City of Alexandria, Virginia

Citywide Park Improvement Plans

HensleyPark

November 19, 2012

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

Citywide Park Planning
Goals & Criteria

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

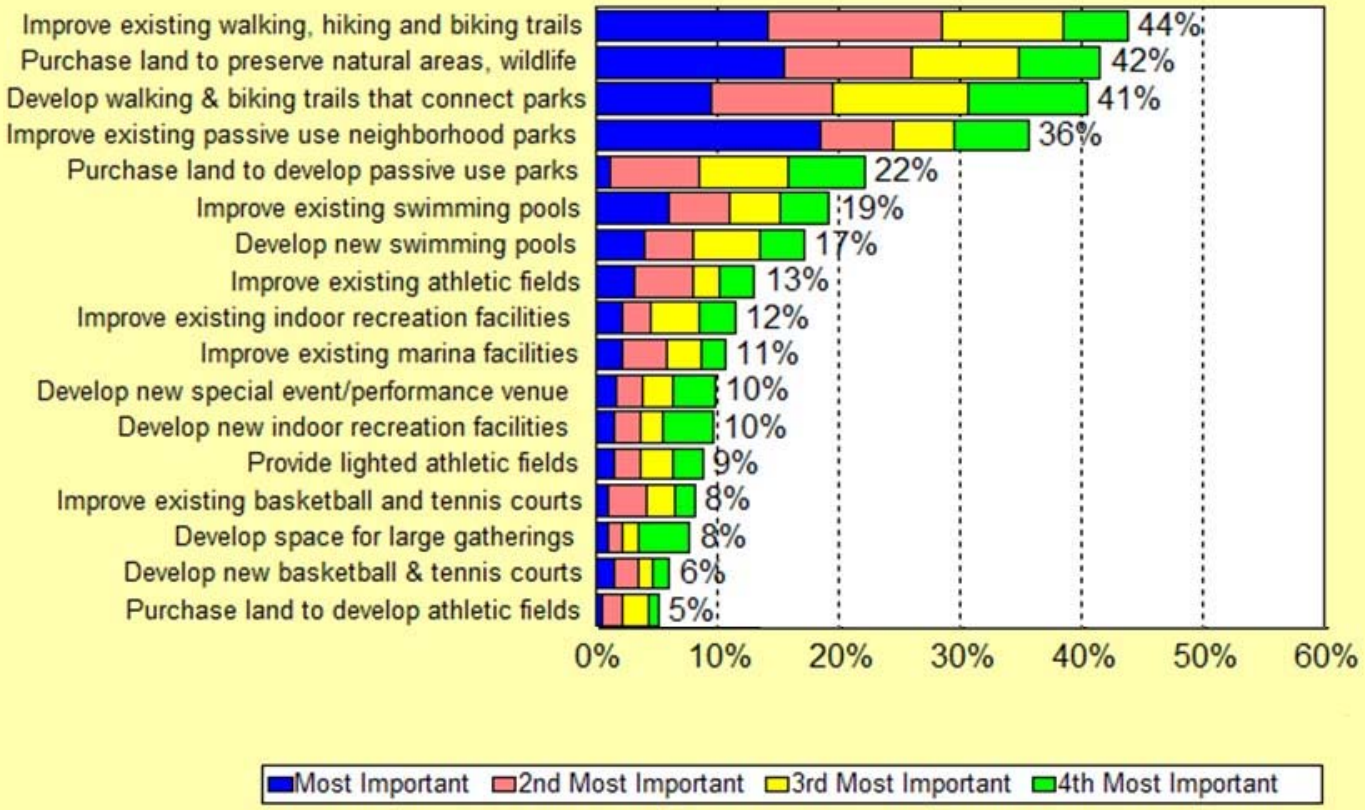
Citywide Park Planning
Framework Timeline

	Spring 2012	Summer 2012	Fall/Winter 2012	Spring 2013	Summer 2013
Conduct Site Inventory					
Review Existing Plans & Documents					
Collect Qualitative Data from City Staff					
Conduct Site Observations					
Review National Benchmarks & Standards					
Obtain Feedback from Public					
Hold Public Workshops					
Develop Recommendations & Report					

Park Planning
Needs Assessment

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

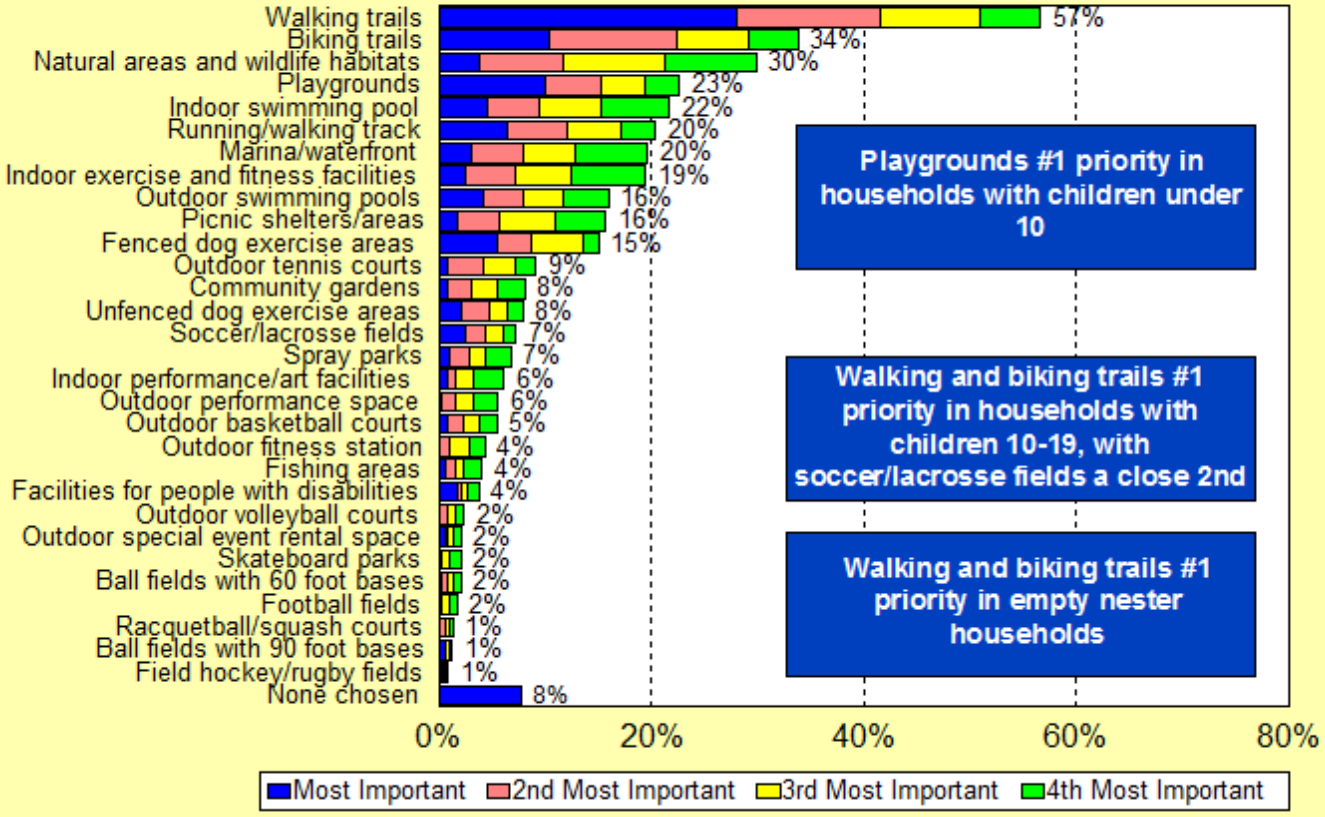


Source: Leisure Vision/ETC Institute (July 2011)

Park Planning
Needs Assessment

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



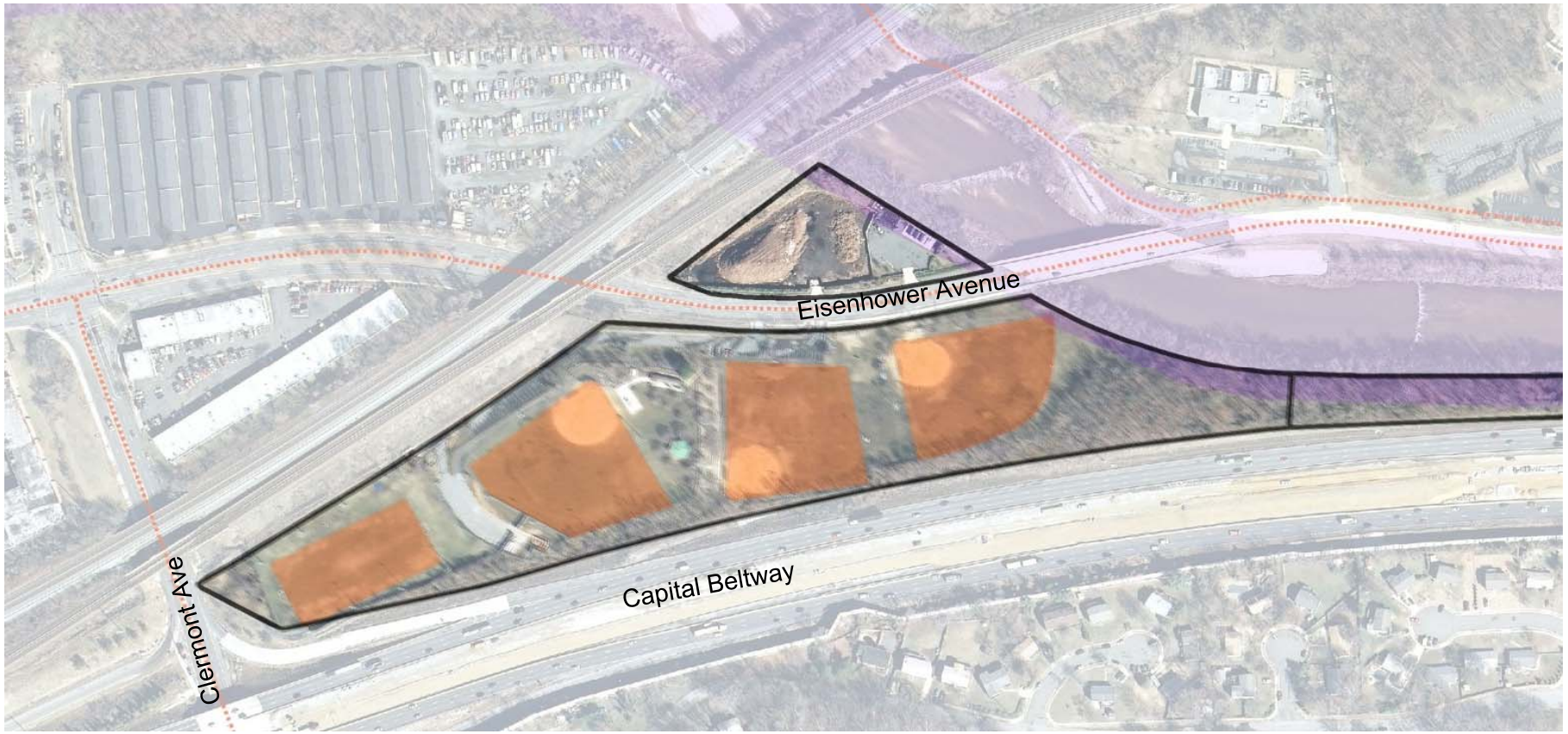
Source: Leisure Vision/ETC Institute (July 2011)

Consistent Findings in all Citywide Parks

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



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Hensley Park
Existing Conditions

Hensley Park
Anticipated Projects

Hensley Park

New backstop scheduled FY14

Parking lot re-paving scheduled for FY15

Funding for festival area

Netting scheduled for FY14

Group Exercise

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