Presentation provided to the Park and Recreation Commission on January 15, 2009 at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center to provide the Commission with an update on issues identified by staff and the public. Staff will be establishing two meetings in February to meet with community and City residents to address issues at Fort Ward Park.
GOALS

► Define Uses of Park
► Challenges/ Interim Resolutions
► Informed Consent
► Master Planning Consideration
FORT WARD PARK CONTEXT

Sports Field and Tennis Courts

St. Stephens / St. Agnes School
FORT WARD PARK

- Existing Uses
- Existing Conditions
- Challenges/Intermediate Resolution
- Improvements to Date
Historically Significant Areas
Large Pavilion
Playground
Residential Adjacencies
Amphitheatre
Restroom 2
Reserved Picnic Areas
St. Stephens queuing
Cemetery
Grave sites
Restroom/ Office/ Storage
Parking Area 2
RPCA Horticulture Center
Fort Ward Museum
Parking Area 1
Reserved Pavilion
PARK USES

► Casual Uses
► School Uses
► Athletics
► Special Events
► City Programming
PARK USE

CASUAL USES

► Reserved Pavilions
► Walkers and runners
► Playground users
► Picnics
► Special needs groups
► History Enthusiasts
► City Programming
PARK USERS

Schools

► Minnie Howard
► Hammond
► St. Stephens / St. Agnes

1. Regular Schedule Programs
2. Summer School Programs
► Amphitheatre Usage
► Museum and Historic Site Field Trips
PARK USERS

Athletic Field / Courts
St. Stephens / St. Agnes

- Soccer practice
- Soccer games
- Lacrosse practice
- Lacrosse games
- Tennis

City of Alexandria Public Use

- Youth / Adult Soccer
- Lacrosse practice
- Lacrosse games
- Tennis
PARK USERS

► Receptions
► Museum events
► Fort tours
► Historic groups
► Encampments / reenactments
► Summer Camp Programs
► Jazz Festival / Concerts
► Scottish Heritage Festival
► Weddings
► Sports Tournaments
LARGE CROWDS DURING HISTORIC EVENTS AND RE-ENACTMENTS
FORT WARD PARK

► EXISTING USES

► EXISTING CONDITIONS

► CHALLENGES/ INTERIM RESOLUTION

► IMPROVEMENTS TO DATE
EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Arboretum
- Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site
- Drainage Conditions
- Restrooms
- Playground
- Amphitheatre
- Pavilions
- Adjacent Community
1983 DESIGNATION AS CITY ARBORETUM

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
ARBoretum
FORT WARD PARK
FORT WARD MUSEUM / HISTORIC SITE

- Museum
- Rifle Trench
- Officers Cottage
- Cemetery
- Bastions
- Earthworks
- Fort Site
- Unknown
Area Prone to Flooding

Storm Water Collected From W. Braddock Rd. into park

Water Continues toward Van Dorn St.
RESTROOM 1

- Restroom Building
- Office
- Storage
- Pending ADA Improvements
RESTROOM 2

- 40 yrs. Old
- Unheated
- Poor Condition
AMPHI THEATRE

► Lighting Platforms
► Backstage Area
► Restrooms
► Storage Area
EXISTING PAVILIONS

► Small shelter
  Size: 16’ X 20’
  Seating:
  (6) 8 Person Tables

► Large Shelter
  Size: 33’ / 902sf
  Seating:
  (10) 8 Person Tables
EXISTING PLAYGROUND
FORT WARD PARK

► EXISTING USES

► EXISTING CONDITIONS

► CHALLENGES/ INTERIM RESOLUTION

► IMPROVEMENTS TO DATE
CHALLENGES

- Overcrowding / Crowd Control
- Noise
- Trash Removal
- Restroom Facilities
- ADA Compliance
- Maintenance
- Beautification
- Historic Preservation
- Safety and Security
- Site Access
- Storm Water / Infrastructure Management
PARK OPERATIONS

- Mowing
- Leaf Removal
- Tree Trimming and Removal
- Horticulture and Nursery Center
- Watering and Irrigation
- Erosion Control and Grading
- Trash Pickup
- Cleaning and Restocking of Restrooms
- Scheduling and Monitoring of Sports events
- Rental Arrangements
- Security
- Building Maintenance
- Opening and Closing of Roadway Loop
FORT WARD PARK

- EXISTING USES
- EXISTING CONDITIONS
- CHALLENGES/ INTERIM RESOLUTION
- IMPROVEMENTS TO DATE
IMPROVEMENTS 2007-2008

- Flora
- Revised Pavilion Rental Policy
- Reduction of Reservation Areas
- Security Booth
- Speed Bumps and Signs
- Information Kiosks
- Trash Enclosure
- Horticulture / Nursery Improvements
FLORA IMPROVEMENTS
PROPOSED IMPROVED RENTAL POLICIES

► Revised Application Regulations
► Revised Enforcement rules.
► Alcohol Restrictions
► Parking will be designated and monitored.
► Staff to be assigned to monitor large groups.
► A maximum of five areas will be available.
► No amplified sound
► Rules of renting provided with application.
► Picnic area reservations required for large groups
► Applicants must apply in person
► No inflatables, dunk tanks, DJ’s and Bands, etc.
► Vehicles must park in designated areas only.
► Park closes at 8 pm.
PROPOSED REDUCTION IN RESERVATION AREAS

2007 map with 11 rentable areas 2008 map with 7 rentable areas
PROPOSED 2009 MAP WITH 5 PICNIC AREAS
SECURITY AND CHECK IN BOOTH

PARKING BUMPERS

SPEED BUMPS AND SIGNS ON LOOP
INFORMATION KIOSKS WITH RULES AND TIMES
TRASH CONTAINER REMOVED FROM RPCA YARD

YARD IS FENCED AND CLEAN
FORT WARD ATHLETIC FIELD

Previous Condition

New Synthetic Playing Field
PLANNING GOALS

► Define Uses of Park

► Challenges/Interim Resolutions

► Informed Consent

► Master Planning Consideration
NEXT STEPS

► Want your input - tonight on presentation
► Public Participation
► Prioritize Interim Improvements
► Implementation, Management and Strategy
  (Master Planning Process)