City of Alexandria, Virginia

Citywide Park Improvement Plans

Holmes Run Park System

November 7, 2012

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

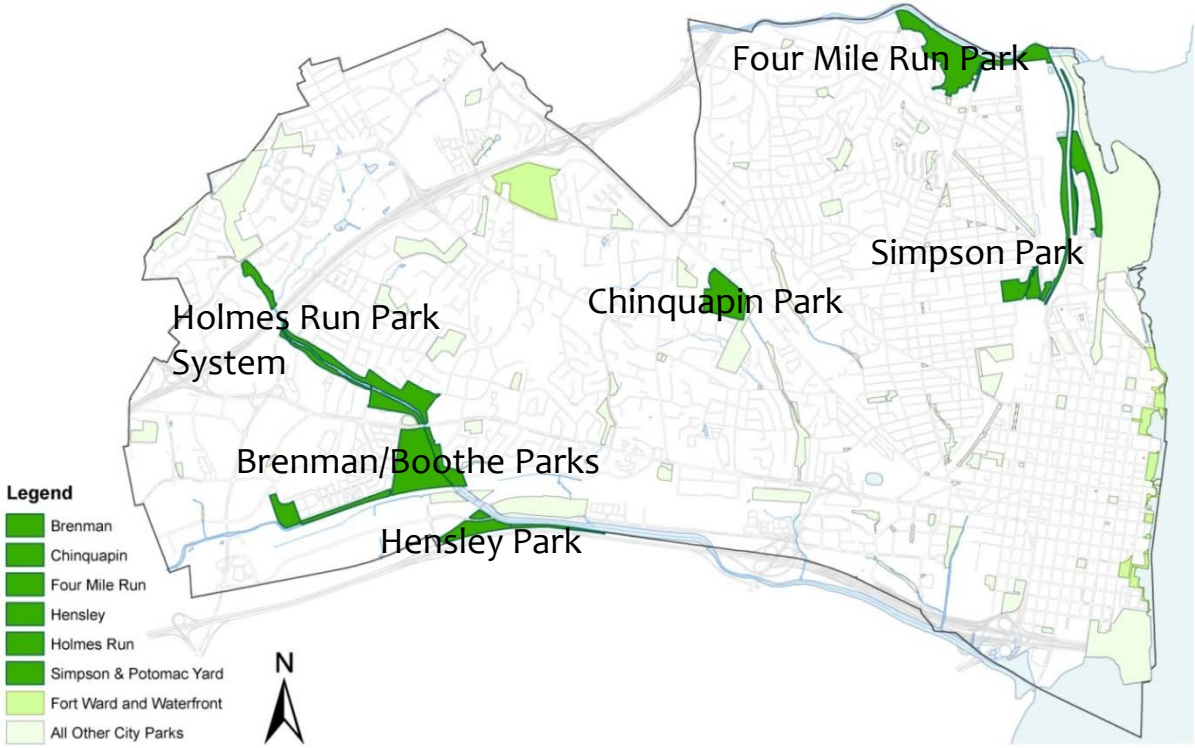
Citywide Park Planning
Goals & Criteria

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?

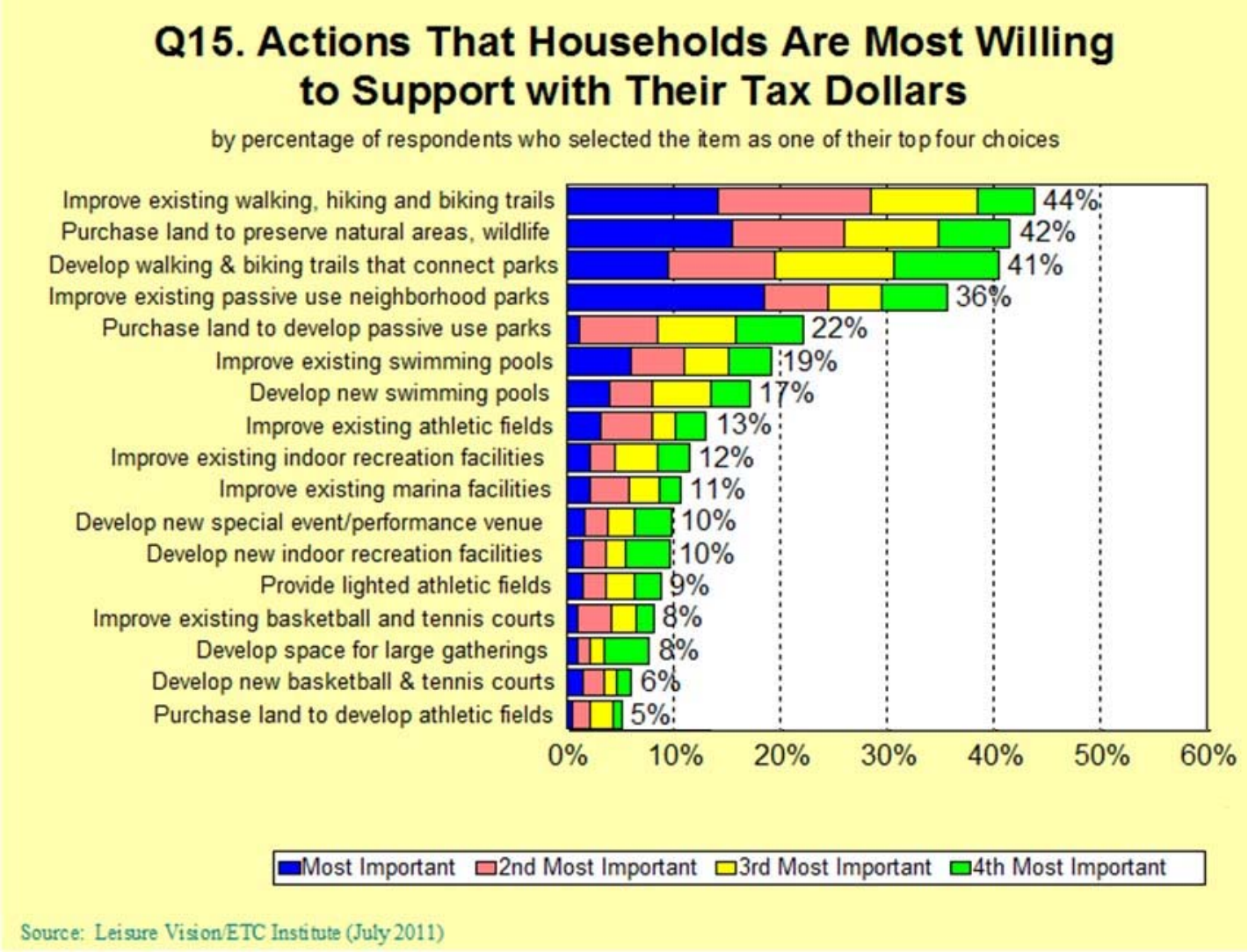
Over 20 acres
Multi-use
Municipally-owned



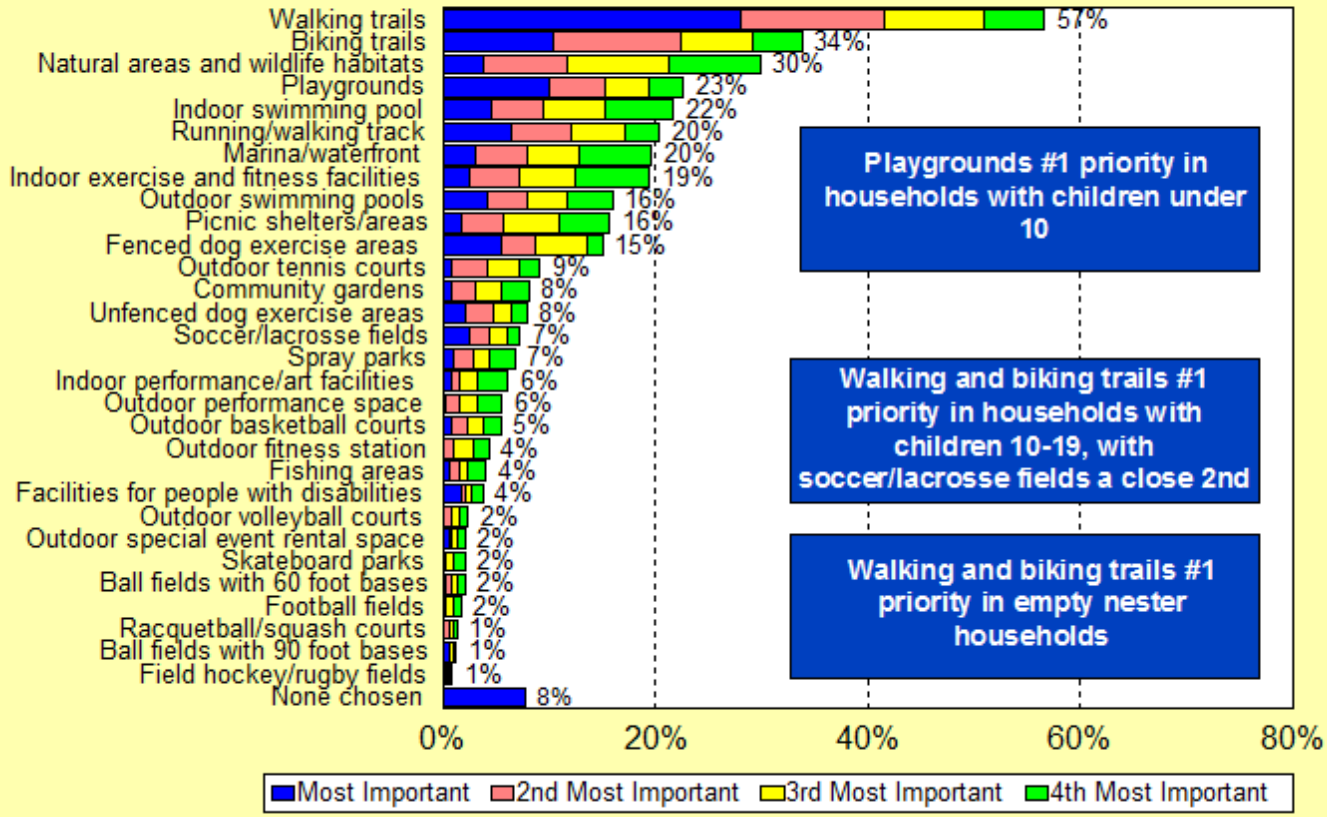
Citywide Park Planning
Framework Timeline

	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



Park Planning
Needs Assessment



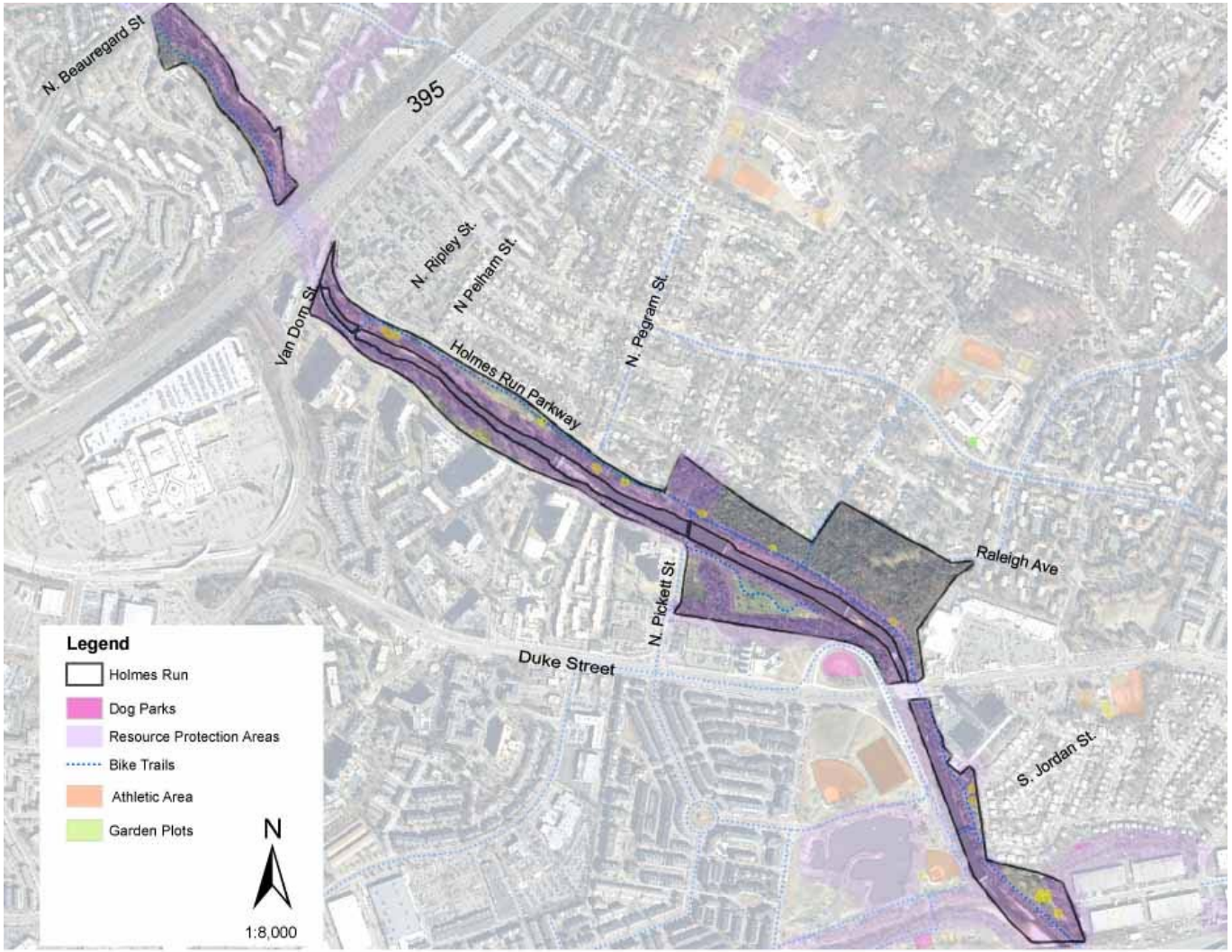
Source: Leisure Vision/ETC Institute (July 2011)

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)

Holmes Run Park System
Existing Conditions



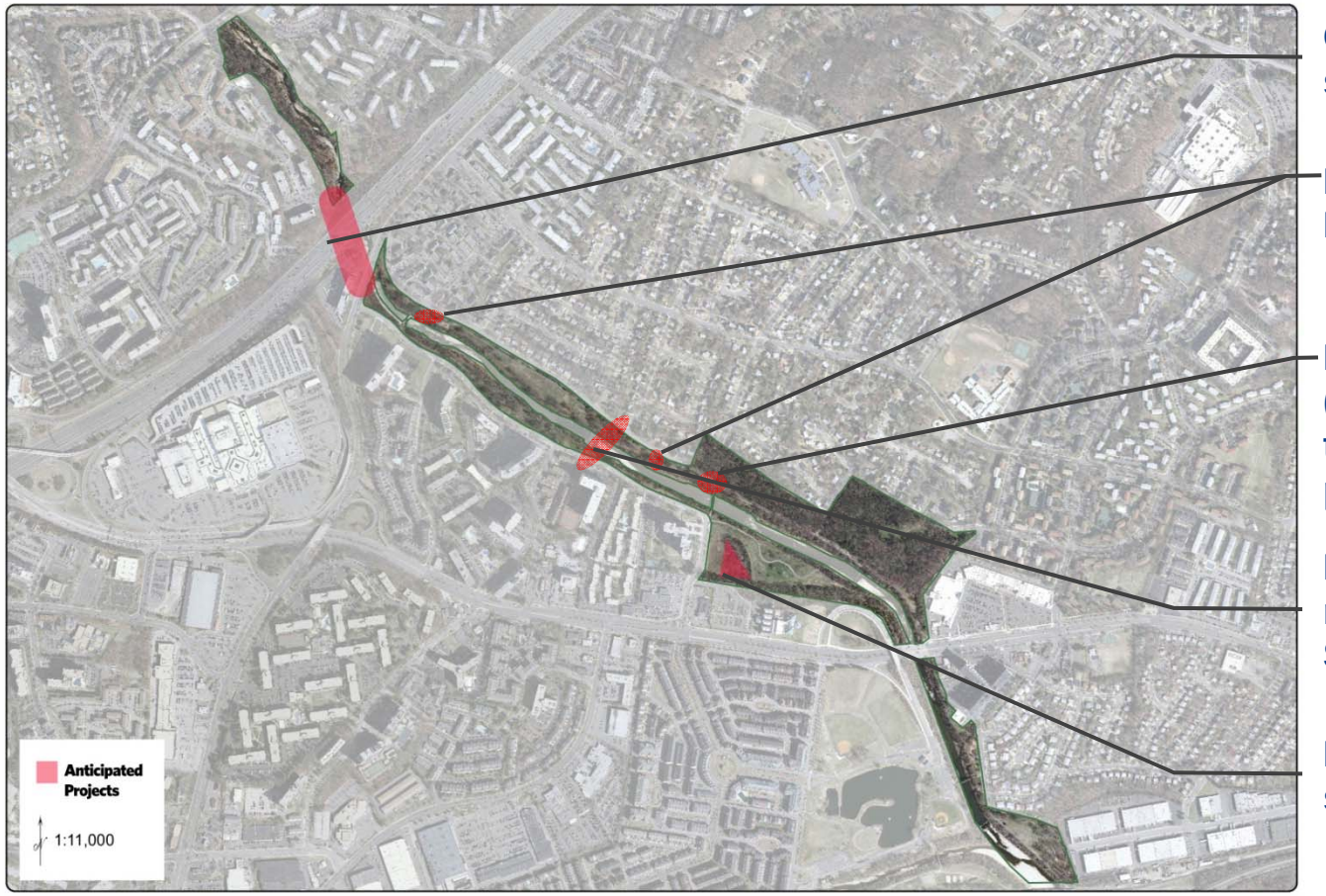
Holmes Run Park System
Existing Conditions

Holmes Run Park System
Site Observations

Holmes Run Greenway
July 5, 8:30am - 10:30am
July 13, 3:30pm - 6::00pm

- Primary traffic is cyclists and joggers
- Kids using play equipment
- Many people crossing bridge to use the north side of the trail
- All Veterans Park rarely utilized
- Cyclists switching between road and bike path
- Parents and kids using playgrounds
- Park visitors park at Brenman to use trail across the bridge
- People exercising

Holmes Run Park System
Anticipated Projects



Connection feasibility study underway

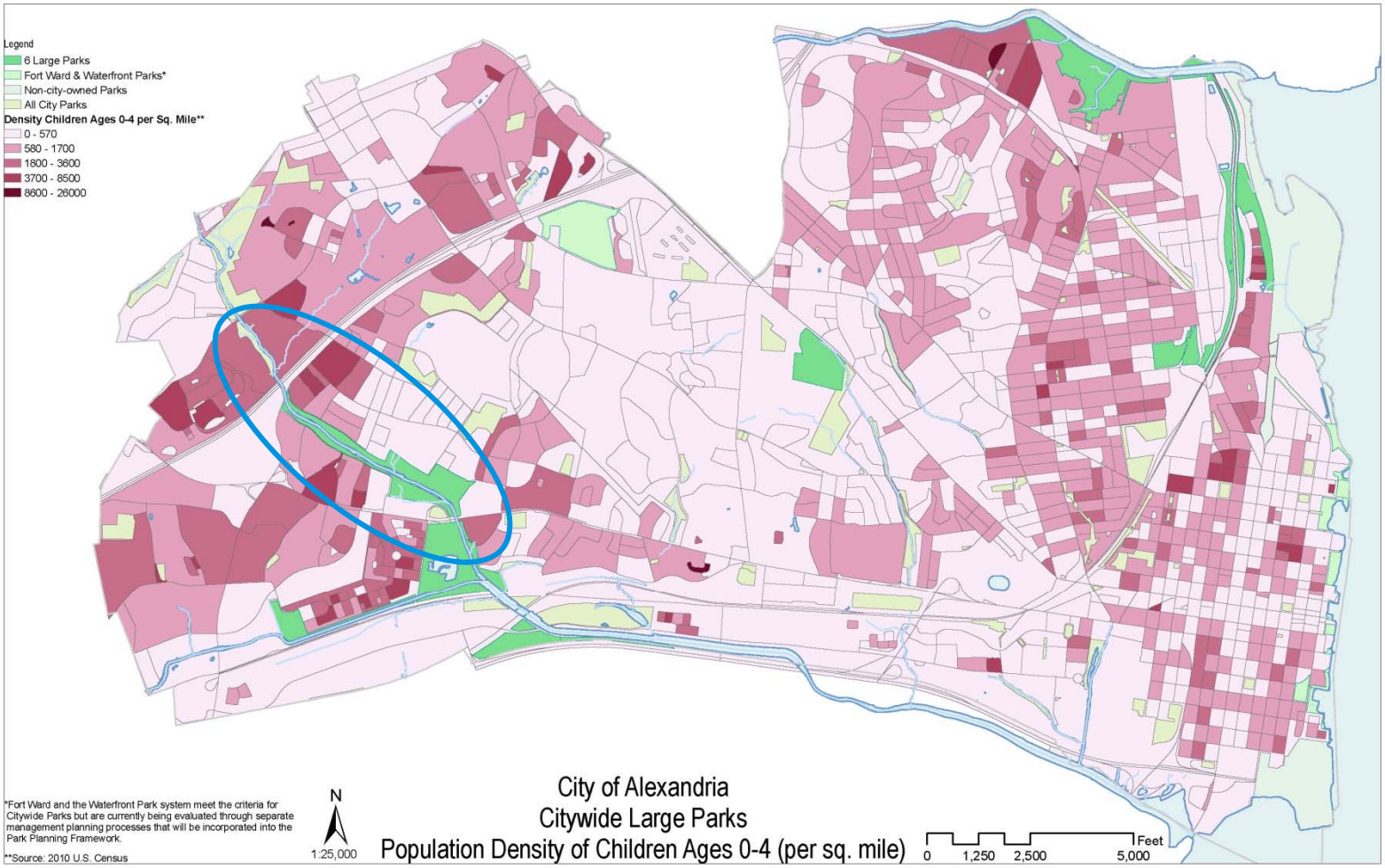
Playground renovation/ Resurfacing (FY16/17)

Fitness station expansion (Project in development through private/public partnership)

Fairfax County trunk sewer replacement (in progress, Spring 2013 completion)

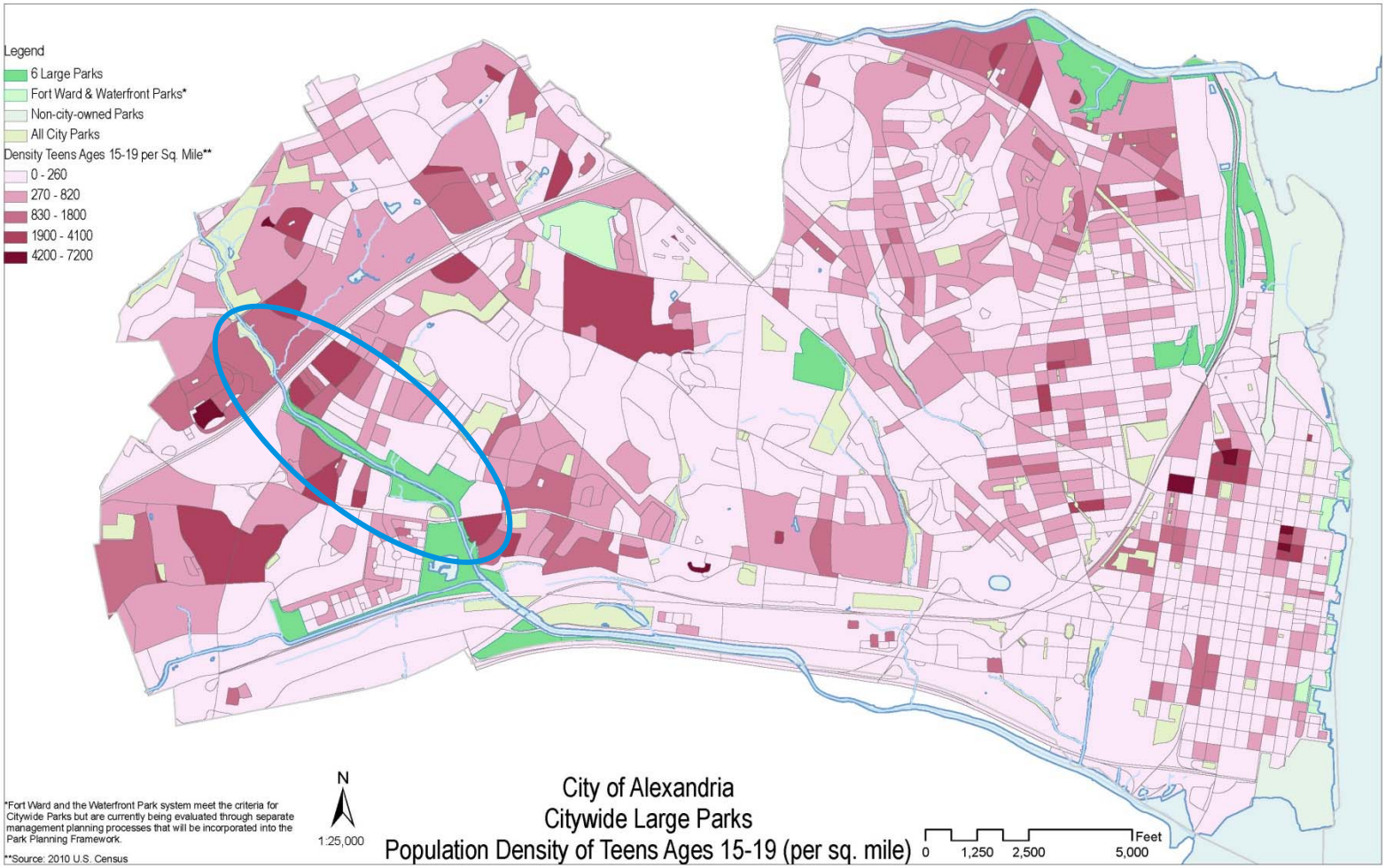
Possible site for stormwater management

Holmes Run Park System
Density of Children Ages 0-4

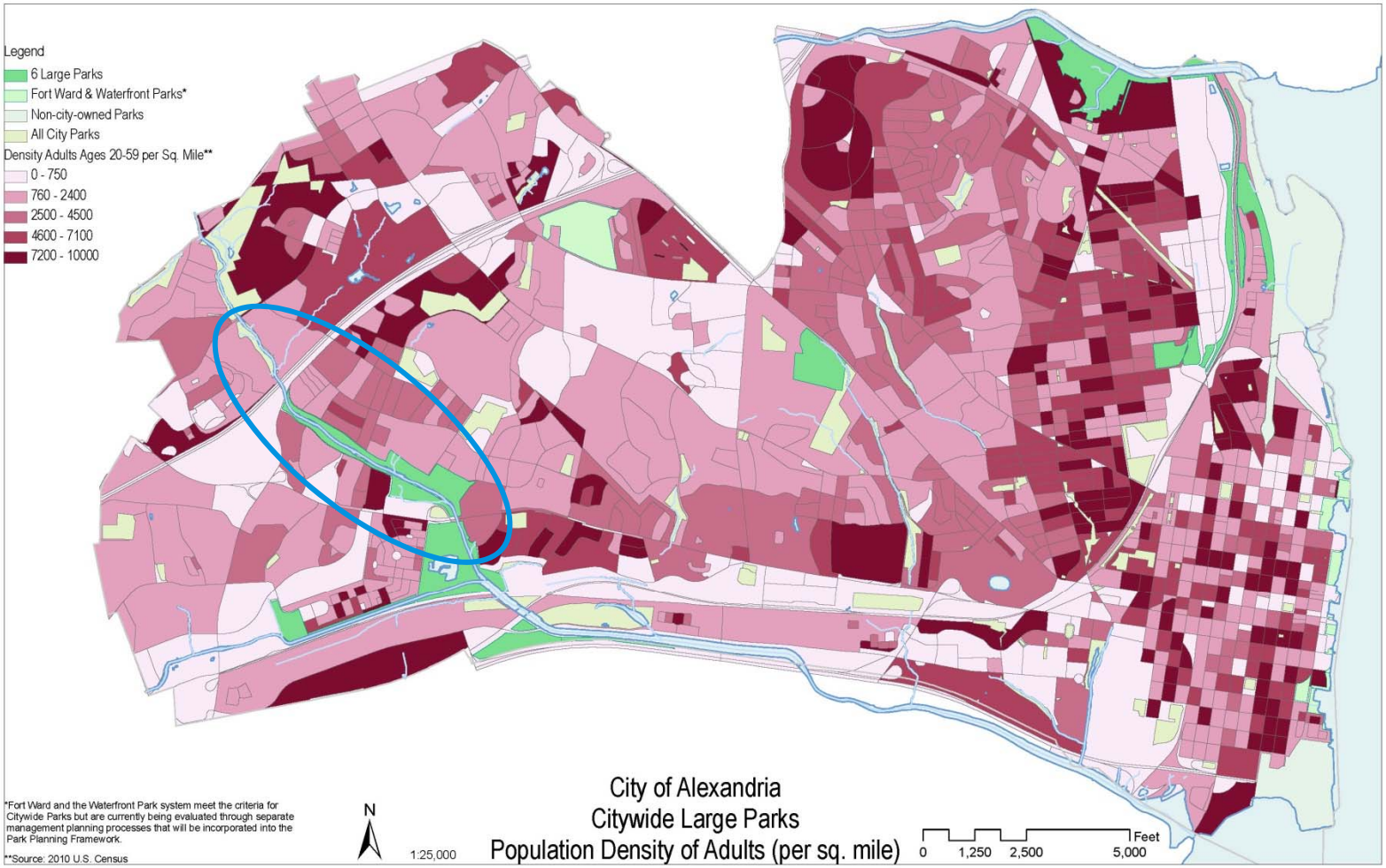


Holmes Run Park System
Density of Children Ages 5-14

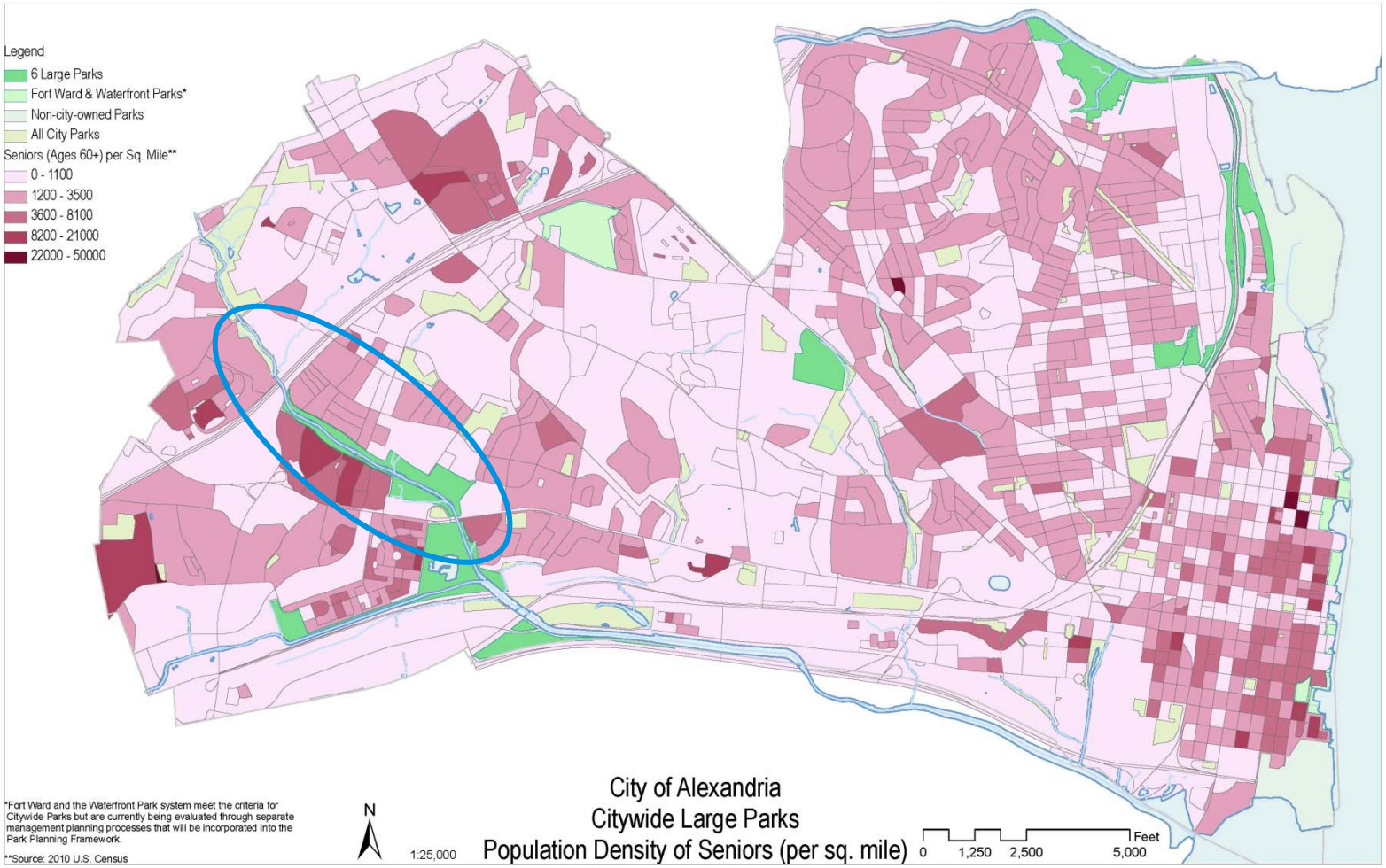
Holmes Run Park System
Density of Teens ages 15-19



Holmes Run Park System
Density of Adults



Holmes Run Park System
Density of Seniors



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/aw5

2. Workshops in four other Citywide Parks:
   - Ben Brenman/Boothe, November 14 @ Samuel Tucker
   - Hensley, November 19, @ Lee Center
3. Synthesis and Analysis
4. Spring Workshops