

City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities  
**Park Facility Standards Manual**



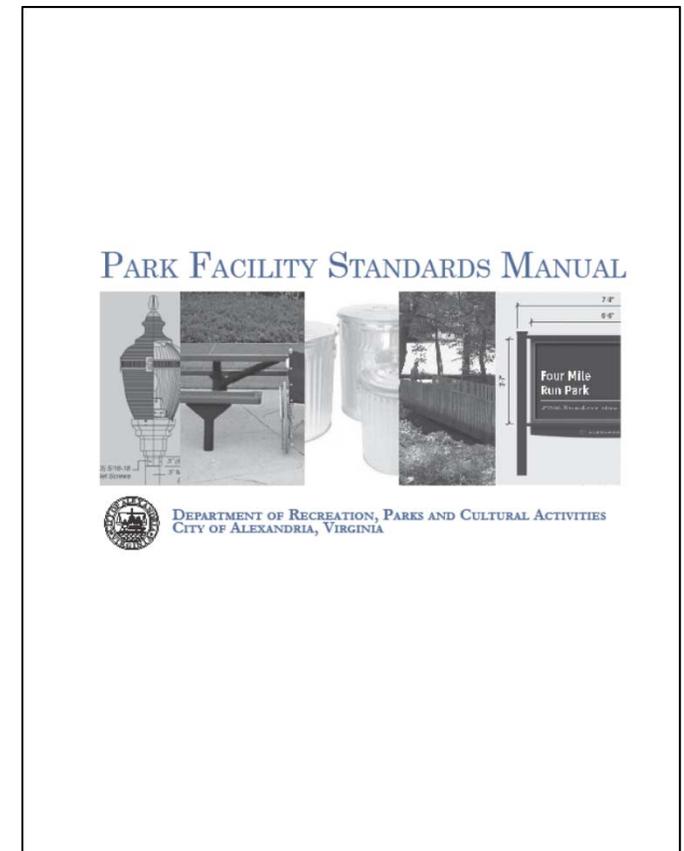
# Park Facility Standards Manual

## Intent

- Resource document to provide guidance for future park projects and replacement initiatives for components, treatments and installation of materials
- Create a common character within the park system

## Performance Criteria

- **Safety and Welfare:** current industry standards for participants and all users
- **Sustainability:** environmental and economic considerations
- **Lifespan and Maintenance:** maintenance, replacement and durability
- **Function:** response to identified need and context



# Park Facility Standards Manual

## Requirements and Factors Integrated

- **Local Regulation:** City Codes, zoning, building codes
- **Accessibility:** references to ADA and Access Board Documents
- **Material Requirements:** durability and weather Protection
- **Maintenance Requirements:** access, ease, inputs
- **Recycled Content:** national standards (US EPA, LEED) and local initiatives
- **Aesthetic Requirements:** styles, colors and finish
- **Product Warranty Requirements:** lifecycle impact
- **Product Recommendation:** new solution or current standard, context considerations
- **Reference Imagery:** cut sheets, installations

**BENCH | PARK**  
CHAPTER 2: SITE FURNISHINGS

02

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**PURPOSE**  
Park benches shall be located along paths and trails adjacent to activity areas.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**  
A standard, free-standing bench shall have back support and two side rails.  
The standard model is the Victor Stanley, Classic Series, model CR-96 (6 foot length), with vertical slats, backrest and two side handrails in black, or City approved equal.  
Benches shall comply with City of Alexandria Small Area Plan Requirements.

**MATERIALS AND FINISH**  
Benches shall be constructed of a sturdy, durable metal such as galvanized steel, ductile cast iron or other metals designed for commercial and exterior use.  
Metal finishing shall be of high-quality, permanently affixed powder coating, applied through a heat-finished process.  
Metal elements of benches shall be black in color.  
Metal products shall have smooth welds, joints and corners. Joint fasteners shall be imbedded or sealed.  
Benches shall contain a minimum of 70% post-consumer steel.

**FEATURES**  
Benches may include a center rail.

**INSTALLATION**  
Benches shall be permanently affixed to a hardscape surface (concrete, pavers, etc.).  
Provide 3 feet- 4 inches minimum hardscape clearance on the accessible sides of benches.  
Provide a solid surface of 3 feet-4 inches by 3 feet-4 inches minimum accessible area directly adjacent to benches.  
Trash or recycling cans shall be placed 5 feet minimum from a bench.  
Benches shall be located in seasonally shaded areas when possible.

**LIFE CYCLE EXPECTATIONS**  
A 10 year warranty is required.  
Benches are anticipated to require replacement after 20 years of normal and ordinary use.

Bench location, plan view

Park bench

Not to scale

City of Alexandria  
June 01, 2012

**BENCH | PARK** 01

# Park Facility Standards Manual

## Assessment of Existing Facility Standards

- Components: Including benches, signs, fencing, etc.
- Materials: Surfacing, structures, exterior coatings
- Installation: Preferred attachments/connections, contextual interface, installation process

## Research and Evaluation of Identified Needs

- Site Furnishings, Fences and Walls, Surfaces, Park Structures, Playgrounds, Ball Courts and Athletic Facilities, Utility Systems, Signs, and Marina Facilities

## Collaboration with City Initiatives

- City Wayfinding Program
- Trail and Pavement Standards
- Historic District and Citywide Department Standards

## Lifespan and Lifecycle Replacement Planning

- Warranties
- Response to climate and user context



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## Next Steps

- Update annually to ensure coordination with industry standards and industry offerings
- Regular coordination with park inventory and current studies
- Supplemental chapter for enclosed/covered park facilities
- Companion document with installation details



Simpson Park



Hooffs Run Park and Greenway

Questions?