

Baron Cameron Park vs. Reston Town Center

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We support building a new community center in Reston, however, we feel the center should be built at the North Town Center and not at Baron Cameron Park. Here are our reasons and why we feel that a center at Baron Cameron violates Reston principles.

- In North Town Center the new RCC would be a walkable destination that would contribute to the Reston Town Center city atmosphere. RTC is a destination that is walkable and gen y without their cars, seniors without their cars, and RTC workers can easily get there. That is what the task force is promoting, putting density and walkable destinations in the busy RTC and future station areas. By contrast, Baron Cameron is mainly accessible by car. There are no bus routes nearby. This is not a walkable destination and scatters the development away from the city area.**
- As a consequence of having to drive, we will need more parking spaces for cars at the RCC destination and at the source. If gen y doesn't own cars they won't be able to get there. It is adding to the car culture which we are trying to discourage.**
- There are other issues. The RCC can be built at North Town Center without compromising fields. We assume that the Baron Cameron Park land was transferred from the school system to the**

park service to save fields and not to build on them. The Reston Task Force values open spaces and the RCC should be built in an area that does not compromise this belief.

- Also, as we have listened to the many consultants and speakers at task force meetings, we have heard about the school overcrowding crisis. The Baron Cameron Park was originally designated for a high school. While pools are an important issue, high school needs are critical. A high school on the edge of Baron Cameron land could be an example of shared open spaces and have underground parking . RCC can be built at the North Town Center. A high school cannot. RCC will improve the Reston Town Center but it will hurt Baron Cameron Park.**

In summary, a vibrant Reston Town Center would include a community center where older people and younger people and city workers could enjoy without needing to drive. It would be a centerpiece of the North Town Center. In contrast, a community center at Baron Cameron Park would bring us into and keep us totally in the car culture and focus on a smaller group. It would ruin the chance of solving the high school overcrowding and ruin the chance of having a hybrid high school that showcases shared fields and shared facilities.