



**PARK AND RECREATION
COMMISSION
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 414
Arlington, Virginia 22201**



Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2019

Commission Members Present:

Bill Ross, Chair
Duke Banks
Gerald Brandt, APS Staff Liaison (in for Jim Meikle)
Sergio Enriquez (on the phone)
Steve Finn
Dean Foster
Ryan Gormley
Michael Grace
Colt Gregory
David Howell, Vice Chair
Neal Hunter
Cindy Krech
Mark Lincoln
Julie Mullen
Leonardo Sarli

Guests:

Nicholas Cumings
Brian Earle
Matt Ginivan
Loren Helgason
Dolores Navia
Abby Raphael
Patricia Rodgers
Brian Stout
Nancy White

County Staff:

Marco Rivero, Principal Planner, PRC Staff Liaison
Rebecca Schmitt, Assistant to Department Director, DPR
Robert Sharpe, Public Health Assistant Division Chief, DHS
Reuben Varghese, Public Health Division Chief, DHS

PRC members not in attendance:

Shruti Kuppa

Chairman's Introduction and Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes

PRC Chair, Bill Ross introduced a newly appointed PRC member, Ryan Gormley, as a student member of the PRC. Commissioner Gormley provided a brief introduction to the Commission.

The Commission considered their October 22, 2019 Park and Recreation Commission (PRC) meeting minutes. There was a request to amend the meeting minutes with additional information at the meeting. However, after the PRC's November 19th meeting, it was determined that no additional edits were necessary. Therefore, the meeting minutes are approved as presented.

Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

Agenda Items

Destination 2027 Discussion [Abby Raphael, Co-Chair of Destination 2027 and Patricia Rodgers, Northern Virginia Health Foundation]

Co-Chair of Destination 2027, Abby Raphael and Patricia Rodgers of the Northern Virginia Health Foundation provided a brief presentation on the Destination 2027 initiative, which was also highlighted with discussion from the County's Department of Human Services (DHS), Public Health Division Chief, Reuben Varghese. The presentation spoke about community conditions, life expectancy in Arlington, children living in poverty in Arlington, equity across all different groups of people (responding to people's individual needs), the Arlington County Equity Resolution, among other items.

The PRC discussion included but was not limited to the following items:

- Equitable access to community park resources (park and recreation).
- The PRC recognized they can be more cognizant of issues associated with equity when crafting recommendations to the County Board on proposed, development projects.
- Sharing of information among various County agencies, including APS.
- The Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP) provides ample discussion on equity within the County's park system, making sure underserved areas are flagged, and showing how people may access the various park amenities and where there are gaps.
- Overall data collection on environmental community conditions and access to green spaces. Consideration of biophilic cities initiatives and how this may be equitable.
- DHS' work on safety considerations within parks and other public spaces, social isolation, housing, food distribution and other efforts.
- Assisting disenfranchised communities through various application processes for various programs, activities, and assistance.
- Biophilic considerations and approaches to urban development and their connection to social equity (making sure nature is incorporated in any development area and access to it is as easy as possible).
- Providing creative signage/wayfinding that help people find public spaces and parks within the community.
- County staff should be prepared to address with any presentations related to parks and recreation projects and other initiatives, who benefits, is burdened or missing, and how do we know?
- Discontinuing the requirement to prove poverty/low-income status for children who cannot pay for sports programs.
- Improving access to playing fields and other sports programs for the County's low-income, school-age populations.

- Refocusing public space efforts within public/private development projects for school-age children.
- Continuing discussions with the County Board to create an “Office on Equity”. This may enable greater relationships with private organizations, non-profits, etc.
- PRC Chair Ross summarized what may be done by the PRC on this initiative, likely work with fee structures and collaborate with the Sports Commission on access/equity questions, possibly as part of a joint meeting between both commissions.

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Budget Update [Rebecca Schmitt, DPR]

Rebecca Schmitt, DPR, provided an initial, budget update to the PRC. Ms. Schmitt addressed on-going debris clean-up, replenishment, asphalt damage, and other items regarding the July 8th storm. DPR has made some strategic decisions on reestablishing or removing certain park features that were damaged (some considerations like floodplain effects, may inhibit certain facilities from being reestablished in their previous locations). Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) funding accommodates approximately 1-2 bridge replacements every year, and the operating budget sometimes handles much of the replacement/maintenance of various park features/elements (Parks and Natural Resources (PNR) staff would address replacements/maintenance routinely).

The PRC discussion included but was not limited to the following items:

- Clarification of Parks Maintenance Capital projects and how these projects renovate existing amenities. Project examples include Alcova Heights, Bluemont, Marcey Road, among others.
- Parks Land Acquisition and Open Space: there may be a significant request to increase the need for funding to achieve the goals of the recently adopted Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP).

Met Park 6, 7/8 Development Discussion [Brian Stout, Amazon.com Inc. and Brian Earle, ZGF Architects]

Brian Stout, Amazon.com Inc. and Brian Earle, ZGF Architects, provided a presentation on the Metropolitan Park 6, 7/8 private and public open spaces and other related items of interest to the PRC. During the presentation, several items were highlighted including, but not limited to: the project providing approximately ½ mile of fully protected bike lanes (along South Eads Street and on 15th Street South), which was a product because of the robust Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) discussion. All ages and abilities will be able to benefit from these bike facilities. The office buildings will now be certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum. Mr. Earle and Mr. Rivero detailed the Park Master Plan (PMP) and Design Guidelines process will be very similar to previous processes that were implemented for other private/public space projects (Rosslyn Highlands Park+, Four Mile Run Valley (4MRV), Teardrop Parcels now known as New Park at S. Eads Street and Army Navy Drive, etc.). Finally, more detail was provided on the South Eads Street Linear Park area which will be approved as part of the 4.1 site plan and was discussed extensively during the SPRC process.

The PRC focused their discussion and questions on the following points:

- The possibility of a tot-lot/playground areas on the central green space and rooftop private open spaces.

- The links between the open spaces at this site and where current Amazon employees are in Crystal City, and how walkable they are (specifically, the walkability from Crystal Drive out to other areas leading to Metropolitan Park).
- The incorporation of biophilic elements on the building and making sure the glass on the buildings (especially in the lower stories) are bird friendly. Mr. Earle stated that a third-party reviewer from the National Audubon Society looked at the plans/building designs. The buildings will include bird friendly glass up to 50 feet of the building face.
- Considering eliminating/reducing contiguous, straight lines and right angles on the public spaces and creating a more organic design/shape. This may be more inviting to the community and compatible with the various materials that are considered for the buildings.
- The overall connectivity to the public spaces from all directions of the site.
- There will be approximately one acre of open space collectively on the building rooftops, including two (2) dog run facilities.
- Similarities between what Amazon is proposing with this project and how it is reflective of the community conversations surrounding the Plan Lee Highway process.
- The possibility of widening the sidewalks along 14th Street South, which may provide a welcoming entrance to the park.
- Considerations on tree canopy and growth on top of a parking garage area. Mr. Earle stated that the applicant has been working with the County's Urban Forester on these questions.
- PRC Chair Ross clarified that a letter from the PRC will be produced for this site plan prior to the County Board meeting on Saturday, 12/14.

Staff Report

Mr. Rivero provided the PRC staff report and announced the County Board's approval on all planning related and contract items associated with Jennie Dean Park, Phase 1. Mr. Rivero also announced a tentative park opening for Oakland Park on Saturday, December 7th.

4MRV – Jennie Dean Park:

Two (2) rounds of community engagement opportunities have been held to solicit feedback on the park design. The engagement opportunities consisted of in person open houses in Shirlington and Green Valley as well as an online questionnaire. Based on the feedback, DPR is preparing a final park design which will be shared on November 21 and 23.

Artist Mark Reigelman was recently selected to develop site-specific public artwork that will be integrated into the upcoming Jennie Dean Park project. The artist made his first site visit to Arlington on September 3rd and 4th that included several opportunities for public engagement. The community was invited to meet the artist and share stories, histories, and their experiences of Jennie Dean Park at a Meet and Greet and Artist Talk held at the New District Brewery on September 3rd and Morning Office Hours held at Busboys and Poets on September 4th. While in town, he also had an opportunity to walk the park site and surrounding area and have a lunchtime conversation with the Public Art Advisory Panel that selected him. The Panel includes one representative each from the Douglas Park, Green Valley and Shirlington neighborhoods, the Public Art Committee, the project's landscape architect firm, DPR's project manager and Historic Preservation staff. Mark Reigelman's work reevaluates the everyday, reinvigorates gathering spaces and challenges typical urban conditions. His work can be found at the Domino Park Playground in Brooklyn, NY, the San Diego Airport, The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, OH and throughout the United States.

There are several administrative tasks that will be happening in the next few months related to Jennie Dean Park. It's time to officially include the land the County has been acquiring over the time to expand Jennie Dean Park into the General Land Use Plan (GLUP) and to have it zoned as parkland. We are also planning on bringing the Construction Manager at Risk contract to the Board in November pending successful negotiations with the Offeror's.

The County recommends:

- Designating the new parcels as "Public" on the General Land Use Plan (GLUP).
- Rezoning all the park parcels to a consistent zone.
- Certifying the density associated with the M-1 Zoned Parcels in the park.
- Removing 27th Street South between South Nelson Street and the WETA parcel from the Master Transportation Plan and vacating a portion of 27th street south to incorporate it into the park.
- Awarding the Construction Manager at Risk Contract

County presentations of the proposed land classification changes:

- Sept. 17 - Long Range Planning Committee (Consideration of all actions): Completed.
- Oct. 3 - Transportation Commission (Request to Advertise MTP Amendment: Approved.
- Oct. 19 or 22 - County Board (Request to Advertise GLUP and MTP Amendment).
Approved
- Oct. 30 - Transportation Commission (MTP Amendment Consideration & 27th Street Vacation). Approved
- Nov. 4 - Planning Commission (Consideration of all actions). Approved
- Nov. 16 - County Board (Consideration of all actions).

705 31st Street South (adjacent to Fort Scott Park):

- Begin termination of utility services (Ongoing)
- Begin install rodent controls (Complete)

Athletic and Facility Services Division (AFS) Update:

- Arlington Youth Field Hockey
 - Completed their inaugural season with 134 players and 10 teams. Arlington Youth Field Hockey was developed through the draft Athletic Field Allocation Guidelines' Developmental Sport Process.
- Arlington County NFL Flag Football
 - The completed season saw 1,341 flag football participants in 2019 up from 1,216 players in 2018.
- Summer Camp Enrollment
 - 13,031 (non-unique camper enrollment) in Arlington County DPR and Contracted Summer Camps
- Youth Indoor Soccer
 - Currently 138 teams and over 1200 participants have registered for the 2019-20 Youth Indoor Soccer Season.
- Youth Basketball
 - Currently 3,977 participants registered for Grades 1-8 youth basketball. Registration for HS Basketball opened on November 12.
- DPR has updated its Inclement Weather Policy to be more in line with County direction during inclement weather emergencies regarding DPR closings and cancellations. This allows DPR Leadership more flexibility to continue with classes, programs and leagues

when APS has cancelled school for the day or when APS cancels evening activities. Prior to the update, all DPR programs, classes and leagues were cancelled in County and School buildings when Arlington Public Schools buildings were closed, or evening activities were cancelled. In the new scenario, DPR activities, classes, programs and leagues in APS standalone buildings or the APS space in a joint use location can still proceed if the County is open.

Ballston Pond Retrofit/Beaver Pond Park Improvements - No Change

- Next steps are to complete permitting and then to obtain construction bids.
 - Summer/Fall 2019 – Permitting
 - Winter/Spring 2020 – Procurement
 - Summer/Fall 2020 – Begin construction

Benjamin Banneker Park Improvements:

Notice to Proceed (NTP) was issued on November 12, 2019. Construction scheduled to start on November 18, 2019.

Bluemont Park:

- Invasive plant removal has resumed for the fall (NC project) and additional trees will be planted November 2019.
- On 6/15/2019, DPR team members and volunteers from County Manager's Office (CMO) attended the Arlington County Tennis Association (ACTA) semi-finals to canvas attendees about how they currently use Bluemont Park and its amenities especially its tennis courts. Canvassed at Virginia Highlands Park, Yorktown High School and Bluemont Park.
- Project page created. <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/upper-bluemont-project/>
- The public was invited to share their experiences at Bluemont via an online questionnaire and in-person canvassing at the [2019 Arlington County Fair](#), parks and tennis courts around the area. The online feedback tool accepted responses through August 31 and [the results](#) will be used to help plan upcoming outreach efforts.
- Learn about the [Upper Bluemont Conceptual Design Project](#), the project's scope, the existing conditions in the area we will be designing. Community input was gathered at the Project Kickoff Meeting, which occurred on Tuesday, October 29th at Ashlawn Elementary School.
- The second community meeting to present draft design concepts will emanate during Winter 2020.

Community Recreation Division (CRD) Update:

- Pumpkin Walk
 - On Saturday, October 26th Arlington's Department of Parks and Recreation's first-ever pumpkin walk took place at Glencarlyn Park and Arlington Mill Community Center.
 - This family focused event had participants enjoying a short stroll, designed for all ages and abilities, through dozens of spooky & sometimes funny lit pumpkins. After the walk, the Arlington Mill Community Center hosted games, face painting, moon bounces, food vendors and more, and at the end of the night there was a free pumpkin giveaway. Participants that wanted to get a ticket could go back along the path and take any pumpkin they wanted. The goal was to give all the pumpkins away to the public.
 - There were 200+ carved pumpkins and over 2000 participants.

Dorothy Hamm Middle School (formerly H-B Woodlawn Secondary School and location of

the former Stratford Program, now Eunice Shriver Program)

- Renovation of the existing building is substantially completed, and students, teachers and faculty are occupying the finished areas.
- Work on the addition is progressing and completion is estimated in March or April of 2020.
- The athletic field behind the school is completed and is being used by students for soccer practice.
- For additional details on the status of the project see [Dorothy Hamm MS](#) where APS posts construction updates.

Edison Park (Neighborhood Conservation project) - (no change)

The project scope was approved by the County Board as part of the Neighborhood Conservation bundle in November 2018. The first design/working group meeting was held Wednesday, February 13th. The project was presented to the Arlington Forest Civic Association at their April 24th meeting for a vote. The project was approved, and the project has been approved by DES for an LDA permit and has been posted on the EVa website for bid.

Education Center Building Reuse:

- APS completed the demolition of the building interior.
- Full construction is expected to begin in January 2020.

Henry Clay Park:

The Notice to Proceed (NTP) was initially sent to begin work on October 7, 2019. This NTP will be amended due to the delay in receipt of the permits. The new project start date was October 21, 2019. The site is now cleared, surveyor to arrive on site to begin layout.

Long Bridge Park Aquatic Center:

Concrete pours for the walls in the 50 Meter pool in the deep end continue. Plumbing in the leisure pool will commence this week. The Structural steel topping out occurred on Oct 29th. The Esplanade Gabion Basket wall has begun.

Lubber Run Community Center:

- Structural beams for the community center roof have been installed.
- Beginning mid-November, one lane SB on George Mason Drive will close for a period of 3-4 weeks to widen the sidewalks adjacent to George Mason.
- Duct work and HVAC equipment is being installed throughout the building.
- Interior framing has begun and continues throughout the building.
- The walking track around the gymnasium has been installed.
- Windows are beginning to be installed.

Lubber Run Park:

A project to replace the northernmost bridge, which crosses the stream west of the new Lubber Run Community Center, has reached the following milestones:

- Plans for new bridge approved by County building permit review.
- Proposal from contractor approved by County and purchase order signed and approved.
- Contractor is working with bridge manufacturer on the bridge submittal for a bridge to fit the specific size and length requirements.
- Construction of new bridge anticipated for spring 2020.

Madison Manor Park:

- Tree protection complete.

- Installation of E&S controls complete.
- Demolition of asphalt, concrete and play equipment complete.
- Topsoil removed from the ball field. Grading complete for the ball field.
- Contractor completed foundation works for the dug outs. Dugout structure on site and installation ongoing.
- Site grading around the dugouts and existing building with 21A stone placement ongoing. Concrete pavement placed around the existing building.
- Backstop post installation complete.
- Concrete placement for playground area curb and boulder placement ongoing.
- Stormwater pipe installation complete.
- Irrigation water main line installed from meter to the main box. County installed the crock and water meter. Field irrigation line installation to start next week.
- Electrical underground conduits installed and inspected by the County inspectors.
- Concrete works for the urban-bioretenention planter box complete.
- Contractor started filter layer, underdrain installation and stone reservoir placement for the BMP.

Mosaic Park:

- Prep for pressure and air test and camera sanitary line install for inspection. (Awaiting camera inspection)
- Air and pressure test for 8” sanitary line passed test, Awaiting final camera inspection. (Complete)
- Utility coordination for utility install with, Dominion Energy, Washington Gas, Comcast and Verizon – (On going)
- Begin layout and install of electrical conduit for street lighting (Ongoing)
- Begin layout and install of fountain piping/ pump room (Ongoing)
- Begin layout and install of strata vault system (Ongoing)
- Resume install of storm line along Quincy Street (Ongoing)
- Begin backfilling pump room vault and compaction testing (Ongoing)
- Begin form up rebar and placed concrete for section of seat wall
- Form up rebar for footers for upper pump room vault

Nauck Town Center:

Ardent continues to install the communication duct bank. Awaiting resubmittals from Ardent per DPR submissions.

Oakland Park:

Davey Trees planting is complete. Sod around site is complete and the silt fence has been removed from site. Deck tables and chairs are on site, awaiting delivery of the entrance signage, barstools and benches.

RHP+ (no change):

Wilson School site has opened. Some construction is still ongoing. Penzance continues demolition and excavation of the Rosslyn Highlands Park, Fire Station #10 and 1555 Wilson Blvd site. The Fire Station is anticipated to be completed summer 2021. The park is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2021. Construction documents are currently being prepared for the playground (on the APAH Queens Court Site) which will start construction in 2021. APAH started construction on their Queens Court property in mid-April.

Towers Park Playground Renovations (no change):

Following the civic engagement process at the “consult” level through design development, including two public meetings in April and June and the associated online surveys, this project is in the stage of construction documents and targeting for permit submission by the end of November.

Site Plan Review:

SP #13 Crystal Houses Major Site Plan Amendment – 1900 S Eads Street

- The site plan was presented to the PRC on September 24th.
- Comments received from the open house, the SPRC meeting and from the PRC will be considered for the final corner park concept which will be posted on the Crystal Houses Public Space website in October.
- The final site plan will go to the Planning Commission and the County Board in December.

SP #56 and SP #421: 1851 S. Bell St. – 1900 Crystal Drive

- The new site plan area of 158,767 sq. ft. (3.64 acres) is bounded by 18th Street South to the north, Crystal Drive to the east, 20th Street South to the south, and South Bell Street to the west.
- CESC Mall Land LLC (“the applicant”) proposes to remove site area from Site Plan #56, rezone portions of the property from the C-O to the C-O-Crystal City district, and construct two new mixed-use towers and interior, “mid-block” ground-level retail under a new Site Plan (SP #421).
- Additional details include:
 - Total gross floor area (GFA) of 799,871 sq. ft.
 - 759,519 sq. ft. of residential (790 units total)
 - 40,352 sq. ft. of retail
 - Two (2) residential towers with ground floor retail; South Tower (443 units; 27 stories) and North Tower (347 units; 26 stories)
 - New interior streets
 - Ground-level mid-block retail
 - 1,753 parking spaces (entire block)
 - 553 residential spaces (0.7 per unit)
 - Additional density for LEED Silver certification
 - Total floor area ratio (FAR) of 5 FAR
- The Long-Range Planning Committee (LRPC) held a meeting on September 19, 2019 for this project. There is a public space component to this area which envisions a 74,200 sq. ft. public park space (Center Park) which is specified within the County Board adopted Crystal City Sector Plan (CCSP).
- The Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) met on October 29, 2019 where land use/zoning, site design/characteristics, and building architecture were discussed in detail. The November 14, 2019 meeting will discuss transportation. Prior to the 11/14 meeting, there will be a site tour of 1900 Crystal Drive commencing at 6 p.m. with the meeting following at 7 p.m. (meeting location: 251 18th Street South, First Floor Conference Center).
- The third SPRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 19th and this meeting will conclude the discussion on the LRPC’s review of the J-K Block Plan, SPRC discussion on open space/landscaping, community benefits and site improvements, as well as phasing and construction.

SP #72: Harris Teeter Site/American Service Center

- Three Mixed-Use Buildings (685 Residential Units)
- New Harris Teeter and ground-level retail
- Three-level structured parking garages (923 parking spaces total)
- New Public Park (0.5 Acres)
- First SPRC meeting anticipated April 29, 2019
- Open Space: As part of the community engagement process for the proposed open space, DPR staff is proposing 2 open houses supplemented with 2 online surveys to solicit community feedback. The first open house occurred on Tues. July 23rd, 2019 from 5:00-6:30pm at the Ellen M. Bozman Government Center (2100 Clarendon Blvd) in followed by an online survey on 2 preliminary draft concepts.
- An online survey solicited comments on the final design from September 23 to October 7. The second open house occurred on September 23, 2019 at the MedStar Capitals Iceplex from 6-7:30 p.m. It was supplemented by a presentation to the PRC to gather additional input on September 24, 2019.
- Went before Planning Commission, was approved in November.
- Going to the County Board in November.

Harris Teeter Public Space

- SEHT North Glebe LLC has funded a half-acre public space in the parking lot at the Harris Teeter at 600 N. Glebe. This project is one aspect of a larger mixed-use redevelopment of the land surrounding Harris Teeter.
- The public can view the final concept design an open house on September 23rd, at Medstar Capitals IcePlex from 6-7:30 p.m.
- Park and Recreation Commission applicant presentation of final concept on September 24th.
- Online comments for final concept open from September 23rd - October 7th.
- Went before Planning Commission, was approved in November.
- Going to the County Board in November.

SP #105 Phased Development Site Plan (PDSP) Amendment: Metropolitan Park 6-8 (Block 3 of PDSP) – 1400 S. Eads St. and 501 15th St. S.

- The applicant, JBG Smith, is requesting three (3) changes to the Pentagon City Phased Development
- Site Plan (PDSP). All changes proposed are for the development of the last phases (Phases 6, and a combined Phase 7 and 8) for Parcel 3 of the Pentagon City PDSP, also known as Metropolitan Park:
 1. Change the principal use from residential to office, with ground floor retail;
 2. Alter the PDSP height regulations to permit two additional office buildings of up to 22 stories;
 3. Delete 1,403 unbuilt dwelling units that are allocated to Parcel 3 (Metropolitan Park) and allocate approximately 2,082,566 square feet of office use and 44,051 square feet of additional retail use to Parcel 3 (Metropolitan Park).
- In addition to the PDSP amendment requests, the applicant is also requesting a Master Transportation Plan (MTP) amendment to revise the internal street network within Parcel 3 (Metropolitan Park) by deleting a portion of 14th Road S., which was intended to be an internal service road for Phases 7 and 8.
- The Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) held their third meeting on Monday, October 14, 2019 with the discussion focusing on changes from previous meetings/responses to previous comments and questions, construction issues, phasing, vehicle staging, parking, and routing, pedestrian access during construction, a community liaison and site plan mitigation.

- This project is anticipated to have significant public space considerations that were discussed at the Monday, September 23, 2019 SPRC meeting.
- This project is anticipated for Planning Commission and County Board consideration in December 2019.
- A post-approval public space, master planning process is anticipated.

Urban Forestry Office Updates:

- Tree maintenance requests are slowing down, and tree crew staff is catching up to work.
- Urban forestry completed outreach material on oak decline. You can find it here: <https://environment.arlingtonva.us/oak-decline>
- Laura Hassell has accepted a position at White House Natives. Her enthusiasm and care for the trees of Arlington County will be missed. Management is working on finding a replacement for the position.
- Arlington Cemetery expansion: The Department of Defense is moving forward on its expansion, along Columbia Pike, at the Air Force Memorial. Some trees will be impacted on the periphery of the project. Replacement at the Millenium projects did not fare well due to size and maintenance, so comments are being made to improve replacement with smaller caliper stock, and better soil.
- Several stormwater projects are being reviewed, including Sparrow Pond, and a preliminary stormwater project at Walter Reed and Four Mile Run Dr. These may have a high impact to trees, and staff will work to reduce impact.
- Planting of County trees will commence mid-November
- Notable tree applications are being reviewed.

Arlington Parks and Recreation sustained considerable damage in July's storm. Here is the status of our repair work.

- All the picnic shelters, volleyball courts and playgrounds are open.
- DPR is currently finishing up Glencarlyn Park with the restroom floor tile/wall only left to complete. The restrooms at Bon Air remain closed indefinitely.
- County contractors have removed bridges that were destroyed by the storm, including the bridges at 38th Street North. and N. Chesterfield Street, Bon Air, Lubber Run, Glencarlyn and Gulf Branch. The 38th Street North and N. Chesterbrook Street bridge has been replaced. All other bridges and fords damaged in the storm are being assessed for next steps.
- Repairs have been completed on the underpass at Wilson Blvd. on the W&OD Trail.

Commission Member Reports

- 26th Street North and Old Dominion Drive Site Master Planning Task Force (David Howell)
 - *No new updates.*
- 55+ (Dean Foster)
 - *Participating membership in the 55+ program has reached over 6900 persons. Interest in Adventure Travel continues to grow. At the end of October, adventurers had a three-mile hike at Sky Meadow State Park in Delaplane, VA. and learned about monitoring blue birds from a Naturalist. They also refreshed the nest boxes along the trail by removing old nesting material and replacing it with fresh straw for the winter months. Usually the number of fledglings after the season is over can be in the 400s. This was an important mission and learning experience for nature conservation.*

- *All are looking forward to the next Adventure Travel which will be snow tubing at Whitetail Resort in Mercersburg, Pa. on January 25th.*
- *Registration for our 55+ fitness, exercise, wellness and sports classes was on November 4th and the process and participation went well. In September sixty 55+ members attended the first Crafting Your Next Chapter workshop led by a nationally recognized pioneer in retirement life-crafting. The three-hour session focused on discussion of personal values and engaging in exercises centered around planning their lives to include what is most important and enjoyable to each. Participants left the class energized with new ideas and plans. Another life planning workshop will be held in the spring.*
- **Alcova Heights (Colt Gregory)**
 - *No Issues in this reporting period. Phase 1 of 3 is funded and Phase 1 construction on will begin 2nd quarter of 2020.*
- **APS (Jim Meikle)**
- **Civic Federation (Duke Banks)**
 - *The Civic Federation will be considering the following Resolution on Flooding at its meeting on Tuesday (same time as PRC meeting). Parts of the Resolution concerns flooding damage to parks. Resolution can be viewed here:
http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001s24W-V6nF_141arStCeeKa8rcXxzQWfWctR5r1vpcN10Ludzefg8Q0vpBKJwMIkraH7-5eL-N7_hFJrbW7xnO5rnV-AOHMP6Ta0cagsJ2VudRj8QONyBEjZfiB_UResnaV8h3yMjdQcClvgYd293Fb-xcxe7zXFENkznYp9Kt1OK-3H3Gdpi4N82gk5G0nveq_d7WN1sK1K9qMvcZyhUOV-vU8_IdbnNS-4aQlsrz4=&c=kNRgVNhLUUMwIDyNYP-ds4IMY5SvysTTxj9_rOE-LxTatvjoAnnsYw==&ch=86FcLxKMCgw_aeQGxGPibXB5nNxPutuAORFLh1Xer5yAccEFJGjxg==*
- **Crystal City Citizen Review Council (Shruti Kuppa)**
- **Four Mile Run Joint Task Force (David Howell)**
- **Gulf Branch Stream Restoration (Colt Gregory/Duke Banks)**
 - *Public Meeting held at Gulf Branch Nature Center on November 6th. Arlington County staff and Wetlands Studies and Solutions (Ctr) presented the Draft Concept. Issues discussed included remediation cost, loss of mature trees, potential use of smaller equipment to reduce disturbance, child safety in equipment/materials staging area on Utah street, trail loss, and construction disturbance as vector for invasive plants.*
 - *Future Schedule: Concept Design meeting proposed for Spring 2020, Final Design 2021, followed by procurement and construction 2022-2024.*
- **Jennie Dean Park, Phase 1 Update (Colt Gregory)**
 - *Attended Final Design presentation Nov 18th. Will provide update.*
 - *Schedule: Construction proposed to begin 1st Qtr. 2020*
- **Joint Facilities Advisory Commission (JFAC) (Bill Ross)**
 - *The Scoping and Vision Subcommittees continue to meet in planning for a Joint Facilities Plan study. We will want to weigh in on how such a plan will interact with the guidance of the PSMP, which deals with open space "facilities". Among the issues are how the county (and schools) think about land acquisition in general along with park/open space land acquisition. Also, any recent processes that JFAC was involved*

in (Buck property, Carlin Springs, 26th and Old Dominion) have dealt with possible tradeoffs between open space/recreation and other County uses. Finally, any discussions about facilities will need to deal with the design aspects of those facilities, including the biophilic components of those designs.

- Long Bridge Fees Working Group (Bill Ross)
- Natural Resources Joint Advisory Group (NRJAG) (Gregory/Howell/Mullen)
 - *Discussed Watershed/stormwater issues and approaches with Vincent Verweij - Urban Forester and Jason Papacosma, DES Watershed Program Mgr. Noted that impervious services are increasing and generating more run off. New builds and retrofits typically discard existing top soil that is replaced with hard clay subsoil that is much less pervious. This practice increases impervious surface and runoff. Tree planting and green streets alone cannot offset these losses. Improving site soil and changing landscape practices can help reduce runoff. Creative ways of encouraging businesses, new home construction and existing homeowners to retain, improve existing or increase pervious surfaces would be helpful. For example, Alexandria has a stormwater fee credit program.*
 - *The project to combine the Natural Resources Management Plan and Urban Forest Master Plan is proceeding with the interview of potential contractors.*
- Neighborhood Complete Streets Commission (NCSC) (Leo Sarli)
 - *(Meeting of November 18th) Meeting began with a lighting Update from Hui Wang, Bureau Chief, DES - explaining the different players in the street light of Arlington. A total of 18,000 lights 7,000 are owned and maintained by Arlington County. The rest belong to VA Dominion. The other party that participates in the street light discussion is Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT).*
 - *Following we got updates regarding ongoing Neighborhood Conservation updates.*
 - *Vision Zero meeting had the first meeting.*
 - *Finally, we reviewed the pilot projects, how best to proceed regarding County Board and funding for future street improvements such as North Stafford chicane project. Staff and Commission welcome any feedback, particularly positive comments.*
- Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) (Angelo Collins)
- Other Items (Michael Grace)
 - *Upper Bluemont Park Conceptual Design (Capital Maintenance Project): Initial community meeting held October 29, 2019. Staff from DPR reviewed the Project's scope of work and schedule, presented an analysis of existing site conditions, and conducted breakout sessions addressing various aspects of the Project. Presentation from the meeting and DPR's summary of community comments made at the meeting have been posted on the Project Webpage. Citizens may continue to comment online on the Project Webpage. A second community meeting to present draft design concepts is anticipated for Winter 2020.*
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) (Neal Hunter)
- Plan Lee Highway (Cindy Krech/Julie Mullen)
 - *Julie attended the Plan Lee Highway Community Forum Meeting on November 2nd. Staff went over the Existing Conditions Analysis Presentation for each of the 9 elements: Land Use, Transportation and Connectivity, Urban Design and Building Form, Public School, Facilities and Spaces, Historic Preservation and Cultural Resources, Economic Vitality, Housing and Sustainability and Resiliency. In each of the areas the County presented Key Messages, Next Steps and engaged the group in*

discussion and questions. Five-minute videos were taken of each element presentation and should be available on the Plan Lee Highway website at some point for the public. In addition, there will be an existing conditions report presentation on Dec. 5th, open to the public.

- *The next step will be a characters area development where they will engage the public in discussion about how people see the change happening.*

- Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP) (Bill Ross/Sergio Enriquez)
- Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC) (Sergio Enriquez)
- Site Plan Review Committee (Bill Ross)
 - 600 N. Glebe Rd. – Harris Teeter Site (Bill Ross)
 - *The project was approved at the Nov. 16 County Board meeting. Bill made some comments reflecting the commission's August letter and on more recent commission discussions of the planned park design and the loss of trees along the periphery of the site.*

 - 1900 S. Eads St. – Crystal Houses (Bill Ross)
 - *A final, fourth SPRC meeting was held on Nov. 18, with discussions concerning some parking issues and community benefits. We will produce a final letter to the Board based on that and previous discussions concerning the planned parks and other open space aspects of the project.*

 - Key Bridge Marriott (Leo Sarli)
 - *Discussion regarding open spaces on-site continues to feature a "crescent" public access trail connecting the Key Bridge trail to the Lee Hwy/Custis trail along the north edge of the site. There was a passing mention of creating an overhanging bit of structure that could carry the trail along the rear of the existing garage all the way to the intersection of N. Oak Street and Lee. The applicant is planning to do a tree survey, along with an analysis of sights to and from the property. The group discussed issues such as signage, multi-modal transportation use, leisure space, and the notion of a buffer between the built and natural environments, which will be further developed in the SPRC process that follows. The trails carry a large volume of bicycle & pedestrian traffic intersecting at various points with roads and streets that also carry heavy traffic loads. The removal of the entrance to the property from Fort Myer Drive is causing some concern w/ neighbors regarding vehicular traffic on N. Nash Street. NPS owns that sliver of land (pie-shaped piece) and has requested that the curb cut be removed. The site sits directly opposite Gateway Park. Currently, there are no plans/drawings for the park, but some high-level discussions have begun, and PRC is suggesting the community benefit be directed towards the park in the form of funds. The pedestrian/bike ramp running along Lee Hwy is slated to be torn down, but I personally recommend a pause to the removal until after we've had a chance to (master) plan the park. Unlikely, but there is a chance that we could regret removing such a well-built piece of infrastructure. Finally, the landscape architects are well aware of the impact on nature the shadows of the new structures will have and seem to be planning accordingly. The first SPRC meeting is tentatively scheduled for late November.*

 - PenPlace Phase I (Shruti Kuppa)
 - Metropolitan Park 6, 7, 8 – National Landing (Shruti Kuppa/Bill Ross)

- *A presentation on the open spaces aspect of the project will be provided at the November PRC meeting. A fairly large open space will supplement the current "Met Park". After this and some discussion, the Commission can produce a letter to the Board.*
- Block J/K Crystal City (Colt Gregory/Bill Ross)
 - *SPRC meeting reviewed the transportation component of the 2 Towers project. PRC related interests were space and design of Center Park, suggested removal of street trees to accommodate dedicated bicycle lane on Crystal Drive and continued discussion of a shared street (Woonerf) to be used as the lobby entrance for the two new 26-27 story buildings. Staff did not recommend the shared street approach and preferred the Pedestrian Plaza renderings. The Pedestrian Plaza would be the main entry way to Center Park (approximately 74,000 sq. ft.). Center Park will be discussed next meeting.*
- Sparrow Pond Restoration Project (David Howell)
 - *No new updates.*
- Sports Commission (Steve Finn/Mark Lincoln)
 - *The Sports Commission met October 24, 2019. Most of the meeting was taken up with a discussion of amendments to the commission's charter. The charter had not been updated since 2014 and the ASC wants it to be more compatible with other commission charters that have been more recently updated. Consistent with that effort, the ASC discussed updates to its allocation for representation of constituent groups and sports. As I've noted in past PRC meetings, the ASC is different from us in that most commissions represent specific leagues or programs. However, there are an inadequate number of commissioner positions to cover all constituent groups. As a result, the ASC assigns additional groups to each commissioner. The ASC also heard reports on the new commission orientation and the recent commission workshop. The November meeting for the ASC will be held Monday November 25 at the Aurora Hills Community Center Main Room.*
- Urban Forestry Commission (David Howell)
 - *The Urban Forestry Commission's October meeting included the same DES presentation on stream restoration projects as PRC received in September. The other primary agenda item was consideration of a number of modifications to the eligibility and selection criteria for the Notable Tree Recognition Program. The program guidelines were modified and made explicit avoid eligibility for invasive species; eliminate the special neighborhood significance option as a type of qualification; eliminate the provision of certificates and instead recognize on the county webpage and map; restrict nominations to those within 5% of the largest current notable tree of each species, or if not yet on the list, require a 30" diameter at breast height (dbh) for large canopy species and 10" dbh for small canopy species; require unanimous consent for approval by UFC as part of its annual approval of recommendations. These changes were voted on and approved by the commission.*
 - *The commission voted to support changes to the notable tree guidelines to:*
 - *Avoid invasive species*
 - *Remove special significance (Neighborhood) option*
 - *Remove certificate option, but recognize on website and map*

- *Restrict nominations by size, within 5% of largest current notable tree, or, if the species is not on the list, greater than 30 inches for large canopy trees, and greater than 10 inches for small canopy trees*
- *Require unanimous consent by the UFC.*
- *The changes were approved by the commission.*
- Village at Shirlington Special Land Use Study (Dean Foster)
 - *The LRPC studying the Shirlington Village Special GLUP application will host a community forum on November 20th at the WETA building to present the committee's progress thus far and describe the potential for changes to the density and height of buildings in the study area. Modeling alternatives for the project site and history of the area as discussed at the previous meeting of the LRPC on September 25th will also be shared for comment and discussion.*
- Vision Zero External Stakeholder Group (Angelo Collins)

Other Business

- Letters to the County Board
 - The Commission acknowledged that there will be letters for two site plan projects submitted in preparation for the December County Board meeting (1. Metropolitan Park 6, 7/8; and 2. Crystal Houses).
- NOVA Parks proposal for widening certain bicycle paths.
 - Commissioner Banks summarized the discussion at the County Board's recessed meeting on this item (the County Board's recessed meeting occurred on Tuesday, 11/19, the same evening as the PRC meeting). Among the discussion points stated were: there was no review by the various County commissions, and several individuals spoke in favor of the project, especially for bicyclists. The County Board approved the resolution and there were some amendments regarding more precise public engagement related to these projects. A question raised was whether there were things that could be done with no further construction and expanded signage. The Environment and Energy Conservation Commission (E2C2), Urban Forestry Commission, and PRC did not know about or review the project and maybe there should be more engagement on the grant applicant process.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.