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.
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.
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
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.
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
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.
RPCHA conducted Neighborhood Needs Assessment to determine recreational needs for a new center in July 2014, similar to the 2013 Citywide Needs Assessment.
The need for indoor fitness and exercise facilities in Alexandria is fifty-two percent (52%).
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.
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

Notes:
*This proposed site plan is shown for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect a site decision for the School or Recreation Center.
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
### 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

Notes:
*This proposed site plan is shown for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect a site decision for the School or Recreation Center.
Community Recreation Facility Scenario

Notes:
* This proposed site plan is shown for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect a site decision for the School or Recreation Center.
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.
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 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