# PUBLIC SPACES MASTER PLAN UPDATE



#### **AGENDA**



- Project Overview
- Strategic Directions
- Level of Service
  - $\circ$  Approach
  - Methodology
  - $\circ$  Results
  - $\circ$  Recommendations
- Land Acquisition

#### **POPS TIMELINE**



# **PLAN ORGANIZATION**

- Introduction
  - Vision Statement
- Planning Context
  - Previous Planning Efforts
  - 2005 PSMP
    - Successes
  - Relation to Ongoing Efforts
  - Demographic Trends
  - Recreation Trends
  - Summary of Engagement
- Existing Conditions
  - Parks
  - Trails

- Analysis and Standards
  - Benchmarking
  - Access / Level of Service Standards
  - Applied Standards
- Strategic Directions
  - Policy Recommendations + Rationale
- Action Plan
  - Implementation Responsibilities
  - Partners
  - Potential Funding Sources
  - Timeframes
- Vision Plan
  - Physical Manifestation of Action Plan

### **STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS**

#### **Strategic Direction 1**

#### PUBLIC SPACES

Ensure equitable access to high quality public spaces that provide opportunities to recreate, play, and enjoy nature by adding and improving public spaces.

#### **Strategic Direction 2**

#### TRAILS

Improve the network of trails to, within, and between public spaces to increase access and enhance connectivity.

#### Strategic Direction 3 RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

Protect, restore, expand, and enhance natural and historic resources, and increase resource-based activities.

#### **Strategic Direction 4**

PARTNERSHIPS Clarify partnerships to set mutual expectations and leverage resources.

#### Strategic Direction 5

#### PROGRAMS Ensure program offerings continue to respond to changing user needs.

#### Strategic Direction 6 ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION

Improve community engagement and communication to enhance user satisfaction.

#### **Strategic Direction 7**

FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY Enhance the financial sustainability of Arlington's public spaces.

#### Strategic Direction 8

#### **OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE**

Ensure County public spaces and facilities are operated and maintained efficiently and to defined standards.

# **ADEQUATE PUBLIC FACILITIES ORDINANCE**

- Develop an approach for the County to advocate for Commonwealth authorization to enact an Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance that would allow for more formalized County regulations regarding dedication of public space (or fees in lieu) as part of private land development.
- Adequate public facilities ordinances are used by many jurisdictions to ensure that there are enough public facilities to meet the increased demand created by new development. With such an ordinance, developers are required to dedicate or improve roads, schools, and parks or pay fees in lieu of dedicating facilities to meet predetermined service standards. Given current growth pressures, an adequate public facilities ordinance could help Arlington ensure there are adequate public spaces to serve new residents.

- Virginia law does not currently allow local governments to enact such ordinances
- o Several attempts to authorize these ordinances have not been successful
- Opposition would probably come from certain segments of the business community, especially developers.
- Timeframe: 0-5 years



• Expand use of the County's transfer of development rights policy as a tool to create and consolidate future public space.

Transfer of development rights (TDR) is a program that allows a landowner in a designated sending zone to sell development rights to a landowner in a designated receiving zone. Land that is desirable for future public spaces can be designated as sending zones, which enables landowners of these spaces to get value out of their properties while achieving land use development goals—namely the preservation of public space. Arlington County currently has a TDR program, but it could be used more aggressively in the realm of public space creation.

- County does not act as TDR bank to buy density from Sending Sites and sell to Receiving Sites
- How do we encourage developers to use this tool more?
- Timeframe: 0-3 years

## **CONCESSIONS AND ALCOHOL**

- Revise County rules and regulations to allow the County to offer or issue permits for concessions in all programmed public spaces in high density corridors, adjacent to sports fields, and at special events.
- Current park rules and regulations do not preclude the County from allowing concessions at park and recreational facilities. Some parks are served by informal concession arrangements, with vendors parking on streets adjacent to parks. Recognizing that concessions can enhance the user experience, spur additional use of public spaces, and even generate proceeds to reinvest in public spaces, the County shall expand its permitting of concessions.
  - Revise County regulations to allow the County to issue permits for the sale of alcoholic beverages in programmed public spaces at specified times at permitted special events as well as in high density corridors.
- Nearly 60% of survey respondents indicated that they would be supportive of the sale of food and beverages, at least on a temporary basis, in all parks and public spaces. This rises to over 60% when asked about the sale of food and beverages in the County's high density corridors or certain designated parks and plazas. Section 17-2 of the Arlington County Code, which addresses alcoholic beverages on certain County property, does not currently allow more widespread sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages in public spaces.

- The County currently allows the use, consumption, or possession of alcoholic beverages in only 3 parks
- Possible issues with increased traffic monitoring and patrol
- Start with pilot projects
- Timeframe: 0-3 years

### **SYNTHETIC FIELDS**

- Convert an additional 12 existing rectangular fields and 10 existing diamond fields to synthetic turf as funding is available.
- Arlington's fields are heavily used, and demand is growing. Due to high demand, the County is unable to let natural turf fields adequately rest, which degrades the quality of the fields. While some athletes would prefer to play on natural turf, there was consensus among the sports user groups interviewed as part of the POPS process that synthetic turf is necessary to maximize field use and maintain field conditions.

- 4 new synthetic fields are planned in the CIP (locations TBD)
- Conversion criteria, priorities and standards will be developed
- Timeframe: By 2045

## FIELD LIGHTING

- Add lighting to all synthetic fields and, as funding is available, other multi-use fields.
- In addition to converting fields from natural to synthetic turf, lighting is a critical way to extend the number of hours of play Arlington can get on its fields. Advances in lighting technology have allowed the County to use lights that provide ample light on fields without contributing to light pollution in the sky or intruding onto surrounding properties.

#### Topics:

o Lighting criteria will be developed and will include foot-candle spillover and glare reduction method



Example: All new synthetic turf fields and synthetic field conversions will include lighting unless there is a residential dwelling closer in distance to the base of the light structure (measured as outside wall of dwelling unit to base of light structure) than the height at which point the light fixture is attached to the structure (measured from base of structure to top of highest light fixture on light structure). If the new synthetic turf field and synthetic turf field conversion cannot meet the previously stated requirement, then the County will through a special process with the community determine if lighting can be implemented or the synthetic turf field not be lighted as per the requirements of this paragraph. Existing lighted fields are exempt from the requirements of this paragraph and shall remain lighted fields.

The new field lighting light intensity condition will not increase the pre-existing light intensity condition at the outside wall of the dwelling unit by more than a maximum of 1 foot candles. Glare reduction techniques will be used that may include shielding, reflectors, wattages, beam types, mounting height, and aiming angles.

## **ZONING REGULATIONS REVISIONS**

- Review and implement changes to the County's current zoning regulations relevant to setbacks, lighting, parking, signage, height, temporary use of public and private property as public, and other regulations, to maximize available public space and to account for high-density contexts.
- Setback, lighting, height, and parking all impact how parks can be developed and maximized or used most efficiently. Signage can also welcome or deter a potential user depending on its quality.
  - Timeframe: 0-3 years

## **COMMUNITY/RECREATION CENTERS**

- Consolidate existing recreation facilities and activities that are currently distributed throughout community centers into fewer, larger recreation centers.
- Community centers support a wide range of County programs, including recreation, education, and health programs. The classroom-style setup of some community centers is important for certain programs but is not conducive to physical recreation activities. With high demand for recreation programs, centers that have dedicated space for recreation are needed. Recreation centers shall include multi-use facilities that allow for the greatest flexibility and have a high degree of community access. By consolidating recreation programs at recreation centers, community centers can be freed up to support other County programs and activities.

- Community centers vary significantly in their capacity for programming
- Potential examples could include Lee & Langston-Brown Community Centers
- o Timeframe: By 2045

## MULTI USE SPORTS CENTERS

- Construct 2 new multi-use sports centers to provide year-round access to indoor athletic courts and fields.
- With high demand for organized team sports and athletic seasons being extended into colder months, there is a need for facilities that are dedicated to supporting team sports and tournaments. Sports centers shall include multi-use facilities that allow for the greatest flexibility.

- Gunston Bubble is unsustainable in a long term
- Long Bridge Park- Phase 4
- Potential for public-private partnership
- o Timeframe: By 2045

### **LEVEL OF SERVICE APPROACH**

• Use a context-sensitive, activity-based approach to providing amenities.

The 2005 Public Spaces Master Plan recommended that Arlington develop a "clustering philosophy" for providing amenities. Clustering was intended to move the County away from thinking of individual parks or facilities as having to provide all of the amenities a community needs and instead move the County in the direction of thinking about groups of sites together providing the appropriate mix of amenities within a defined boundary. The activity-based approach to providing amenities envisioned in this plan takes the clustering idea further by eliminating the idea of defined boundaries for analyzing groups of amenities. Instead, each amenity shall be treated individually when defining what level of service is being provided. In addition, this plan recognizes that access to amenities will not necessarily be the same in high-density and low-density areas. High-density and low-density areas have different development patterns and correspondingly different expectations for access to amenities, and the County shall be explicit about what level of service can be expected in these contexts.

### **LEVEL OF SERVICE APPROACH**

#### **Population-Based Standards**

- How many of a facility does Arlington have per resident?
- How many would we like it to have?

#### Access Standards

- How close should residents be to a type of facility?
- How does that compare with where the facilities are?

- Where should we add/remove/repurpose facilities?
- Where should we work with partners?
- Where should we advocate for private development of particular facilities?















population > 120% avg.

2045 population will change category



**Travel Time** 

High Density Areas5 minLow Density Areas10 min

County, NOVA Parks, Public Easement	Arlington Public Schools
always publicly accessible	restricted public access at certain times
	<ul> <li>available for community use</li> <li>permit only use (service not calculated)</li> <li>population &lt; 80% avg.</li> <li>population 80-120% avg.</li> <li>population &gt; 120% avg.</li> <li>2045 population will change category</li> </ul>



#### Travel Time

High Density Areas 5 min Low Density Areas 10 min

#### Access Ranking

#### accessible

	population > 120% avg.	+1
	2045 population will change category	+2

#### not accessible

2045 population density < 20 people/acre	+3
2045 population ≥ 20 people/acre	+4

modes walking, biking, transit, driving

x4



#### Access Ranking





# **ACCESS STANDARDS**

5 min high density 10 min low density

**Basketball Courts** 

**Community Gardens** 

Unprogrammed Open Spaces

Multi-Use Trails

Off-Leash Dog Parks

Playgrounds

10 min high density20 min low density

**Diamond Fields** 

**Tennis Courts** 

**Picnic Areas** 

Rectangular Fields

**Volleyball Courts** 

#### no access standards

Comm., Rec., and Sports Ctrs.

Hiking Trails

Indoor and Outdoor Pools

Natural Lands

Nature Centers

**Skate Parks** 

Small Game Courts

Spraygrounds

Tracks

Amenity	Inventory					
	Unit	County	APS	Pub. Eas.	Other	Total
Basketball Courts (includes half courts)	each	47	40			87
Community Gardens	each	4		1	2	7
Unprogrammed Open Spaces	each					
Multi-Use Trails	miles					48.4
Off-Leash Dog Parks	each	8				8
Playgrounds	each	68	50	6	2	126

Amenity	Level of Se	ervice				
	Unit	Current	Peer Med.	Typical	Survey Pri.	Recm. Std.
Basketball Courts (includes half courts)	each	<sup>1</sup> 2,547 <sup>1</sup>	<sup>′</sup> 2,132 <sup>1′</sup>	6,000	Medium <sup>1/</sup>	3,000
Community Gardens	each	<sup>1</sup> 31,651 <sup>1</sup>	′ 37,205 1′	30,000	Medium <sup>1/</sup>	25,000
Unprogrammed Open Spaces	each	/	1/		1/	
Multi-Use Trails	miles	4,577	N/A <sup>1/</sup>	2,500	High <sup>1/</sup>	3,300
Off-Leash Dog Parks	each	<sup>1</sup> 27,695 <sup>1</sup>	′ 59,426 1′	40,000	Medium <sup>1/</sup>	25,000
Playgrounds	each	<sup>1</sup> 1,758 <sup>1</sup>	′ 3,101 1′	3,500	Medium <sup>1/</sup>	3,000



Amenity	Level of Service										
	Unit	C	Current		Recm. Std.		2025		2035		2045
Basketball Courts (includes half courts)	each	1/	2,547	1/	3,000	1/	2,811	1/	3,059	1/	3,325
Community Gardens	each	1/	31,651	1/	25,000	1/	34,939	1/	38,013	1/	41,326
Unprogrammed Open Spaces	each	1/		1/		1/		1/		1/	
Multi-Use Trails	miles	1/	4,577	1/	3,300	1/	5,052	1/	5,497	1/	5,976
Off-Leash Dog Parks	each	1/	27,695	1/	25,000	1/	30,572	1/	33,261	1/	36,161
Playgrounds	each	1/	1,758	1/	3,000	1/	1,941	1/	2,112	1/	2,296

Amenity	Level of Service					
	Unit	Current	Recm. Std.	2025	2035	2045
Basketball Courts (includes half courts)	each	87	+0	+0	+2	+10
Community Gardens	each	7	+2	+3	+4	+5
Unprogrammed Open Spaces	each					
Multi-Use Trails	miles	48.4	+19	+26	+33	+40
Off-Leash Dog Parks	each	8	+1	+2	+3	+4
Playgrounds	each	126	+0	+0	+0	+0

#### AREAS WITH ACCESS TO PLAYGROUNDS

Unit	Current	Recm. Std.	2025	2035	2045
each	126	+0	+0	+0	+0



Access Ranking

most need (worst access)

least need (best access)



# **ACCESS STANDARDS**

5 min high density 10 min low density

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Multi-Use Trails

Off-Leash Dog Parks

Playgrounds

10 min high density20 min low density

**Diamond Fields** 

**Tennis Courts** 

**Picnic Areas** 

Rectangular Fields

**Volleyball Courts** 

#### no access standards

Comm., Rec., and Sports Ctrs.

Hiking Trails

Indoor and Outdoor Pools

Natural Lands

Nature Centers

**Skate Parks** 

Small Game Courts

Spraygrounds

Tracks

Amenity	Inventory					
	Unit	County	APS	Pub. Eas.	Other	Total
Diamond Fields (includes 1/2 combination fields)	each	29.5	13.5			43
Tennis Courts (includes half courts)	each	72	20			92
Picnic Areas	each	42		1	2	45
Rectangular Fields (includes 1/2 combination fields)	each	28.5	22.5	1	1	53
Volleyball Courts	each	10				10

#### Amenity

Level of Service

	Unit	Current	Peer Med.	Typical	Survey Pri.	Recm. Std.
Diamond Fields (includes 1/2 combination fields)	each <sup>1</sup>	5,153	<sup>1/</sup> 4,107	1/ 6,000	Low <sup>1</sup>	′ 5,500
Tennis Courts (includes half courts)	each <sup>1</sup>	2,408	1/ 3,768	<sup>1/</sup> 4,000	Medium <sup>1</sup>	′ 3,000
Picnic Areas	each <sup>1</sup>	4,924	N/A	<sup>1/</sup> 6,000	Medium <sup>1</sup>	′ 5,000
Rectangular Fields (includes 1/2 combination fields)	each <sup>1</sup>	4,180	1/ 3,643	<sup>1/</sup> 6,000	Medium <sup>1</sup>	4,500
Volleyball Courts	each <sup>1</sup>	22,156	N/A	1/ 12,000	Low <sup>1</sup>	20,000

Amenity Level of Service							
	Unit	Current	Recm. Std.	2025	2035	2045	
Diamond Fields (includes ½ combination fields)	each <sup>1</sup>	5,153	1/ 5,500	<sup>1/</sup> 5,688	<sup>1/</sup> 6,188 <sup>1</sup>	6,728	
Tennis Courts (includes half courts)	each <sup>1</sup>	2,408	<sup>1/</sup> 3,000	<sup>1/</sup> 2,658	<sup>1/</sup> 2,892 <sup>1/</sup>	′ 3,144	
Picnic Areas	each <sup>1</sup>	4,924	<sup>1/</sup> 5,000	<sup>1/</sup> 5,435	<sup>1/</sup> 5,913 <sup>1</sup>	6,429	
Rectangular Fields (includes 1/2 combination fields)	each <sup>1</sup>	4,180	<sup>1/</sup> 4,500	<sup>1/</sup> 4,615	<sup>1/</sup> 5,021 <sup>1</sup>	5,458	
Volleyball Courts	each <sup>1</sup>	22,156	1/ 20,000	1/ 24,457	<sup>1/</sup> 26,609 <sup>1</sup>	28,928	
Amenity	Level of Service						
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	Unit	Current	Recm. Std.	2025	2035	2045	
Diamond Fields (includes 1/2 combination fields)	each	43	+2	+6	+11	+15	
Tennis Courts (includes half courts)	each	92	+0	+0	+0	+5	
Picnic Areas	each	45	+0	+4	+9	+13	
Rectangular Fields (includes 1/2 combination fields)	each	53	+0	+2	+7	+12	
Volleyball Courts	each	10	+2	+3	+4	+5	

#### AREAS WITH ACCESS TO **TENNIS COURTS**

Unit	Current	Recm. Std.	2025	2035	2045
each	92	+0	+0	+0	+5



Access Ranking

most need (worst access)

least need (best access)



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# **ACCESS STANDARDS**

5 min high density 10 min low density

**Basketball Courts** 

**Community Gardens** 

Unprogrammed Open Spaces

Multi-Use Trails

Off-Leash Dog Parks

Playgrounds

10 min high density20 min low density

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**Tennis Courts** 

**Picnic Areas** 

Rectangular Fields

**Volleyball Courts** 

#### no access standards

Comm., Rec., and Sports Ctrs.

Hiking Trails

Indoor and Outdoor Pools

Natural Lands

Nature Centers

**Skate Parks** 

Small Game Courts

Spraygrounds

Tracks

Amenity	Inventory				
	Unit	County	APS Pub.	Eas. Other	Total
Community, Recreation, and Sports Centers	each	9	5		14
Hiking Trails	miles				14.5
Indoor and Outdoor Pools	each		3	1	4
Natural Lands	acres				
Nature Centers	each	2		1	3
Skate Parks	each	1			1
Small Game Courts (bocce, h-ball, petanque, multi, unmk.)	each	13		1	14
Spraygrounds	each	4	1		5
Tracks	each	1	1		2

Amenity Level of Service						
	Unit	Current	Peer Med.	Typical	Survey Pri.	Recm. Std.
Community, Recreation, and Sports Centers	each	1/ 15,826	1/ 15,483	30,000	Medium <sup>1/</sup>	15,000
Hiking Trails	miles	1/ 15,242	N/A	10,000	High <sup>1/</sup>	10,000
Indoor and Outdoor Pools	each	1/ 55,390	N/A	40,000	High <sup>1/</sup>	40,000
Natural Lands	acres	1/				
Nature Centers	each	1/ 73,853	<sup>1/</sup> 110,900	50,000	Medium <sup>1/</sup>	75,000
Skate Parks	each	1/ 221,560	1/ 118,851	40,000	Low <sup>1/</sup>	75,000
Small Game Courts (bocce, h-ball, petanque, multi, unmk.)	each	1/ 15,826	N/A	6,000	Low <sup>1/</sup>	8,000
Spraygrounds	each	1/ 44,312	N/A	45,000	Medium <sup>1/</sup>	45,000
Tracks	each	1/ 110,780	N/A	45,000	N/A <sup>1/</sup>	35,000

supports raising the current standard
 supports keeping the current standard unchanged
 supports lowering the current standard

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Amenity	Level of S	ervice				
	Unit	Current	Recm. Std.	2025	2035	2045
Community, Recreation, and Sports Centers	each	1/ 15,826	1/ 15,000	1/ 17,469	1/ 19,007	1/ 20,663
Hiking Trails	miles	1/ 15,242	1/ 10,000	1/ 16,825	<sup>1/</sup> 18,306	<sup>1/</sup> 19,901
Indoor and Outdoor Pools	each	1/ 55,390	<sup>1/</sup> 40,000	1/ 61,143	<sup>1/</sup> 66,523	<sup>1/</sup> 72,321
Natural Lands	acres	1/				
Nature Centers	each	73,853	1/ 75,000	1/ 81,524	<sup>1/</sup> 88,697	1/ 96,428
Skate Parks	each	1/ 221,560	<sup>1/</sup> <b>75,000</b>	1/244,572	1/266,091	1/289,284
Small Game Courts (bocce, h-ball, petanque, multi, unmk.)	each	1/ 15,826	1/ 8,000	1/ 17,469	<sup>1/</sup> 19,007	1/ 20,663
Spraygrounds	each	44,312	<sup>1/</sup> 45,000	1/ 48,914	1/ 53,218	1/ 57,857
Tracks	each	1/ 110,780	1/ 35,000	1/122,286	1/133,046	1/144,642

Amenity	Level of Service					
	Unit	Current	Recm. Std.	2025	2035	2045
Community, Recreation, and Sports Centers	each	14	+1	+3	+4	+6
Hiking Trails	miles	14.5	+8	+10	+13	+15
Indoor and Outdoor Pools	each	4	+2	+3	+3	+4
Natural Lands	acres					
Nature Centers	each	3	+0	+1	+1	+1
Skate Parks	each	1	+2	+3	+3	+3
Small Game Courts (bocce, h-ball, petanque, multi, unmk.)	each	14	+14	+17	+20	+23
Spraygrounds	each	5	+0	+1	+1	+2
Tracks	each	2	+5	+5	+6	+7

recommended standard metrecommended standard not met

## **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1: PUBLIC SPACES:**

• Target the addition of approximately 30 (?) acres of new public space over the next 10 years.

In public meetings, the most common phrase used to describe Arlington's public spaces was "need more." Over half of public survey respondents indicated that they would support the acquisition of open space to develop passive facilities. New public space could include additional land acquired by the County, public space developed by other public entities, public easements on private property, or the additional of vertical space.

Topics:

- This number aligns with the average amount of acquisitions we had in the last 2 decades and the Civic Federation resolution for the County to acquire on average 3 acres of new parkland per year.
- Timeframe: 0-10 years

## **PREVIOUS ACQUISITIONS (ACRES)**



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### 2012 DRAFT ACQUISITION/PRESERVATION PLAN



Acquisition Criteria

- 1. Identified within the boundary of a Master Planned park.
- 2. Identified as future parkland in Board-adopted Sector, Area, or Corridor Plans.
- 3. Located within an area identified as a Future Need Area
- 4. Has sufficient scale (or adjacency to an existing park) to create approximately two acres of usable parkland. (The two-acre target will provide enough space to accommodate a variety of recreational uses to satisfy the needs of a growing community.)
- 5. Adjacent to, or an inholding of, an existing park or easement for park purposes.
- 6. Improves access to an existing park or trail.
- 7. Expands existing parkland to create a large, uninterrupted open space corridor that may be used for recreation and/or migrating wildlife.
- 8. Buffers or connects sites in the Natural Heritage Resource Inventory (NHRI).

### 2012 DRAFT ACQUISITION/PRESERVATION PLAN



**Preservation Criteria** 

- 1. Contains sensitive natural resources, such as a native plant community, wildlife habitat, or rare or endangered flora or fauna.
- 2. High likelihood of disturbance through redevelopment or mismanagement.
- 3. Contributes to wildlife habitat or migration corridors.
- 4. Provides fresh water to wildlife through on-site seeps, wetlands, or streams.
- 5. Located in a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain.
- 6. Provides a protective buffer to Natural Resource Conservation Areas (NRCA).

## **ACQUISITION STRATEGY**

Spaces identified in an adopted County plan

Properties opportunistically presented to the County for acquisition

**Proactively identified acquisition opportunities** 

## **ACQUISITION STRATEGY**

Spaces identified in an adopted County plan	If the space will be privately developed and become a public space through dedication of easement If the space needs to be acquired and	Use criteria to evaluate and
Properties opportunistically presented to the County	developed by the County	prioritize. Use criteria to evaluate and prioritize.
for acquisition Proactively identified acquisition opportunities	Use place-based criteria to target high-impact areas.	Use criteria to evaluate and prioritize.

# **ACQUISITION CRITERIA**



## PART 1: COUNTY PRIORITIES

- The site is identified as future parkland in an adopted sector, area, or corridor plan, or a neighborhood conservation plan.
- The site is identified within an existing approved park master plan or park framework plan.
- The site is in an area that is projected to grow [blocks projected to grow by at least 10% between 2015 and 2045]

# PART 2: POPS PRIORITIES

## Strategic Direction 1 PUBLIC SPACES

Ensure equitable access to high quality public spaces that provide opportunities to recreate, play, and enjoy nature by adding and improving public spaces.

### Strategic Direction 2

Improve the network of trails to, within, and between public spaces to increase access and enhance connectivity.

#### Strategic Direction 3 RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

Protect, restore, expand, and enhance natural and historic resources, and increase resource-based activities.

### Strategic Direction 4 PARTNERSHIPS

Expand and clarify partnerships to set mutual expectations and leverage resources creatively and effectively.

## Strategic Direction 5 PROGRAMS

Ensure program offerings continue to respond to changing user needs.

#### Strategic Direction 6 ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION

Improve community engagement and communication to enhance user satisfaction and foster support for public spaces.

#### Strategic Direction 7 OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Ensure County public spaces and facilities are operated and maintained efficiently and to defined standards.

#### Strategic Direction 8 FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

Enhance the financial sustainability of Arlington's public spaces.

# **PART 2: POPS PRIORITIES**

# Strategic Direction 1 PUBLIC SPACES

Ensure equitable access to high quality public spaces that provide opportunities to recreate, play, and enjoy nature by adding and improving public spaces.

- The site shares at least 50% of its perimeter with an existing public space.
- The site is essential to the expansion of an existing park, regardless of its inclusion in a park master plan.
- The site is or will be accessible by:
  - walking
  - bicycle
  - public transportation

## **PART 2: POPS PRIORITIES**

#### Strategic Direction 2

TRAILS

Improve the network of trails to, within, and between public spaces to increase access and enhance connectivity.

- The site is in a location that could create better connections across or around current barriers, including the George Washington Memorial Parkway, I-395, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Army Navy Country Club.
- The site could improve connections to adjacent trail systems within or beyond the county.

## **PLACE-BASED CRITERIA**



- The site is in an area that is projected to grow.
   [blocks projected to grow by at least 10% between 2015 and 2045]
- The site is in a job center. [blocks projected to have at least 200 jobs in 2045]
- The site could be used to preserve or increase tree canopy so that the site would be at least 40% covered.

## **PLACE-BASED CRITERIA**

The site is in an area that is projected to grow.

The site is in a job center.

The site could be used to preserve or increase tree canopy so that the site would be at least 40% covered.



[blocks projected to grow by at least 10% between 2015 and 2045] [blocks projected to have at least 200 jobs in 2045]

# **ACQUISITION STRATEGY**

Spaces identified in an adopted County plan

If the space will be privately developed and become a public space through dedication or easement

If the space needs to be acquired and developed by the County

No evaluation is required

Use criteria to evaluate and prioritize.

Properties opportunistically presented to the County for acquisition

Use criteria to evaluate and prioritize.

Proactively identified acquisition opportunities

Use place-based criteria to target high-impact areas.

Use criteria to evaluate and prioritize.

### **PLACE-BASED CRITERIA**

