

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** FEBRUARY 28, 2012

**TO:** ALEXANDRIA PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**FROM:** JUDY GUSE-NORITAKE, CHAIRPERSON

**SUBJECT:** NOTICE OF THE ALEXANDRIA PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012

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The Alexandria Park and Recreation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on the open space and recreational elements of the Beauregard Corridor Small Area Plan, followed by its regular meeting on **Thursday, March 22, 2012**. The meeting will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Jerome “Buddie Ford” Nature Center, 5700 Sanger Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia. Please note the change in meeting date from March 15, 2012.

At the close of the meeting, the Commission will take comments on any other topics from the public. Please call me at 703.739.9366, ext. 105, if you are unable to attend or if you have questions.

**City of Alexandria, Virginia  
Park and Recreation Commission**

**PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING**

**Thursday, March 22, 2012, 7:00 p.m.  
Jerome “Buddie Ford “Nature Center  
5700 Sanger Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia**

**Agenda**

- I.** Call to Order by Chair.
- II.** Approval of Summary Minutes from January 19, 2012 and February 16, 2012.
- III.** Public Hearing on the open space and related recreational elements of the Beauregard Corridor Small Area Plan.
- IV.** Division Updates:
  - A. Recreation Programs and Service Update - William Chesley
  - B. Park Operations Report - Jack Browand
  - C. Office of the Arts Update - Alisa Carrel
  - D. Park Planning Updates – Ron Kagawa and Division Team
    - i. Division Updates:
      - Active Park Projects -Update
      - Carlyle Plaza II-Update
      - Transitway Corridor B Feasibility Study-Update
  - E. Marketing, Public Relations & Special Events – Cheryl Lawrence
- V.** Director’s Report - James Spengler (verbal updates):
  - A. FY 2013 Budget and CIP
  - B. Jones Point Park-Update
- VI.** Report from Commissioners (verbal updates):
  - A. Waterfront Committee - Gina Baum
  - B. Youth Sport Committee - Bob Moir
  - C. Four Mile Run - Ripley Forbes
  - D. Freedman’s Cemetery - Bob Moir
  - E. ACPS & Capital Improvements- Judy Guse-Noritake
  - F. Jones Point Park Liaison Group- Judy Guse-Noritake
  - G. Community Gardens Policy- Next Steps-Judy Noritake
  - H. Ft. Ward- Ripley Forbes, Bob Moir
  - I. ACPS School Projects- Judy Noritake
  - J. Jefferson Houston School - William Cromley
- VII.** At the close of the meeting, the Commission will take comments on any other topic from the public.
- VIII.** Agenda items for April meeting and location.

City of Alexandria, Virginia  
Park and Recreation Commission

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Thursday, January 19, 2012, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Charles Houston Recreation Center**  
**901 Wythe Street, Alexandria, Virginia**

**Summary Minutes**

Commission Members: Chairperson, Judy Guse-Noritake, Gina Baum, Stephen Beggs, Richard Brune, William Cromley, Ripley Forbes, Robert Moir, Mollie Timmons, Caleb Vogt. Absent: John Sullivan.

RPCA Staff: Director James Spengler, William Chesley, Deputy Director Recreation Services, Jack Browand, Acting Deputy Director Park Operations, Ron Kagawa, Division Chief Park Planning and Capital Projects, Laura Durham, Open Space Coordinator, David Ghezzi, Architect, Dana Wedeles, Park Planner, and Robin DeShields, Executive Assistant. Absent: Alisa Carrel, Deputy Director Office on the Arts, Cheryl Lawrence, Acting Director, Marketing, Special Events & Marina.

Guests: Rashad K. Friday, MBA, MS, Project Manager, and Lisa Jaatinen, P.E., Project Manager, City of Alexandria, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES).

- I. Call to Order by Chair. 7:00 pm.
- II. Approval of Summary Minutes from October 20, 2011, November 17, 2011.
  - October 20, 2011- Rich Brune motioned to approve the minutes, William Cromley seconded the motion, the minutes were approved.
  - November 17, 2011- Rich Brune motioned to approve the minutes, Caleb Vogt seconded the motion, the minutes were approved. The P&RC did not meet in December.
- III. **Washington Street Streetscape Improvement Project Presentation** - Rashad K. Friday, T&ES. See Staff Report – dated 1/9/12, Washington St. Streetscape Project (VDOT Project #U000-100-616) City of Alexandria, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES). Rashad Friday, project manager, gave a brief verbal presentation on the streetscape project. The project area is Washington St., between Church and Gibbon Sts. (see map). The Streetscape Project – will make improvements to sidewalks with brick, buffers, and street trees. The lighting poles and fixtures will be replaced from the existing Cobra head lights to the National Park Service Antique Decorum existing light fixtures. Additionally, a new Capital Bikeshare Station will be added. The project is federally funded and is moving at a very aggressive time schedule. The project is currently in the design phase- with completion of the design phase anticipated for the spring of 2012. Construction is expected to begin in the summer, for duration of five to six months. T&ES has been working with RPCA Park Planning, Design and Capital Development staff Ron Kagawa. Please direct comments to [Rashad.Friday@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Rashad.Friday@alexandriava.gov). For copy of presentation see [www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation/Commission](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation/Commission) Reports.
  - Questions/Comments:
  - The Chair and Commission discussed widening the sidewalk near the block north of St. Mary's Cemetery. The Chair observed that people traveling south to the bridge or heading to Jones Point Park currently have difficulty making their way on Washington Street to and from the access to the Woodrow Wilson Bridge pedestrian/bike lane due to the very narrow sidewalk and the parallel parking along the closest blocks. This is further complicated by

poles for power lines being located in the middle of the narrow sidewalk. On weekends this gets a lot of bike and walker traffic and the bikers ride on the sidewalk because of the parking along the street. A suggestion was made to possibly remove the parallel parking on the weekend and stripe it for weekend bike use, parking during the weeks, to allow people to access the bridge trail on foot and bikes more easily particularly on the east side of Washington Street.

- Cromley- suggested installing a striped crosswalk in the future to help alert pedestrians where to cross Washington near the bridge.
- Friday- widening sidewalk is not planned. In response to another question, he said traffic lane widths near area are very narrow, 9-10 feet. It will be a challenge to improve bike width.
- Chair- regarding parallel parking-make this a share road only on the weekends, allowing parking during the week.

IV. Discussion on Friends Groups: See Attached Report- Laura Durham and Dana Wedeles gave an update on “Friends Groups”. (See Staff Report). Park Planning reviewed the process for establishing park “friends groups” in surrounding jurisdictions, i.e. Fairfax, Arlington, and Montgomery Counties, as compared to groups in the City of Alexandria. Arlington Co. is similar to Alexandria City. In Fairfax and Montgomery Co. all Friends Groups are required to be 501C3 or to partner with 501C3 groups. The Chair said this is a good idea because there are reporting requirements. Organizing a 501C3 group is a long process (takes about three years). There are many advantages of 501C3 groups, such as the ability to accept donations and tax advantages. An example of a 501C3 partnership in the City of Alexandria City is the Miracle League of Alexandria, which has partnered with the Kelly Cares organization to build a miracle field at Lee Center field. Another example of a potential partnership for the Duron building and park, is to partner with the Del Ray Artisans which is a 501C3 organization. The Chair and Director discussed the challenges and opportunities of overlapping friends groups in one park. The Chair believes there should be a limit of one friends group for each park, while the Director believes that more will get accomplished by allowing multiple friends groups to co-exist in parks.

The Next Steps for Staff:

1. Standardize the MOU format for future and renewing friend’s groups (and other partnerships) in Alexandria.
2. Establish a step-by-step process for interested groups.
3. Provide information on the process through the Park Planning website and other marketing platforms.

V. Division Updates: See Staff Reports.

A. **Recreation Programs and Service Update** - William Chesley - See Staff Report.

- Staff is gearing up for basketball season. Youth Sports has increased 23% during the last three years. Staff is collaborating with Alexandria Soccer Association (ASA) to do after school soccer clinics. Director RPCA has spoken with sports staff - with the growth this year in basketball, they are running out of space in the gym. If no additional facilities are coming on-line staff may have to: restrict enrollment, implement a wait list, charge a fee, or extend program hours. The Chair underscored to Commissioners the importance of attending the upcoming budget meetings, to encourage full-size basketball courts, and athletic fields. Mr. Chesley said 90 to 100 teams are trying to find an uncommitted space for practice sessions most evenings. The lack of space impacts staff’s ability to hold drop-in programs.

B. **Park Operations Report** - Jack Browand - See Staff Report.

- The Department is moving forward with the hiring of two new Division Chiefs. The Division Chief of Natural Resources will be on-board soon. This new position will oversee, Urban Forestry, Horticulture, land management, school sites, and the “Buddie Ford” Nature Center.
- C. Office of the Arts Update - Alisa Carrel (not in attendance) - See Staff Report.
- D. Park Planning Updates – Ron Kagawa and Division Team.
- i. **Division Updates: See Staff Reports.**
    - **External Project Requests (Fall 2011)** - Update from November 17, 2011 P&RC Meeting - See Staff Report. See report for list of projects (8) and Commission recommendations.
    - **Active Park Projects including Capital Improvement Projects-Update** - See Staff Report. Mr. Kagawa provided an update on the Freedman’s Cemetery project bids. The first set of bids was rejected by the City’s Purchasing Department. Staff will review a new set of bids tomorrow. In response to a question from Mr. Brune as to why the first bids were rejected, Mr. Kagawa said the project is being constructed with mitigation funds from the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project, and has to meet a number of FHWA and VDOT procurement requirements.
    - **Capital Facilities Maintenance Projects (CFMP)** - Update January 2012 – See Staff Report. David Ghezzi, Architect provided update. The reports show ongoing and completed maintenance projects at City Recreation Centers, and the 4-Mile Run “Duron” community building. The Department of General Services in collaboration with RPCA is developing a system-wide situational analysis of Recreation Center mechanical, electrical and structural systems. Findings will provide guidance for future priorities and resource needs. Director RPCA, James Spengler said the department is trying to move to predictive maintenance. The City has a number of CFMP accounts, totaling several million dollars a year to repair and renovate existing structures. Better coordination is needed among Departments with CFMP programs, to ensure that as the City builds new facilities (e.g. P.Y. Park, Witter Field) there is a corresponding analysis, and establishment of a budget for future repairs/replacements. Industry standards for buildings, asset’s value, maintenance budget, and depreciation process will also be examined. Input will be needed from the P&RC in the future.
    - **Memorandum to the Mayor and City Council dated January 4, 2012** – Progress Update, Jones Point Park, Witter Athletic Complex, Potomac Yard Park and Potomac Yard/Simpson Park Athletic Field - See Staff Report. Information was provided in response to an inquiry from Councilman Fannon. The Chair, said the neighbors seem satisfied with the progress on the work at JPP. The park will be one of the largest in the City and is expected to come on-line at the end of June 2012. The park will be managed and maintained by the NPS. At Witter Athletics, the rectangular fields will be complete in the spring; however the park will not be completed until fall, 2012. Action item: The Director reminded staff to schedule a ribbon cutting for these events in the fall.
- E. **Marketing, Special Events & Waterfront Update** - Cheryl Lawrence (absent) - See Staff Report for a list of upcoming events. The Chair commented that there are a number of new events on the list; she noted that the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual G.W. Parkway Classic 10 Miler race will be held –April 22. Jack Browand briefed Commissioner Moir on the new Civil War Ballooning Event to be held on April 28. He stated that balloons were used during the Civil War for observation. Activities will occur in the area of Ben Brenman Park.

Other- The new City mobile stage was delivered in December, and is expected to be ready for use by the summer season.

**VI. Director's Report - James Spengler (verbal updates):**

- A. **Metro Station location and impact on Potomac Yard Park:** Please see Staff Report: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in cooperation with the City of Alexandria, WMATA, and National Park Service (NPS) are preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Potomac Yard Metro Station. The Director said the importance of bringing this item before the Commission during this stage, is to encourage active discussion of the project, to seek the best Alternative (see report). Kagawa - said two of the Alternatives being considered (D-Series) may impact the P.Y. Landbay K Linear Park. Tracks will be elevated. Scale of construction is similar to Tysons Corner-VA Route 123- metro flyover. The drawings identify concept locations but do not demonstrate the visual or jurisdictional impacts. For example, the actual track and easements may be three times the physical width of the track itself. It is important that there be public comment on these schemes. On February 6, options will be presented, City Hall, Room 1101.

The Chair provided brief background on the federal EIS process. Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) the full range of options have to be disclosed and made available to the public for comment. Comments will be invited at this meeting. The Chair encouraged members to attend the February 6 meeting, and comment during the early stages of the Draft EIS.

B. **RPCA FY13 Budget and CIP Update (verbal report):** See Budget Handouts:

- **FY 2013 Budget Adjustment Requests Summary:** The Director RPCA briefed the Commission on the additional budget requests and answered questions. (See Report for list of items). The City Manager will make his budget recommendations to Council in February. There will be an add/delete session. The budget will be adopted at the first meeting in May.
- **FY 2013 Potential Expenditure Reduction Summary:** The Director reviewed the list of potential budget reductions with the Commission and answered questions.
- The Chair asked the Director to keep the Commission informed, they will weigh in on budget items if needed.

- C. **School 10-year CIP FY13 to FY22:** See Attached Chart - RPCA/ACPS Shared Facility Combined CIP's. The Director RPCA asked Mr. Kagawa, Division Chief, Park Planning, Design and Capital Projects to prepare a comparison chart of RPCA/ACPS CIP projects in common, with the goal of joint planning. There are several meetings scheduled with ACPS. The Director, also suggested to the School Superintendent, to allow RPCA staff to handle outdoor school CIP tasks. This would allow ACPS staff to focus more on their indoor facilities. Mr. Spengler said that the City and ACPS CIP's processes should be combined. In addition, there needs to be community facilities CIP to include jointly shared facilities regardless of ownership. Planning should be focused at the community facility level. An advantage of collaborating with ACPS is that the schools have a large CIP budget; this would prove beneficial for expanding services.

As part of the Jefferson Houston project, the School Board approved a document called Pre-k to 8 Educational Specifications. The document specifies the types of rooms and activities that will take place inside certain schools, and outdoor areas. The Chair commented that specifications are based on State of Virginia Standards, which are sub-

urban, Alexandria City is urban. The Director said a companion document is needed, to look at what community activities can take place at facilities – to meet community needs, in addition to academics activities. There is also a need to look at how the rooms are arranged within facilities to meet community needs.

Dana Wedeles and Park Planning staff reviewed the chart for the Commission, items in red show the major conflict areas between the RPCA, and ACPS, Capital Improvement budgets (See chart). Wedeles said staff reviewed items that appeared questionable with ACPS staff and ACPS will provide clarification. The Chair said that some of the discrepancies may be due to recent turnover in ACPS planning staff. The Chair and staff reviewed the larger dollar projects on the chart (See chart- pg. 2) including the following synthetic turf field conversions projects.

Hammond Middle School FY19- Artificial turf is proposed for lower Hammond field, estimated cost \$1.8 million (a low estimate given site conditions). ACPS stated they are unsure if they want a field here, however cost is included in the CIP for the time being. Chair- There is also discussion regarding this field in the Beaugard Plan that in addition to installing an artificial turf field at Ramsay, there may be Developer money for Lower Hammond field? The question is why it is in the school CIP when the target could and should be developer dollars to do it in the same time-frame.

George Washington Middle School- FY17- artificial turf to be installed at Braddock field estimated cost- \$1.8 million. In response to question from Cromley, as to whether the field includes lights. Wedeles- the CIP-does not specify whether lights are included.

Minnie Howard-FY20. ACPS- has money allocated for replacement of artificial turf- 2.5+ million. RPCA also has replacement of turf in their CIP plan for FY2017. Chair- there seems to be a lack of understanding of who is responsible, ownership, maintenance, operation of CIP for some items.

Baum- asked how these discrepancies will be handled by RPCA.  
Wedeles- They are having open dialog with ACPS.

Chair- four new tennis courts are also being proposed at Minnie Howard. Parents at T.C want six courts located there for tournaments. Land is scarce there.

T.C. Williams H.S. FY19- install artificial turf baseball field. Chair- they don't currently have a baseball field- a new baseball field be would larger than the athletic field-there not enough land available here. Moir- spoke with Athletic Director, the thought is to put a baseball field near Chinquapin. The Athletic Dept. wants to move activities back near school. Also discussed putting a softball field near school.

Action: Email comments to Dana Wedeles at [Dana.Wedeles@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Dana.Wedeles@alexandriava.gov).

- D. **Jefferson Houston School Open Space and K-8 sports field planning-** William Cromley liaison for the project gave update. Mr. Cromley, after speaking with a school board member, was surprised to find that no money had been budgeted for a field yet. There was talk about having some small fields around the project. Staff said it is critical that an artificial turf field, with lights be part of the project. The Chair said that this will be discussed at the monthly City Council/School Board meeting on Monday at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Workroom. The Chair attends these meetings regularly. Mr. Cromley attends the Schools Steering Committee meetings; which are held 2-3 hrs. every week, he would welcome Ms. Baum attending with him, now that the Waterfront SAP is coming to an end. The Chair may also try to attend as schedule permits. The Chair referred

members to the list of Community Input Meetings (See Handout). The next meeting is February 6. The Chair will be unable to attend because the P.Y. Metro Station EIS meeting is the same day. The Chair encouraged members to attend these meetings.

The Director RPCA said that attending these meetings is important because Jefferson Houston will be the first Pre-K through 8 school. Cora Kelly and Patrick Henry schools will follow this model. What happens here will impact other projects. The ACPS Pre K-8 Education Specifications adopted by the School Board, state that at a minimum a middle school should have one full-size field, so why is this not included. Education Specs. also say that the school will have a gymnasium, available for use after school hours; however, the size of the gymnasium is not specified. We need fields with artificial turf with lights, and full-sized gymnasiums. It would also be nice to have the community rooms located in accessible area. Facilities need to serve the community. Chair- said there are no more funds available; we have to accomplish needs jointly with ACPS. There is also concern that when Patrick Henry is re-built, on the existing field, while the existing school is left in place this will add to the deficit in fields.

Discussion on field size:

The Chair, Commissioners and RPCA staff discussed what the standard size and recommendations are for recreational fields and gymnasiums. RPCA Park Planning staff provided standard sizes of the field – 330 X 260 sq. ft., this information was later corrected to 380 X 260 sq. ft. which includes run out area. The specification size of a full-sized gymnasium is 12,000 sq. ft. The Director RPCA said that the ACPS Education Specifications state the size of a full-sized field to be 200 sq. ft. X 400 sq. ft., this is different than RPCA standards. The Chair asked Commissioners to remember and communicate these specifications when they are attending meetings. After discussion and at the suggestion of Mr. Forbes, the Chair and Commission agreed to take a more formal approach and convey RPCA's specifications in a written letter to the School Board, who may not be aware of the recommended specifications for recreational programs. The Chair said that when we build a green building, the specs. state specifically that rooftop areas should be used for gardens. The Chair said that ACPS should be encouraged to do rooftop planning, and to use school rooftops for outdoor classes and activities. Ms. Wedeles encouraged staff to attend the February 6 meeting.

Action item: The Chair asked Ms. Wedeles to email the Commission with the time and location of each meeting, and to keep the Commission briefed with bulleted updates as issues arise.

- E. City Manager new Organizational Chart - See Attached memorandum dated 1/6/12 from new City Manager Rashad M. Young, CMO –Senior Staff Realignment. The Director RPCA will now report to Debra Collins, Assistant City Manager for the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS). Prior to this change RPCA was positioned, more in the development area. The focus now will be more in line with Youth and Human Services. The Chair recently met with Assistant City Manager Collins, in order to bring her up to date on some items.
- F. Jones Point Park Update- See Attached Memo from RPCA, Park Planning, Design & Capital Development Team. There were no comments.

**VII.** Nomination of Officers for 2012 - Elections to be held in February:

The Chair asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Commissioner Forbes motioned to nominate the current slate of officers for the 2012 term. The motion was seconded by Rich Brune. All were in favor. Members nominated for re-election are: Judy Guse-Noritake, Chair, Robert Moir, Vice Chair, and Richard Brune, Secretary. A formal vote will be held at the February meeting.

**VIII. Report from Commissioners (verbal updates):**

- a. **Waterfront Committee** - Gina Baum. A public hearing is scheduled for Saturday, January 21, 2012 with City Council on the Waterfront SAP in City Hall, Council Chambers. The Chair distributed a letter from the Waterfront Work Group to the Mayor dated 1/6/12. P&RC comments are reflected in the letter. The Chair, and Commissioners Baum and Cromley, have signed up to speak at the hearing. The Chair encouraged others to attend the meeting and speak in support of the Plan. Having a continuous waterfront walk is important. The Chair said that the Commission interests generally align with the plan going before City Council, the meeting is expected to be lengthy.
- b. **Youth Sport Committee** – Bob Moir- no report. Mr. Moir recently replaced Jeffrey Murphy on the YSC. Mr. Murphy attended the last YSC meeting.
- c. **Four Mile Run** - Ripley Forbes- no report.
- d. **Freedman’s Cemetery** - Bob Moir- group discussed bids.
- e. **ACPS & Capital Improvements**- Judy Guse-Noritake. The Chair attended the ACPS CIP meeting. The field and track at Francis Hammond School was discussed. There was support for the field, by School Board members, Sheryl Gorsuch and Mimi Carter, and by City Council members.
- f. **Jones Point Park Liaison Group**- Judy Guse-Noritake- See Item. III. A.i, bullet #4.
- g. **Community Gardens Policy- Next Steps**- Judy Noritake. The Chair is in the process of developing a list of names for a meeting to discuss community gardens. The group will look at various garden options. Target date for meeting is February.
- h. **Ft. Ward**- Ripley Forbes and Bob Moir: Mr. Forbes -said group’s oversight is good. The primary purpose is to outline a long term Management Plan. Money has been set aside in the budget. The next step will be to focus on the historical and interpretative elements. Moir- said strong leadership and direction are needed. There was a discussion of moving meetings from Ft. Ward Park because it is not ADA compliant, group prefers to stay at Ft. Ward. Laura Durham said meetings will be held at Minnie Howard in future.
- i. **ACPS School Projects**- Judy Noritake- Jefferson Houston presentation-TBD. Kagawa- project not sufficiently funded for the all-weather field.
- j. **Jefferson Houston School** – William Cromley. Mr. Cromley distributed a flier (see Handout) with the dates upcoming Community Input Meetings – (3/6, 4/10, 5/8, 6/4/12).

**OTHER-New Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Open Document Rules:**

The Chair sent members an email with the new FOIA Open Document Rules on January 25, 2012, information includes a cover memo from Joanna C. Anderson, Assistant City Attorney (copy attached). “Currently members of boards and commissions do not have City email addresses and are not directly on the City’s FOIA Systems” (pg. 2, para. 5). The new regulations would establish City Email Accounts for the Planning Commission in order to help comply with FIOA requests. The new guidelines apply to other boards/commissions including the Park and Recreation Commission. The Chair expressed concern about the burden these new rules place on the P&RC, which is only an advisory group. She has received two recent FOIA requests asking to disclose information relative to electronic communications of PRC business. The Chair said she

does not keep email records long term (7 years required) on her computer. They are being advised to maintain separate email accounts for the P&RC communications. The first FOIA the Chair received was on Hammond Lights. The Chair cautioned members to be mindful of FOIA rules including requirements related to keeping electronic documents including emails.

**IX.** Agenda items for February meeting and location: Public Hearing on Beauregard Corridor Plan-TBD - invite "Friends of Dora Kelly", location, Charles Houston Community Center, to be confirmed. The Chair will be out of town in March, Vice Chair Robert Moir will chair March meeting.

**X.** Adjourned: 9:35 p.m.

At the close of the meeting, the Commission will take comments on any other topic from the public. None were received.

**City of Alexandria, Virginia  
Park and Recreation Commission**

**REGULAR MEETING  
Thursday, February 16, 2012, 7:00 p.m.  
Jerome “Buddie Ford “Nature Center  
5700 Sanger Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia**

**DRAFT**

**Commission Members:** Chairperson Judy Guse-Noritake, Gina Baum, Stephen Beggs, Richard Brune, Ripley Forbes, Brian McPherson, Robert Moir, John Sullivan, Mollie Timmons. **Absent:** William Cromley, Caleb Vogt.

**RPCA Staff:** Director James Spengler; Robin DeShields, Executive Assistant; William Chesley, Deputy Director Recreation Services; Cheryl Lawrence, Acting Director Special Events/Marina; Ron Kagawa, Division Chief Park Planning; Laura Durham, Open Space Planner Park Planning; David A. Miller, Division Chief Recreation Services; Bob Taylor, Division Chief, Park Operations/Natural Resources; Kevin Williams, Division Chief, Park Operations.

**Absent:** Jack Browand, Acting Deputy Director Park Operations; Bethany Carton, Park Planner; David Ghezzi, Architect; Dana Wedeles, Park Planner.

**Guests:** Jeffrey Farner, Deputy Director Planning and Zoning, Zunilda Rodriguez, Urban Planner, Planning and Zoning; Rich Baier, Director Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) and Sandra Marks, Division Chief, T&ES, Transportation Planning Division.

- I. **Call to Order by Chair.** 7:00 pm. The Chair noted that Caleb Vogt had an excused absence.
- II. **Approval of Summary Minutes from January 19, 2012.** - Deferred to March.
- III. **Briefing on the open space and related recreational elements of the Beauregard Corridor Small Area Plan - Jeffrey Farner, Deputy Director, Planning and Zoning and Zunilda Rodriguez.**

The Chair reported that City Council and the Planning Commission had held a work session on the SAP earlier in the week and clarified that the evening’s meeting was not intended as a public hearing but a presentation to the Park and Recreation Commission. The Park and Recreation Commission’s public hearing on the plan was scheduled for March.

- A. **Staff Presentation:** Jeffrey Farner, Deputy Director, P&Z and project manager; briefed and Richard Baier, Director, T&ES and Sandra Marks, Division Chief T&ES Transportation Division responded to questions as needed. P&Z had provided the Commission an earlier overview of the Plan at its November 2011 meeting.

**Jeffrey Farner** provided a brief update of the Beauregard Corridor Small Area Plan (SAP) working draft and advised that community group inputs into the process continue. Once public inputs are completed the Plan will return to the Planning Commission and City Council. April is the target date for returning the Plan to the Commission and Council.

**The presentation is posted at [www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation/CommissonReports](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation/CommissonReports)**

**Briefing Highlights:**

- Farmer reviewed the area covered by the Plan, the buildings slated for redevelopment and the fact that staff understands P&RC’s support for having interconnected open space, particularly in the area adjacent to the Winkler Botanical Preserve.
- **Existing Zoning:** (See p. 4, Development Summary): Approximately 6 million sq. ft. of existing development is already constructed. Existing zoning allows a maximum of 10 million square feet. The Plan proposes. 12.4 million sq. ft, an increase of 2.4 million sq. ft.,
- Coordinated Development District (CDD) zoning: Existing zoning is as a CDD, a flexible zoning category which, in this early CDD, lacks specific standards regarding building design, open space or other categories.

- **Overall Land Use Strategy.** Sites for proposed hotels, residential, open space, and retail areas and a proposed new fire station at the intersection of Sanger Ave. and Beauregard St.
- **Existing Network** - consistent with all new City plans, connectivity is introduced for all transportation modes - pedestrian, cyclist and car.
- **Trails** - Street and grid network connections to the open space and trail network are highlighted.
- **Existing Neighborhoods-Transitions**- The importance of the Plan being compatible with existing neighborhoods has been raised repeatedly during public outreach and the Plan's scaled transitions between existing neighborhoods and new areas were reviewed.
- **Open Space** - Existing and proposed public open space. The plan requires that public spaces and parks, including ground level and rooftop open space, be included in the plan and clear zoning standards will be set.
- **Dora Kelly Natural Area Preservation- Street Connections**  
For the Dora Kelly Nature Park a conscious effort has been made to pull the building back from steep slopes and increase the park's size. The area would be extended visually into the Winkler Botanical Preserve- Resource Protection Area.

The relationship of buildings to the Park areas has been raised, including Dora Kelly. The Plan proposes introducing a new street and P&Z, T&ES and RPCA staffs have been discussing how to handle this sensitively along the edge of Dora Kelly Park.

- **The Plan as a Vision:** - A Small Area Plan offers a high-level vision for what the community should be in the future. Eventually rezoning, Development Special Use Permits (DSUPs), and Design Guidelines will be included.
- **Pedestrian-only spaces** - The importance of having pedestrian-only spaces, such as mid-block pedestrian connections and a greenway through many of the neighborhoods - reflects inputs from both P&RC and the community. For example, William Ramsey School and Dora Kelly would be connected by landscaped and all-green mid-block pedestrian connections and an east- west greenway.
- Shows Extension adjacent to Winkler Botanical east and west sides of the neighborhood. The storm water retention pond is now shown.
- In response to P&RC inputs, the Plan shows how residential streets will be managed for width and availability of parking.
- **Founders Park**- Street, park and units- clearly delineates public and private open space, and parks. RPCA and T&ES receive many complaints about people wanting to privatize parks and open space. The goal is to make parks as useable as possible
- **Next to John Adams** open space provided. Developer agreed to potentially have open space be programmed by Alexandria City Public Schools. Open space is accessible through John Adams- street reconfiguration to allow for drop offs.
- Chair suggested that a way to prevent open space next to John Adams from being privatized would be to move the building downward to provide in its rear a larger open space area available for pick-up games.
- **Upland Neighborhood**- the site at the intersection of Seminary and Beauregard has been discussed at length at the Planning Commission-Council Work Session. On Seminary Rd. there is a City owned lot 24,500 sq. ft. that the City wants to redevelop as part of the redevelopment. Staff has begun to consider this. In response to inputs at the recent Council-Planning Commission Work Session staff is looking at moving central open space to the middle, making it more visible from Seminary Road and increasing the amount of open space on the site.
- **Southern Towers**- see new buildings framing intersection of Seminary Rd. and Beauregard Ave.
- **Home Properties**- next to Francis Hammond Middle school- see proposed open space. Open space around the college exists; the rest is proposed space. Comment from Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) adjacent field and increasing surveillance. The new street that would be introduced, with park access, would require the relocation of Kenmore Ave. Improving access to the library is an issue of significant community interest.
- **Next Steps:** Meetings were planned for February 21, 23, and 29 and a P&RC Commission hearing was planned for March.

**B. Commission Discussion:**

- In response to Moir's question about what percentage of green space is projected by the Plan for now and thirty years from today, Farner said that there are two possible projections that he would provide at the Commission's next meeting – including a view of what exists today, including parking, streets and trees.
- Farner said that an advantage of the Plan is that this would be built into the Design Guidelines, which differs from Old Town. The challenge is that under existing zoning a developer can come in today without any standards set for open space. Other challenge is that most open space in the area today, other than the Winkler Botanical Preserve and Dora Kelly, is almost all private. Currently there is little public open space.
- In response to a question, Farner said the City definition of open space is any area 8 feet by 8 feet, unobstructed. The Chair said the Open Space Plan uses a slightly different definition.
- In response to a question, Durham said that the surface acreage of the regional storm water retention pond would be approximately 1/4 acre.
- In response to the Chair's concern about how credits would be allocated for LEED certification, Baier said that the question would be whether the storm water pond could be made as small as possible, treating water at the point source, with the runoff coming from the building-making the building greener so that the pond does not overwhelm the usable open space. As part of the plan they have brought the storm water models with them - Chapter 7 is very robust-they can discuss more when they come back in March.
- Chair- Her understanding when she first spoke with the developer was that they would obtain LEED Certification for the new community, not building-by-building but for the site. If this is true by the time development...requirements will be ratchet up for low impact development- the storm water pond may shrink. The question is where to actually put the storm water retention pond – the balance of green space may change. Durham said that current zoning considers storm water retention ponds are considered open space.
- T&ES will discuss LEED certification and stormwater retention pond further at the March meeting.
- Baier said the larger issue is to ensure the developer understands these concerns and that environmental issues that might exceed the norm need to be conveyed to the developer as part of the basic expectations. He reported that there has already been some push back from developers regarding environmental requirements.
- Baier- his take away is to ensure we develop the area in a way that creates less need for having a large storm water retention pond for runoff and instead think more about a future of more LEED Neighborhood Development.
- Durham- The storm water retention pond is years out by the time it is built, technology will have changed.
- Farner- Ms. Durham made a good point. The 1<sup>st</sup> Phase JBG is discussing will be the Town Center. The retention pond is located near garden apartments. Depending on phasing-the pond may get smaller as the plan proceeds.
- Chair- she wants to ensure that what is counted as open space and what is not open space- acreage of green shown in the eclipse (see slide about public open space). On slide about public open space-but people cannot use it due to traffic. Any open space has value, but it doesn't help.
- Baier- we heard that with the trails making open space programmable.
- Street near Dora Kelly Park and the two schools. The Chair said that she agrees with the Civic Association that there should not be a two-lane road there. It's mostly bicycle, pedestrian, promenade traffic and if privatization of the park is to be discouraged cars should not be there. If the road is needed for the transportation system, this should be stated.
- Perhaps they can in a general way, it's a little early to -show some pictures of what they believe is accomplishable. Chair- intent-that's fine.
- The Chair asked whether drawings could be provided of where the field footprint would be. Durham-said the footprint includes run-out but it is not precisely located since-engineering has not been done.

- Chair-said this location requires further thought. Because the site drops significantly, there would be a big retention wall and many trees and some public concerns have been raised questioning whether site's for a field. The early plan had had a field located near the storm water retention pond on property owned by the developers, but now the developers want the field to be on City-owned land.
- The Chair noted that Councilman Krupicka had said at the work session that an additional field may be needed due to accommodate the numbers of people likely to be added to the area.
- Farner said a total of 6,400 housing units will be added. Currently 2,500 units exist. There would be a rough increase of 3,900 units with household size averaging 2.1 persons per unit for multi-family units. The Chair said it had been difficult to get a figure for how many people would need to be served and that bringing an additional 8,000 people into the area would support Krupicka's suggestion that adding an athletic field should be considered. The Chair said that any site big enough for an athletic field would also be large enough to accommodate a school and that the schools are looking for future expansion sites. Durham said that \$3.1 million is included for another recreation area under "Active Recreation."
- Cromley said that it could be assumed that the projected-increase of 3,900 units with an average 2.1 people per unit would include one non-adult per unit, and therefore 390 additional children, a figure sufficient to justify an additional school.
- Farner said P&Z would be discussing with the School Board the dynamic model being used to forecast student numbers and noted that factors including building type, age, and price point had projected a decrease in student numbers. He offered to present the model to Commissioners at their next meeting.
- The Chair said that the people who will be living there will be younger and that his is the reason she asked for building by the school to be pulled back and recommended that smaller spaces should be made as large as possible to accommodate pick-up games and informal soccer games on unprogrammed green space. Farner agreed and said that there are spaces within the plan area that may not be programmed today, but can be programmed in the future through zoning and DSUP. The space adjacent to the school offers some options.
- In response to a question from Sullivan about what the increase would be in impervious (hardscape) surfaces would be under the Plan, Farner said he would provide that information to the Commission. Sullivan urged that when considering LEED certification, planners should consider how to increase pervious surfaces. Farner- one of the things in the plan- looks at addressing this issue.
- The Chair said that the plan adds an additional 45 acres of additional public open space, including trails, walkways and bike paths, that will be used daily by the community and that this is to be commended.
- The Chair suggested that a adding a second dog park to the plan's one park proposed by the retention park should be considered. P&RC had suggested having another park at other end.

IV. **Division Updates:** See Staff Reports.

- A. **Recreation Programs and Service Update** -William Chesley- See Staff Report. Mr. Chesley introduced David A. Miller, the new Division Chief of Recreation Services. Mr. Miller is most recently from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida where he served as the Program Superintendent the past six years. He was responsible for Out-of-School time programs, pools and aquatic facilities, and other programming. Programs that generated on average four million dollars in revenue annually. Mr. Chesley said the department is excited about having him here. The Chair welcomed Mr. Miller to the meeting.

- **Chair's comments/highlights:**

New -Winter Kickers Indoor Soccer Program held at Mt. Vernon Center – feedback was positive and there are 54 children.

Chesley- they are two new programs: Winter Kickers is a new introductory soccer program and staff collaborated with ASA to implement soccer clinics at all of the recreation centers' after school programs. This outreach is by ASAP afforded children who never participated in soccer with the opportunity to be exposed to the sport. The program was well received by the children. The Chair pointed out to Commission as they begin planning with ACPS this is the reason to have full-sized courts.

Aquatics Program – Basic Water Safety training - staff is planning to implement a basic water safety program summer camp program. Mr. Chesley said the program was first introduced last summer and reached 50% of the children; the goal is to have every child in Out of School Time programs engaged. Teaching water safety is an important initiative for the P&RC and to the community.

Moir- ASA hired a new full-time Executive Director hired last fall, which is very soccer oriented and is doing a great job visiting all the recreation Centers. More soccer players - will require more fields. The Chair- said every child should play at least one sport- all the more reason to push or consolidated green space.

**B. Park Operations Report** –Jack Browand (absent). Mr. Browand assigned to assist with the memorial service of Paramedic Joshua Weissman, who was killed in the line of duty. Director Spengler gave update (See Staff Report). The department has completed the hiring of two new Division Chiefs. Kevin Williams, Division Chief for Park Operations, promoted from Park Manager, and Dr. Robert Taylor Division Chief, Natural Resources, etc. (see report), he is also from Florida. Mr. Williams said he is excited by the opportunity to take department to a new level. Mr. Taylor said he is glad to be here and looks forward to working with the group and department.

**C. Office of the Arts Update** - Alisa Carrel (not in attendance), See Staff Report. “Duron” Community building – Laura Durham reported that the stage has been completed at the building, though railings are still needed, (the Farmers Market opens May 1). An official name has not yet been approved for the building, but a submission was sent in July to the City Manager who is a member of the Naming Committee. The Chair may follow-up with the City Manager. The Chair suggested inviting the Alexandria Poet Laureate (Amy A. Young), to do a poetry slam at to the building, preferably in the evening. Discussions are being held with Arts groups to obtain programming ideas for the building. The Chair suggested holding a round-table discussion, and doing outreach with various groups including Arlington County. regarding possible programming. She hopes summer programs will be held there i.e., environmental and sports camps. Ms. Durham said that Lyndon Murray, new Director of Cora Kelly Recreation Center, is developing a programming and marketing campaign for the building. Mr. Murray has a lot of experience with the community and has bilingual staff. The process could be formalized if desired. The Director RPCA suggested holding a P&RC meeting there soon.

**RFP for Public Art for the Freedman’s Cemetery Memorial Sculpture**- Director James Spengler, provided update - the selection panel met several weeks ago to review proposals. Three finalists were chosen, and each will receive a \$2,000 stipend to draft mock-up designs that will be presented to the community for comment. The selection panel will interview artists and make final selection. This project is currently funded and can move forward immediately once an artist is selected.

**D. Park Planning Updates** – Ron Kagawa and Division Team.

i. **Division Updates: SEE STAFF REPORTS.**

- **Active Park Projects**- See Staff Report- no questions/comments.
- **CFMP-Recreation Facilities** - See Staff Report- no questions/comments.
- **Potomac Yard Landbay D** – See Staff Report- no questions/comments.
- **Michelle Jaffe – New Division Intern** – See Staff Report - Ms. Durham introduced Ms. Jaffe. Ms. Jaffe has a background in Urban Planning, and did a thesis that included some work on Waterfront Plans. Ms. Jaffe will assist Ms. Durham , and Ms. Wedeles with the Large Park Planning process during the next few weeks.
- **Minnie Howard Adolescent Health Care Center Demolition**-See Staff Report.

ii. **OTHER ISSUES RAISED:**

1. **Follow-up on Parking Issues at Ben Brenman Park:** The Chair asked for an update on issues that will require a SUP.
  - Kagawa explained that when the field was constructed last year staff had determined that parking was adequate. People are parking along Ben Brenman Park Dr. on the shoulder between the field and Cameron Station. RPCA staff is looking at installing additional parking in the form of pervious pavers. This will require a minor amendment to the original Site Plan, not a Special Use Permit (SUP) as stated in the report. Staff will do an impact analysis of the area will keep area of paving under 2,500 sq. ft. – the threshold for Chesapeake Bay requirements (for pervious asphalt).

- In response to a question from the Chair about why pervious asphalt, as opposed to Geo cells, Kagawa responded that due to traffic, it is difficult to keep grass growing without irrigation. Staff had determined the cost of putting a turf lot on top of gravel would be more expensive. Additionally, the Office of Environmental Quality determined that if artificial turf were installed the site would become impervious. Kagawa said he wants to try a new product as a pilot in high traffic areas that could be used in the future as a solution to installing blue stone or gravel.
- Commission members expressed doubt that adding additional parking spaces would be a good long-term solution to the problem. Moir- suggested RPCA consider asking the Police Department to install spike strips, or simply enforce parking ruled by issuing tickets to violators. Sullivan- said that he believes that adding additional parking spaces will only encourage more people to park on the shoulder. He suggested installing a good size curb to help keep people out. The Chair said she prefers that green space not be paved.
- Kagawa- said that RPCA staff routinely warned individuals/groups when they register to use the fields, to adhere to parking rules. The department is open to exploring other options.
- Director Spengler said that when staff worked with the community to obtain its approval for installing lights at Ben Brenman Park the Somerville community had believed that parking would be inadequate. The perception is that parking is inadequate particularly when both fields are in use.
- The Director said that staff had promised the community as part of the project approval to provide additional parking. The proposal is to add additional stripping on Somerville to yield 11 more parking spaces, the number of additional parking spaces that RPCA staff had promised to residents that would be added. Keeping this commitment is important as we move forward with discussions of fields and parking at other locations. It is important to remain sensitive to and respectful of the community's concerns about parking, and it is easier to add parking to an existing roadway, than to build new parking.

2. **(Other) Francis Hammond field Update**- Mr. Kagawa provided update. ACPS is moving forward with the field, but has withdrawn the SUP for lights. The contract for the field has been awarded, and is being managed by ACPS. Expected start date is February 1, with expected completion by the end of May. RPCA Park Planning staff has provided guidance to ACPS on different construction elements. Additionally they have advised ACPS to hold a pre-construction public meeting with the community –within next two weeks. In response to Beggs, Kagawa said the scope of work is a field and a track and along Seminary Road a storm water management area-that area will be repaired.
  - Chair- said regarding lights she has discussions with a couple of the Alexandria School Board members, the intent is to put in lights into next year's CIP. School Board members are up for re-election, may lose some supporters. The Chair encouraged members to bring up issues at candidate forums. Forbes- asked if any preliminary work be included in preparation for possible future lighting. Kagawa- guidance given by P&Z was not to do preliminary work for installation of lights. Staff has since determined it would be easier to bore directly down into ground when the time comes for lights.
3. **ACPS-CIP**- The Chair said this year's budget some items are hidden below the line –ACPS turf for Jefferson Houston was included –ACPS desires money to come from the City. Chair was advised that-Lights for Francis Hammond are listed as below the line due to the budget. We should give credit to ACPS for including these items. ACPS also included close to \$1.5 million for competition tennis courts for the High School varsity team. Chair spoke w school board chair today- who raised questions about the amount of land, location and amount of money allocated before she voted. Several board members were adamant that there be new tennis courts in FY 2013. Staff is unsure if money may cover cost full cost. RPCA Park Planning team will be working closely with ACPS to determine location of courts.
  - Kagawa- staff has continually been working with ACPS for collaboration. Chair even cooperates with Episcopal on Joint uses.
  - Chair- asked why six competition tennis courts would be put in without lights and said another question to consider would be whether all the tennis courts have to be located together or whether there could be individual pods (2 by 2). Moir said a coach wants to be able to see all courts simultaneously-and that this might also attract a lot of spectators. T.C. has had to rent space outside Alexandria for practice and games. This will bring children back to the school

campus and reduce the busing of children. Episcopal has courts but won't allow their usage that often.

4. **Witter Field Update-** Ron Kagawa.
  - The carpet/synthetic turf would be installed the following week. The park would not open until summer. The area is an active construction site. The lights had gone up the previous Thursday. In response to a question from Beggs regarding the surface of track and delta, Kagawa said the surface is asphalt, as determined by ACPS, unknown if track will be oval- 4 lane tracks.
  - Mr. Forbes asked what is being done with trail surface material at Dora Kelly Park. Ms. Durham said staff is looking at porous surface material with a longer life span- that meets OEQ standards.
  - The Chair- asked when the dog park at the Bakery will occur. Kagawa/Durham- said it was recently approved by Council, and will take a minimum of 18 months to complete.
  - There were no additional questions for RPCA - Park Planning staff.

E. **Marketing, Public Relations & Special Events** – Cheryl Lawrence-  
See Staff Report. The G.W. Birthday Parade will be held Monday, parade will have new route. No further questions/comments.

V. **Director's Report - James Spengler (verbal updates):**

A. **Jones Point Park Update-** See Staff Report. The project is proceeding on schedule.

B. **FY 2013 Budget and CIP-** See Handouts: The Director said budget discussions will be held from now through May. A series of public workshops will be held with City Council, this is an opportunity to hear what is being proposed, not an opportunity for public comments –except for one public hearing time during process. The P&RC Chair has attended to discuss issues in past.

**See Handout- Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities FY2013 Proposed Budget.**

- **General Fund Expenditures-** increase by 4.3% next year. Mr. Spengler said most of the document is self-explanatory by different Divisions and work areas (see highlights). See Summary of Budget Changes starting on pg. 17-27. Includes
- **Current Service Adjustments-**\$281,947; **Supplemental Requests** -\$74,556; **Expenditure Reductions** - \$259,580. **Fee or Revenue Adjustments-** \$357,656 total, etc..
- **Proposed CIP program FY2013-FY2022-** see pg. 9-3. The Director said there are not too significant many changes from the previous year, some additional funds have been received for maintenance improvements . The Director briefly reviewed the following CIP projects: **Restaurant Depot Contribution Projects** - half million dollars still waiting for funds. New building is completed- awaiting CO - money targeted for Boothe and Hensley Parks for pavilion upgrades; **Windmill Hill Park** – currently being discussed with City Manager. There is an unallocated balance \$784,953, there is already an allocated 5 million dollars, close to 1.3 million- was targeted to complete bulkhead shoreline. Discussing with Council now, can the Department use the 1.3 million to continue improvements in the park –that are shown in the master plan. When we get to 2016- when structural improvements are needed-put funds back in project to do bulkhead repairs. \$4,000,000 is not enough to complete bulkhead. If approved to move ahead, a community meeting will be held. Item will also be brought before the P&RC.
- **Aquatics Master Plan Study-** the Aquatics study will be coming back to the Commission. Between the Chinquapin Aquatics Center and Spray Parks, there is approximately 9.4 million dollars. The Director asked the consultants to provide options for how to spend the approved dollars to approve aquatics in the City? The consultants will return in April. The Chair commented that the 6.5 million dollars allowed for Chinquapin may be enough to keep the facility operational, but this does not add to Alexandria's capacity of in-door pools.
- The Director said the general highlight is we have approximately 80 million in improvements. Which includes an additional 1 million for the open space fund in FY13 to add to the existing balance next year to purchase additional parcels along the waterfront (see Open Space Fund Acquisition Development).

- Discussion Waterfront Advisory Group:
- The Waterfront Committee recommended forming a citizens group to serve as an advisory group in terms of implementation of the Waterfront Small Area Plan. There has been discussion that the Waterfront Committee be that advisory group. The decision is still in Council and City Manager's Office and will be discussed with the Waterfront Committee next Tuesday morning.
- Baum- believes they would like to add more representation on the Waterfront Committee from other areas of the City. The Chair said that there needs to be at least 50% representation of people who do not live in Old Town to balance committee. Representation should be similar to Park and Recreation Committee who has members from different districts of the City. Commission Baum lives in Old Town but represents the Park and Recreation Commission, not the Waterfront group.
- Baum- said there are four members from Old Town, one from each quadrant.
- Director- The only beyond Old Town representative is the person from the Environmental Policy Committee (EPC)?.
- The Director said that the budget process kicks off this week and will run through May. Dates of the meetings are included in the List of Public Meetings provided, and can also be found on the City Council webpage. The Chair plans to testify at the budget hearing on March 5 to underscore the importance of re-establishing the open space fund and other issues. A copy of a budget memo written by Councilman Rob Krupicka was provided for the Commission (see packet). The Chair said the Commission needs to re-energize to push for re-establishment of the fund and lay out a vision for the Park and Recreation long-term capital improvements. This is important because a significant amount of money will be allocated to Alexandria City Public Schools in future years. The Schools have been upfront that no funds are available for artificial turf at Jefferson Houston School, they want the City to provide funds from FY2013 Budget. The Chair will raise the issue of money for the open space fund, the Jefferson Houston turf issue, at the meeting, she asked if there are any other issues to be raised.
- Beggs- asked if the gymnasium is still an issue. The Chair said she believes they are proceeding with a full-size gymnasium at Jefferson Houston, this was confirmed by Director Spengler.
- Moir- commented that Dennis Bernstein is on the Youth Sports Advisory Board, he is also the head of P.E., Arts and Craft and Drivers Education stated that if Jefferson Houston is going to be a Pre-K to 8 school, it needs one full-size gym for 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and one ½ size gym for younger children. Otherwise they might have to cut down on the number gym classes. Moir distributed three proposed diagrams (not part of packet).
- Chair- one thing they are discussing if field is buried within site, how buried does it have to be in order to get lights installed. The commission reviewed the drawing. The Chair said that Commissioner Cromley, has been attending weekly steering meetings.
- Director- they are going to have future meetings at Charles Houston Community Center,-to try to move meetings out of community. Some residents in the area would like the new school to look identical to the old school-which is a more sub-urban model.
- The Chair said where the field there used to be a multi-story school here (photos have been circulating).
- Baum- asked what is proposed density increased.
- Kagawa- 120,000 sq. ft. – ACPS Educations Specifications from state 100,000
- Director- the plan pushes sq. footage upward (mutli story building) to increase open space.
- The Chair encouraged members to attend the next Jefferson Houston Community Meeting, Tuesday March 6.
- Members and staff discussed steps to try to have better control of future meetings. Director said some changes may occur in location of meeting, format of meeting to include a Q&A session at the start of the meeting that should help reduce comments during the meeting.
- The Chair- asked members to email her if there were anything else needing to be addressed at the budget meeting.
- The Director noted that any letters or emails to the Chair would be subject to FOIA.

- Forbes- follow-up on budget, asked were there any savings to be found in the Marina. At a previous meeting staff made a suggestion to lift the restrictions on the number of times commercial boats can dock from four times a month to more, and also increasing marina fees.
- Baum – liaison to the Waterfront Committee, said her concern is that money is being put into a marina that will change soon.
- Director- this depends on how fast marina will change. The yearly CIP money is needed for safety and health of tourists and visitors that's roughly \$50,000 a year. The larger expense will be in three years for dredging costs. Staff is working with a marina consultant with the City's General Service Department to do a condition based assessment. He will share information with the Waterfront Committee and P&RC. This will help guide larger expenditures.
- Regarding infrastructure comments from Kagawa, there is a lot of money coming for seawall, utility upgrades and dredging. If pleasure boating is shut down this will change power, sewage and other items around marina vs. maintaining it for a period of time.
- In response to Forbes question about proposal to lift the restriction on the number of times commercial boaters can dock at the marina from four times a month to more frequently, the Director said this was proposed this, however the City Manager did not advance this item in budget.
- Forbes suggested that the Chair include this in the Commission's budget comments. He commented that the City should look at full cost recovery for the marina. He said it makes no sense, to subsidize the City marina while charging full cost for recreation center and fields.
- The Director said RPCA will provide the language for the marina.
- Baum said the Waterfront Committee is in agreement.
- Director- we are not at full cost recovery for any item currently.
- Chair- Baum asked if boat slip fees have increased this year.
- Director- not yet, staff is working on some suggestions.
- The Chair- said she recently met with the new City Manager, Rashad Young. He would like the Commission's input as budget season approaches in the fall in helping to increase fees/revenue in order to do more things. The Chair will mention marina fees to him as an option.
- Director- there are two issues with fees: (1). What is the cost to produce a service, and (2) Market rate. The City marina's fees for pleasure boats currently sit within the middle of area's market. Those marinas that charge higher fees usually offer more amenities than the City marina. If our intent is to push boats out of the City marina the way to do it would be to raise the fees to make them non-competitive with comparable nearby marinas.
- Baum- asked if there a wait list for slips in Old Town?
- Director- sometimes, however, we are able to work people off that list, in addition, we are getting five new boat slips.
- Baum- she was a boater for a time at the Columbia Island marina and thought the City marina fees should be comparable to Columbia Island's. since the City marina offered the advantage of being at the heart of Old Town, with its restaurants and shops minutes away. She asked staff to find out what Columbia Island's occupancy rate is to determine whether those slips would even be available to City marina slipholders.
- **Action**- the Chair said she will mention marina fees and an issue of concern

VI. **Election of Officers for 2012.** The Slate of Officers from last meeting in January was: Judy Guse-Noritake, Chairperson; Robert Moir, Vice Chairperson, and Richard Brune for Secretary. Commissioner Ripley Forbes moved to approve the slate as previously nominated. Gina Baum seconded the motion. All were in Favor. The motion passed. Officers will serve a one-year term.

- **New Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request procedures**- follow-up from January meeting.
- The Chair clarified that she was recently informed that when she receives a FOIA request, that it also needs to be sent to commissioners. Commissioners need to think carefully about how they are maintaining public records. The Chair asked Robert Moir, Vice Chair, and attorney to comment on the new requirements.

- Moir said he spent time reviewing the information today and that some of it is out of date but will be updated soon. He would suggest that the City supply all commissioners with City email addresses, to help meet retention requirements for keeping documents for City, etc. Planning Commission members will now be provided with City email addresses. The Chair agreed that the City should supply commissioners with email addresses. She said she doesn't maintain a computer for the length of time required to retain City records, having City email addresses will take the burden off the commission. FOIA requests have gotten out of control and are being directed at public groups. The Chair's computer and information is protected by federal laws including HIPPA.
- Moir-said that the rule of 'if there are three or more people discussing an item a public notice has to be sent out'- applies to emails as well. There can be no colluding among members.
- Baum- said the Waterfront Plan Work Group had to disclose on the public website all emails between three or more members.
- **Action:** The Chair stated that it is the consensus of the Park and Recreation Commission, particularly due to the requirements to maintain documents, that this cannot be done on Commissioners' personal computers, since they are not kept that long, therefore this must be the responsibility of the City to maintain records. The Commission will await their City email accounts. The Chair will draft and send letter tomorrow.

**VII. Report from Commissioners (verbal updates):**

- A. **Waterfront Committee** - Gina Baum. The Waterfront Plan was approved by City Council on January 21, by a vote of 5-2. There is one legal suit pending, and one Board of Zoning Appeals challenge.
- B. **Youth Sport Committee** - Bob Moir. A new artificial turf field will be built near Cora Kelly school. It is a small size field will not be live for any sport. Field will be atop tanks. Four Mile Run Pump Station - see November Minutes. Kagawa-item will go to Planning Commission, and Council March 22. They expect the field to be complete by 2014.
  - Winter Basketball Finals will be held at T. C. Williams 3/10, he will send out email of games.
  - Sock Hop Event- 3/25- fundraiser for Miracle League field at Lee Center.
  - There have been some thefts of cars at Fort Ward and Minnie Howard during games. Getting field monitors by raising rates, may help.
  - Youth Sports Awards Ceremony-Moir suggested the event be held at the City's annual birthday party in July.
  - T.C. Williams indoor track team- won the district.
  - Turn lane on Duke Street West will be extended 60 ft.
  - Third Annual Jesuit Rugby Classic being held this Sunday at G.W. Middle School. Also on Sunday T. C. Williams will play Eleanor Roosevelt H.S. in the showcase game. Please contact former commissioner Jeffrey Murphy for more information.
- C. **Four Mile Run** - Ripley Forbes- meeting next Wednesday on the Alexandria Sanitation Authority - briefing at Cora Kelly Recreation Center.
- D. **Freedman's Cemetery** – Chair- The Art piece has been selected. The Chair asked when the construction will begin on the cemetery. Kagawa- said contractor has selected, references and bonding are being checked at this time. Staff is seeking the best offer.
- E. **ACPS & Capital Improvements**- Judy Guse-Noritake. The discussion on Jefferson Houston was held previously- see item # V Director's Report. The Chair asked Mr. Kagawa, RPCA, to discuss efforts for future joint planning efforts with ACPS. Kagawa- joint planning efforts, staff is reviewing CIPs for ACPS and RPCA. This are many ways to collaborate and coordinate capital projects. This is a great opportunity to coordinate with ACPS and to coordinate across other City departments. Director is meeting with the Planning Department and others to look at how to coordinate facilities budget. The Chair said a goal from the retreat was to push more for joint planning this is coming to pass. The Chair following up on question from Baum, asked how plans are proceeding to use the rooftops for more recreation activities, etc. The program she saw for Jefferson Houston addressed using rooftop for recreational facilities and gardens. Kagawa- Park Planning has spoken with ACPS regarding design guidelines-one idea was green open space\_\_\_ roofs.
- F. **Jones Point Park Liaison Group**- Judy Guse-Noritake. The park will be finished on time. A ribbon cutting will be scheduled for June.
- G. **Community Gardens Policy**- Next Steps-Judy Noritake. The Chair has prepared a list of people to be involved in the community gardens discussion.

- H. **Ft. Ward**- Ripley Forbes, Bob Moir - At last meeting they discussed Master Plans vs. Management Plan. The Chair said to let us know if we could be helpful in any regard. Moir-said various parties have tried to be helpful with little success. Forbes commented that this month Alexandria is hosting a dinner, Alexandria's African American Civil War History, Monuments, Burial Sites and more, many people involved with Ft. Ward will be speaking. The event will be held Monday.
- I. **ACPS School Projects**- Judy Noritake. This item discussed earlier- see item V, Director's report.
- J. **Jefferson Houston School** - William Cromley (absent). See comments under -Item V, Director's report.

**OTHER- Open Space Summit Update**- In November 2010, a letter was sent asking the then City Manager (Hartmann) to revisit the Open Space Plan. The City Manager wanted to wait until the Waterfront Plan was approved. The Director has been speaking with Director of P&Z and are preparing to move forward before Council recesses for the summer. Action: The Chair and Eric Wagner? will send out a request letter –asking people to attend an evening meeting and take issues back to their boards. Afterwards staff will plan a half-day open community summit to develop policies for City Council. Ms. Durham- will resend the memo from eight months ago.

- VIII. **Agenda items for March meeting and location**. Public Hearing on the Beauregard Corridor Plan, Location - Jerome "Buddie Ford" Nature Center. The Chair will be out of the country until March 20. After discussion, the consensus was to move the date to March 22. The Chair asked that commissioners with schedule conflicts email her comments on the Plan.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:20 p.m.

At the close of the meeting, the Commission will take comments on any other topic from the public. None were received.

# *City of Alexandria, Virginia*

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** MARCH 19, 2012

**TO:** PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

**FROM:** WILLIAM CHESLEY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

**SUBJECT:** MARCH 22, 2012 COMMISSION MEETING ITEM #IV-A  
RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES REPORT

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### **Youth Activities**

- We enrolled 470 students in the Titan Lounge after school program. The average daily attendance for the program is 125 students. Margaret Orlando and I will participate on a Committee with ACPS to develop the program with the goal of applying for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant this spring to fund the program in 2012-2013.
- We hired an excellent vendor to teach gymnastics/tumbling. We offer eight classes at Charles Houston Recreation Center on Saturdays.
- We held the “Saturday Nite Hype” middle school party at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center on February 4.
- ACCT held a Black History Month event in the Richard Kauffman Auditorium at Lee Center on February 11. More than 150 participants attended the event.
- We held the championship games of the 2011-2012 youth basketball league season at T.C. Williams HS on March 10.
- Registration for spring and classes and programs is underway. The Department’s spring/summer brochure and summer of fun (youth programs) are available (hard copy and online).
- We will hold our annual Cheerleader Invitational at T.C. William HS on April 28 at 11am and the Hershey Track and Field event at T.C. Williams HS on May 19 at noon.
- Staff supported a Sock Hop fundraiser event at Mount Vernon Recreation Center on February 25. Pat Miller coordinated the fundraiser. Twelve local restaurants supported the event. The fundraiser generated \$7,000. The event was set as a fundraiser for the development of the Miracle Field in Alexandria.
- Kelly Cares will hold the Kelley Cares 5K Race and Walk on May 19. The run/walk starts at 8:30am.
- Staff is working with ARHA, ACPS and others to plan the third annual Youth Arts Festival. The event will be at Jefferson-Houston Elementary School on June 9.

- We will support three local AAU basketball groups this spring/summer to the extent possible with available gym time. The AAU groups we support must prove the majority of their participants are City residents.

### **Adult Activities**

- Virginia Cooperative Extension staff conducted nutrition and other health related workshops for senior adults at recreation centers, schools and the St. Martin Seniors Center.
- Staff held an Open House at Charles Houston on February 23 featuring a pickle ball clinic. Twenty-five seniors participated in the clinic.
- Staff implemented a bowling league in February featuring teams of seniors from four of our recreation centers.
- Staff will implement a Kickball and Frisbee Program this spring.

### **Recreation Centers**

- As of March 1, we have 1,386 children enrolled in our Power-On/Power-Up after school programs. Enrollment is up by slightly over 11% based on YTD enrollment at this time last year.
- Mid-school year survey results for the Power-On/Power-Up after school programs reflect an overall 90% satisfaction rate for the program.
- Registration is underway for the summer Power-On and Power-Up programs. The theme of the summer program is ‘Let’s Get F.IT.’ F.I.T. stands for Friends in Training Together. Staff set the theme around sports, fitness, competition and teamwork in recognition of the 2012 Summer Olympics.
- We initiated our partnership with Job Link to provide job-counseling services at Cora Kelly, Charles Houston, William Ramsay and Lee/Nannie Lee Recreation Centers in February. Staff and Job Link are planning a Job Fair at Lee Center in May or June. Job Link staff is scheduling job counseling and other employment services in our centers.

### **Aquatic Program**

- I have attached a policy change memo that recommends increasing the age from seven to 12 for children to come to outdoor pools without adult supervision. I included a chart in the memo with comparative data from neighboring jurisdictions.

### **Environmental Programs**

- Nature Center Director Mark Kelly will implement a “Travelling Nature Center Program” this spring. The goal of the program is to reach more children with nature and environmental education programs by bringing programs to recreation centers and other venues.

### **Other**

- We filled two vacant Recreation Coordinator positions in February. One Recreation Coordinator will work with multiple programs including the Senior Program and the other Recreation Coordinator will work with the Fee Class and Camp Program. The two employees begin work on March 19.
- The winter “Rock Your Park” community open play days and nights at the artificial turf field in Ben Brenman Park ended on February 28. The program averaged 25-30 participants per day.
- I attended the March 14 meeting of the Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission (CYFC). The Commission voted for Dr. Tammy Mann, Executive Director of the Campagna Center to serve as Chairperson. The Commission held an optional budget review session for interested members in February. Staff from OMB briefed the Commission on the FY-2013 budget. The Commission was primarily interested in budget items tied to children, youth and families. The Commission supports the proposed fee increase for the OSTP provided the Department continues to provide fee assistance to qualified families.

# *City of Alexandria, Virginia*

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** MARCH 6, 2012

**TO:** JAMES SPENGLER, DIRECTOR  
RECREATION, PARKS, AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

**FROM:** WILLIAM CHESLEY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
RECREATION, PARKS, AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

**SUBJECT:** MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT FOR ADMISSION TO PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS

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As an outcome of the aquatic facility policy and procedure review, the aquatic program staff is recommending an increase of the minimum age from 7 to age 12, for unsupervised admission to a city operated outdoor pool. Our unsupervised youth admission policy for the indoor pool, at Chinguapin, is age 12. The policy needs updating for the safety of all patrons and aquatic staff for the following reasons:

1. In an emergency situation, identifying legal guardians of youthful patrons is nearly impossible without on-site guardian presence.
2. There are over 50 registered sex offenders living in our community. Aquatic program staff's primary focus must be on water safety and must rely on guardian support to provide additional child safety.
3. Aquatic program staff has witnessed boldly inappropriate conduct of youthful patrons. Such behavior creates additional safety hazards beyond those inherently related to pool programming.

City recreation center's summer programs would continue to be able to bring patrons under age 12 to the city's pools, since program coordinators would continue to act as supervising guardians, with readily available family contact information and expectations regarding appropriate conduct.

I support this recommendation to increase the minimum age requirement of our outdoor pools to age 12. The increased age requirement would address child protection guidelines, safety concerns, and help the City achieve consistency for our indoor and outdoor pool policies.

**Minimum Age Comparison Data – Youth Admission to Pools Unaccompanied by an Adult**

<b>Local Surrounding Jurisdictions</b>	<b>Minimum Age Requirement for admission to public pool without adult accompaniment</b>
Alexandria Outdoor	7
Arlington	8
Leesburg, Petersburg, Stafford & Fairfax	10
Fredericksburg & PG County	11
Richmond	12
Loudon, Norfolk & DC	13

**Proposed Changes to the Outdoor Pool Policy:**

**ADMISSION TO POOL AREAS**

All persons entering the Warwick, Old Town, and Chinquapin Pools must pay the appropriate fee, sign in, and show proper *City of Alexandria* residence identification. All children twelve (12) years of age and younger must be accompanied and supervised at all times by a paying adult eighteen (18) years and over. Children under age six (6) must be accompanied by a paying adult eighteen years and over in proper bathing attire at all times, and within arms length of the adult when in the pool.

**ADMISSION TO THE MEMORIAL POOL**

Admission to the Memorial Pool is free and limited to residents. All persons entering the Memorial Pool must sign in and show proper *City of Alexandria* residence identification. All children twelve (12) years of age and younger must be accompanied and supervised at all times by an adult eighteen (18) years and over. Children under age six (6) must be accompanied by an adult eighteen years and over in proper bathing attire at all times, and within arms length of the adult when in the pool.

Proper identification includes one of the following:

- A. Driver’s License
- B. Current Non-Driver’s I.D.
- C. Lease and Photo I.D.
- D. Property Tax Receipt and Photo I.D.
- E. Voter Registration Card and Photo I.D.
- F. Car Registration and Photo I.D.
- G. Current Utility Bill and Photo I.D.

# City of Alexandria, Virginia

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## MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 22, 2012

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: JACK BROWAND, ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PARK OPERATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION - ITEM IV-B  
PARK OPERATIONS UPDATE

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### **DORA KELLEY PARK SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY**

The Friends of Dora Kelly Park will hold a spring clean-up on Saturday, March 31 from 9 am to 1 pm. See attached flyer.

### **CITY ARBORIST GAINS CERTIFIED TREECARE SAFETY PROFESSIONAL STATUS**

John Noelle, CTSP, City Arborist *recently* completed the Certified Treecare Safety Professional (CTSP) program offered by the Tree Care Industry Association. The CTSP program allows one or more key employees at a given organization to become certified tree care safety experts, thereby empowering and encouraging a culture of safety within that organization.

Maintaining a Certified Treecare Safety Professional on staff means that organizations are committed to safe practices in arboricultural operations. CTSP's are kept abreast of the latest technological advances and regulatory activities affecting the industry through the TCIA safety network, and must commit to ongoing education in the safety field in order to maintain their certification.

For more information about the Tree Care Industry Association, visit [www.tcia.org](http://www.tcia.org). For more information regarding the Certified Treecare Safety Professional, program at TCIA or to obtain digital photos, contact Peter Gerstenberger at 800.733.2622 x109 or email [peter@tcia.org](mailto:peter@tcia.org).

### **CITY HOSTS TREE RISK ASSESSMENT COURSE AND EXAM**

The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities hosted a Tree Risk Assessment Course and Exam sponsored by the Mid Atlantic Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (MAC-ISA) on March 7 and 8. The course, developed and presented by the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture( PNW-ISA), establishes a systematic process to identify risk factors associated with trees in urban and suburban environments. Twenty arborists from the mid-Atlantic region attended the program and sat for the certification examination. John Noelle, the City

Arborist attended the course and expects to learn the results of the examination in early April. Jerry Dieruf, who is an Arborist in the Department attended the program last fall, and is currently a Certified Tree Risk Assessor. The certification period is three years, and requires continuing education units to remain current. The International Society of Arboriculture is expected to formally adopt the Tree Risk Assessment Certification and Exam currently administered by the PNW-ISA next year.

#### **PARK OPERATIONS STAFF TO ATTEND TURF MANAGEMENT TRAINING**

- **March 22:** Park Managers and Crew leaders will attend the VRPS Athletic Fields 201 course at the Ide Lee Recreation Center in Leesburg, VA.
- **April 6:** Park Managers and Crew leaders will visit Nationals Park in D.C. to train with the Washington Nationals professional grounds crew on baseball field maintenance practices.

#### **DEPARTMENT HOLDS WINTER TREE AND PLANT IDENTIFICATION FIELD TRIP**

Over 60 nature enthusiasts from around the region, including City of Alexandria residents and members of the Virginia Native Plant Society, Maryland Native Plant Society, Arlington Regional Master Naturalists, Alexandria Tree Stewards, and others, attended a winter tree and plant identification field trip on February 18 led by City Natural Resource Specialist Rod Simmons through Dora Kelley Nature Park. The event was sponsored by the Ford Nature Center.

*The Friends of Dora Kelley Nature Park  
invite you to pitch in on*

# Clean-Up Day



If you enjoy using these woods and hate to see litter defacing the Dora Kelley Nature Park, please join us on

.....  
• **Saturday, March 31** •

9 a.m. – 12 noon

Rain date: Sunday, April 1

Bring your friends, bring the kids, and urge your neighbors to come as well! With lots of people helping, it won't take long to rid this beautiful setting of the cans, bottles, and wrappers that spoil everyone's enjoyment of these lovely trails. Assemble at 9 a.m. at any of these three locations: The park entrance nearest the tennis courts on Chambliss Street, or the trail entrance from North Morgan Street, or at the corner of Chambliss Street and Holmes Run. Plastic trash bags and gloves will be provided. See you there!

**HAVE QUESTIONS?**

Call Dave Dexter, 703/820-6639

**OFFICE OF THE ARTS MONTHLY STAFF REPORT  
MARCH 2012**

**GRANTS PROGRAM:**

**Alexandria Commission for the Arts Grants Program**

**Team Lead:** Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** All Panels were held in January and February. Summary reports were received and are posted to the FTP site.

The City changed servers and FTP sites for the Grant Program. New instructions for accessing the site have been sent to Commissioners. The summary reports and other related materials were posted to the Commission's FTP site. At the February 21 meeting, the Commission voted to hold two Formal Action/Public Hearing meetings for the consideration of the Fiscal Year 2013 grants on Monday, March 19 and Tuesday, March 20. These meetings will begin at 6:30 pm.

On Monday, March 19, the Music-Choral and Instrumental, Dance and Theatre applicants will be reviewed. On Tuesday, March 20, the Commission will review the Visual Arts and Interdisciplinary applicants, along with developing their conditional award recommendations for Fiscal Year 2013 grant requests. In addition to the Public Hearing/Formal Action meeting on Tuesday, March 20, the Commission will have a regular monthly meeting. A light dinner will be available both evenings beginning at 5:30 pm in the Durant Art Center's kitchen.

**Important Dates: Formal Action/Public Hearing Fiscal Year 2013 Grant Requests, Monday, March 19 and Tuesday, March 20, 6:30 pm.**

**BUDGET:**

**Team Lead:** Alisa Carrel

**Status:** The City Manager released his recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2013 budget on February 14. In the proposed City Manager's budget, there will be \$50,000 funding for Public Art Acquisition in the City's budget beginning in Fiscal Year 2013. Most of these funds will be designated for the waterfront Art Walk. This is earlier than what is designated in the current budget, which has funding beginning in Fiscal Year 2014. Public Art Conservation funding of \$15,000 has also been recommended. There is \$30,000 budgeted in the current budget. For Fiscal Year 2013, \$15,000 will be moved from capital funds to operating in order to provide for regular and ongoing maintenance. Funding of \$60K for a Public Art Master Plan might also occur in Fiscal Year 2013. If approved by City Council, the Public Art Master Plan will be identified in the fund balance.

**PUBLIC ART POLICY:**

**Team Lead:** Alisa Carrel

**Status:** Pat Miller and Alisa Carrel met with Councilman Rob Krupicka and Councilman Paul Smedberg. Staff will seek guidance from the City Manager's Office on timing.

**PUBLIC ART PROJECTS:**

**The former Duron Paint Building, Mount Vernon Avenue, Arlandria**

**Team Lead:** Alisa Carrel

**Status:** Upon arrival of a handrail, the stage will be completed. Upon completion, the final report will be submitted to the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

## **Contrabands & Freedmen’s Cemetery Memorial Sculpture**

**Team Lead:** Alisa Carrel

**Status:** The report on the selection of the final three artists has been approved by the Purchasing Division. All artists have been notified. Work on the Request for Proposal continues. A date in May will be selected for the artist presentations and Meet the Artist reception. The goal is to get approval from City Council in June in order to stay on track with the construction of the cemetery.

## **Police Memorial**

**Team Lead:** Alisa Carrel

**Status:** No new information.

## **Charles Hamilton Houston Memorial**

**Team Lead:** Alisa Carrel

**Status:** No new information.

## **King Street Gardens Park**

**Team Lead:** Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** No new information.

## **Captain Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial**

**Team Lead:** Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** No new information.

## **PUBLIC ART IN URBAN PLANNING:**

### **Waterfront Plan**

**Team Lead:** Alisa Carrel

**Status:** No new information.

## **ALEXANDRIA POET LAUREATE:**

**Team Lead:** Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** Amy Young will continue to host the “Writers Group” on Monday nights through the end of April in the Durant Arts Center’s Community Arts Room.

On February 27, Amy Young participated as a judge for the Metropolitan Airports Authority’s Poetry Slam. The Poetry Slam celebrated Black History Month and took place in the Ronald Regan Airport’s historic lobby, terminal A. Selected middle and high school students participated.

Ms. Young is preparing a presentation for the Alpha Beta Kappa convention in April, along with coordinating five poetry projects for April - National Poetry Month:

- Ms. Young will launch a MAPP (Mapping Alexandria in Poems and Pictures) – a city-wide art and poetry project. Residents of Alexandria (adults and children) are invited to write poems, paint or draw pictures or take photos that capture the spirit of the street they live on. Artwork and poems will be collected from April-August. Exhibits of these items will be held in the fall.
- Poems and photos of dogs will also be collected for the “Dog Days of August,” exhibition that will be held August 16 through August 26 in local businesses throughout the City.

- “Alexandria Poetry Slam” – On Friday, April 13, Shelly Bell, in partnership with the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association, will host a free Poetry Slam at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street. The live band will begin at 7 pm, the Poetry Slam will start at 8 pm.
- “Poem in Your Pocket Day” – On Thursday, April 26, residents are invited to read a poem in their neighborhood park.
- Small Poems: A Celebration of Language – On April 26, an evening poetry event at the Athenaeum will celebrate the sounds of language, the early sources of joy and inspiration. There will be audience participation and a surprise guest appearance.

**Important Date(s): Writers Group meetings, Mondays, 7-9 pm, Community Arts Room, Durant Arts Center; Alexandria Poetry Slam, April 13, at Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street; Poem in Your Pocket Day and other events, April 26.**

**COLLABORATION:**

**Anti-Stigma/Mental Health Awareness**

**Team Lead:** Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** Planning efforts for the 2012 “Art Uniting People” exhibit have begun. In February, the release and “call for artists” was distributed. The entry deadline is April 12.

An art making workshop was held on March 13, at the West End Wellness Center, facilitated by two George Washington University Art Therapy students. Another workshop is scheduled for April 16 at Mill Road.

Delivery of art for the “Art Uniting People” exhibit is scheduled for April 23 and 24 to the Therapeutic Recreation offices, 1108 Jefferson St. Jury selection is scheduled for April 26. Framing of art pieces will be held on April 28, 9 am – noon. The exhibit will be installed on May 3. The “Art Uniting People” artist reception and event is scheduled for May 10, beginning at 6:30 pm, Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St.

**Important Date(s): 2012 “Art Uniting People” Planning meeting, Thursday, April 12, 4:30 pm, 720 N. Saint Asaph, 4th Floor; “Art Uniting People” Artist Reception and Event is May 10, beginning at 6:30 pm.**

**ARTS MARKETING INITIATIVES/SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**Alex Arts Awards**

**Team Lead(s):** Alisa Carrel and Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** The Commissioners approved the Alex Arts Awards Selection Panel’s recommendation for 2012 Alex Arts Awards. The awards will be a piece of art and a star. The 2012 Alex Arts will be presented to City Council first, and then to an event chosen by the award recipients.

**Important Date(s): 2012 Alex Arts Awards presentations dates to be determined.**

**Branding Project**

**Team Lead:** Alisa Carrel

**Status:** No new information.

**Film Festival**

**Team Lead:** Alisa Carrel

**Status:** Funding for the Film Festival was not eliminated by the City Manager as anticipated. A committee meeting will be scheduled.

## **Youth Arts Festival**

**Team Lead:** Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** Due to the construction of the Jefferson Houston School, the location will need to be moved from the Buchanan Field. Suggested locations were discussed: Ben Brenman Park, Durant Arts Center, Oronoco Bay Park, and Lee Center field and facility. A small committee to explore these various locations was established.

The Youth Arts Festival plans to work more closely with the Alexandria City Public Schools to develop a stronger partnership and to encourage participation. A tentative date of June 16 is selected. It is anticipated that the date will be confirmed by the end of March.

**Important Date(s): 2012 Youth Arts Festival Planning Committee meeting, Thursday, April 5, 10 am, Durant Arts Center.**

## **CITY GALLERIES PROGRAM:**

### **Call for Artists/Placements**

**Team Lead:** Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** Thirty people attend Raphael G. Nadeem's artist reception on Friday, March 2 in City Hall. Mr. Nadeem's exhibition runs through March 23, 2012.

The new Art in City Hall exhibit will be installed on Saturday, March 24.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **Internship Program**

**Team Lead:** Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** Thirty-six individuals attended the February 29, "Leaping into Volunteer Management" workshop sponsored by the Alexandria Collaborators (ACT for Alexandria, Alexandria Regional Council for the United Way of the National Capital Area and the City of Alexandria). Donna Walker James, Volunteer Alexandria was the moderator for the panel. Panel members were: Noraine Buttar, Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria; Joseph Shumard, First Night Alexandria and George Washington Birthday Parade; Cindy Lake, Alexandria Health Department. Overall evaluation of the workshop was positive.

The Alexandria Collaborators met on Thursday, March 15 to discuss the outcomes from the evaluations received from the February 29 workshop. Based on the evaluations, the nonprofits are seeking insights on fundraising. The Collaborators selected Wednesday, June 13, 8:30 am – 10:30 am as the date for the next workshop. It was suggested that members from United Way and corporations could provide insights on the best way to approach them for funding. At the April Collaborators meeting, more information will be provided.

Two spring interns (Jessica Ghazi and Lian-Yao Wang) are working with the Office of the Arts staff. The primary focus for both interns will be the City Galleries program.

## **RESEARCH:**

### **Local Arts Index & the Arts and Economic Prosperity IV Study**

**Team Leads:** Alisa Carrel and Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** The preliminary report for the Local Arts Index was received on February 22. On February 24, Cheryl Anne Colton represented the City at a regional Local Arts Index meeting sponsored by the Americans for the Arts. An Arts Research Committee meeting was held on February 29. As a result from these meetings, Ross Simons and Cheryl Anne Colton took an in

depth review of the preliminary report and develop a list of additional questions. On March 12, the list of questions was sent to Martin Cohen, Project Manager, Local Arts Index.

On February 22, the preliminary report for the Arts and Economic Prosperity IV (AEP IV) study was also received. A deadline of February 24 was given to clean data, or include new eligible organizations. Cheryl Anne Colton compared the report to the actual information submitted. Thirteen arts organizations were added to the eligibility list including three large organizations George Washington Masonic National Memorial, American Art Therapy Association and National Arts Strategies. On March 12, Ms. Colton sent the final number of eligible arts and culture organizations for the City of Alexandria of 114 to the AEP IV project manager. By April 30, the preliminary AEP IV report for the City of Alexandria will be delivered.

### **Alexandria Quality of Life Indicators**

**Team Leads:** Alisa Carrel and Cheryl Anne Colton

**Status:** No update

*Submitted by Alisa Carrel and Cheryl Anne Colton*

###

### **CALENDAR [March/April 2012]**

**Collection of poems from April through August:  
MAPP(Mapping Alexandria in Poems and Pictures) – a city-wide art and poetry project  
and Dog Days of August,” for fall exhibitions.**

Send poems, art pieces and photos to: [poet@alexandriava.gov](mailto:poet@alexandriava.gov)

#### **2012 Youth Arts Festival Planning Committee**

Thursday, April 1, 10 am, sponsored in partnership with the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Durant Arts Center

#### **Executive Committee/Alexandria Commission for the Arts**

Friday, April 6, 3 pm, Durant Arts Center

#### **Public Art Committee**

Wednesday, April 11, 7 pm, Durant Arts Center

#### **Art Uniting People/Anti-Stigma**

Thursday, April 12 4:30 p.m., 720 N. Saint Asaph, 4th Fl.

#### **Alexandria Poetry Slam**

Friday, April 13, 7 pm, Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street

#### **Living Legends of Alexandria, Reception and Talk**

Tuesday, April 17, 5:30 pm, Gallery, Durant Arts Center

#### **Alexandria Commission for the Arts**

Tuesday, April 17, 7 pm, Durant Arts Center

### **Executive Committee/Alexandria Arts Forum**

Thursday, April 19, 9 am, Durant Arts Center

### **Poetry At the Meeting House: A Tribute to Jean Elliot (1901-1999)**

Sunday, April 22, 4 pm, featuring the poetry of Jean Elliot, first Poet Laureate of the City of Alexandria and Amy Young, Poet Laureate, City of Alexandria; Mary McElveen, Former Poet Laureate, City of Alexandria; and, poets and readers from the Old Presbyterian Meetinghouse. Elliot House, Heritage Hall.

### **Alexandria Arts Forum**

Thursday, April 26, 12 noon, Durant Arts Center

### **Poem in Your Pocket Day**

Thursday, April 26, various times and various neighborhood parks

### **Small Poems: A Celebration of Language**

Thursday, April 26, 7 pm, An Evening to Celebrate Poetry hosted by Amy Young, Poet Laureate, City of Alexandria. Featuring special guests and audience participation, Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street

### **City Galleries:**

- **City Council's Office**, Rm 2204, City Hall, Cianne Fragione, paintings, through July 2012.
- **Mayor's Office**, Rm 2331, City Hall, Inmates Art Exhibit through December, 2012.
- **Department of Planning and Zoning**, 2nd Floor, Rm 2100, City Hall, Charles Whestone, paintings through July 2012.
- **City Manager's Office**, Patsie Uchello, paintings, through July, 2012.
- **Second Floor, City Hall**, Ray Nadeem, paintings, late February through March 23, 2012.
- **Third Floor, City Hall**, "Growing Pains," mixed mediums, through July, 2012.
- **Market Square Lobby**, City Hall, Living Legends of Alexandria, photographed by Nina Tisara, through March 2012.
- **Department of Transportation and Environmental Services**, 4th Fl, City Hall, Gary Meus, photography, through July, 2012.
- **Main Gallery, Beatley Library**, Carol Dupre, paintings, through July, 2012.
- **Lee Center**, 1108 Jefferson Street, **Upstairs Gallery**, David Camero, paintings/collages, through July 2012.
- **Durant Arts Center**, Matthew D. Kiehl, pen and ink, mixed media, through December 2012.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

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MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** MARCH 22, 2012

**TO:** PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

**FROM:** PARK PLANNING, DESIGN & CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM  
BETHANY A. CARTON, ASLA PARK PLANNER  
LAURA D. DURHAM, CITY OPEN SPACE COORDINATOR  
DAVID H. GHEZZI, AIA LEED AP ARCHITECT  
JUDY LO, ASLA LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT  
DANA W. WEDELES, PARK PLANNER  
RON M. KAGAWA, ASLA LEED AP DIVISION CHIEF

**SUBJECT:** **ACTIVITIES UPDATE , FEBRUARY-MARCH, 2012**  
**OVERVIEW – SELECTED PROJECTS AT A GLANCE, ITEM V-D-i**

Please see that attached items:

1. Active Park Projects including Capital Improvement Projects - Update
2. Capital Facilities Maintenance Projects - Update
3. Carlyle Plaza II - Update
4. Transitway Corridor B Feasibility Study - Update

###

# Active Park Planning Projects

Monday, March 19, 2012

11:21:12 AM

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
<b>VDOT/NPS/PCC</b>				
	<b>Jones Point Improvement/Renovation</b>	RMK JB		12-Jun-12
	Notes: RPCA Staff as City lead. Completion date remains June 25, 2012.			
<b>VDOT</b>				
	<b>Four Mile Pedestrian Bridge</b>	DW RK		01-Mar-12
	Notes: Contract drafting between NVRC and design consultant(s). Scope is being refined based on cost constraints.			
	<b>Freedman's Cemetery</b>	LD RMK		01-Nov-12
	Notes: Solicitation responses received Jan. 04. Contractor negotiations ongoing.			
	<b>Freedman's Cemetery Sculpture</b>	AC RK	Preliminary Plan	
	Notes: Alisa Carrel coordinating RFP for artists. Timing based on anticipated construction schedule.			
	<b>Witter</b>	BC RK	40% CA	01-Nov-12
	Notes: Construction is underway. Final earthwork elements are concluding and field construction has started. Anticipated rectangular field delivery Summer 2012 and softball field/plantings Fall 2012.			
<b>TE&amp;S</b>				
	<b>Holmes Run trail Feasibility Study</b>	DW		15-Feb-12
	Notes: TE&S is working with consultant team to improve trail between Brookvalley Park and 395. Three concepts have been proposed.			
	<b>S. Washington St. Improvements</b>	RPCA: DG, RK, J		
	Notes: 90% documents due February 17, 2012. Construction start anticipated June 2012.			
	<b>Trail Improvements</b>			
	Notes: Demonstration using pourous paving, in collaboration with TES. Project in procurement. Expected to construct in spring.			
<b>RPCA</b>				
	<b>ADA Study</b>	LD, DG		
	Notes: RFP response received for initial study. Work start anticipated February 20 with study delivery March 20.			
	<b>Aquatics Master Plan</b>	LD RMK		30-Nov-11
	Notes: Consultant team of KHI/Cousilman-Hunsaker and Brailesford-Dunaway provided Phase II update at June PRC. City Council Work Session presentation deferred. Staff preparing memorandum.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	<b>Ben Brenman Supervisor Room</b>	DHG		
	Notes: Scope is revised: BB office shall be covered to new muster room so that existing muster room shall be returned to original use, field maintenance equipment storage. Drawings sent to GS for pricing.			
	<b>Boothe Park Lighting upgrades</b>			
	Notes: as identified in the 2011 Engineering Analysis for Ball Field, Tennis and Sport Field Light Poles.			
	<b>Boothe Park Playground Renovations</b>	JL, BC	10%	14-Dec-12
	Notes: Engineer Services Task Order(MASC Engineer of Record) to be submitted to Purchasing Department.			
	<b>Brookvalley Playground repairs</b>	JL, WP		25-May-12
	Notes: Replace swing set because of structural failure.			
	<b>Buchanan Playground Repairs</b>			30-Apr-12
	Notes: Replacement parts on order.			
	<b>CAPRA Policies</b>	JB RMK		
	Notes: Ongoing to sustain accreditation requirements.			
	<b>Chinquapin Light Pole improvements</b>			
	Notes: as identified in the 2011 Engineering Analysis for Ball Field, Tennis and Sport Field Light Poles.			
	<b>Dora Kelley Trail Improvements</b>			
	Notes: Surface materials to be determined by Ft. Williams demonstration			
	<b>Drainage Issues into Colasanto Center</b>	AC RK		
	Notes: Site viist will be schedules in two weeks with Dale Norman of TES to develop scope and mover forward to impletmentation.			
	<b>Dugouts and Press Box</b>	WP BC		
	Notes: To be replaced as part of the FY12 CIP. Project kick-off in January. Investigation for structures underway.			
	<b>Ewald Playground Repairs</b>	JL, DK, TT		25-May-12
	Notes: Replace parts on order. Estimated delivery mid-April.			
	<b>Fort Ward Ball Court Renovations</b>	TT, BC		
	Notes: Complete renovation scheduled for June 2012 in coordination with St. Stephens and St. Agnes School calendar.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	<b>Fort Ward Furniture Replacement</b>			
	Notes: Benches in picnic area to be replaced in spring 2012.			
	<b>Founders park irrigation replacement</b>			
	Notes: RFP for project in initial stages.			
	<b>Four Mile Run Restoration</b>	DW, RMK	90% design	
	Notes: Congressional reauthorization required to qualify for Army Corp permitting. Next step will be for jurisdictions to draft response and aim for June appropriations bill.			
	<b>Ft Ward Park</b>	LD		
	Notes: Interdept. MOU signed by all depts. Sept. 2011. Funding for addl. implementation is contingent funds for FY12, including management plan. Advisory Group held second meeting October 12, 2011.			
	<b>Furniture Replacement</b>	DW BC & Ops		
	Notes: CIP allocation approved. "poor condition" grills, benches, and bleachers to be replaced. Working with parks ops on ordering.			
	<b>Holmes Run Play area ADA connectors</b>			
	Notes: Estimate to be obtained.			
	<b>Hooffs Run Playground Repairs</b>	JL, DK		01-Mar-12
	Notes: Replace exit sections on tube slides. Parts on order. Estimated delivery mid-April			
	<b>Horticulture Improvements</b>			
	Notes: Several landscape projects and site improvements in the areas surrounding the building to support horticultural sites			
	<b>Hume Springs Fence Improvements</b>	RB Identified		
	Notes: Needs upgraded locking system (Park Ops).			
	<b>Hunter Miller Basketball Court Light timer</b>			
	Notes: as identified in the 2011 Engineering Analysis for Ball Field, Tennis and Sport Field Light Poles.			
	<b>Installation of bio-retention swale and pl</b>			
	Notes: will serve to capture and treat nutrient-laden stormwater runoff generated at the dog park			
	<b>James Bland</b>	LD RK		
	Notes: Phase with City park site is in final site plan review with expected construction starting in Fall, 2011.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	<b>James Bland Redevelopment</b>	Laura		
	Notes: Land Acquisition tied to final site plan for development.			
	<b>King Street Gardens Improvements</b>	AC		
	Notes: To be scheduled around farmers market (ends Oct., begins May)			
	<b>Landover Park Irrigation</b>	KW RT DC	90%	
	Notes: Working with electrical contractors to determine source of power for the system but the irrigation has been installed. Project is delaying planting.			
	<b>Lockett Field Improvements</b>	TT BC		
	Notes: Raise Net funding allocated.			
	<b>Lynhaven Playground Repairs</b>			30-Apr-12
	Notes: Replacement parts (chain nets) for play structure on order.			
	<b>Marina Electrical Upgrades</b>	JH DW		
	Notes: new Electrical wiring for cameras; Divide 30 Amp receptacles for transient boaters G/H pier; reduce amp at E/F and 2 amps at E/F			
	<b>Maxicom Audit</b>	KW BC		
	Notes: Data changed in database for Charles Houston Rec Ctr. Formulating RFP's for physical inventory and data collection for irrigation city-wide. Pilot audit project planned for spring 2012.			
	<b>Minnie Howard Light Pole Improvements</b>			
	Notes: as identified in the 2011 Engineering Analysis for Ball Field, Tennis and Sport Field Light Poles.			
	<b>Montgomery Court Lights Replacement</b>	BC RJ CL		
	Notes: Waiting for connection via Dominion Power.			
	<b>Montgomery Park Tennis Court Repairs</b>	BC RMK RT		
	Notes: The contractor estimates mid-late March as the earliest to complete the project. American Tennis will monitor the weather and advise when they anticipate starting work.			
	<b>Mount Jefferson Playground Renovation</b>	JL	90%DD	01-Jun-12
	Notes: Purchase Order approved. Finalizing 100% construction plans. Construction anticipated to start mid-late April.			
	<b>Mount Jefferson/WOD soft trail connector</b>			01-May-12
	Notes: Citizen Request. Provide new safe entry point to greenway from Route 1.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	<b>Old Town Pool Filter replacement</b>			
	Notes: Replace failing Swimming Pool Filter System components and non-compliant drain covers at Old Town Pool.			
	<b>Oronoco Bay Irrigation Replacement</b>			
	Notes: RFP for project in initial stages.			
	<b>Park Inventory</b>	DW	90%	14-Sep-11
	Notes: All data collected. Minor edits in GIS remain. Organization of information to be completed in format to inform Park Framework plans.			
	<b>Park Standards</b>	BC JL		01-Jun-12
	Notes: Formatting scheduled to be complete in March.			
	<b>Parking Improvements</b>	BC WP		
	Notes: Minor Amendment to Ben Brenman SUP required. Staff is coordinating with OEQ on Water Quality Impact Assessment.			
	<b>Piling Replacement</b>	JB JH CL		
	Notes: Triple Crown Marine, LLC has been contracted to replace the pilings for composite piling w/caps. 50 ft. length. Jim Hixon is the lead staff.			
	<b>Potomac Yard Soccer Goals and netting</b>	KW MS BC	0%	01-Feb-12
	Notes: Goals anticipated the week of March 12.			
	<b>Powhatan Basketball Renovation</b>	BC KW		
	Notes: Published as FY 2010 Project			
	<b>Rehabilitation of new Parcels</b>	LD	10%	01-Jul-11
	Notes: Park Plan approved by PRC in March 2011. Implementation of Phase I through fall 2011/spring 2012 in coordination with TES.			
	<b>Replacement of light and power pedest</b>			
	Notes: Allocation of \$49,000 in Jan 2012			
	<b>Simpson Playground Repairs</b>			30-Apr-12
	Notes: Replace slide and other parts on play structure. Parts on order.			
	<b>Simpson Tennis Court Improvements</b>	BC	0%	
	Notes: Project anticipated to be complete Summer 2012. Purchase order completed.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	<b>Sunset ADA path</b>			01-Jun-12
	Notes: Provide required ADA park entrance to play areas.			
	<b>Sunset Playground Repairs</b>			
	Notes:			
	<b>Timberbranch Bridge Replacement</b>	JL		31-Aug-12
	Notes: Requisition to be submitted to Purchasing using MASC Bridge repair contract.			
	<b>Waterfront trail improvements</b>	JL RJ		
	Notes: Project in progress			
	<b>Waterfront Trail Upgrades</b>	Randy/Judy		15-Jun-12
	Notes: Scope refinements and cost estimates to be obtained Spring 2012 (in coordination w/ TES as applicable).			
	<b>Windmill Hill Basketball Court Renovation</b>	RJ CL BC		
	Notes: Project is approved by Purchasing. Anticipate renovation in Spring 2012.			
	<b>Windmill Hill Irrigation Replacement</b>			
	Notes: RFP for project in initial stages.			
<b>P&amp;Z</b>				
	<b>Arlandria Implementation</b>	LD DW	80% Planning	
	Notes: Ongoing planning and implementation of Phase I of Four Mile Run Park Expansion and Community Building project implementation over late Fall 2011/early Spring 2012.			
	<b>Beauregard Corridor Small Area Plan</b>	LD RMK	90% Planning	
	Notes: Ongoing open space and park contributions are being discussed by stakeholder group, staff and ACPS. Update briefing to PRC at November meeting.			
	<b>Braddock Small Area Plan</b>	LD	90% Planning	
	Notes: G. Services providing property mgmt for open space property on N. Henry with 18 mo. Tenant lease signed in 2/2011. Ongoing discussions with P&Z on remaining open space.			
	<b>Carlyle Plaza II</b>	BC	30% Planning	
	Notes: South half of the Eisenhower East Circle Park and publicly accessible open space deck. Anticipated to be docketed for Planning Commission June, 2012.			
	<b>Eisenhower ASA</b>	BC, RMK		
	Notes: DSUP for ASA tanks and above structure field was approved by Planning Commission and City Council in October, 2011. Anticipate field use in 2015/2016. Final Plan #1 under review.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	<b>Eisenhower Avenue Widening</b>	BC RMK	30% Design	
	Notes: 30% Submission Drawings reviewed and comments submitted to T&ES. Anticipate 60% Drawings in April/May.			
	<b>Eisenhower East Block 2 and 3</b>	BC		
	Notes: Concept Discussions underway for development on Blocks 2 and 3 in Eisenhower East including an urban square park.			
	<b>Eisenhower Station</b>	BC, RMK	40% Design	
	Notes: Eisenhower Metro Station Square final design in progress.			
	<b>Four Mile Run ASA</b>	RMK BC DW	10% Design	
	Notes: To be presented to Council on 3/24.			
	<b>Landbay K</b>	BC RMK		01-Oct-12
	Notes: Construction underway. Simpson Restroom Building is scheduled for demolition March 19-21. Park construction completion expected Spring 2013.			
	<b>Potomac Avenue</b>	BC RMK	80% Construction	30-Sep-11
	Notes: Minor modifications anticipated in spring with next as-built submission. Replanting anticipated March-April.			
	<b>Potomac Greens Park</b>	BC	85% Construction	
	Notes: Construction complete. As-Built expected Summer, 2012.			
	<b>Potomac Yard/Landbay D</b>	BC	0	30-Mar-12
	Notes: Environmental remediation on-going.			
	<b>Potomac Yard/Landbay I/J Parks</b>	BC		01-Jan-13
	Notes: Anticipate construction early 2012 and acceptance by the City for phase one (Custis) late 2012 and phase two (Howell) late 2013.			
	<b>Public Safety Center</b>	RK	70% Construction	01-Sep-12
	Notes: Project Complete. Ribbon cutting, November, 2011.			
	<b>Ramsey House Visitor's Garden</b>	JL RK		
	Notes: Garden Club of Alexandria and PZ BAR Staff project. Project scoped only. MOA to be developed upon receipt of additional materials. No activity since 2011. Project likely terminated by GCA.			
	<b>Route 1 Improvements</b>	BC	90% Design	
	Notes: Infrastructure construction on Phase I commenced September 2011. Design coordination ongoing with T&ES for Phase II Mass Transit project.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	<b>Waterfront Plan</b>	LD RK		01-Sep-11
	Notes: The City Council established Waterfront work group with Council decision deferred to late Fall 2011/early winter 2012. Update to be provided at November PRC meeting			
<b>ACPS</b>				
	<b>Hammond Upper Field</b>	DW RMK		
	Notes: Field construction to begin in March 2012 with expected completion in June. Lights are not included.			
	<b>Jefferson-Houston</b>	DW RMK		01-Sep-14
	Notes: Design team considering three site options. Expected to submit 1st concept plan in April. Next community meeting: March 26.			

City of Alexandria, Virginia

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MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** MARCH 22, 2012

**TO:** PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

**FROM:** DAVID H. GHEZZI, AIA LEED AP; STAFF ARCHITECT  
RON M. KAGAWA, ASLA LEED AP; DIVISION CHIEF  
PARK PLANNING, DESIGN & CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM

**SUBJECT: CAPITAL FACILITIES MAINTENANCE PROJECTS (CFMP)  
RECREATION CENTERS - UPDATE MARCH 2012**

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The purpose of this update is to provide the monthly overview of CFMP implementation to the PRC Commission.

**OVERVIEW:**

RPCA Park Planning has scheduled a meeting on March 21st with W. Chesley and the Rec Centers and Facilities Directors/Managers to discuss necessary readjustments to the FY-2013-15 CFMP due to unanticipated CFMP issues at the Lee Center. The existing HVAC system is in urgent need of repairs and the fire alarm system requires complete replacement for proper functioning and code compliancy. It was hoped that these projects would be funded as CIP thus removing the burden from Rec Center CFMP; this request was denied by OMB (The City's Office of Management and Budget). The Director/Managers Meeting is being held to facilitate participation by all Directors/Managers for CFMP budgetary assignments and prioritization.

This week Park Planning Architect, D. Ghezzi will complete the periodic CFMP walkthrough at each center/facility alongside the respective director or manager to monitor the quality of completed CFMP projects, record outstanding issues, and garner feedback for improvement. The reports combine written observations with photo documentation describing both completed CFMP and current unaddressed issues rated according to the new CFMP prioritization system. A copy of each report is sent to W. Chesley, Recreation Deputy Director; D. Poillucci, General Services; R. Kagawa, Division Chief, Park Planning and the respective Center Manager or Director. Data collected will aid long-term budgeting projections, system effectiveness, and be entered into the new CFMP Database for Rec Centers and Facilities report and analysis generations.

The new CFMP Database is completed; in the next few weeks specific CFMP data will be entered into the system.

**FY12 FEBRUARY UPDATE:**

<u>Charles Barrett: Current CFMP Items</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
1.) Replace Gym Floor	\$15,200	Active Solicitation
2.) Paint Floor/Lines Etc.	\$ 1,000	Active Solicitation
3.) Paint Gym	\$ 3,750	Active Solicitation
<u>Chinquapin: Current CFMP Items</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
1.) Water Leak in Basement Storage Area and Boiler Room	\$50,000	RFQ (cost will be reduced)
2.) Locker Room Renovations: Relocate Water Cooler		
Replace Exterior HM Doors	\$ 9,300	Substantial Completion
Loading Dock;	\$ 7,767	
Cubicle Shelving for Pool Room;	\$15,100	
Cabinet Work;	\$ 2,500	
Replace Diverters, New Tile-work,		
Replace Shower Heads.	\$58,990	
<u>Colasanto: Current CFMP Items</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
1.) Roof and Gutter Repairs	\$19,135	PO issued/date pending
2.) Miscellaneous Plumbing	\$ 3,790	Work Complete
<u>Cora Kelley: Current CFMP Items</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
1.) Replace Exterior Gym Doors	\$49,104	Pending Solicitation
2.) Replace Shower Diverters	\$55,480	Pending Solicitation
<u>4 Mile Run (Duron): Current CFMP Items</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
1.) Complete Suspended Ceiling	\$1,000	Contract Awarded
2.) Exterior Stage*	*Open Space Fund	Final Completion
<u>Buddy Ford Nature: Current CFMP Items</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
1.) Replace A/C Unit	\$17,560	Work Complete
<u>Lee Center: Current CFMP Items</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
1.) HVAC: Replace Two Compressors	\$25,000	Active Solicitation
2.) Building Assessment	\$15,000	Submitted for PO
<u>Oswald Durnat: Current CFMP Items</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
1.) Install Vapor Barrier under Floor	\$ 8,330	Work Starts in 2 weeks
<u>Patrick Henry: Current CFMP Items</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
1.) Replace Entry Doors	\$ 8,688	Work Complete
2.) Repair Millwork & Counter tops/Kitchen	\$ 3,850	Work Complete
<u>Ramsay: Current CFMP Items</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
1.) Replace Heat Wheel	\$10,000	Project under Consideration
2.) Automatic Controls (HVAC)	\$10,000	Project under Consideration
3.) Interior Renovation of Offices	\$ 9,598	Work Complete
4.) Replace Front Doors	\$16,924	Work Complete
<u>Totals</u>	<u>\$417,066</u>	
10% Contingency	\$ 41,706	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$458,772</b>	
BUDGETED CFMP	\$425,000	
Difference	\$ (-33,772)	

City of Alexandria, Virginia

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MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** MARCH 22, 2012

**TO:** PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

**FROM:** BETHANY A. CARTON, ASLA PARK PLANNER  
RON M. KAGAWA, ASLA LEED AP DIVISION CHIEF

**SUBJECT:** EISENHOWER EAST CARLYLE PLAZA TWO – OVERVIEW - ITEM IV- Di

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an overview to the Commission as related to the Carlyle Plaza Two project in Eisenhower East.

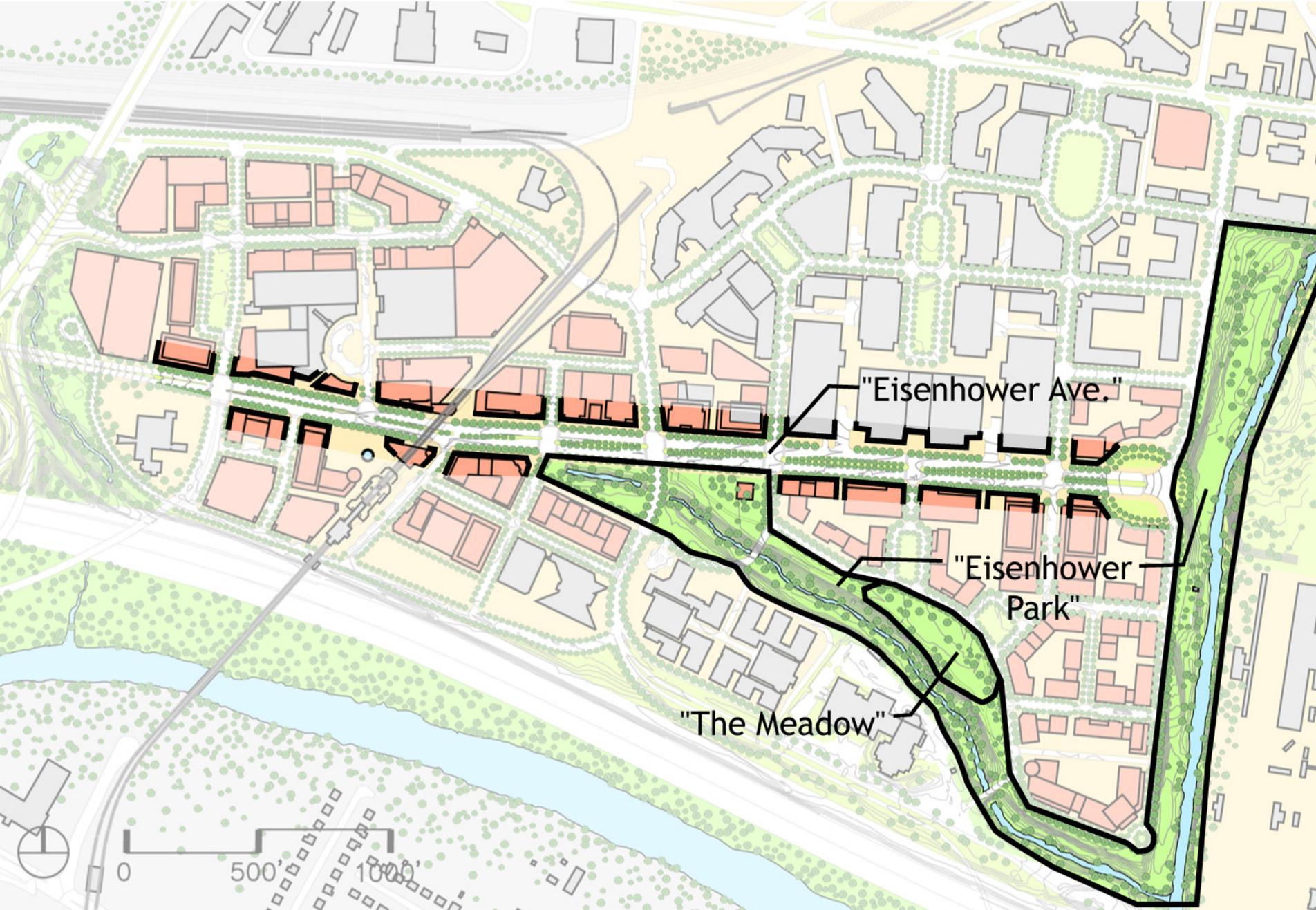
The Carlyle Plaza Two project is located in the South Carlyle portion of Eisenhower East. The project site is bordered by Holland Lane to the east, Eisenhower Avenue to the north, John Carlyle Street to the west and the recently approved ASA West Plant Expansion to the south. The project covers 6.23 acres and includes two office buildings, two residential buildings, a parking structure with open space on top, a street level plaza and a transition area between the street level plaza and the elevated open space.

The project is currently in Preliminary Plan and is anticipated to be presented to Planning Commission and City Council in June, 2012.

The project site has environmental restrictions as a result of previous rail uses. Due to these restrictions, the applicant is proposing an above grade parking structure with publicly accessible open space on top. The open space will be approximately 3 acres located 40 feet above street level. The open space will be primarily passive and include lawn areas, water features, a children's play area, and an accessible trail that connects from street level in African American Heritage Park to the above grade deck and the approved field on the adjacent ASA Expansion Site, and back to street level at Eisenhower Park Drive. An at-grade trail was originally planned in the Eisenhower East Small Area Plan to link with the two ends of the applicant's proposed trail.

The applicant is proposing to design, construct and maintain the public plaza approved as 'The Circle' in the Eisenhower East Small Area Plan. With the construction of the Eisenhower Avenue improvements 'The Circle' will become two crescent shaped parks about a quarter acre in size. Staff is requesting that the applicant refine the plaza design to relate the two crescent halves and respond to the transition area between the elevated open space and the street level plaza.

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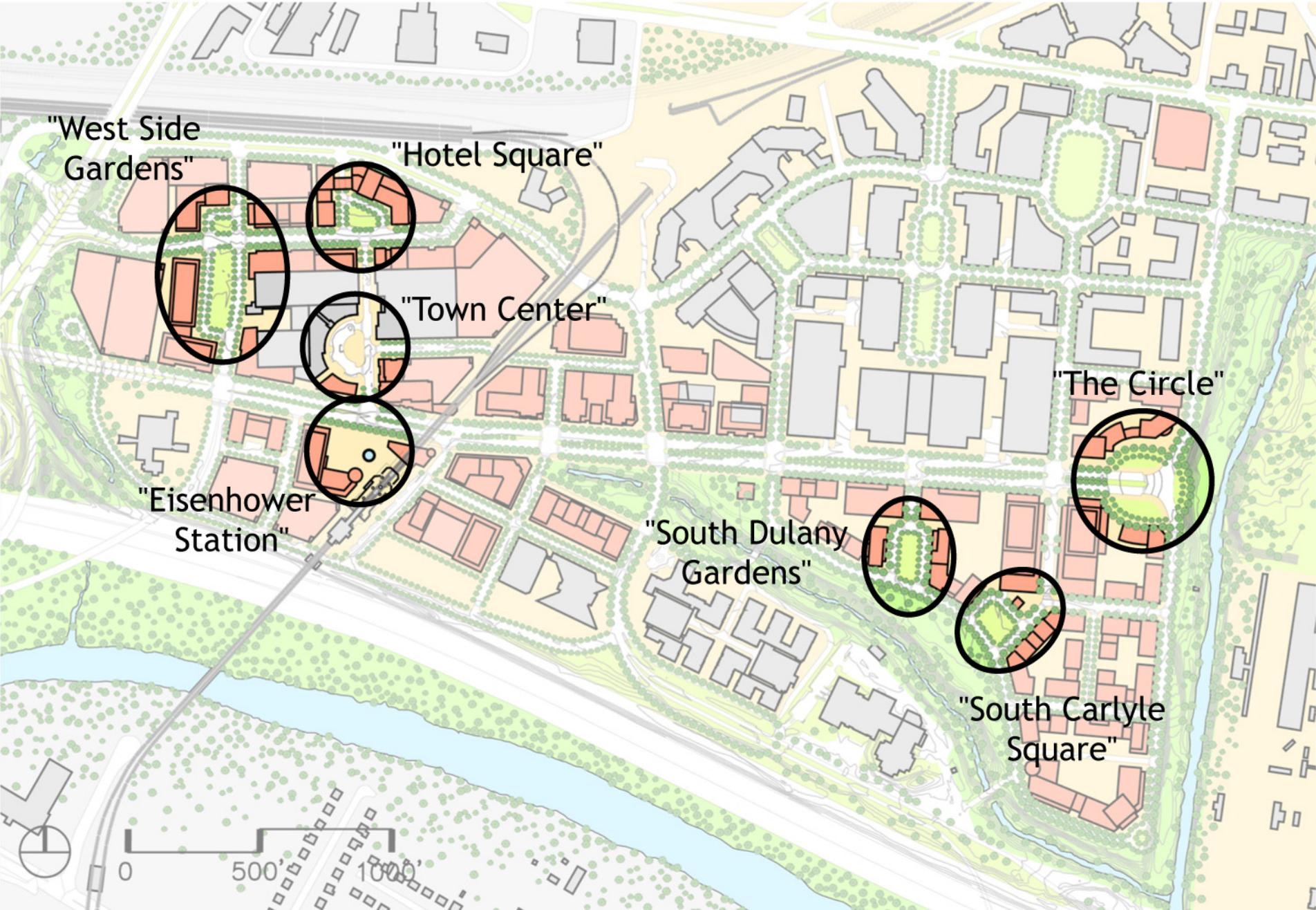
"Eisenhower Ave."

"Eisenhower  
Park"

"The Meadow"

0 500' 1000'





"West Side  
Gardens"

"Hotel Square"

"Town Center"

"Eisenhower  
Station"

"South Dulany  
Gardens"

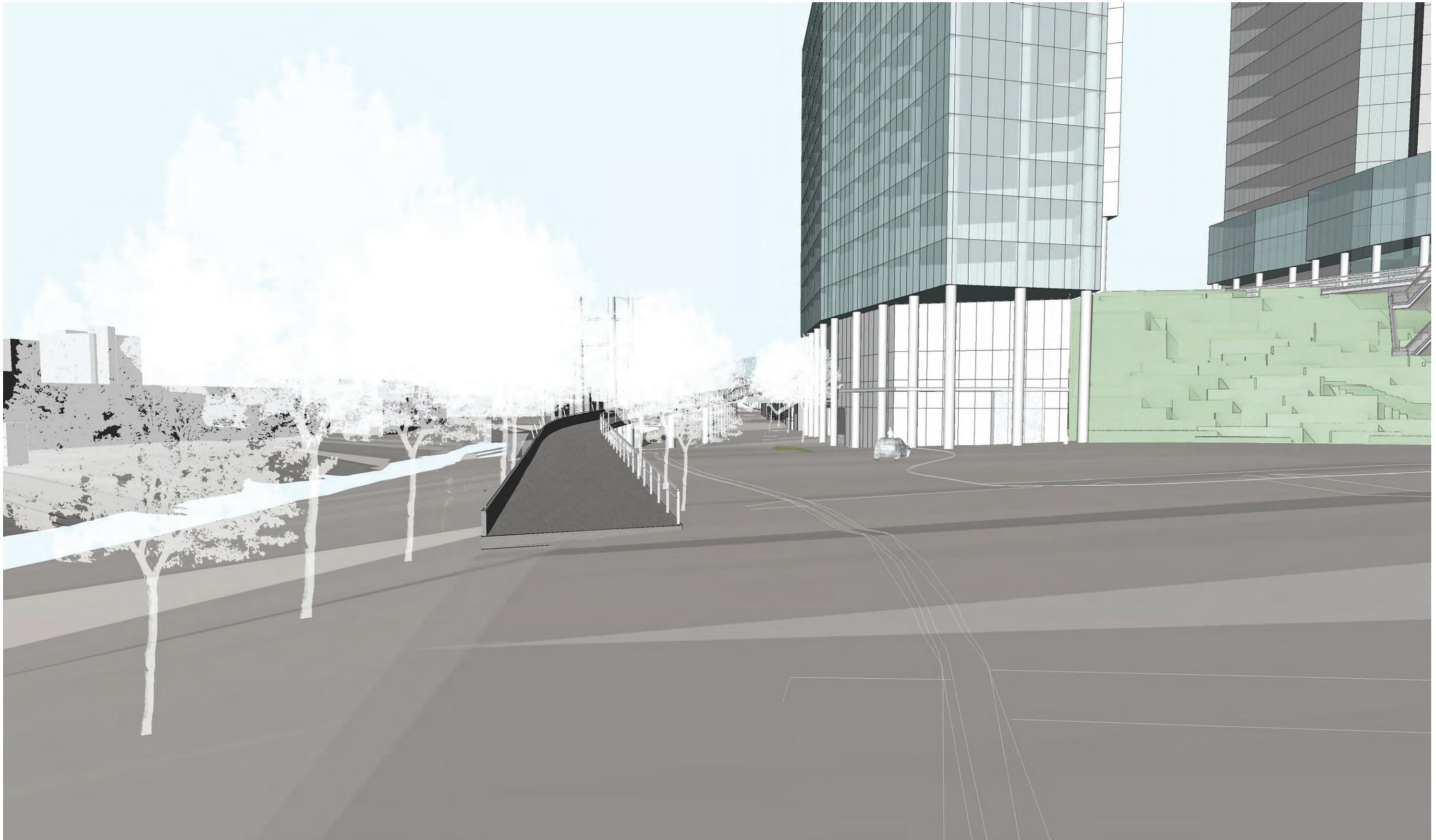
"The Circle"

"South Carlyle  
Square"









### RAMP PERSPECTIVE 3

CARLYLE PLAZA  
JM ZELL PARTNERS, LTD

15 MARCH 2012

OCULUS FXFOWLE

City of Alexandria, Virginia

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MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** MARCH 22, 2012

**TO:** PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

**FROM:** PARK PLANNING, DESIGN & CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM  
RON M. KAGAWA, ASLA LEED AP DIVISION CHIEF  
JACK R. BROWAND, CPRP DIVISION CHIEF

**SUBJECT: TRANSITWAY CORRIDOR B FEASIBILITY STUDY;  
UPDATE MARCH, 2012 ITEM IV-Di**

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The purpose of this update is to provide an overview of the City's High Capacity Transitway Feasibility Study for alignment alternatives related to the Duke Street/Eisenhower Avenue corridor.

The three alignments were evaluated to weigh the benefit of a transitway along Duke Street, Eisenhower Avenue, or a combination of Duke Street and Eisenhower Avenue. The alignment information was presented at two High Capacity Transit Corridor Working Group (CWG) meetings (August 18, 2011 and November 17, 2011). Duke Street was selected as the preferred alignment for a dedicated transitway, based upon an evaluation of preliminary screening criteria, feedback from the CWG, and public input. It was also recommended that existing transit service along Eisenhower Avenue be improved through additional service and improved passenger amenities.

RPCA staff have been working in coordination with TES staff as planning level preferred alternative alignments are identified and jointly reviewed. Implementing this plan will enhance park porosity/access and provide greater non-motorized based mobility for park use. Planning level impacts are anticipated for a total of .20 acres of City lands. These include .095 acres at Ewald Park, .05 acres at Ben Brenman and .02 acres at Schuyler Hamilton Jones Park. In each of these instances the impacts (from shared use path alignment and minor grading) are adjacent to existing right of way on the south side of eastbound Duke Street and will have minimal effect on park lands.

As the project continues to develop, the Commission will be similarly updated at its regularly scheduled meetings.

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Kimley-Horn  
and Associates, Inc.

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Jim Maslanka  
Steve Sindiong  
City of Alexandria

FROM: David Whyte  
Paul Elman  
Erin Murphy  
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

Amy Archer  
Brian Horn  
RK&K

DATE: March 9, 2012

SUBJECT: Draft Selection of Preferred Alternative for Transitway Corridor B  
(Duke Street/Eisenhower Avenue Corridor)

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■  
Suite 400  
11400 Commerce Park Drive  
Reston, Virginia  
20191

### *Executive Summary*

This technical memorandum is part of the City of Alexandria High Capacity Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study. The memorandum describes the process that led to the identification of a preliminary preferred alternative for Transitway Corridor B (the Duke Street/Eisenhower Avenue corridor) based on an alternatives screening process.

Four alternatives were screened using a set of detailed evaluation criteria. The evaluation, input from the project's Corridor Working Group (CWG), and feedback from the public led to further investigation of two of the alternatives. Based on the additional understanding of property and parking impacts, evaluation of bicycle connectivity options, and comments received from the CWG and the public, a preliminary preferred alternative and phasing strategy was identified. Alternative 3c (Reversible Lane with On- and Off-Duke Street Bicycle Accommodations) is recommended as the preferred alternative for implementation of bus rapid transit in Corridor B. Alternative 3c should be constructed in a manner that does not preclude the provision of fully-dedicated transit lanes and on-corridor bicycle facilities in the corridor should redevelopment allow. The preliminary recommendation will be presented at the March 15, 2012 CWG meeting.



### ***Introduction***

As part of the City of Alexandria High Capacity Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study, transitway alignment alternatives were developed for Corridor B (the Duke Street/Eisenhower Avenue corridor). The three alignments were evaluated to weigh the benefit of a transitway along Duke Street, Eisenhower Avenue, or a combination of Duke Street and Eisenhower Avenue. The alignment information was presented at two High Capacity Transit Corridor Working Group (CWG) meetings (August 18, 2011 and November 17, 2011). Duke Street was selected as the preferred alignment for a dedicated transitway, based upon an evaluation of preliminary screening criteria, feedback from the CWG, and public input. At the same time, it was recommended that existing transit service along Eisenhower Avenue be improved through additional service and improved passenger amenities.

For the Duke Street preferred alignment, six preliminary transitway alternatives were evaluated. The alternatives varied by the number of lanes and manner in which transit and general purpose lanes were accommodated, but had identical termini. A meeting was held on November 17, 2011 with the CWG to present the alternatives and receive feedback. The CWG and the public were provided an additional 10 days after each working group meeting to submit comments. At the end of the comment period, City of Alexandria staff and the consultant team discussed comments received and the original six alternatives were narrowed to four refined alternatives for further study. The process by which the alternatives were refined is documented in a study memorandum dated January 6, 2012<sup>1</sup>.

The four refined alternatives were screened with a set of detailed evaluation criteria. These alternatives and the secondary evaluation were presented at the CWG meeting held on January 19, 2012. The secondary evaluation is briefly summarized in this memorandum. The CWG and the public expressed an interest in two of the alternatives and were requested a further examination of property and parking impacts. An additional impact analysis was presented at the CWG meeting held on February 16, 2012. The CWG expressed their preference for a phased approach to implementation of an effective transit operation with minimized property impacts. Based on this preference and an additional evaluation of bicycle connectivity options, a preliminary preferred alternative and phasing strategy were identified. This memorandum briefly summarizes the process and the results of the secondary screening and additional evaluation that lead to the selection of a preliminary preferred alternative.

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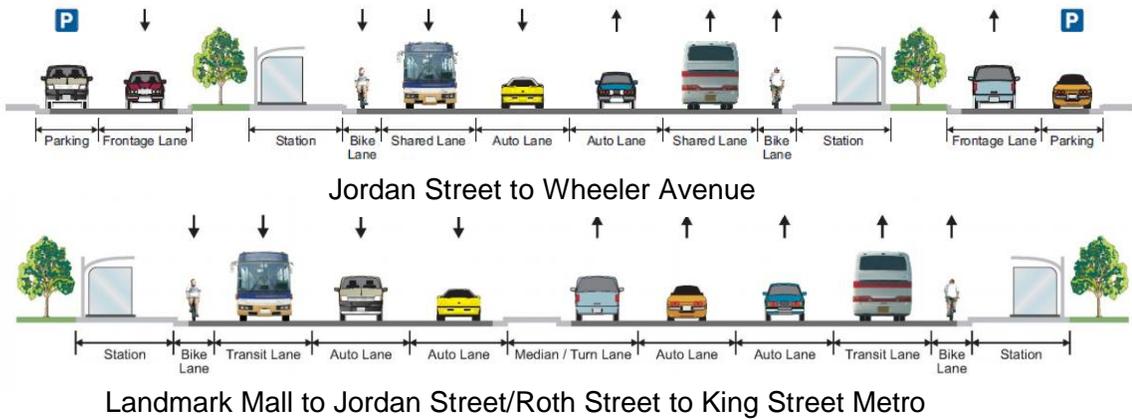
<sup>1</sup> Memorandum is available on the City of Alexandria's project website, [www.alexandriava.gov/highcapacitytransit](http://www.alexandriava.gov/highcapacitytransit)



**Description of Alternatives**

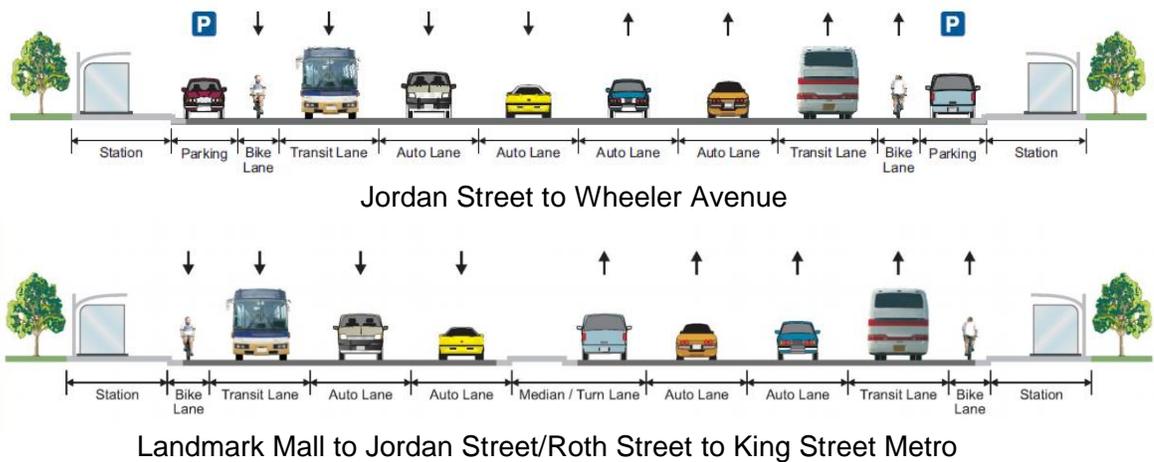
Typical sections and design descriptions for Duke Street Alternatives 1 through 4 are provided below. The sections vary depending on the location along Duke Street, as noted.

**Alternative 1: Existing Lane Configuration**



- Transit running along curb
- Transit in mixed flow on existing four-lane segments (2 miles total) and in dedicated lanes on existing six-lane segments (2.5 miles total)
- Uses existing lanes for transit and widens the road to accommodate bicycle facilities
- Uses queue jumps where there are not dedicated lanes
- Impacts to property and service roads to accommodate queue jumps and bike lanes

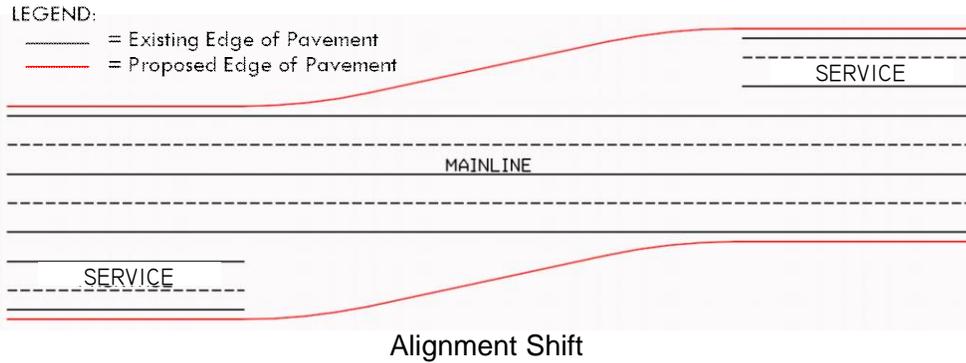
**Alternative 2: Uses Service Road Right-of-Way**



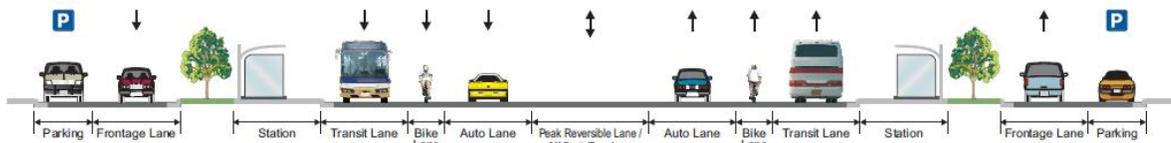
- Transit running along curb
- Transit in dedicated lanes for full corridor length
- Adds one lane per direction in existing four-lane segments (2 miles total)



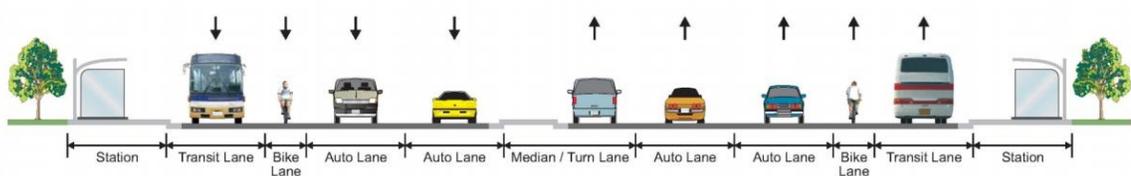
- Reduces impacts to property by shifting roadway centerline to make use of service roads (described by Alignment Shift figure below)
- On-street parking in some locations to replace service road parking losses
- Bike lanes or shared outside lane



### Alternative 3: Reversible Lane



Jordan Street to Wheeler Avenue

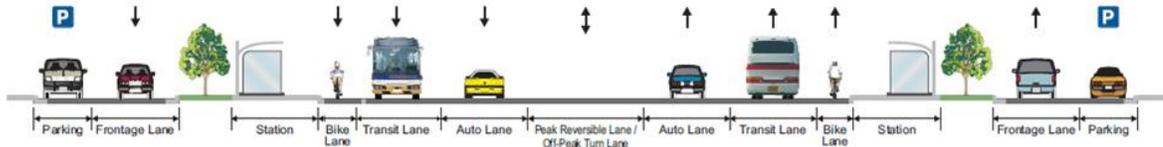


Landmark Mall to Jordan Street/Roth Street to King Street Metro

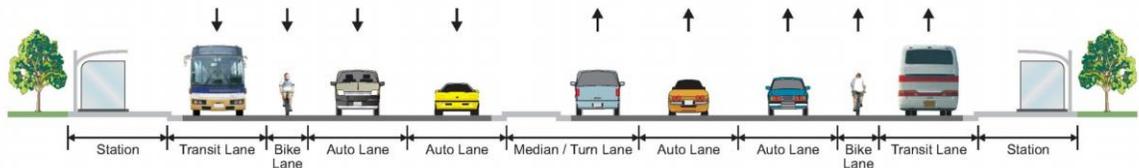
- Transit running along curb
- Transit in dedicated lanes for full corridor length
- Adds ½ lane in each direction (1 lane total) in existing four-lane segments (2 miles total)
- Center lane would function as reversible lane for traffic during peak periods
- Center lane would act as a turn-lane during off-peak periods
- Reversible lane would transition at Jordan Street and Wheeler Avenue
- Impact to property and existing streetscape
- Service roads would be maintained
- Bike lanes or shared outside lane



### Alternative 3: Variation



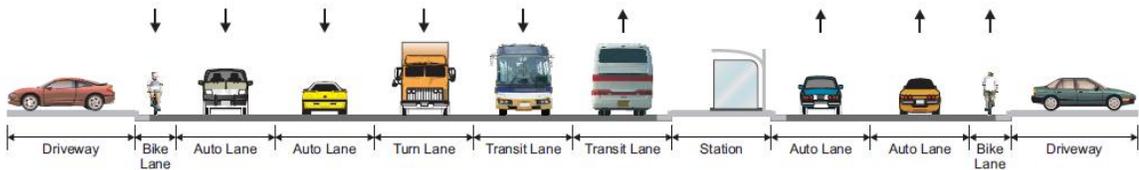
Jordan Street to Wheeler Avenue



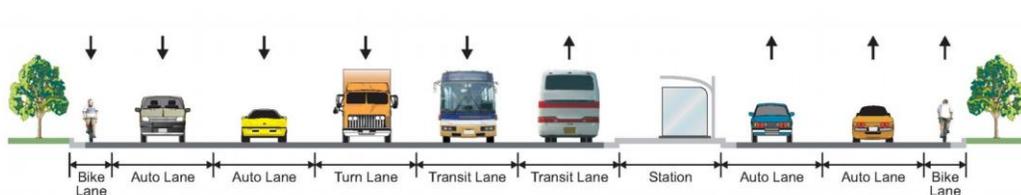
Landmark Mall to Jordan Street/Roth Street to King Street Metro

- Same as Alternative 3 between Landmark Mall and Jordan Street & Roth Street and King Street Metro
- Peak direction and period dedicated transit lane between Jordan Street and Roth Street
- Off-peak direction, during peak period, transit operates in mixed flow between Jordan Street and Roth Street
- Off-peak period, both directions, transit operates in mixed flow
- Adds ½ lane in each direction in existing four-lane segments (2 miles total)
- Reversible lane transitions at Roth Street and Jordan Street
- Less property impact between Jordan Street and Roth Street
- Service roads would be maintained
- Bike lanes or shared outside lane

### Alternative 4: Median Running



Jordan Street to Wheeler Avenue



Landmark Mall to Jordan Street / Roth Street to King Street Metro



- Transit running in median
- Transit in dedicated lanes for full corridor length
- Adds two lanes in each direction in existing four-lane segments (2 miles total)
- Significant impacts to property
- Service roads would be removed and driveways would be accessed directly from Duke Street
- Bike lanes or shared outside lane

**Evaluation Criteria**

Evaluation criteria were presented to the CWG at the July 21, 2011 meeting<sup>2</sup>. The CWG recommended a selected group of evaluation criteria to be used as screening criteria toward the preliminary review the six alternatives and ratings according to their relative importance (high, average, and low). **Table 1** shows the detailed evaluation and screening criteria.

**Table 1: Evaluation Criteria**

General Evaluation Criteria Grouping	Criteria Sub-Group	Evaluation Criteria	For Use in Preliminary Screening of Concepts	For Use in Secondary Evaluation of Concepts	Measurement Method	
<b>Effectiveness</b> Addresses stated transportation issues in the corridor	Coverage	Service to Regional Destinations		✓	Notation of regional destinations directly served	
		Service to Population, Employment, and Other Destinations		✓	Tabulate population, employment, key destinations, and similar, served by option	
	Operations	Transit Connectivity		✓	✓	Access to other transit services (existing and planned)
		Runningway Configuration(s)			✓	Quantify amount of runningway that is dedicated and amount that is mixed flow
		Corridor Length			✓	Measured length of the corridor (miles or feet)
		Capacity			✓	Potential corridor capacity (hourly) based on mode technology, headways, and other conditions
		Interoperability			✓	Identification of whether the chosen runningway configuration and transit mode technology are compatible with regionally planned systems
		Avoidance of Congestion	★		✓	Number and locations of LOS E/F intersections avoided
		Transit Travel Time	★		✓	Transit travel time
		Intersection Priority		✓	✓	Percent of intersections where TSP is needed and can be implemented successfully - notation of where it cannot be implemented successfully
		Ridership			✓	Forecast number of riders
	Alignment	Geometrics			✓	Geometric quality of alignment
		Runningway Status		●	✓	Percent of corridor to be located on new or realigned roadway
	Phasing	Phasing		✓	✓	Identification of ability to phase operations and implementation

<sup>2</sup> Meeting minutes are available on the City of Alexandria’s project website, [www.alexandriava.gov/highcapacitytransit](http://www.alexandriava.gov/highcapacitytransit)



General Evaluation Criteria Grouping	Criteria Sub-Group	Evaluation Criteria	For Use in Preliminary Screening of Concepts	For Use in Secondary Evaluation of Concepts	Measurement Method
<b>Impacts</b> Extent to which economics, environment, community, transportation are affected	Economic	Development Incentive		✓	Perceived value of transit mode technologies with regard to development potential
	Natural Environmental	Natural Environment	●	✓	Summary of key environmental conditions affected (wetlands, floodplains, T&E, streams, and similar)
		Parks and Open Space		✓	Summary of parks and/or open spaces affected
	Neighborhood and Community	Property	✓	✓	Number, use type, and quantity of properties impacted with anticipated level of impact (ROW only, partial take, total take)
		Streetscapes	★	✓	Impact to existing streetscapes
		Community Resources		✓	Identify number and location of historical, cultural, community, archaeological resources affected
		Demographics		✓	Identification of impacts to special populations
	Transportation	Noise and Vibration	●	✓	Summarize relative noise and vibration impacts of different mode types and corridor configurations
		Traffic Flow Impact	★	✓	Effect of transit implementation on vehicular capacity of corridor
		Traffic Signals		✓	Number of existing signalized intersections affected by transit, identification of need for new signal phases, and number/location of new traffic signals needed to accommodate transit
		Multimodal Accommodation	✓	✓	Impacts to, and ability to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians
		Parking	✓	✓	Impacts to parking
	<b>Cost Effectiveness</b> Extent to which the costs are commensurate with their benefits	Cost	Capital cost	✓	✓
Operating cost			✓	✓	Order of magnitude operating cost
Cost Per Rider			✓	✓	Order of magnitude operating cost per rider
<b>Financial Feasibility</b> Cost of system/ concept is in alignment with available funding	Funding	Funding	✓	✓	Availability to specific funding sources
		Private Capital Incentive		✓	Judgment as to whether the concept has the potential to attract private capital investment and innovative procurement
<b>Legend:</b> ★ Highest importance    ✓ Normal importance    ● Lesser importance					



**Secondary Evaluation**

The four alternatives that remained following the preliminary screening were evaluated based on the secondary evaluation criteria shown in **Table 2**. The detailed presentation of the secondary evaluation of the alternatives is available on the City of Alexandria’s project website. A summary of the advantages and disadvantages of each alternative are summarized in **Table 2**.

**Table 2: Alternatives Comparison**

<b>Alternative 1- Use Existing Lanes for Transit</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fewest negative impacts (including property)</li> <li>• Maintains service roads</li> <li>• Lowest capital cost</li> <li>• Easy to phase</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worst transit operation due to shared lanes</li> <li>• Highest operating cost</li> <li>• Highest fleet cost</li> <li>• May be impacted by congestion on Duke Street</li> <li>• Longest transit travel time</li> <li>• Lowest ridership potential</li> </ul>
<b>Alternative 2- Use Service Road Right-of-Way</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimal impact to traffic flow</li> <li>• High-quality transit operation</li> <li>• Moderate capital, fleet, and operating cost</li> <li>• Some avoidance of congestion for transit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curvilinear alignment</li> <li>• On-street parking could disrupt transit operations</li> <li>• Impacts service roads and streetscape as a result</li> </ul>
<b>Alternative 3- Reversible Lane</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High-quality transit operation</li> <li>• Maintains most service roads</li> <li>• Moderate capital, operating, and fleet cost</li> <li>• Provides turn lanes at some new locations to help traffic flow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact to off-peak direction traffic or off-peak direction transit</li> <li>• Property impacts</li> <li>• Requires overhead gantries to control reversible condition</li> <li>• May be confusing to drivers due to changing lane use condition</li> </ul>
<b>Alternative 3 Variation - Reversible Lane</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintains most service roads</li> <li>• Less property impact than Alternative 3</li> <li>• Provides peak direction, peak period transit lane</li> <li>• Lower capital cost than Alternative 3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No dedicated lanes off-peak time and direction</li> <li>• Property impacts</li> <li>• Requires overhead gantries to control reversible condition</li> <li>• May be confusing to drivers due to changing lane use condition</li> </ul>
<b>Alternative 4- Median Running</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best transit operation by eliminating conflicts with driveways and traffic</li> <li>• Lowest fleet and operating cost</li> <li>• Avoids impacts from traffic congestion</li> <li>• Highest ridership potential</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largest property impact</li> <li>• Eliminates service roads and parking (impact to 28 homes)</li> <li>• Highest capital cost</li> <li>• Highest right-of-way cost and impacts</li> </ul>



### ***CWG and Public Comment***

The findings of the secondary screening were presented at the January 19, 2012 CWG meeting. The location of the bicycle lanes and paths was a recurring theme in the CWG and public comments. Feedback suggested that greater consideration of a bicycle facility location and pedestrian accommodation and safety were needed. Common themes also included the need to retain left-turn lanes, provide opportunities for high-quality streetscapes, and minimal impacts to businesses. Preservation of neighborhood integrity was also a common theme. Members of the CWG generally opposed alternatives that widened Duke Street. Specific comments on alternatives are summarized below.

#### **Alternative 1**

- Low transit efficiency because dedicated transit lanes are not provided between Wheeler Avenue and Roth Street
- Preferred by some because it protects neighborhoods by minimizing impacts to residential and commercial property and parking

#### **Alternative 2**

- Increases width of street for pedestrians to cross and does not provide refuges
- Property impacts are moderate to high

#### **Alternative 3**

- Preferred by some because of the flexibility to retain service roads while providing dedicated transit lanes

#### **Alternative 4**

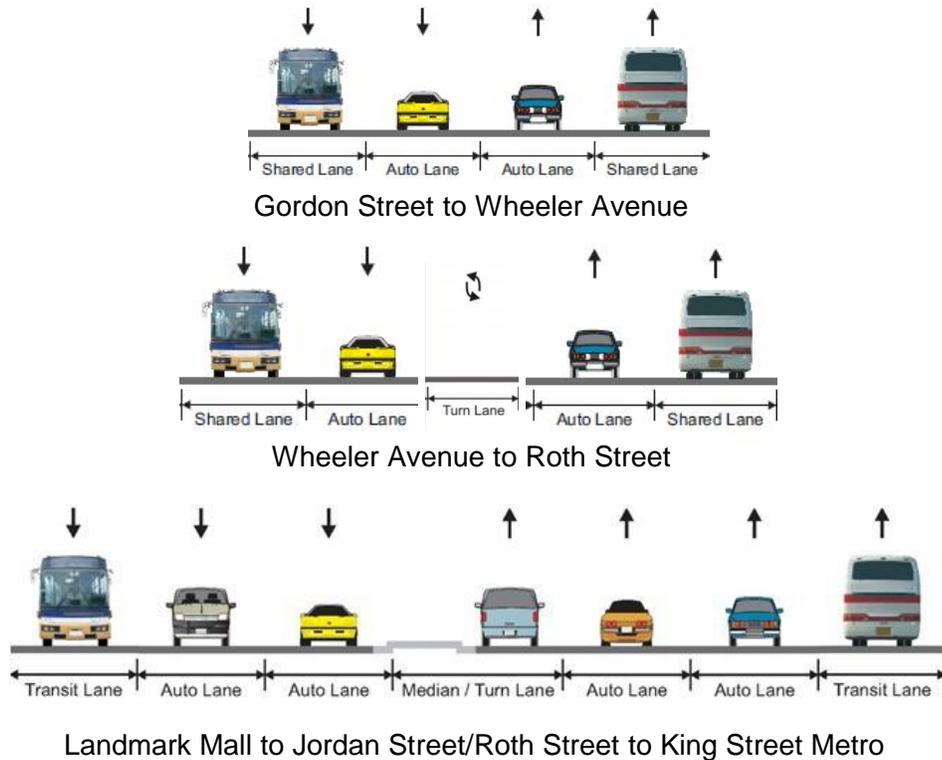
- Do not like that service roads and residential parking would be significantly impacted or eliminated
- Property impacts very high, especially to the area between Jordan Street and Roth Street

### ***Alternatives Retained for more Detailed Impact Evaluation***

As a result of the secondary evaluation, Alternative 1 and a variation of Alternative 3 were selected for further investigation. The CWG expressed interest for a more detailed impact evaluation of these alternatives both with and without on-street bike lanes. Typical sections and descriptions for these refined alternatives are summarized below.



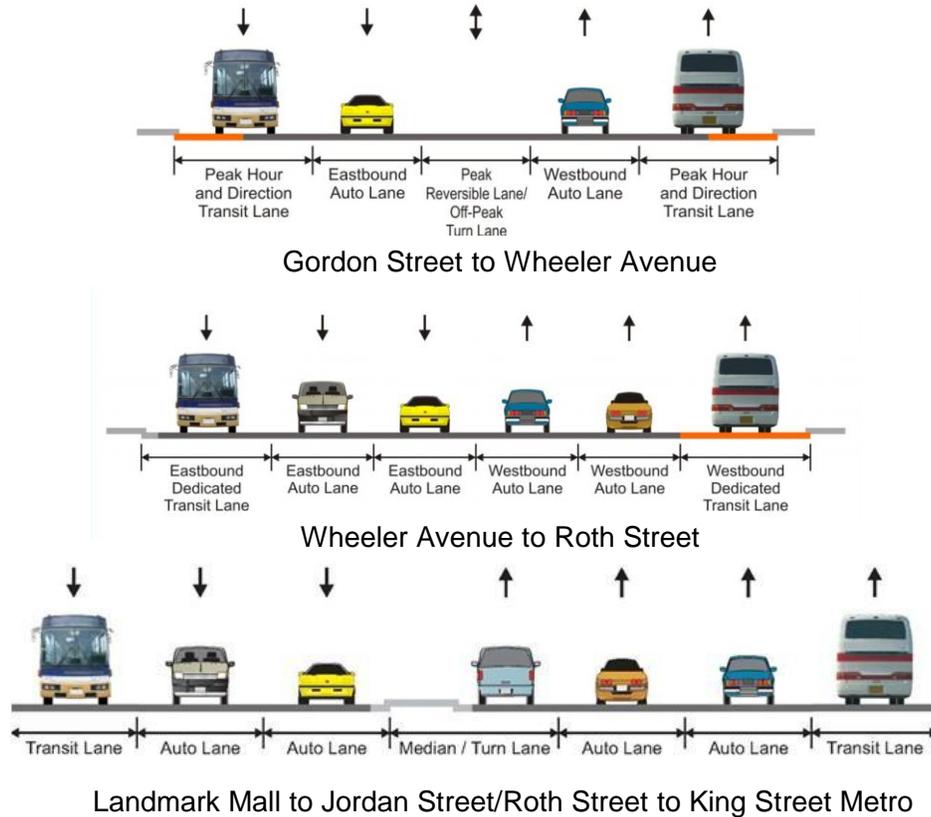
**Alternative 1:**



- Transit in mixed flow on existing four-lane segments and in dedicated lanes on existing six-lane segments
- Transitway uses queue jump lanes to avoid congestion and reduce disruption to Duke Street traffic
- Adds a westbound lane between Jordan Street and Gordon Street, converting the existing two-way service road to one-way
- Adds a westbound lane between Wheeler Avenue and S. Quaker Lane
- Realigns the existing eastbound on-ramp at Telegraph Road and access to adjacent property to accommodate a dedicated transit lane
- Alternative 1a does not have on-street bike lanes
- Alternative 1b includes on-street bike lanes



**Alternative 3:**



- Identical to Alternative 1 between Landmark Mall and Gordon Street, between Roth Street and Taylor Run Parkway, between Callahan Drive and King Street Metrorail
- Travelway widened to provide an additional through lane in the eastbound direction at Telegraph Road
- Travelway widened to approximately 61 feet between Gordon Street and Wheeler Avenue (resulting in Duke Street of the width as section the existing section between Wheeler Avenue and Roth Street)
- Travelway widened to approximately 72 feet between Wheeler Avenue and Roth Street (resulting in an additional general purpose travel lane to accommodate heavy traffic flow between N. Quaker Lane and Telegraph Road)
- No dedicated left-turn lane during peak periods between Jordan Street and Roth Street
- Alternative 3a does not have on-street bike lanes
- Alternative 3b includes on-street bike lanes



The advantages and disadvantages for each alternative are summarized in **Table 3**.

**Table 3: Alternatives Comparison**

<b>Alternative 1a- Use Existing Lanes for Transit</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fewest property impacts</li> <li>• Maintains service roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worst transit operation due to shared lanes</li> <li>• No Duke Street bicycle facility</li> </ul>
<b>Alternative 1b- Use Existing Lanes for Transit with Bike Accommodations</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintains service roads</li> <li>• Provides bike lanes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worst transit operation due to shared lanes</li> <li>• Large property impacts due to bike lanes and streetscape enhancements</li> </ul>
<b>Alternative 3a- Reversible Lane</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality transit operation</li> <li>• Maintains service roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Off-peak auto impact from Gordon to Wheeler</li> <li>• No Duke Street bicycle facility</li> <li>• Lane control gantries</li> <li>• Potentially confusing to drivers</li> </ul>
<b>Alternative 3b- Reversible Lane with Bike Accommodations</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality transit operation</li> <li>• Maintains service roads</li> <li>• Provides bike lanes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Off-peak auto impact from Gordon to Wheeler</li> <li>• Large property impacts due to bike lanes and streetscape enhancements</li> <li>• Lane control gantries</li> <li>• Potentially confusing to drivers</li> </ul>

**CWG and Public Comment**

A meeting was held on February 16, 2012 to review the refined analysis for Alternative 1 (with and without bike lanes) and Alternative 3 (with and without bike lanes). A recurring theme in the discussion was again bike and pedestrian safety and accommodation. Members of the CWG expressed interest in an option that combined Alternative 3b (where space is available for bike lanes) and Alternative 3a (where bike facilities are provided along a parallel route to Duke Street). Other general comments included the following:

- Consider a phased approach to transit implementation—Begin with Alternative 1 and eventually implement Alternative 3 with a bike facility
- Bike lanes on Duke Street are not desired in the section between Jordan Street and Telegraph Road due to property impacts
- Bike facility should be included near Landmark Mall to take advantage of planned redevelopment
- Include a bicycle/pedestrian connection to Eisenhower Avenue
- Pedestrian safety and accommodation along and across Duke Street is important
- Improved transit on Eisenhower Avenue should be part of the overall corridor strategy
- Minimize impacts to residences and small businesses
- Concern with cut-through traffic in adjacent neighborhoods



- Sensitivity to fire station location and public safety
- Streetscape should be considered for each impacted parcel
- Ensure feeder streets to stations have pedestrian facilities

### ***Recommendation***

Based on evaluations conducted and feedback received from the public and the CWG, the study team recommends the further consideration of Alternative 3 with on- and off-street bicycle accommodations and pedestrian improvements at intersections and along the Duke Street corridor. Alternative 3 provides the opportunity to maximize the performance of the transitway, while minimizing property impacts along the corridor. It also provides flexibility in accommodating a continuous bicycle facility along Duke Street in the short- and long-term. Along with the recommendation for Alternative 3 for Duke Street, it is recommended for the City to continue to pursue transit service and facility enhancements along the Eisenhower Avenue corridor to provide frequent, high-quality services along Eisenhower Avenue.

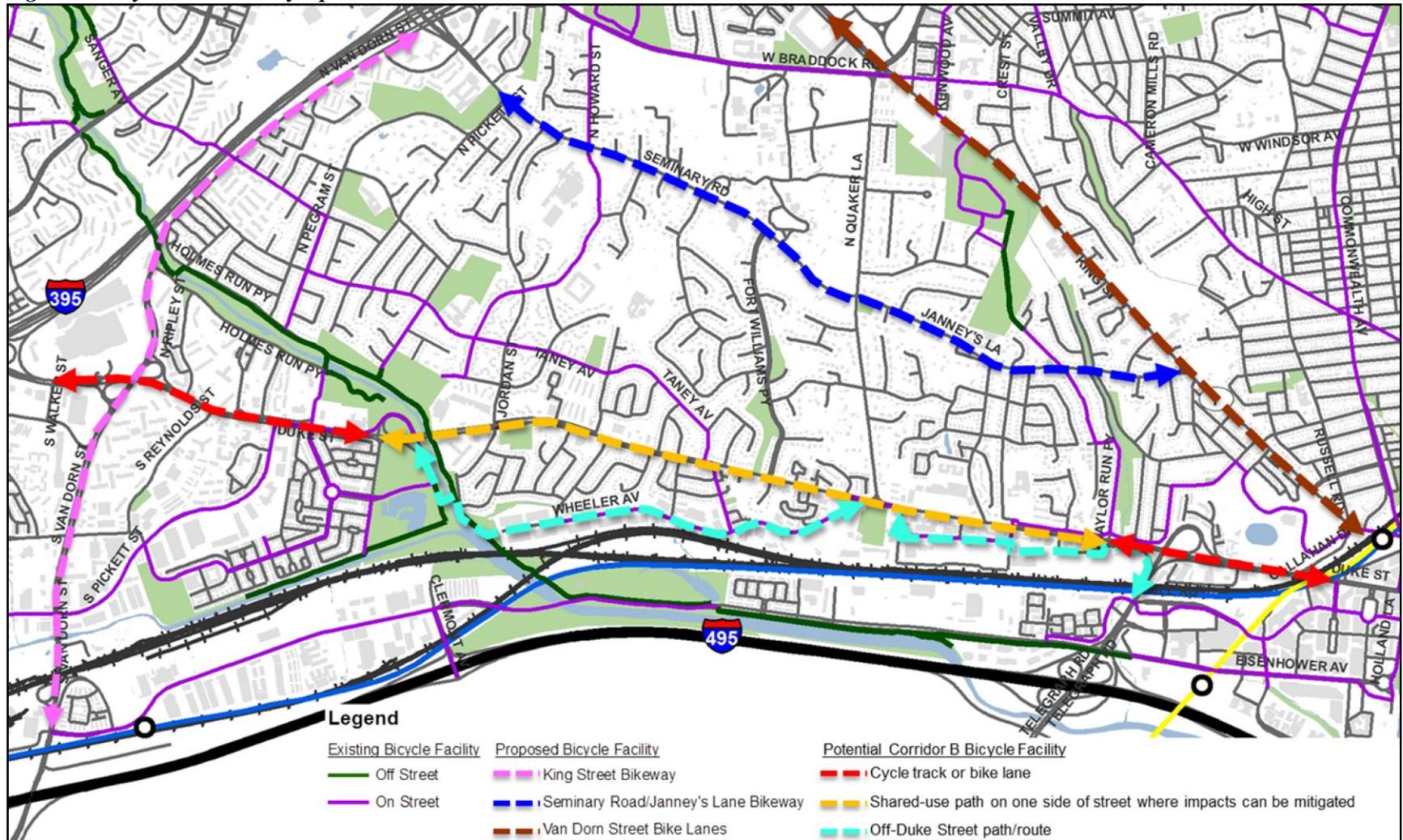
In existing six-lane sections of Duke Street, Alternative 3 proposes to convert the outermost travel lane to a dedicated transit lane. In existing four- and five-lane sections of the corridor, Duke Street would be widened to accommodate a reversible lane in order to create a dedicated transit lane during the peak hour in the peak direction of traffic flow. Each of these strategies to improve transit performance minimize the need for widening along Duke Street and focus on providing physical modifications to Duke Street that optimize transit reliability.

Adding to the attractiveness of Alternative 3 is the ability for it to be implemented in phases. Early phases could be focused on upgrading traffic signals in the corridor to accommodate transit signal priority. In coordination with signal improvements, existing six-lane sections of Duke Street could be reconfigured (one lane in each direction reassigned) to accommodate the proposed dedicated transit lanes. Where station locations within these sections will remain the same, stations could be constructed in coordination with the six-lane section reconfiguration. In an incremental manner, or as a part of a larger infrastructure project, modifications could later be constructed to provide the additional reversible lane, where proposed by the Alternative 3 concept plan.

In addition to Alternative 3 being flexible and effective—minimizing right-of-way impacts and providing the opportunity for a phased approach to implementation—it would provide the opportunity for a continuous bicycle facility to be provided along the Duke Street corridor while minimizing impacts to property. **Figure 1** shows the potential bicycle facility strategy proposed to accompany Alternative 3 for Duke Street. As shown, the strategy includes a combination of a parallel corridor (off of Duke Street) and a multi-use path along Duke Street. It is likely that in the near-term (prior to redevelopment of selected properties along Duke Street), the parallel facility would be pursued first. As redevelopment occurs throughout time and right-of-way can be secured through development processes or as a part of larger infrastructure projects, the Duke Street facility would be developed.



Figure 1: Bicycle Connectivity Options



**City of Alexandria, Virginia**

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**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: MARCH 19, 2012

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: CHERYL LAWRENCE, ACTING DIVISION CHIEF  
MARKETING, SPECIAL EVENTS & WATERFRONT DISTRICT

SUBJECT: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MARKETING, SPECIAL EVENTS & WATERFRONT  
DIVISION UPDATE- ITEM #III-E

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**SPECIAL EVENTS MANAGEMENT:**

The City's Special Events Committee met on Thursday, March 8 reviewed and approved seven events scheduled for the months April – October and two post reviews on the two parades, George Washington Birthday Parade and the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The events were as follow:

Project Discovery Annual Walkathon – **April 21**  
Spring for Alexandria/Alexandria Gives– **May 4&5**  
Tucker Trot 5k – **May 19**  
St. Mary's Spring Fling – **May 20**  
Colin Casey – **May 20**  
Old Town Arts & Craft Festival – **June 16-17**  
Woodrow Wilson Bridge – **October 7**

The Office of Special Events is preparing the Community Calendar of Events for the Fiscal Year 13. One third of the community applicants have begun to lock in their event dates. Last year over 200, requests were processed for city services and or program support for a variety of events.

**CITY MARINA:** The Potomac Riverboat Company granted a month-to-month lease agreement to dock the Minnie V, a historical skipjack, for commercial charter activities as a pilot program through 2012. The Dock Master will coordinate this activity with developing a form to track the Minnie

V use of the Marina. The fee is 3% of the gross. The Minnie V will dock either the C/D pier or the G/H –T-head area off the Cherry Blossom. The approval is all contingent upon permit approval from the National Park Service

### **CITY MARINA:**

The Marina camera status and action item update – Staff met on Friday, March 9 to finalize plan to execute the availability of the Marina Camera Website. RPCA staff has set up Web link from RPCA Marina page to new camera website and the Marina staff has notified the boaters and interested parties of marina camera access. The marina camera website will display four images with linkage to each individual camera image. The boaters will be able to view the Marina area at any time to view their boats and to heighten overall security.

**WATERFRONT DISTRICT MAINTENANCE PROJECTS UPDATES:** Staff met with the Founders Park Community Association (FPCA) and the Founders Park Dog Exercise Group on Tuesday, March 19. The purpose of the meeting is to provide updates on the overall park improvements. The MOU's for each organizations was reviewed to ensure new park ideas met the standing MOU. Ideas presented included, purchase of two benches, install a water human/canine water fountain and tree replacements. FPCA expressed interest to install a historical sign in the park, to share the cultural aspects of the park. FPCA is working with Dr. Pamela Cressey and on the existing standards established for historical signage. The associations agreed to meet quarterly meeting and to assist with monitoring the park.

### **UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:**

- City Days of Remembrance – **April 17**
- Project Discovery Walkathon – **April 21**
- 28<sup>th</sup> Annual GW Parkway Classic 10 Miler – **April 22**
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Carpenter's Shelter – Run for Shelter 10k – **April 28**
- Spring for Alexandria/Alexandria Gives – **May 4 & 5**
- USPTO Community Day 2012 – **May 10**
- Tucker Trot 5k – **May 19**
- Kelly Cares 5k – **May 19**
- Colin Casey 3k/Spring Fling – **May 20**
- Armenian Festival – **June 2**
- Old Town Arts & Craft Festival – **June 16-17**
- Carlyle Food & Wine Festival – **June 23rd (New City Partnership Event)**
- Arlandria/Chirilagua Festival 2012 – **July 29**

City of Alexandria, Virginia

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MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** MARCH 22, 2012

**TO:** PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

**FROM:** PARK PLANNING, DESIGN & CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM  
RON M. KAGAWA, ASLA LEED AP DIVISION CHIEF  
JACK R. BROWAND, CPRP DIVISION CHIEF

**SUBJECT: JONES POINT PARK; UPDATE MARCH, 2012  
DIRECTOR'S REPORT - ITEM V-B**

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The purpose of this update is to provide an overview of activities related to Jones Point Park construction, which commenced on November 18, 2010, for the months of February-March, 2012. Project status as of March 14, indicates that 82.7 percent or 483 contract days have been expended and that the installed work is equivalent to 78.10 percent of total project completion. There is no change to the contract completion date – which remains anticipated as June 25, 2012. The Commission will be similarly updated at its regularly scheduled meetings until completion of construction.

**VDOT-COMMUNITY LIAISON INFORMATION GROUP**

To ensure that construction activities continue with little disruption, and to provide a forum for open dialogue with the surrounding community, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), with participation of the National Park Service and City of Alexandria, has created a Community Liaison Information Group on Jones Point Park Construction. The group is comprised of a representative from resident groups that may be most impacted by ongoing work at Jones Point Park.

The Community Liaison Information Group will meet quarterly to discuss the project and to allow for members to ask questions and to be briefed on ongoing work. The meetings are open to the public and include representatives from the project's managing parties - VDOT and the National Park Service, as well as staff from City of Alexandria. Members of the Liaison Group have been identified as direct points of contact for gathering information on neighborhood concerns or questions, and will have direct contact to VDOT to address such items as they arise. The next meeting of the Community Liaison Information Group will be held on Saturday; April 28, 2012 as a construction site tour.

March 22, 2012  
Page 2 of 2

#### ADDITIONAL & FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION

Information regarding Jones Point Park construction is continuously updated on Alexandria's Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities department website at <http://alexandriava.gov/recreation> and VDOT's website for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project at <http://www.wilsonbridge.com/>. These links include information regarding community meetings, construction updates and other information and resources including how citizens may stay informed by subscribing to E-News or other advisories. The Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities website includes a continuously updated overview of construction activities for a three week look-ahead schedule of anticipated work. The March 19, 2012 "Construction Schedule at a Glance" with activities related to progress for the past month is attached below.

# # #

**Jones Point Park Restoration Project  
Construction Update at a Glance:**

**Date: 03.19.2012**

*The following provides an overview of major tasks undertaken by the project General Contractor. Future Scheduling Week and Work Anticipated Items are subject to change in response to construction activities, weather and project conditions.*

<b>Week</b>	<b>Work Anticipated:</b>
<b>04.16.2012</b>	not available
<b>04.09.2012</b>	not available
<b>04.02.2012</b>	not available
<b>03.26.2012</b>	Restricted Access Road Grade between trails and parking areas  Royal Street Provide vehicle barrier Provide new sidewalk along east and west sides of street  Playground Place curb and gutter  Fishing Pier Tie in concrete and finishing pier  Shiplawn Wall Demolish Mount Vernon Trail area adjacent to Shiplawn  Lighthouse Complete well  Restoration Plantings Sitewide
<b>03.19.2012</b>	Restricted Access Road Complete grade between trails and parking areas  Royal Street Provide and complete vehicle barrier Provide new sidewalk along east and west sides of street  Playground Complete curb and gutter

Fishing Pier  
Tie in concrete and finishing pier

Shiplawn Wall  
Complete demolition of Mount Vernon Trail area adjacent to Shiplawn

Lighthouse  
Complete well and porch

Restoration Plantings  
Sitewide

**03.12.2012** Playground  
Provide subbase for sidewalk  
Place curb and sidewalk

Lighthouse  
Complete well  
Provide mortar for existing foundation

Restoration Plantings  
Sitewide

Miscellaneous  
Install interpretive and wayside sign foundations

**03.05.2012** Shiplawn Wall  
Place underdrain and fill  
Demolish Mount Vernon Trail area adjacent to Shiplawn

Reforestation Plantings  
Sitewide

Miscellaneous  
Install Park Benches  
Install Court Posts

**02.27.2012** Playground  
Place subbase and bases for equipment and sidewalk

Fishing Pier  
Install deck

Ship Lawn  
Place reinforcing steel