City of Alexandria, Virginia

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Thursday, July 19, 2018
7 p.m.

Patrick Henry Recreation Center - 4643 Taney Ave

AGENDA

6 p.m.
Patrick Henry PreK-8 School & Recreation Center Construction Site Walk
Keller Construction

7 p.m.
I. Call to Order: Jennifer Atkins, Chair

II. Public Comments – non-agenda items

III. Presentations/Information:
   a. Resource Allocation & Cost Recovery Policy
      Laura Durham, Division Chief, Recreation Services

IV. Items for Action:
   a. Approval of Minutes: June 21, 2018

V. Project Updates
   a. Jack Browand, Division Chief, Park Planning
      i. Waterfront Projects Update
      ii. Cameron Run Regional Park Planning Process

VI. Director’s Report
   a. CIP Update

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

VIII. Commission Reports (verbal reports by District)

IX. Next Meeting Items – Working Draft Attached

X. Next Meeting: September 20, 2018

XI. Adjournment
MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 19, 2018
TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS
FROM: WILLIAM CHESLEY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR WC
RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION DIVISION UPDATE - ITEM VII

Program Wrap-Ups

- On June 2, the Annual Youth Arts Festival was held at Mt. Vernon Recreation Center. The Department partnered with ARHA, Office of the Arts, Upcycle, Torpedo Factory, ACPS, local partners, and other City agencies to present an event which highlighted the visual and performing art talents of the City of Alexandria’s youth. The festival showcased dancing, poetry, trumpet playing, interactive demonstrations, singing and visual art exhibits. Over 200 people attended the event throughout the day.

- Community Days wrapped up on June 11. The Community Outreach section partnered with several City departments, the faith community and local non-profits to promote City-sponsored summer programs and services. In total, the eight outreach events took place between May 2 and June 11 and were attended by over 1,200 community members from neighborhoods across Alexandria.

- On June 16, Leonard “Chick” Armstrong Recreation Center held its Annual Community Day celebration with 225 attendees enjoying activities, arts and crafts, food, vendors, community resources, and more.
• William Ramsay Recreation Center held free **Introduction to Dance Workshops** throughout the month. 25 youth ages 8 and up were introduced to Jazz, Tap, Hip-Hop and Ballet by guest instructor Ms. Fiona Green from the movie “Step Up 2”.

• On June 25, Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatic Facility’s **Ready for Summer Swim Camp** kicked off, with all 4 sessions once again reaching maximum enrollment. Campers ages 6 to 11 participated in daily small group swim lessons which focused on fundamental aquatic skills, water safety, and stroke development. Other activities included games, arts and crafts, and free swim throughout the week.

• On June 30, the Mount Vernon Recreation celebrated the holiday weekend with a food, fun, and friend filled picnic at the **55 Plus 4th of July Cookout**. Participants enjoyed a live show by Alexandria’s own Johnnie Steel and the Steel for Real Band.

• The week of July 2, Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatics Facility held its first **STEM and Splash Camp** with 15 participants. Youth ages 7-11 participated in an engaging combination of STEM activities including robot building and science experiments as well as Splashball, which introduced them to the exiting sport of water polo.

• On July 13, Leonard “Chick” Armstrong Recreation Center hosted **Family Cosmic Skate Night**. Families came together to zoom around on their skates and enjoy family friendly activities.

• On July 14, Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatics Facility held its 4th annual **Tons of Trucks** event where children of all ages explored their favorite vehicles and met the people who protect, build, and serve our City. 2,151 participants enjoyed truck-themed projects, book readings, giveaways, photo opportunities, and food vendors.
• William Ramsay Recreation Center wrapped up Lil Kickers, a program which introduced young children and their families to soccer. 9 participants learned the importance of physical fitness and developed social skills like sharing, taking turns, and sportsmanship.

• On June 19, the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center’s Youth Achieving Greatness Drama Club performed their first play production of “The Journal”. They hope to have more performances in the upcoming school year. The play has already received rave reviews and the drama club has gained interest from others in the Youth Achieving Greatness program.

• William Ramsay Recreation Center hosted the Capital Youth Empowerment Program led by Mr. Grady Poole. During this 12-session program 14 teen boys were taught Sex Education, encouraging smart choices and abstinence until their adult years.

Program Updates

• On June 22, the Wahoo Swim Team reached its maximum registration of 182 participants. Developing and experienced swimmers ages 6-18 refine their skills in freestyle, butterfly, breaststroke, backstroke, turns and starts, practicing throughout the week with experienced coaches.

• On June 25, Summer Camp started in Alexandria. The Classes and Camps section is on track with their enrollment numbers from 2017, which are currently at 95% of the final enrollment and revenue of 2017.

Out of School Time FY16 through FY18 Summer/School Year Participant and Revenue Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY-18 YTD School Year 06-30-18</th>
<th>FY-17 YTD School Year 05-31-17</th>
<th>FY-17 Actuals School Year 16-17</th>
<th>FY-16 Actuals School Year 15-16</th>
<th>FY-19 Summer 2018 YTD 06-30-18</th>
<th>FY-18 Summer 2017 Actual</th>
<th>FY-17 Summer 2016 Actual</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program Fee</td>
<td>$445</td>
<td>$429</td>
<td>$429</td>
<td>$415</td>
<td>$325/$335</td>
<td>$125/$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satisfaction % report</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>**88%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration #</td>
<td>1,251</td>
<td>1,205</td>
<td>1,222</td>
<td>1,201</td>
<td>1,084</td>
<td>981</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSTP Revenue</td>
<td>$402,198*</td>
<td>$367,093*</td>
<td>$375,103</td>
<td>$356,179</td>
<td>$251,541*</td>
<td>$224,335</td>
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<td>Fee Assistance (Discounts)</td>
<td>$121,638</td>
<td>$124,490</td>
<td>$129,174</td>
<td>$125,208</td>
<td>$80,310</td>
<td>$71,715</td>
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<td>Full Fees</td>
<td>$546,312</td>
<td>$515,370</td>
<td>$523,008</td>
<td>$500,530*</td>
<td>$354,590</td>
<td>$310,765</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Page 3 of 4
*Fees paid in installments.
**Lowest scoring measures related to the in-person and online registration processes at 78% and 76% bringing overall score down from previous years.

**Upcoming Events**

- The final **William Ramsay Robotics Competition** will take place on July 21. This program teaches 7th and 8th graders how to design, build, and compete in Robotics. Students will develop STEM skills and practice engineering principles, while realizing the value of hard work, innovation, and sharing ideas.

- **Camp Adventure** will take place June 25 through August 24 at Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center. Camp will include exciting activities such as swimming, STEM, group games, arts and crafts, and weekly field trips to Six Flags and Pirates Cove.

- On August 12, Leonard “Chick” Armstrong Recreation Center will host the **Four Mile Run Bike Ride**. All are welcome to enjoy a scenic outing along the bike trail.

- On August 9, the Youth Activities section will conclude **Police Academy**, a program designed to educate Alexandria’s youth on the different sections of the Alexandria Police Department, including demonstrations by the K9 Unit, Police Command Center, and Bomb Squad.

- On August 11, the Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatics Facility will host **Movie Night in the Park**. This free family-friendly event will include a free swim in Rixse Pool 6-7:30 p.m. and “Paddington 2” showing in Chinquapin Park at 8:15 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Goodhart Group and supported by the Chinquapin Advisory Council.

- On August 12, the Youth Activities section will host **Marvelous Monday**, an annual event to celebrate the end of Out of School Time summer camp programs.
City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 19, 2018

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

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

SUBJECT: PARK OPERATIONS MONTHLY UPDATE – ITEM VII

1. PARK AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE
   a. Warehouse
      • 100% of FY2018 year-end inventories completed and documented, as required. All seasonal supplies and materials are on-hand and planning is underway for the fall season.
      • Organization of the warehouse is beginning to ensure that LEAN Six Sigma principles are in place. Staff is also continuing to work with an internal process improvement team to implement these principles in other areas of RPCA operations.
   b. Park Maintenance
      • The new storage building at Simpson Park has been completed. This building will be used to store equipment and materials that are used for the maintenance and upkeep of athletic fields and parks, including equipment used by the users of the Simpson Park fields. This was a partnership project between RPCA and the Alexandria Little League.
      • Staff supported the 2018 Virginia State Juniors tournament held at Simpson Stadium and Frank Mann Fields from July 5th to July 9th. Staff helped prepare the fields for the tournament and provided on-site support during the entire event. Congratulations to Alexandria Little League for winning the State Championship.
      • The new construction and playground improvements have begun at Simpson Park. The new playground will feature a combination of new interactive play equipment in addition to tradition equipment. Construction is scheduled to be completed this fall.
      • Maintenance was performed on Simpson Dog park to improve the surfacing in the dog park and to try and reduce the amount of erosion that is occurring in the park. A meeting was held with the
Simpson Dog Group on June 20th to discuss future improvements and the needs of park users.

- The synthetic turf replacement at Minnie Howard field is underway. The old turf was removed and the contractor preparing the surface for the installation of the new turf. The turf replacement at Fort Ward field is scheduled to begin July 18th.
- Several staff attended Baldrige Excellence Framework training in Arlington, Virginia on June 14, 2018, in support of the RPCA’s ongoing efforts to develop a high-performance organization.

c. Park Facilities Maintenance

- The existing wooden pedestrian bridge in Fort Ward Park has been inspected by an engineering firm for its structural integrity. Based on the findings of this inspection, staff has begun the process for the needed renovations to address safety and code compliance, while maintaining its rustic character.
- A contract has been awarded for the renovation of the interior of the Lee Center elevator. Work is expected to be completed in July 2018.
- The maintenance staff has continued seasonal maintenance on all irrigation systems, drinking fountains, public restrooms, park/trail lights, sports lights and time clocks.
- African American Heritage Park Restoration Project kick off meeting with the contractor has been scheduled for July 17th. Construction activities will begin shortly thereafter. Bid solicitations for the renovation of the Gazebo are expected to go out by the end of July.
- Staff is coordination with Park Planning and Recreation Division for a comprehensive update to the existing MOU between RPCA and the Department of General Services (DGS). The new document is anticipated not only to facilitate interagency administration of the Capital Facilities Maintenance Program but also serve as a “go to” resource providing procedures and protocols for Management Staff encompassing a broad range of services from emergency logistics to efficient custodial care.

d. Waterfront Parks

- Jackson Moser - a summer intern from the University of Virginia working towards a degree is Environmental Studies and Public Policy - has been working with the Waterfront Park staff. Jackson has been assisting with our city park audits, preliminary research for various standard operating procedures, and preparations for waterfront events.
- Staff, in preparations for the City’s Birthday celebration, prepared Oronoco Bay Park by performing a variety of maintenance task. Tasks included; pruning bushes, installation of numerous American...
flags on the light poles, relocating benches for the Army cannon, repairing trail, removing drift wood and other related landscape work.

2. URBAN FORESTRY AND HORTICULTURE

- Emerald Ash Borer - A licensed pesticide applicator recently completed the treatment of 22 ash trees located along City rights-of-way. The trees were injected with Enamectin benzoate (TREE-Age) at a two-year rate to control Emerald Ash Borer. The program was subsidized by the Virginia Department of Forestry. A list of additional trees to be treated is being developed through the current City street tree inventory. Treatment is limited to trees that have less than 30% defoliation. Trees that exceed this amount of defoliation cannot be successfully rehabilitated.

- Tree Planting Program – Staff finished the FY 2018 tree planting program with a flurry, exceeding the goal to plant 800 trees by 58. Requests for the fall planting period are already being submitted. Fall planting will begin in mid-September.

- Street Tree Inventory - Eighty percent of the City’s street trees have now been inventoried. ArborPro, Inc. of Yorba Linda, CA completed data collection for 7,266 trees in June. The inventory also includes data collection for some trees at City parks, schools and public facilities. Inventory data is being used to identify dead trees, ash trees that may be eligible for treatment, vacant tree wells, and developing a proactive maintenance plan. The final twenty percent of the inventory will be completed in the spring of 2019. A new inventory rotation will begin again in FY 2020.

- City staff worked with the Running Brooke to install a third native pollinator bed at Four Mile Run Park. New landscape installations were added to William Ramsey Recreation Center and Chinquapin Recreation Center. City staff attended advisory board meetings held by Chinquapin Organic Garden and Holmes Run Community Garden as well as the FPCA monthly meeting to discuss the Founders Park planting project wrap up.

- The sustainable landscape conversion project at King, Braddock and Quaker medians is completed.

Pedestrian bridge to be restored at Fort Ward Historic Park
Proposed renovation of the Lee Center Elevator
Planted median with sustainable plant materials
Purple Milkweed – a state rare plant reintroduced to Alexandria.
a. Invasive Plant Management & Restoration

- Staff completed its goals for removing and bagging mature (second year; biennial) Garlic Mustard from Rynex Natural Area and Dora Kelley Nature Park this June before seed scattered. Additionally, staff hand-pulled and bagged countless first-year Garlic Mustard plants, as well as thousands of English Ivy, Higan Cherry, Burning Bush, Oriental Bittersweet, Helleborine, and other invasive seedlings and saplings from Rynex Natural Area, Dora Kelley Nature Park, Monticello Park, Chinquapin Park, Forest Park, and Fort Williams Park.
- Staff supervised our contractor, Invasive Plant Control (IPC), with the treatment of massive infestations of Callery Pear, Tree-of-Heaven, Porcelain-berry, English Ivy, Bush Honeysuckle, Mimosa, and many other non-native invasive plants along both banks of Holmes Run from Duke Street south to the pedestrian bridge, as well as projects at Stevenson Park, Beverly Park, and Tarleton Park.
- Staff supervised the installation of a split-rail fence to protect a natural area of Tarleton Park, and finished the project by installing end-posts and a gateway to provide access to the park by neighboring residents.
- Staff installed Native Plant Conservation Zone signs at upper Fort Williams Park, Tarleton Park, and the back edge of Polk Park, along with No Dumping sign at Polk Park.

b. Cooperative Initiatives

- Staff provided the “Alex Renew Wet Weather” project with the Alexandria geotechnical borings and City-sourced geotechnical reports from Plate 2 of the Alexandria Geologic Atlas.
- On June 23, 2018, staff assisted Cathy Mayes and Taylor Adkins of the American Chestnut Foundation in locating remnant American Chestnut trees in Alexandria and Arlington, and collecting a leaf sample from each tree for a genetic variability research project. In Alexandria, the remnant chestnuts at Dora Kelley Nature Park were located and included in the study.
- On June 24, 2018, City Natural Resource Manager co-led the “Lycophytes and Ferns of Scott’s Run Nature Preserve” field trip for the Virginia Native Plant Society, Potomac Chapter, with noted fern expert Carl Taylor.
- On June 26, 2018, City Natural Resource Manager was a guest, with retired NPS weed specialist Jill Swearingen, on the Kojo Nnamdi Show to discuss invasive species and the threat (or not) of Giant Hogweed in the region.
- Staff reviewed the proposed Bashford Lane planting and drainage plans and provided recommendations for site-appropriate native plants and Best Management Practices.
- Staff delineated the native plant pollinator and rain gardens at
Charles Hill Park for the volunteer planning process.

4. JEROME “BUDDIE” FORD NATURE CENTER

- **Programs/Updates**
  
  For the month of June, there were 75 interpretive programs attended by 755 people. The combined total number of visitors and participants for June was 1,454 people.

**School Programs:**
For the month of June, the Naturalists conducted 12 school programs reaching 141 students and teachers.

- June 11 - The Naturalist went to George Mason Elementary School to participate in their annual “Frog Day” event. Students visited the four “frog” stations: Meet a Frog (manned by the Nature Center), Frog Jumping (how far can you jump), Frog Calls and Make a Froggy Mask. The students enjoyed all the activities especially meeting the frog and toads from the Nature Center’s collection.

- June 13 - Pre-schoolers from William Ramsay Elementary School visited the Nature Center to learn all about ants. After the short program, the students used their painted fingertips to create “ant art”.

- June 13 - First graders from Ramsay Elementary School came to the center for an animal drawing class. The students rotated between the live animal stations where they could observe and draw animals. Some of the animals were students drew were Rio the parrot, mice, a box turtle, corn snakes and various lizards.

- June 25-29 Tadpoles Summer Camp, the first camp of the summer, was held at the end of the month. This camp for 3 and 4-year-old children was a great introduction to the world of nature. The children enjoyed seeing and touching live animals, crafts and going on short hikes in Dora Kelley Nature Park.

**Outreach Programs:**

- June 3 - The Nature Center hosted a screening of the film Hometown Habitat: Stories of Bringing Nature Home. The movie features community habitat landscaping projects that use native plants to support the survival and vitality of local ecosystems. Following the film, there was a lively discussion that sparked great curiosity in simple ways anyone can make a difference by planting native plants.
Afterschool Buddies Program:
June was the last month of this school year for these students attending the Afterschool Buddies Program. The Buddies completed a treasure hunt to explore Dora Kelley Nature Park and found an ice cream party waiting for them. Everyone worked hard to harvest and transplant the garden into a portable bed to make room for the new shed and garden bed expected to arrive during the summer. We took advantage of the hot summer sun to make sun prints. The Buddies enjoyed playing with the Nature Center’s new puppet theatre, putting on theatrical shows for each other. This has been an exciting year for the Nature Buddies as well as the staff and are looking forward to more adventures in the fall.

a. Volunteers and Interns
A total of 22 volunteers provided 109 hours of service during the month of June.

Alex Zhu, a senior at T.C. Williams High School, completed his Senior Experience this month as a Naturalist Aide. This program gives graduating seniors an opportunity to have an unpaid, transitional career experience outside of school in preparation for college and the workforce. While at the Nature Center, Alex learned to complete animal care, conduct impromptu programs with the public, and assist with school programs. He plans to attend Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minnesota where he will be majoring in the field of Environmental Studies.

b. Noteworthy
The greenhouse has undergone a transformation. Gone are the philodendron, Boston ferns and ficus trees. The greenhouse is filled with fruit trees, flowering plants and herbs. A new fountain was added along the far wall. Now, the greenhouse will be an exhibit where visitors can see the life cycles of plants, learn about products produced by these trees and bushes (rubber, oranges, figs, blueberries, lemons, tea, coffee) and enjoy the beautiful flowers and scents of these plants. Visits to the greenhouse will be a teaching tool for students learning about plant life cycles and products from the rainforests. With the guidance of the City Horticulturist, a wide variety of plants were selected for this new interpretive exhibit.
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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Performance Indicator</th>
<th>FY 2015</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018 as of 6/30/18</th>
<th>Increase/ Decrease (FY15/FY17)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Number</td>
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<td>URBAN FORESTRY</td>
<td>Number of Service Requests Initiated (CCC)</td>
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<td>1,109</td>
<td>1,027</td>
<td>1,361</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Number of Work Orders Initiated</td>
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<td>1,945</td>
<td>1,830</td>
<td>1,902</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of Individual Trees Pruned *</td>
<td>1,920</td>
<td>1,914</td>
<td>1,744</td>
<td>1,786</td>
<td>(176)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Number of Trees in Wooded Areas in ROW’s, Parks, and Natural Areas *</td>
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<td>2,663</td>
<td>1,569</td>
<td>1,912</td>
<td>(438)</td>
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<td>Number of Trees Removed *</td>
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<td>590</td>
<td>732</td>
<td>753</td>
<td>440</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Number of Trees Planted *</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>779</td>
<td>858</td>
<td>401</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total Number of Trees Maintained (sum of 4 items with * above)</td>
<td>4,597</td>
<td>5,717</td>
<td>4,824</td>
<td>5,309</td>
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<td>Number of Trees Inventoried (FY 2016 Inventory Delayed Until July 2016)</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>13,752</td>
<td>7,266</td>
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<td>NATURE CENTER</td>
<td>Total Number of Environmental Education Programs</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>937</td>
<td>1,060</td>
<td>293</td>
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<td>Number of Persons Participating in Programs</td>
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<td>14,321</td>
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<td>Number of Persons - General Visitation</td>
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<td>8,533</td>
<td>7,848</td>
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<td>Total Number of Persons Attending Programs or Visiting the Nature Center</td>
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<td>23,737</td>
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<td>Revenue Generated by Nature Center</td>
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<td>$89,001</td>
<td>$99,320</td>
<td>$81,685</td>
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<td>Number of Volunteers</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>28</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Number of Volunteer Hours</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>785</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>120</td>
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<td>NATURAL LANDS MGT.</td>
<td>Total number of Parks and other properties receiving one or more projects for active management</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Total number of documented projects for active management of natural lands</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Total number of Invasive Plant Management projects</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total number of acres of all project sites</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total number of acres of invasive plant cover managed</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>62.0</td>
<td>69.0</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total number of projects with contractor-provided plant control services</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>Total number of Volunteers utilized by Natural Lands Management Section</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>Total number of Volunteer hours dedicated to Natural Lands Management projects</td>
<td>1,650</td>
<td>1,884.5</td>
<td>1,920.0</td>
<td>1,263</td>
<td>271</td>
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<td>Total number of Volunteer hours dedicated to Invasive Plant Management projects</td>
<td>1,390</td>
<td>1,010.0</td>
<td>1,030.0</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>(360)</td>
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City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 19, 2018

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

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

SUBJECT: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION DIVISION UPDATE ITEM VII

3550 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE PARK IMPROVEMENTS
Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III

RPCA held a community pre-construction meeting on June 5. Construction commenced on June 15 and will be complete by October 30. The contractor, EDC, has completed site demolition and topsoil stripping. Rough grading work will occur throughout July. The park improvements are a PARKnership with Rebuilding Together Alexandria (RTA), and a volunteer day is scheduled for September 12. For additional information, visit the Project Website.  

Photo: Park demolition and rough grading

BEN BRENMANN DOG PARK LIGHTS
Project Manager: Robert Narvaez, Urban Planner II
Planning Commission and City Council approved the SUP Amendment in June. A Pre-proposal meeting was held on July 11, 2018. Proposal are due July 20 with anticipated construction start by September 2018.

BEN BRENMANN SCOREBOARD & BATTING CAGES
Project Manager: Bethany Znidersic, Principal Planner
The Alexandria Little League was awarded a Community Matching Fund project in 2018 to install a scoreboard and two batting cages at Ben Brenman Park. The scoreboard permits have been approved and implementation is scheduled for the week of July 16. The batting cages approvals are currently under review. Installation of the batting cages is anticipated by September.
DALE STREET GARDEN VOLUNTEER PROJECT  
Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III

The fourth volunteer effort led by Rebuilding Together Alexandria will be held on July 13. Since May, RTA volunteers have completed the initial assembly of all the timber planter boxes, assembled the picnic tables and storage boxes, and laid down mulch surfacing. Remaining work includes anchoring the planter boxes, filling the boxes with soil, finishing the pathway, and installing the water service lines. Volunteers will also begin installing the storage shed and building the pergola. Additional volunteer days will be scheduled throughout the summer. The community-based garden management group has been established. The group is in the process of finalizing their by-laws. The group will be responsible for the management and operation of the gardens. For additional information, visit the Project Website.

Photo: Planter box construction

FORT WARD ATHLETIC FIELD SYNTHETIC TURF REPLACEMENT  
Project Manager: Bethany Znidersic, Principal Planner

The synthetic turf replacement project will remove the existing turf and infill, re-certify the stone base and install new synthetic turf and infill. The contractor has completed the initial testing and the work is scheduled for July 18-August 30. The field and adjacent parking lot will be closed to the community for the duration of the project. The replacement infill will be a blend of ethylene propylene diene monomer (EPDM) rubber and sand. The project team includes staff from ACPS.

MINNIE HOWARD FIELD SYNTHETIC TURF REPLACEMENT  
Project Manager: Bethany Znidersic, Principal Planner

Construction at Minnie Howard commenced on June 25 and will be complete in early August. The replacement project will replace the existing carpet and infill system. The contractor has removed the old turf and infill and prepared the existing base for new turf and infill. The replacement infill will be a blend of ethylene propylene diene monomer (EPDM) rubber and sand. The project team includes staff from ACPS.

Photo: Synthetic turf removed
JOSEPH HENSLEY PARK RENOVATION  
Project Manager: Bethany Znidersic, Principal Planner  
In 2014 the Park and Recreation Commission and City Council endorsed the Citywide Park Improvement Plan, including a series of recommendations for Joseph Hensley Park. The design process will begin in August. The project will address all four fields, parking, restrooms, accessibility, site circulation, maintenance facilities, and plantings. For additional information, review the Joseph Hensley Park Citywide Park Plan.

SIMPSON PARK PLAYGROUND AND LAWN RENOVATION  
Project Manager: Dana Wedeles, Principal Planner & Judy Lo, Urban Planner III

RPCA held a community pre-construction meeting on June 14. Construction commenced on June 15 and will be complete by December 15, 2018. The renovation replaces the playground equipment, adds natural play features, and integrates public art sculptures into the playground design. The work also includes renovation of the turf areas from the tennis courts to the playground. A new accessible path will improve connectivity within the park. For additional information, visit the Project Website.

Photo: Playground demolition

ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

- HOLMES RUN PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE  
  Project Manager: Dana Wedeles, Principal Planner  
  For additional information, visit the Project Website.

- WINDMILL HILL PARK SHORELINE PROJECT  
  Project Manager: Jack Browand, Division Chief  
  For additional information, visit the Project Website.

- KING STREET PARK AT THE WATERFRONT  
  Project Manager: Jack Browand, Division Chief  
  For additional information, visit the Project Website.

- PATRICK HENRY K-8 SCHOOL & RECREATION CENTER  
  Project Manager: Jack Browand, Division Chief & Margaret Orlando, Division Chief  
  For additional information, visit the Project Website.

- 3550 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE PARK IMPROVEMENTS  
  Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III  
  For additional information, visit the Project Website.

- DALE STREET GARDEN VOLUNTEER PROJECT  
  Project Manager: Judy Lo, Urban Planner III  
  For additional information, visit the Project Website.

- SIMPSON PARK PLAYGROUND & LAWN RENOVATION  
  Project Manager: Dana Wedeles, Principal Planner & Judy Lo, Urban Planner III  
  For additional information, visit the Project Website.