City of Alexandria, Virginia

Citywide Park Improvement Plans
Hensley Park

November 19, 2012

Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Activities
Park Planning, Design & Capital Development Division
Goal

Create plans that identify the priorities for future park enhancements and uses in Alexandria’s large, multi-use, municipally-owned parks, balancing the City’s recreational, cultural, environmental, and passive use needs.

What is a Citywide Park?
Over 20 acres
Multi-use
Municipally-owned
### Citywide Park Planning Framework Timeline

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Spring 2012</th>
<th>Summer 2012</th>
<th>Fall/Winter 2012</th>
<th>Spring 2013</th>
<th>Summer 2013</th>
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<tr>
<td>Conduct Site Inventory</td>
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<td>Review Existing Plans &amp; Documents</td>
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<td>Collect Qualitative Data from City Staff</td>
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<td>Conduct Site Observations</td>
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<td>Review National Benchmarks &amp; Standards</td>
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<td>Obtain Feedback from Public</td>
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<td>Hold Public Workshops</td>
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<td>Develop Recommendations &amp; Report</td>
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Q15. Actions That Households Are Most Willing to Support with Their Tax Dollars

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices

- Improve existing walking, hiking and biking trails: 44%
- Purchase land to preserve natural areas, wildlife: 42%
- Develop walking & biking trails that connect parks: 36%
- Improve existing passive use neighborhood parks: 41%
- Purchase land to develop passive use parks: 22%
- Improve existing swimming pools: 19%
- Develop new swimming pools: 17%
- Improve existing athletic fields: 13%
- Improve existing indoor recreation facilities: 12%
- Improve existing marina facilities: 11%
- Develop new special event/performance venue: 10%
- Develop new indoor recreation facilities: 10%
- Provide lighted athletic fields: 9%
- Improve existing basketball and tennis courts: 8%
- Develop space for large gatherings: 8%
- Develop new basketball & tennis courts: 6%
- Purchase land to develop athletic fields: 5%

Source: Leisure Vision ETC Institute (July 2011)
Q7. Parks, Recreation, or Cultural Amenities That Are Most Important to Households

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices

- Playgrounds #1 priority in households with children under 10
- Walking and biking trails #1 priority in households with children 10-19, with soccer/lacrosse fields a close 2nd
- Walking and biking trails #1 priority in empty nester households

Source: Leisure Vision/ETC Institute (July 2011)
Develop strategy or implementation for:

1. Natural and Historic resource protection
2. Universal ADA accessibility
3. Multi-use paths to reflect user patterns
4. Parking management strategies
5. Upgrade and maintain sports fields
6. Trash receptacle locations and recycling program
7. Standardized way-finding and park regulation signage
8. Locations for public art, in collaboration with the Office of the Arts
9. Infrastructure for event spaces (hard surfaces, electrical outlets, restroom access, water)
Hensley Park
Existing Conditions
Hensley Park
Existing Conditions
Hensley Park
Anticipated Projects

- New backstop scheduled FY14
- Funding for festival area
- Netting scheduled for FY14
- Parking lot re-paving scheduled for FY15
1. Complete individual surveys
   *for those who have not filled out the online survey*

2. As a group, Identify:
   a) The top five park assets
   b) Where pathways should be for optimal park circulation
   c) Existing conditions that need improvement
   d) Programs/facilities that are not in the park, but should be

3. Review both the list of improvements and program needs, prioritize the top five.
Next Steps

1. Tell your friends and neighbors to take the survey before the end of November:
   www.alexva.us/aw6
2. Synthesis and Analysis
3. Spring Workshops