

1: Terms related to the PSMP document

Term	Definition from Other Arlington Plans	Potential Definition	Location in PSMP Update	Comments
1 <b>public space</b> (see also public realm, civic space)	An open space designated on the regulating plan, accessible to all, including Plazas, Mini-Parks, and Neighborhoods Parks. (Columbia Pike Neighborhood Form Based Code)	Multi-functional spaces—such as parks, plazas, trails, streets, and recreation facilities—that support recreation and leisure and that are accessible and usable by all of Arlington’s residents, workers, and visitors.	Throughout	
2 <b>park/parkland</b>	open space type characterized by unobstructed recreational activities, both <b>active</b> (game fields, ball courts, general sport fields, etc.) and <b>passive</b> (bench seating, picnic and cookout areas, beaches, etc.). An Active Park may be spatially defined by landscaping rather than building frontages. Landscaping is generally naturalistic in character, composed of fields, lawns and tree stands. (Crystal City Vision Plan 2050)	Land that is primarily used for recreation, leisure, or conservation of natural resources—including ancillary uses that support these primary uses (e.g., recreation facilities, parking).		
3 <b>plaza</b>	open space type characterized by commercial frontage, hardscape surfaces balanced with imbedded and raised planters, and usually programmed with café seating, retail display, kiosk opportunities, and similar activating devices. Recreational (sport) activities are not permitted. Sometimes also called a square. (Crystal City Vision Plan 2050)	Places of respite—primarily in high-density areas amid bustling streets and buildings—to sit and relax that may, depending on their design, also serve as small gathering and event spaces.	Existing Public Space System	
	A public open space designated on the REGULATING PLAN that is not designed for active recreation structures such as ball fields and courts and has a maximum of 70 percent paved surface area. (Columbia Pike Neighborhood Form Based Code)			
	In public and private ownership, are most commonly small-scale spaces offering seating, shade, and modest public amenities along public streets and sidewalks. . These spaces are envisioned as extensions of the public street space and offer places for relaxation, socializing, and people watching. While most plazas will be privately owned and maintained, each should be fully accessible to the public. These spaces are not intended to satisfy the need for large urban parks described above, which can better accommodate other recreational uses. (Clarendon Sector Plan)			
	Plazas incorporate a higher percentage of paved surface area than other types of PUBLIC SPACES to accommodate a high pedestrian traffic level. Surface treatment and materials shall be at least 30 percent unpaved pervious surface (turf, groundcover, gravel, soil or mulch), excluding any public art or monument footprint. At least 50 percent of the unpaved pervious surface area shall be vegetated. (Columbia Pike Neighborhood Form Based Code)			
4 <b>natural lands</b> (see also natural resources, preserved natural area)	Natural Lands are considered a subset of Open Space and refer to parcels of land “which have experienced only minimal human alteration or have recovered from anthropogenic disturbance under mostly natural regimes of species interaction and disturbance.” (NRMP)		NRMP description in Planning Context section; quality of life benefits section	
5 <b>casual use space</b>		Spaces intentionally designed to support casual, impromptu use and connection with nature, including relaxation, reflection, and informal activities. Some casual use spaces are available at all times, while others are available at designated times.	1.3.1.	
6 <b>recreation</b>		Athletic or leisure activity undertaken for enjoyment, either in an organized or informal capacity.	Throughout	
7 <b>recreation facility</b>		Structure built, equipment installed, or space designed indoors or outdoors to enable one or more particular recreational activities.	1.2.2.	

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8 recreation center		A building that is designed to enable indoor recreation.	1.2.2.	
9 community center		A building that is designed to enable a wide range of community-focused and civic programs and events, which may include recreation.	1.2.2., 1.4.6.	
10 multi-use activity center		A facility or group of facilities that can accommodate team sports and tournaments and is designed for maximum flexibility of use.	1.2.4.	
11 sports complex		A facility or group of indoor or outdoor facilities that is designed to accommodate specific team or individual athletic activities, including tournaments.	1.2.3.	
12 primary multi-use trail		A key off-street recreation and transportation corridor that may connect Arlington to surrounding jurisdictions and the larger regional trail network. A primary multi-use trail is paved, at least 10' wide, and striped to separate directions of travel. It includes seating areas, signage, and trail-specific lighting. The user base for a primary multi-use trail is broad, including pedestrians, runners, joggers, cyclists, and skaters.	Existing Public Space System section	
13 secondary multi-use trail		An off-street recreation corridor. It is paved, at least 8' wide. A secondary multi-use trail may be linear, connecting multiple neighborhoods or public spaces, or loops, providing recreational circuits within one public spaces. It includes seating areas, signage, and trail-specific lighting. The user base for a secondary multi-use trail is broad, including pedestrians, runners, joggers, cyclists, and skaters.	Existing Public Space System section	
14 connecting trail		A small segment of trail that provides connections between primary or secondary multi-use trails, between primary or secondary trails and neighborhoods, or between primary or secondary trails and parking areas. It is at least 5' wide and may include seating areas.	Existing Public Space System section	
15 protected on-street trail		Parallel pedestrian and cycling facilities (a protected bike route with adjacent sidewalk) that are protected from vehicular traffic, located within street rights of way, and together serve similar functions to off-street trails.	Existing Public Space System section; 2.4; 3.1.2.	
16 hiking trail		An unpaved path at least 4' wide that may include seating areas- located primarily along the Potomac River, Four Mile Run, and their tributaries. The user base for hiking trails includes pedestrians and hikers.		
17 green street		A tree-lined street that is designed to serve as an extension of the public space system. A green street offers pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers a more attractive travel experience, provides shade in the heat, blocks wind in the cold, and may integrate stormwater management features. A green street provides a visual cue that there is a public space destination along the path of travel.	1.2.16.	

1: Terms related to the PSMP document

Term	Definition from Other Arlington Plans	Potential Definition	Location in PSMP Update	Comments
18 <b>framework plan</b>		A conceptual diagram that identifies intended uses for a park and in what zones those uses are intended to occur. Types of zones include places for play, casual use, athletics, conservation, and natural and historical resources. Key internal and external connections are also displayed.	1.2.5.	
19 <b>park master plan</b>		A refined landscape and architectural plan with specific dimensions, materials, and facilities that identifies park expansion areas, elements that need to be fixed or restored, or elements that need to be completely overhauled.	1.2.6.	
20 <b>Program/programming</b>		Formally structured activities that take place in public spaces, including but not limited to sports, fitness, nature, art, and special events.	SD 5	
21 <b>privately-owned public space</b>		A privately developed space that remains under private ownership and is usually privately maintained but has an easement that makes it open and accessible to the public.	existing public space system section; 1.2.17.; 1.2.18.; 8.3.1.	

2: Terms defined in other County plans

Term	Definition from Other Arlington Plans	Potential Definition	Location in PSMP Update	Comments
22 <b>civic space</b> (see also public realm, public space)	an outdoor area dedicated for public use. Civic Space types are defined by the combination of certain physical constants including the relationship between their intended use, their size, their landscaping and their fronting buildings. (Crystal City Sector Plan and Crystal City Vision Plan 2050)			
23 <b>public realm</b> (see also public space, civic space)	area of the built environment dedicated to public accessibility and use, commonly composed of streets, sidewalks, and public open spaces such as parks, squares and plazas. The public realm is spatially defined by the buildings, both public and private, fronting its edges. (Crystal City Sector Plan)			
24 <b>easement</b>	a right granted to one property owner (often a public entity) to make use of the land of another property owner for a limited purpose, such as a Right-of-Way or Public-Use Easement. Easements may be specified for a fixed period of time, a fixed but renewable duration, or be set in perpetuity. (Crystal City Sector Plan and Crystal City Vision Plan 2050)			
25 <b>green park</b>	a specialized type of Park characterized by limited <i>passive</i> recreational activities such as bench seating. A Green is spatially defined by building frontages. Landscaping is generally more formal than a park, composed of lawns and individualized trees. (Crystal City Vision Plan 2050)			
	Improvements to a property, including paving, tree and/or other decorative plantings, lighting, and the placement of street furniture, within the Street. (Columbia Pike Commercial Centers Form Based Code)			
26 <b>sense of place</b>	the experiential quality of an urban setting that fosters a sense of genuine human connection and belonging, making one feel that a place is distinctive and unique. (Crystal City Sector Plan and Crystal City Vision Plan 2050)			
27 <b>civic green</b>	describe a formally configured, small public lawn or park that is primarily unpaved. (Columbia Pike Commercial Centers Form Based Code)			
28 <b>pedestrian pathway</b>	Interconnecting paved ways that provide pedestrian and bicycle passage through blocks running from a street to either a street, alley or an interior block parking area. The area within a pedestrian pathway shall be a public access easement or public right of way. The easement width for these pathways shall not be less than 20 feet with a paved walkway not less than 10 feet wide, except where otherwise specified on the regulating plan, and shall provide an unobstructed view straight through their entire length. (Columbia Pike Commercial Centers Form Based Code)			

2: Terms defined in other County plans

Term	Definition from Other Arlington Plans	Potential Definition	Location in PSMP Update	Comments
29 <b>street</b>	Includes all public space (streets, squares, pedestrian pathways, civic greens, parks)—including any transit service operator passenger platform—but not garage entries or alleys. (Columbia Pike Commercial Centers Form Based Code)			
30 <b>streetscape</b>	the urban element that establishes the major part of the public realm. The streetscape is composed of thoroughfares (travel lanes for vehicles and bicycles, parking lanes for cars), public frontage (sidewalks, shy zones) as well as the visible private frontages (building facades and elevations, yards, fences, awnings, etc.), and the amenities of the public frontages (street trees and plantings, benches, streetlights, etc.). (Crystal City Sector Plan and Crystal City Vision Plan 2050)			
31 <b>street-space</b>	All space forward of and between required building lines, including but not limited to streets, Plazas, pedestrian pathways, Mini-Parks, Neighborhood Parks, sidewalks, and transit service operator passenger platforms, but not garage entries or alleys. (Columbia Pike Neighborhood Form Based Code)			
32 <b>centering space</b>	Centering spaces are prominently located, highly visible, primarily hardscape spaces defined by public streets and buildings with active ground floor uses. These are spaces that attract and accommodate major public activities and provide sites for special events, art installations, and community gatherings. Such spaces should provide seating, public art, and facilities to support special events and activities, and could include space-activating elements such as fountains or spaces to stage events. (Clarendon Sector Plan)			
33 <b>mini-park</b>	A public open space as regulated by this Code. A formally configured small public lawn or park that is primarily unpaved. (Columbia Pike Neighborhood Form Based Code)			
34 <b>neighborhood park</b>	A public open space as regulated by this Code. Neighborhood Parks are generally larger and have less paved surface area than Mini-Parks or Plazas. (Columbia Pike Neighborhood Form Based Code)			
35 <b>urban park</b>	those serving the needs of both surrounding neighborhoods and the core area’s residential and work populations. These parks should be planned and designed to provide an array of public space activities and programs. Open, landscaped areas, as well as multi-use, basketball courts, handball courts, community fields, community canine areas, tennis courts, circuit courses and climbing walls, should be considered for these urban parks to promote activity, exercise, and foster a sense of safety. Urban parks should be located along primary pedestrian and bicycle ways and offer green spaces with shade trees and seating. (Clarendon Sector Plan)			
36 <b>preserved natural area</b> (see also natural lands, natural resources)	Undeveloped areas that are characterized as having a mix of mature trees, dense tree canopy, steep slopes, hydrological features (such as wetlands or seep), or Resource Protection Areas (RPA). These areas are in private ownership and have limited accessibility. Preserving these lands and engaging in invasive plant removal will enhance the local ecology, absorb stormwater runoff, provide wildlife, and enhance the community’s open space network. (Columbia Pike Neighborhood Form Based Code)			

3: Terms commonly used but not defined

Term	Definition from Other Arlington Plans	Potential Definition	Location in PSMP Update	Comments
38 <b>green space</b>		Community space consisting of land (such as parks) rather than buildings. (Merriam Webster Dictionary)		
		Publicly accessible areas with natural vegetation, such as grass, plants or trees [and may include] built environment features, such as urban parks, as well as less managed areas, including woodland and nature reserves.		
		Green space is defined as any vegetated land adjoining an urban area ...and includes bushland, nature reserves, national parks, outdoor sports fields, school playgrounds and rural or semi-rural areas immediately adjoining an urban area.		
39 <b>open space</b>		Land that is protected by the government for public use and cannot have any buildings or roads built on it.		
		Outdoor space that is used for recreation, leisure, or conservation irrespective of ownership or public accessibility (WRT definition).		
		Open space is any open piece of land that is undeveloped (has no buildings or other built structures) and is accessible to the public. Open space can include: green space, schoolyards, playgrounds, public seating areas, public plazas, vacant lots.		
		Open space provides recreational areas for residents and helps to enhance the beauty and environmental quality of neighborhoods. But with this broad range of recreational sites comes an equally broad range of environmental issues. Just as in any other land uses, the way parks are managed can have good or bad environmental impacts, from pesticide runoff, siltation from overused hiking and logging trails, and destruction of habitat.		
40 <b>natural resources</b> (see also natural lands, preserved natural area)				