been made possible through the Community Matching Funds and other PARKnerships, such as Kick the Habit and RunningBrooke, as well as supplemental CIP funding.

**SIMPSON PARK PLAYGROUND AND LAWN RENOVATION**

**Project Manager: Dana Wedeles, Acting Principal Planner & Judy Lo, Urban Planner III**

Grading plan approval of the playground and lawn renovation is anticipated in June. Formal procurement for construction will commence this summer. Upon award of the construction contract, site work will occur fall 2017. For more information, visit the [Project Website](#).

**FOUR MILE RUN POLLINATOR GARDENS**

**Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III**

On June 10, more than 50 volunteers from RunningBrooke and BB&T planted over 400 native plants and trees adjacent to the Four Mile Wetlands Restoration Project and the multipurpose courts. The plants were specially selected to increase the diversity of nectar and pollen sources for insects and wildlife.

**2017 NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

**Project Manager: Dana Wedeles, Acting Principal Planner**

RPCA hired the National Research Council to conduct the 2017 Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment. The survey, attached, was sent to residents last week and includes 30 questions, many with multiple components. The survey questions shall allow for benchmarking results against the RPCA Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment from 2011, 2013, and 2015 ([https://www.alexandriava.gov/51672](https://www.alexandriava.gov/51672)). Survey recipients may respond on a website or through direct mail. The Consultant designed the survey to ensure that the demographic distribution of the sample closely compares to the actual composition of the community, by factors such as age, race, ethnicity, income, etc. using the most recent census for comparison. The Consultant will make a presentation of findings of the survey results to City officials in September 2017.

**REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA PARTNERS WITH RPCA TO IMPROVE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS**

**Project Manager: Dana Wedeles, Acting Principal Planner & Lucresha Murphy, PARKnernesship Manager**

RPCA partnered with Rebuilding Together Alexandria to improve the neighborhood parks in Hume Springs and Lynhaven. Rebuilding Together was awarded $500,000 for projects in these
neighborhoods through Project Reinvest grants. The organization is one of only two grant recipients in the state of Virginia. The two park projects include 3550 Commonwealth Ave. and Four Mile Run Park at Dale St. This is the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities third partnership project with Rebuilding Together Alexandria. For additional information, view the Community Announcement.

WARWICK POOL REPLACEMENT PROJECT
Project Manager: Jack Browand, Division Chief
As previously reported, the City awarded a construction contract for the replacement of the Warwick pool and bathhouse on February 3. The contract included an aggressive schedule with an anticipated construction completion date of June 30, 2017. Due to events beyond the contractor’s control, the project has been delayed resulting in the pushing of the construction completion date into September 2017. Factors affecting the delay include delays in work required by utility companies and the presence of unsuitable soil materials requiring the need for additional excavation and import of suitable fill material. With the construction completion being pushed into September 2017, the pool will now be opening in the spring of 2018. For additional information, visit the Project Website.

WINDMILL HILL PARK SHORELINE PROJECT
Project Manager: Jack Browand, Division Chief
Mobilization and installation of silt, construction fencing and turbidity curtain was completed June 9. Demolition of the existing bulked will begin week of June 12. For additional information, visit the Project Website.

PATRICK HENRY K-8 SCHOOL & NEIGHBORHOOD RECREATION CENTER
Project Manager: Jack Browand, Division Chief & Margaret Orlando, Division Chief
Final construction documents continue to be refined and the project team will receive a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) on July 31. Early site work to include preliminary excavation and installation of retaining walls in the northeast portion of the site (tennis court area) will begin in late June and will continue through the summer.

The Project Team held a preconstruction community meeting on May 31. At this meeting, the community was informed of the Groundbreaking Ceremony scheduled for Monday, June 19 at 8:30 a.m.; the school and recreation center will open in December 2018; and that the new buss loop will be used for parent pick-up and drop-off with the opening of the new facility and continue through June 2019. For additional information, visit the Project Website.
PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

Holmes Run Pedestrian Bridge

Beverley Park
PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

Warwick Pool

Potomac Yard Dog Park
PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

Windmill Hill Park Shoreline
Community Interest and Opinion Survey:
Let your voice be heard today!

The City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities would like your input to help determine recreational facilities, programming and open space priorities for our community. This survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your survey in the enclosed postage-paid, return-reply envelope. We greatly appreciate your time.

1. Have you or members of your household visited any of the City of Alexandria parks during the past 12 months?
   - No
   - Yes → Overall, how would you rate the quality of ALL the City of Alexandria parks you have visited?
     - Excellent
     - Good
     - Fair
     - Poor

2. Have you or other members of your household participated in a city-sponsored program/class or program during the past 12 months?
   - Yes → Approximately how many different programs/classes or types of activities have you or members of your household participated in and/or attended over the past 12 months? (Each program, class or activity counts as one.)
     - One
     - 2-3
     - 4-6
     - 7-10
     - 11+
   - How do you rate the overall quality of the programs/class in which you and members of your household have participated?
     - Excellent
     - Good
     - Fair
     - Poor
   - No → Please CHECK ALL the reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from using the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities programs.
     - Facilities are not well maintained
     - Facilities lack the right equipment/amenities
     - Lack of quality programs
     - Program full
     - Prefer facilities in other cities/counties
     - Poor customer service by staff
     - Use services of other agencies
     - I do not know what is being offered
     - Facilities operating hours not convenient
     - Registration for programs is difficult
     - Other: ______________________________________________________________

3. Have you or other members of your household attended any special events (concerts, outdoor movies, etc.) during the past 12 months?
   - No
   - Yes → Approximately how many different special events have you or members of your household attended over the past 12 months?
     - 1 event
     - 2 to 3 events
     - 4 to 6 events
     - 7 to 10 events
     - 11+ events
   - How do you rate the overall quality of the events in which you and members of your household have participated?
     - Excellent
     - Good
     - Fair
     - Poor

4. In the past 12 months, have you interacted with any staff of the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities?
   - No
   - Yes → How would you rate the quality of the customer service provided by Department staff?
     - Excellent
     - Good
     - Fair
     - Poor
5. How do you learn about the services that are offered by the City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities? (Check ALL that apply.)

- Newspaper
- City of Alexandria Website
- City Newsletter (E-News)
- City's social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- Recreation brochure/program guide
- Neighborhood/civic newsletters/listservs
- Schools/ACPS Communications
- Program fliers/registration forms
- Other Websites (which?_____________________________)
- From friends and neighbors
- Interactions with RPCA staff
- Non-City social media external
- Recreation center electronic bulletin boards
- Other: ________________________________

6. How would you rate the appearance and condition of public spaces (the landscaping of medians, rights-of-way, street trees, etc.) in the City of Alexandria?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

7. How aware are you of the City of Alexandria’s Public Art Program?

- Very aware
- Somewhat Aware
- Not aware

8. To what extent do you agree that you and/or your household personally benefit from participation in programs, activities and events offered by the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities in each of the following ways?

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<td>3</td>
<td>DK/NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved health &amp; well-being</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>DK/NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recognizing that all the statements below may reflect values that are important to you, from each pair of statements below, please indicate how strongly you lean one way or the other. For example, if you feel strongly about the statement to the right, check the box closest to that statement, if you lean slightly towards the statement on the left, check a box closer to the middle.

9. I go to parks and recreation facilities to...

- to see familiar faces/meet people
- for quiet relaxation or individual uses

10. Parks should...

- Have passive uses that are open to the whole community
- Have active uses for organized sports and paid programs through user fees

11. When considering potential budget reductions, the Parks and Recreation Department should...

- Maintain all existing recreational programs and facilities and parks but at a lower level of service (e.g. park maintenance on fewer days per week; reduced hours at recreation facilities; fewer recreation program offerings within each category)
- Eliminate some programs and facilities, but keep the remaining programs and facilities at current levels of service (e.g. close some facilities but keep all others on current schedules; cut some types of recreation programs)

12. If it were up to you (and assuming each costs about the same), how would you allocate $100 among each of the following parks and recreation facilities for the City of Alexandria?

- $_______ Acquisition of additional parkland and open space
- $_______ Develop new indoor recreational facilities
- $_______ Improve indoor recreational facilities
- $_______ Improve parks and outdoor recreational facilities and fields

= $100 TOTAL
13. Below is a list of some recreation and cultural programs provided by the City of Alexandria. Please indicate if you or any members of your HOUSEHOLD have a need for each of the recreation or cultural programs listed below by circling the YES or NO next to the program.

If YES, please rate the following PROGRAMS on a scale of 5 to 1, where 5 means “100% Meets Needs” and 1 means “Does Not Meet Needs” of your household.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Description</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>100% Met</th>
<th>75% Met</th>
<th>50% Met</th>
<th>25% Met</th>
<th>0% Met</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Youth learn to swim instruction</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Adult learn to swim instruction</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Lap swimming</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Water fitness programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Tennis lessons and leagues</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Programs for preschool age</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Programs for teens</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Programs for older adults</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Multi-generational programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Before and after school care programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. School break camps (fall, winter, spring, summer)</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Youth sports classes</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>m. Youth fitness and wellness programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>n. Adult fitness and wellness programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>o. Youth creative and performing arts</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>p. Adult creative and performing arts</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>q. Adult organized sports programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>r. Adult continuing education programs</td>
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<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>s. Adult day and weekend travel programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t. Programs for people with disabilities</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u. Cultural special events (concerts, movies, parades, etc.)</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v. Athletic special events (social sports, tournaments, etc.)</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w. Youth nature programs/environment education</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>x. Adult nature programs/environment education</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>y. Programs with your pets</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>z. Youth technology programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aa. Adult technology programs</td>
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<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bb. Volunteer/community projects</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cc. Walking/biking groups</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dd. Youth open play (play groups, pick-up gym/pool use)</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ee. Adult open play (pick-up gym/field/court/pool use)</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ff. Youth cooking programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gg. Adult cooking programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hh. Youth martial arts programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Adult martial arts programs</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question #13 are MOST IMPORTANT to your household? [Using the letters and numbers in Question #13 above, please write in the letters and numbers below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices, or circle ‘NONE’.]

1st: _____  2nd:_____  3rd: _____  4th: _____  NONE
15. Please indicate if you or any members of your HOUSEHOLD have a need for each of the parks, recreation, or cultural facilities listed below by circling the YES or NO next to the facility.

If YES, please rate the following recreation facilities on a scale of 5 to 1, where 5 means “100% Meets Needs” and 1 means “Does Not Meet Needs” of your household.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>100% Met</th>
<th>75% Met</th>
<th>50% Met</th>
<th>25% Met</th>
<th>0% Met</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walking paths</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biking trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor running/walking track</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor running/walking track</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural areas and wildlife habitats</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic shelters/areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fishing areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marina/waterfront</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor competitive swimming pool</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor leisure/recreational swimming pool</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water spray ground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor fitness station/equipment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor courts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor play space (soft play room/playground)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor sports fields</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor gym space</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose sports fields (soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball/softball fields</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batting cages</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gymnastics room</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skateboard parks</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outdoor performance space</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outdoor rental space</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor pools</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor exercise and fitness facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor performance/art facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor rental space</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racquetball/squash courts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities for people with disabilities</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Outdoor public art</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor multi-purpose areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor social lounge</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>Rock climbing walls</td>
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<td>Outdoor social gathering spaces</td>
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<td>Open lawns and landscape</td>
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<td>Farmers’ Markets</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>River/stream activities (kayak launch, sailing, etc.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nature Center</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>Other:</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

16. Which FOUR of the facilities from the list in Question #15 are MOST IMPORTANT to your household? [Using the letters and numbers in Question #15 above, please write in the letters and numbers below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices, or circle ‘NONE’.]

1st: ______  2nd:_______  3rd:_______  4th:_______  NONE
17. The Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities often seeks feedback from residents to improve and design park and recreation services. How likely, if at all, would you be to engage with the Department in upcoming processes each of the following ways? 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Very likely</th>
<th>Somewhat likely</th>
<th>Not at all likely</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide comments and feedback through social media</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>DK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicate directly with staff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend public meetings or focus group discussions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>DK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend web-based public meetings (a meeting that can be attended online scheduled for a set time)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>DK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend a telephone town hall (like a radio call-in show, but by phone with staff or elected or appointed officials)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>DK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend a board or commission meeting</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>DK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Join a board or commission</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Provide feedback through additional surveys</td>
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<td>Other: __________________________________________________________________</td>
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18. Please share any additional comments that can assist the City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities in improving services to you and your household.

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### About You and Your Household

19. About how many years have you lived in the City of Alexandria? ............. ____ years

20. Counting yourself, how many people live in your household? ............. ____ people

21. Do any of the following live in your household? 
   - Children age 5 and under: yes no
   - Children age 6 to 12: yes no
   - Teenagers age 13 to 19: yes no
   - Adults age 20-64: yes no
   - Adults aged 65 or older (including yourself): yes no

22. How many dogs do you have in your household? ....................... ____ dogs

23. What is your home zip code? ............. ____ zip

24. Is your home: 
   - Owned: yes no
   - Rented: yes no

25. Does your home or apartment complex have yard or green spaces for play/relaxation? 
   - No: yes no
   - Yes, small area: yes no
   - Yes, large area: yes no

26. If applicable, does your HOA or apartment complex have any of the following? 
   - Clubhouse/indoor gathering area: yes no
   - Fitness center: yes no
   - Playground: yes no
   - Swimming pool: yes no
   - None of these: yes no

27. What is your annual household income? 
   - Under $25,000
   - $25,000-$49,999
   - $50,000-$74,999
   - $75,000-$99,999
   - $100,000 to $149,999
   - $150,000 or more

28. Are you of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin?* 
   - Yes: yes no

29. What is your race? For this survey, Hispanic origins are not races. (Please check all that apply.)* 
   - American Indian or Alaskan native
   - Asian or Pacific Islander
   - Black or African American
   - White/Caucasian
   - Other: _________________

30. Which of the following best describes your age? 
   - 18 - 24
   - 25 - 34
   - 35 - 44
   - 45 - 54
   - 55 - 64
   - 65 years or older

31. What is your sex?* 
   - Female: yes no
   - Male: yes no

Thank you! The City of Alexandria greatly appreciates your responses! Please return the survey in the enclosed postage paid envelope to the independent organization analyzing the results at: National Research Center, Inc.; PO Box 549; Belle Mead, NJ 08502

*Note: Race and sex questions are consistent with the U.S. Census format.