



# Summer Federation of Friends Meeting

August 8, 2017

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A discussion on Friends Group  
Project updates and revisions



# Purpose of the Project

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- Now, more than ever, we need our Friends Groups
- Support existing Friends Groups and help new ones form
- Consistent and up to date agreements
- Educate Friends Groups about potential risks and protection in order to minimize risks
- Fulfill our role to protect the County's resources and assist citizens who want to do the same



# We've heard you and we don't want to...

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- Impinge upon Friends Groups' independence
- Diminish your voice for a particular site or program
- Eliminate Friends groups
- Decrease the community's enthusiasm to volunteer with the PA
- Increase the administrative burden on Friends
- Take your hard earned money or unduly increase your costs



# Happenings since June 8, 2017

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- Continued to benchmark other Friends models
- Researched options for insurance (association coverage)
- Met individually with Friends Groups
- Reviewed comments from Friends
- Researched difference between MOU and MOA
- Met with Park Foundation staff to begin Friends Capacity Building Funding proposal
- Revised the Policy and MOU
- Will need to revisit PVT structure once MOU and Policy are finalized



# Policy: Comments and Revisions

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- Need to address what the PA will do for the Friends
- There are concerns about how Friends will pay for insurance
- Need to accommodate various types of Friends
- We must understand that Friends are to be recognized as entities separate from the PA
- Much of what was included in the Policy belongs in the MOU
- Friends consider themselves a supporter of a specific park or program, not the Park Authority
- The Policy should not change the nature of Friends' work and services



# MOA: Comments and Revisions (now MOU)

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- Terms must require mutual transparency (e.g. Budget and reporting)
- Rewrite with less “legal speak”
- Friends prefer MOU rather than MOA
- More clearly define PA responsibilities
- Friends consider themselves a supporter of a specific park or program, not the Park Authority
- Willingness to assist in addressing the insurance requirement



# Developing “Friends Capacity Building Funding” Proposal

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- A joint effort between the PA and Park Foundation
- Provides annual funding for Friends’ administrative costs or other projects (specific amount TBD)
- Possible solution to the concerns about insurance
- Friends Groups who meet eligibility requirements in the revised Policy are eligible to apply
  - Non-profit status required
- Propose program to the Park Foundation Board



# Breakout sessions

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## Feedback Stations:

- 1. Policy
- 2. MOU
- 3. Friends Capacity Building Funding Program
  
- Parking Lot with “other” feedback





Questions?