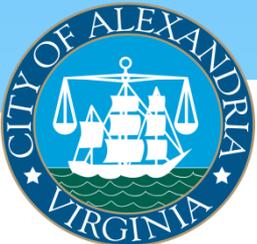


Patrick Henry Recreation Center Feasibility Study

June 18, 2015

Park and Recreation Commission Public Hearing



Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City continue to work with ACPS on a site plan/design option that includes an attached **Neighborhood Recreation Center** based on the following:

- * Provides sufficient space for school and after school related programming.
- * The potential program offerings provided under the Neighborhood Recreation Center address needs identified in the 2013 Citywide Recreation & Parks Needs Assessment, the 2014 Patrick Henry Recreation Center Needs Assessment, and findings from the June 2015 online survey.
- * The Neighborhood Recreation Center cost estimate for design and construction is within the current budget proposed in the FY2016-2025 CIP.
- * The Neighborhood Recreation Center model is most similar to other recreation centers (Mount Vernon, Cora Kelly and Ramsay) that successfully provide programs within their neighborhoods.

Patrick Henry Recreation Center Programming Options

- * **School Centered Scenario:** Focuses on before and after school care and programs for the students and their families enrolled at Patrick Henry preK-8 school.
- * **Neighborhood Recreation Center Scenario:** This model has a market focus of the 1-mile radius surrounding the site, in addition to the Patrick Henry students and families.
- * **Community Recreation Facility Scenario:** This model includes programs that attract users from the entire City.

Outdoor Recreation

All of the scenarios would include the following outdoor recreation elements:

- * Playground for younger (non-school aged children)
- * Multi-use field(s) and a court
- * Walking paths
- * Maintaining the wooded/natural area



Background and Process

Developing a Recommendation for a New Patrick Henry Recreation Center

- * 2008 Patrick Henry Recreation Center Study
- * 2013 Citywide Park and Recreation Needs Assessment
- * Joint Feasibility Study with ACPS for the school and recreation center initiated in 2014:
- * 2014 Patrick Henry Neighborhood Needs Assessment
- * Online programming Rec Center options survey June 2-15
- * Rec Center Community meetings June 4 and 6
- * Draft Recreation Center Feasibility Study
- * Park and Recreation Commission public hearing June 18

Patrick Henry Recreation Center Today



The existing Patrick Henry Recreation Center is a 9,400 SF wing on the north side of the Patrick Henry Elementary School Building; provides the gymnasium for the School.

Patrick Henry Recreation Center History

- * Built in 1973, with addition in 1990 providing a small gymnasium for shared use with the school
- * 2006-2008 the City identified concerns about the center and studied the need for renovation
- * In 2008 the community identified needs that included a larger gymnasium, daytime community use of the recreation center, senior programming, a fitness center, multipurpose room(s), and a walking/running track at Patrick Henry
- * The study recommended to double the size of the existing center as well as to add a new gymnasium in the future

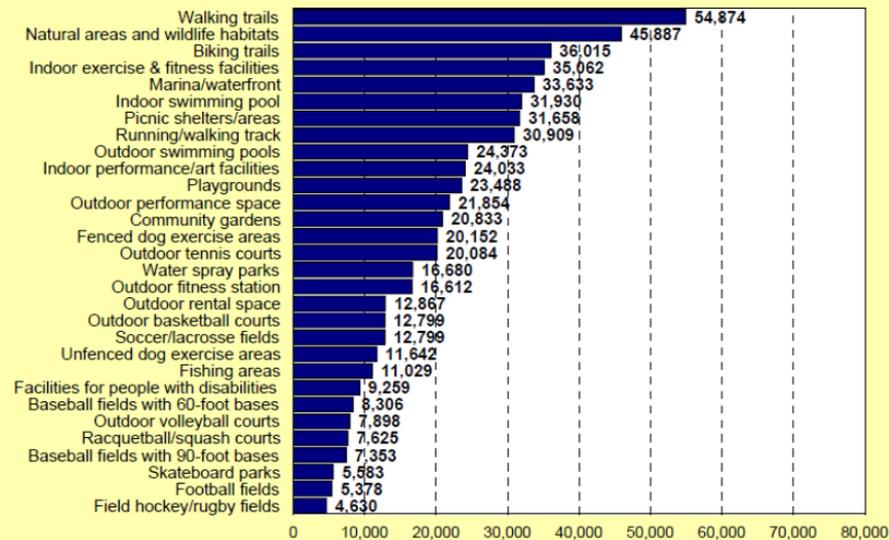
Patrick Henry School and Recreation Center Feasibility Study

- * A growing population and aging school facility led to ACPS identifying a need for a new or expanded school
- * The City opted to undertake the school and recreation center project together
- * Joint feasibility study and related community engagement initiated in 2014
- * RPCA conducted Neighborhood Needs Assessment to determine recreational needs for a new center in July 2014, similar to the 2013 Citywide Needs Assessment

2013 Citywide Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Findings

Q5a. Estimated Number of Households in the City of Alexandria that Have a Need for Parks and Recreation Facilities

by number of households based on 68,082 households in the City of Alexandria



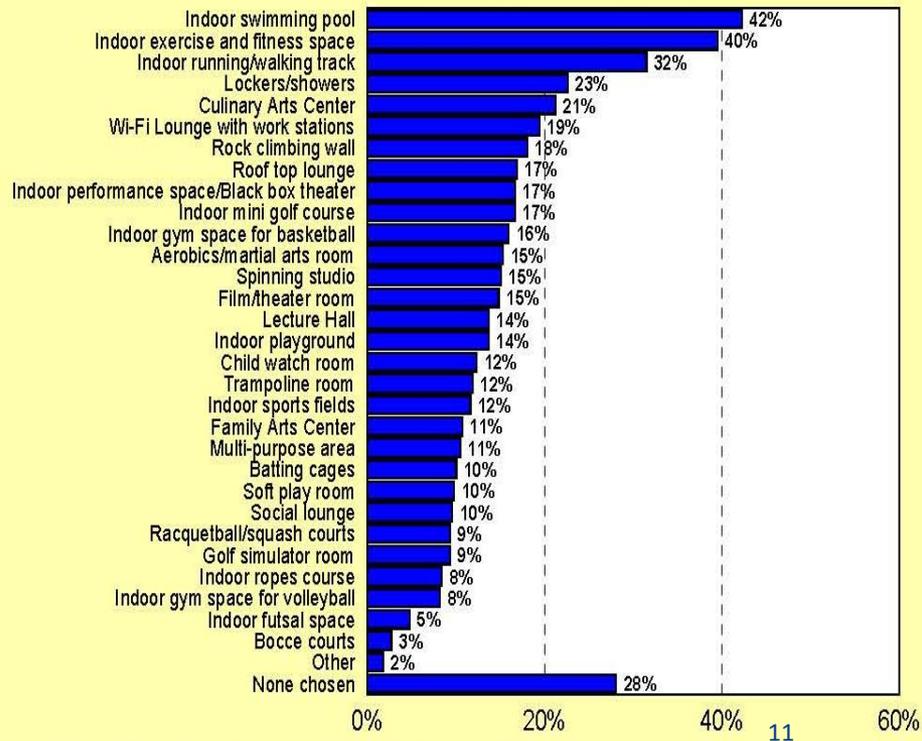
Source: Leisure Vision/ETC Institute (September 2013)

The need for indoor fitness and exercise facilities in Alexandria is fifty-two percent (52%)

2014 Neighborhood Needs Survey Findings

Q8. INDOOR Recreation and Cultural Arts Facilities Respondent Households Would Use if Developed at the Patrick Henry Facility

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections possible)



Source: ETC Institute for the City of Alexandria Patrick Henry Survey (September 2014)

86% respondents do not use the current Patrick Henry Recreation Center, showing the existing program and facility should not simply be replicated if we are seeking greater use.

Patrick Henry School and Recreation Center Feasibility Study

- * Joint feasibility study tested a recreation center option that would meet most of the community identified needs
- * Based on the feasibility options for a new school, ACPS decided on a need for a new preK-8 school that will include a new full size gymnasium and 3 head-start classrooms



Patrick Henry Recreation Center Programming Options

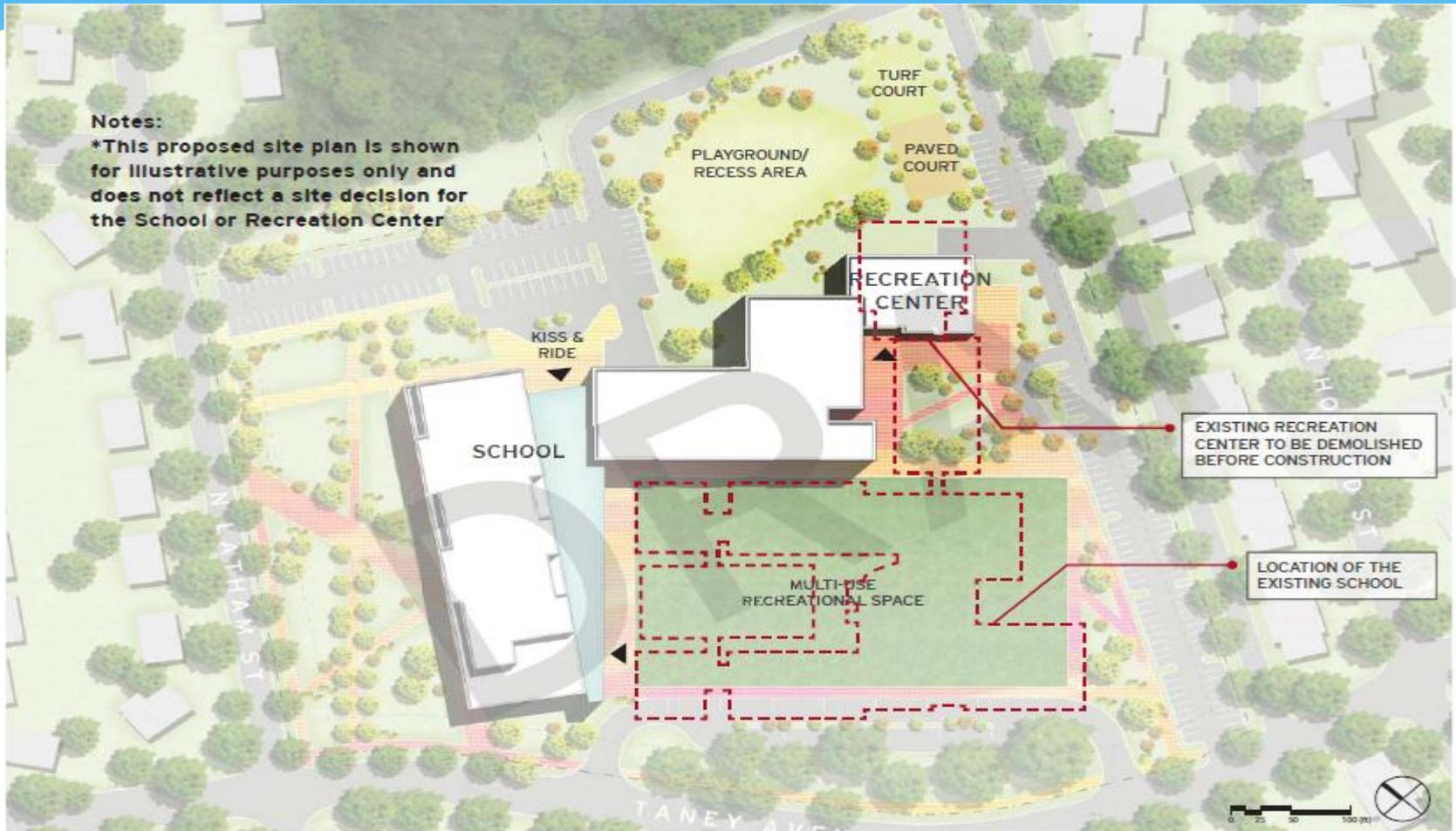
- * **School Centered Scenario:** Focuses on before and after school care and programs for the students and their families enrolled at Patrick Henry preK-8 school.
- * **Neighborhood Recreation Center Scenario:** This model has a market focus of the 1-mile radius surrounding the site, in addition to the Patrick Henry students and families.
- * **Community Recreation Facility Scenario:** This model includes programs that attract users from the entire City.

School Centered Scenario

Types of Programming Available:

- School Year Power-On: Ages 6 – 12
- Summer Power-On: Ages 6 – 12
- Summer Before Care: Ages 6 – 14
- Youth Basketball League
- Meeting Room and limited daytime community programming

School Centered Scenario

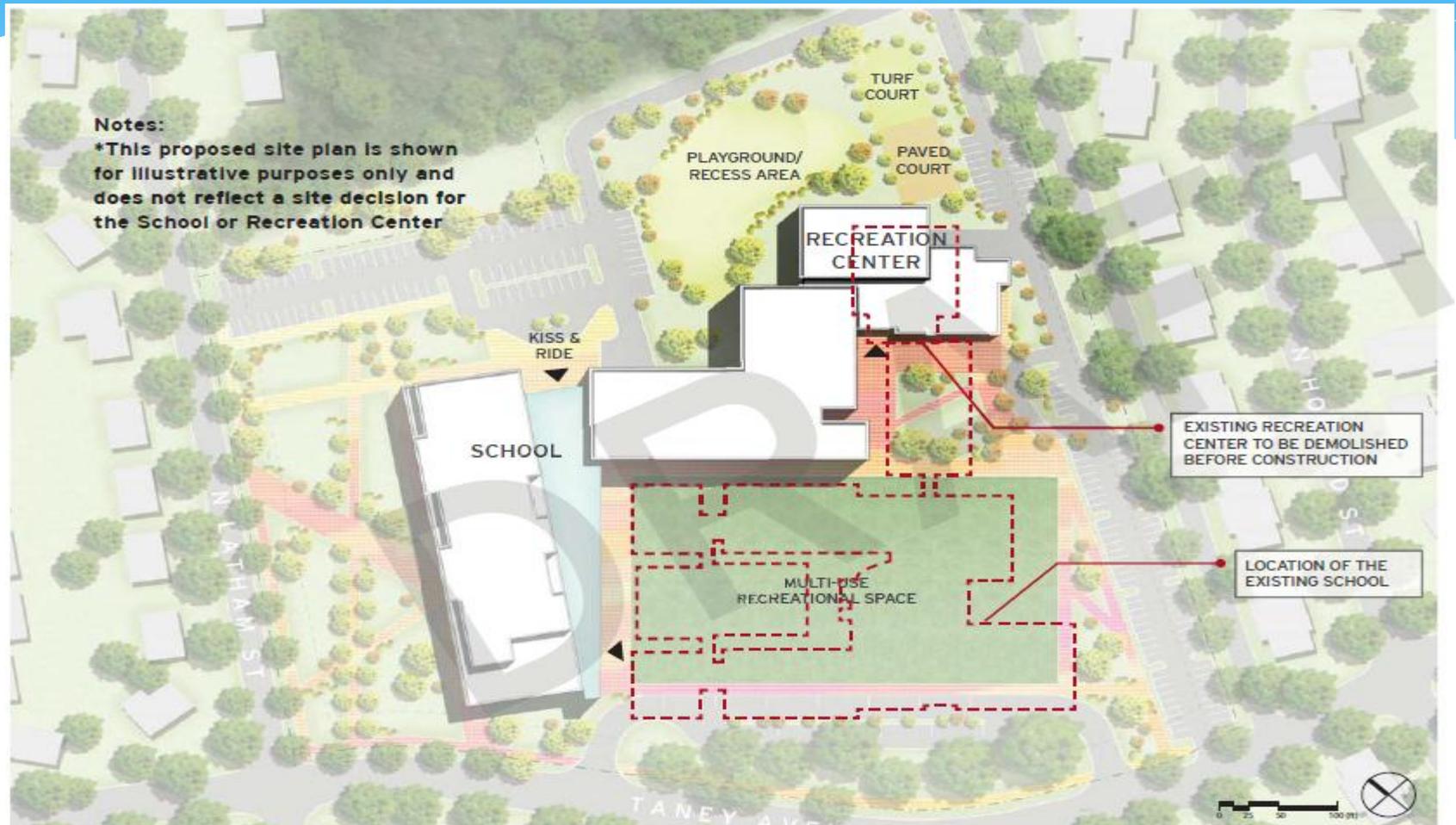


Neighborhood Recreation Scenario

Types of Programming Available:

- School Year Power-On: Ages 6 – 12
- Summer Power-On: Ages 6 – 12
- Summer Before Care: Ages 6 – 14
- Youth Basketball League
- Meeting Room
- Soccer: Ages 3 – 5
- Parent & Child Soccer: Ages 2 – 3
- Youth Flag Football League
- Specialized camps, including nature, “build it,” art, theatre
- Drop-in fitness room
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Aerobic Dancing
- Senior club programs

Neighborhood Recreation Scenario

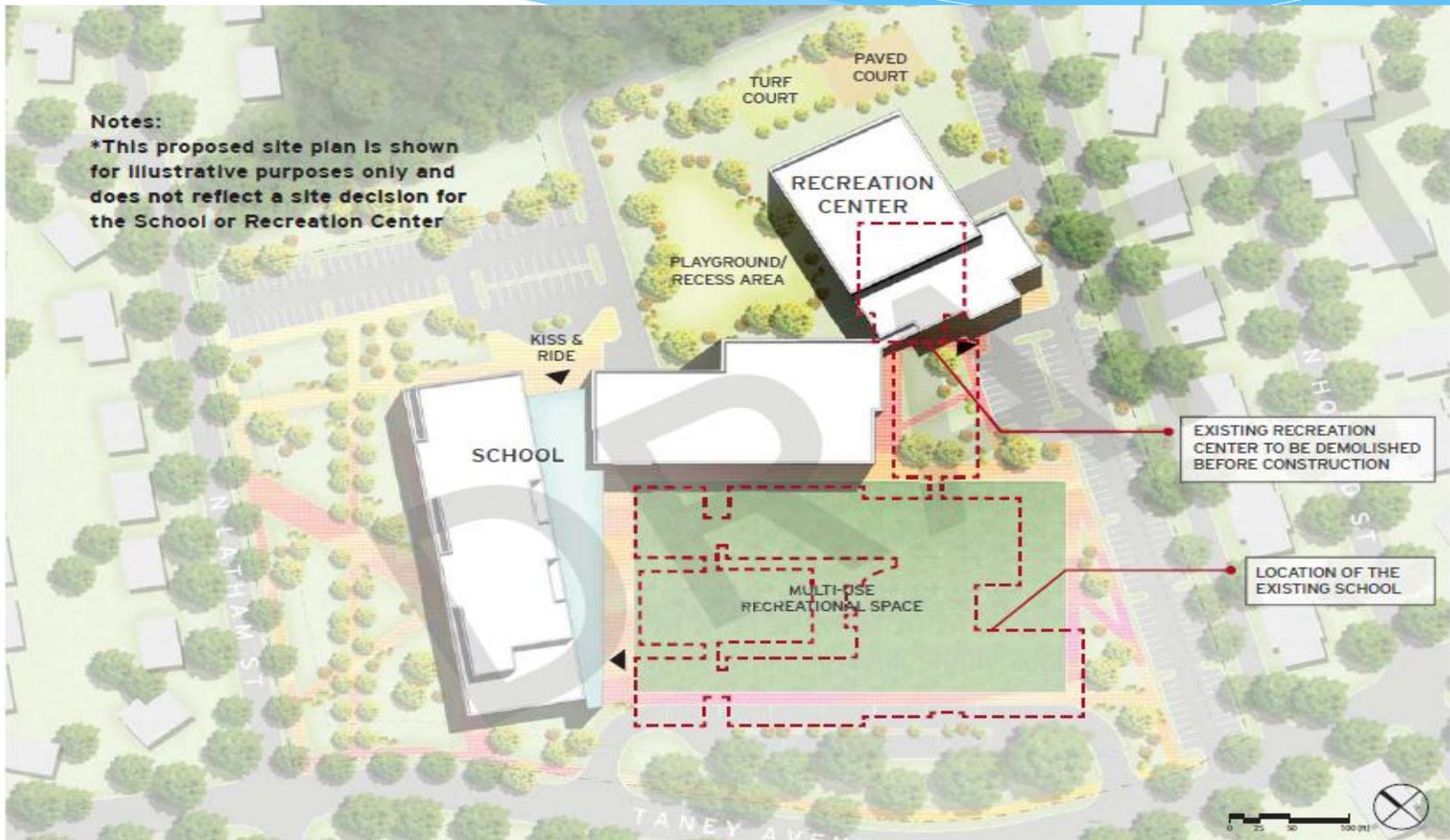


Community Recreation Facility Scenario

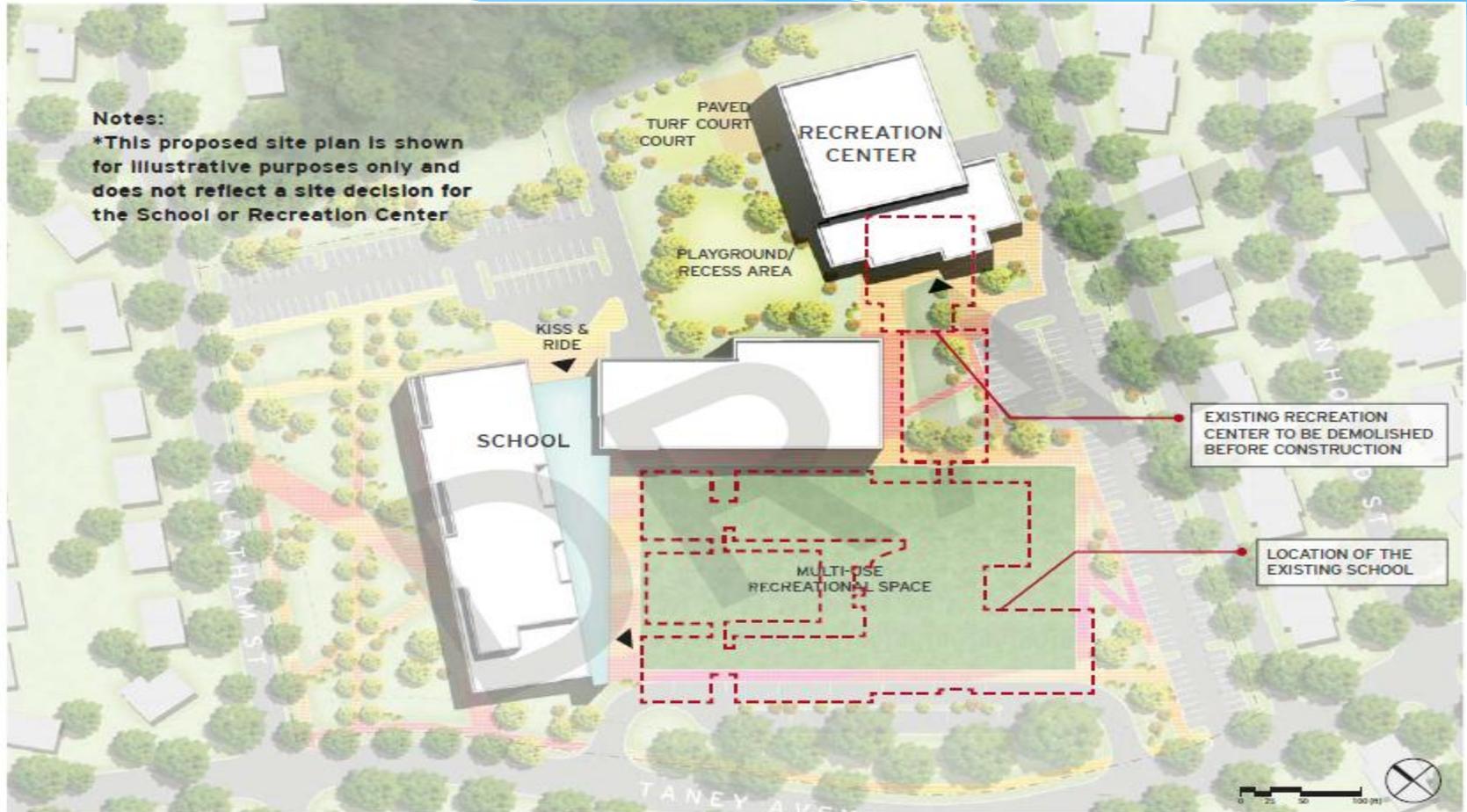
Types of Programming Available:

- School Year Power-On: Ages 6 – 12
- Summer Power-On: Ages 6 – 12
- Summer Before Care: Ages 6 – 14
- Youth Basketball League
- Meeting Room
- UK Elite Petite Soccer: Ages 3 – 5
- UK Petite Parent & Child Soccer: Ages 2 – 3
- Youth Flag Football League
- Specialized camps, including Various fitness programs, including: Zumba, Boxercise Fitness, BeFit, High Intensity Interval Training, Functional Fitness for Older Adults, Yoga & Pilates, Cardio N Tone, Youth and adult fencing, Pickleball, Adult Volleyball, Racquetball, Youth & Adult dance
- Youth & adult computer programs
- Preschool age programs including: Soft Play Story Time, Soft Time Players, Music Together, tumbling, art, lil gymmies
- Specialized camps, including, computer, chess, bike, sports, nature, “build it,” art, theatre
- Drop-in fitness center
- Indoor sports
 - Soccer/ Futsal
 - Lacrosse
 - Football
 - Rugby
 - Track/walking path
- Gymnastics
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Aerobic Dancing
- Senior club programs

Community Recreation Facility Scenario



Community Recreation Facility Scenario



June 2015 Community Survey Findings

The community survey asked about programming preferences. For the 146 respondents, it showed that:

- * 79 chose the Community Recreation Facility programming as their first choice.
- * 24 chose the Neighborhood Recreation Center programming as their first choice.
- * 52 chose the School Center programming as their first choice.

June 2015 Community Survey Findings

The survey also asked whether respondents would use each type of center.

- * 63% would use the Community Recreation Facility
- * 60% would use the Neighborhood Recreation Center
- * 25% would use the School Centered Recreation Center

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City continue to work with ACPS on a site plan/design option that includes a **Neighborhood Recreation Center.**

Next Steps

- * City Council recommendation on preferred programming option
– June 23, 2015
- * City/ACPS joint development of site plan/design for preferred option