



Neighborhood Parks Plan

Taney Avenue Park

Community Feedback, Fall 2014



The Division of Park Planning, Design, and Capital Development is currently planning for the City's existing Neighborhood Parks, which we characterize as being 0.5 - 10 acres with a service area of up to 0.5 miles. The results of this plan will help determine budgeting priorities and recommendations for both short and long-term incremental improvements, ensuring that neighborhood parks serve Alexandria's needs now and into the future.

In Fall 2014, Staff collected community feedback to understand how the Park is used and how it could be improved in the future. The following information summarizes what we heard through an online survey, community workshop, and "graffiti board" in the park. Over 270 people responded to the survey in total, ten of which were specific to Taney Avenue Park.

In 10 years I would like this Park to...

(top 3 rankings shown; based on a weighted score)

1. Be a safe place for children to explore
2. Be a place to create social connections with neighbors
3. Provide opportunity to explore nature

What would you like done with the natural area?

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	2	22%
Enhance it	6	67%
Transform it	1	11%

Explain

It is disgusting and full of trash. The worst is the grass and decrepit sidewalk connecting Taney Avenue.
The park needs more regular clean-up and more law enforcement checking in to cut down on the trash and empty alcohol containers.

What would you like done with the open lawn?

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	3	33%
Enhance it	5	56%
Transform it	1	11%

Explain

A playground would have an actual draw. it is just a field now.
It would be awesome to have a combo of open field space and a small adventure/non conventional playground in this area. We do not have any playgrounds within easy walking distance and some of the ones that are nearby (Ben Brenman Park) are pretty boring.

What would you like done with the picnic benches?

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	0	0%
Enhance it	8	100%
Transform it	0	0%

Explain

Not too many places to sit, but there is no reason to hang out there anyways.
There is a lot of trash and the park could use more regular clean.

What would you like done with the seating?

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	1	13%
Enhance it	7	88%
Transform it	0	0%

What is currently NOT in the Park that you would like to see there?

Response

A playground!
A swing set and playground for kids
An adventure style/unconventional playground would be amazing!
Dog park or more walking path areas in the open field. Water feature. Gazebo.
Nice lawn, park benches, attractive landscaping, and other natural elements
Playground and a cleaning crew.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the Park?

Response

Access is highly limited from east of the park
Better trash removal around the picnic tables.
The path from the 4000 block of Taney needs to be cleaned up and better maintained.
The park needs more attention in general to cut down on teenagers drinking and partying at night and leaving their broken beer bottles strewn around.
This grassy area is depressing and the "park" connecting Taney is scary, the sidewalk is narrow, broken, muddy, and the surrounding area is covered in beer cans, broken bottles, and litter.

Have any of the following circumstances prevented you from visiting this Park? (check all that apply)

Value	Count	Percent
I am physically limited from walking	0	0%
There is no pedestrian/bike friendly access to the park from where I live	2	22%
I have concerns about crime or personal safety	5	56%
There is not enough parking	2	22%
There is nothing in the Park that interests me	8	89%

How often do you visit this park?

Value	Count	Percent
Daily	0	0%
Weekly	3	30%
Monthly	5	50%
Yearly	2	20%

How do you get to this Park?

Value	Count	Percent
Walk	9	100%
Bike (personal)	0	0%
Bike (Capital Bikeshare)	0	0%
Drive	0	0%
Public Transit	0	0%
Carpool	0	0%

How far do you typically travel to visit this park?

Value	Count	Percent
Less than ½ mile	4	40%
Between ½ mile to 1 mile	5	50%
Between 1-2 miles	1	10%
Over 2 miles	0	0%

Graffiti Sign

A "graffiti sign" in the Park had a marker attached and asked park users to write down what they would like their park to look like in the future. Park users recorded the following comments between September to November 2014 (image shown above from October 27).

- Basketball court (x8)
- Dog park (x2)
- Enjoy the park as is (x2)
- Playground for kids of all ages (x3)
- Swings
- Soccer field
- walking track around the park
- Sandbox
- More picnic tables and grills
- Shelters
- Areas for biking
- Skatepark
- Swimming pool

