

UP3 HICKORY COMMUNITY PLANNING SECTOR

CHARACTER

The Hickory Community Planning Sector is generally bounded on the north by Georgetown Pike (Route 193), on the east by Old Dominion Drive and Towlston Road, and on the south by Leesburg Pike (Route 7). A portion of the sector between Hunter Mill Road and the Difficult Run Stream Valley extends south of Leesburg Pike (Route 7) to the Dulles Airport Access Road.

This sector retains much of the rural character of the Riverfront and Springvale sectors, although developed at a somewhat higher residential density. There are large-lot subdivisions and some in half- and one-acre development. There are several operating farms in the sector. A major land use objective for the sector is to maintain the low density character by encouraging large-lot residential development.

Local-serving commercial uses are located at Great Falls Village and at the intersection of Walker Road and Colvin Run Road. Additional commercial uses are available outside the sector in Reston, Herndon, Tysons Corner, and Vienna.

Colvin Run Mill Historic Overlay District is a significant heritage resource in this sector. The mill is listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places. Individual sites within the district are listed in the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites. A list and map of heritage resources are included in the Upper Potomac Planning District Overview section, Figures 4, 5 and 6. Additional historic sites in this sector are also included in the inventory.

CONCEPT FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Hickory Community Planning Sector is designated a Low Density Residential Area in the Concept for Future Development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Land Use

The Hickory Community Planning Sector is largely developed as stable low density residential neighborhoods. Infill development in these neighborhoods should be of a compatible use, type and intensity in accordance with the guidance provided by the Policy Plan under Land Use Objectives 8 and 14.

Where substantial parcel consolidation is specified, it is intended that such consolidations will provide for projects that function in a well-defined, efficient manner and provide for the development of unconsolidated parcels in conformance with the Area Plan.

Figure 24 indicates the geographic location of land use recommendations for this sector. Where recommendations are not shown on the General Locator Map, it is so noted.

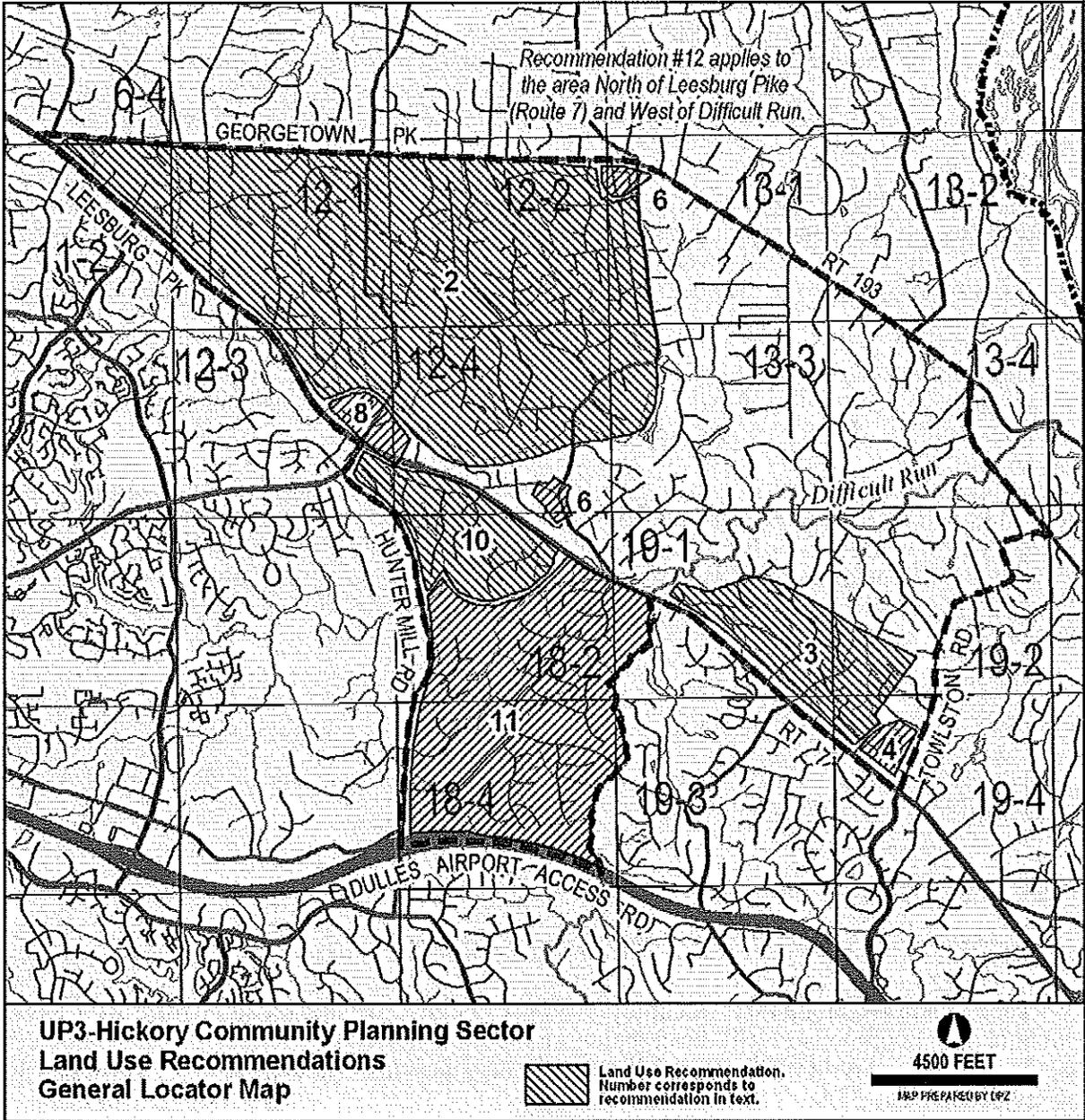


FIGURE 24

1. Most land should be developed for residential use at .2-.5 dwelling units per acre in order to preserve the existing character and support the concept of low density residential development for land in the Reston environs. [Not shown]
2. The area bounded by Leesburg Pike (Route 7), Georgetown Pike, Walker Road and Piney Run is planned for residential use at .5-1 dwelling unit per acre, as shown on the Plan map, to reflect existing and committed development. New development should be generally consistent with existing zoning and should provide for ample landscaping, buffering and substantial building setbacks to ensure that the present relatively low density character of the area will be preserved when viewed from the collector and arterial roadways serving the sector.
3. Residential use at .5-1 dwelling unit per acre is planned for the area north of Leesburg Pike (Route 7), between Difficult Run and Towlston Road, as shown on the Plan map. New development should be generally consistent with existing zoning, should provide large lots along the frontage of Leesburg Pike (Route 7) and Towlston Road to preserve the low density, rural characteristics of Towlston Road and Leesburg Pike (Route 7), and should provide substantial buffers along the frontage of Leesburg Pike (Route 7).
4. The northwest quadrant of the intersection of Route 7 and Towlston Road, bounded by the Glen Haven Farms subdivision to the north and Kenmore subdivision to the west, is planned for .5-1 dwelling unit per acre to be compatible with the planned density in this vicinity along Route 7. Substantial buffering, adequate landscaping and a substantial setback of buildings along the west side of Towlston Road in the area south of Glen Haven Farms subdivision are appropriate to preserve the low density, rural character of Towlston Road.
5. Cluster subdivisions may be appropriate in this sector if the following criteria are met and are rigorously applied: 1) Wherever possible the proposed open space should provide connections with existing or planned trails; 2) Individual lots, buildings, streets, utilities and parking areas are designed and situated to minimize the disruption of the site's natural drainage and topography, and to promote the preservation of important view sheds, historic resources, steep slopes, stream valleys and desirable vegetation; 3) Site design and building location are done in a manner that is compatible with surrounding development; 4) Modifications to minimum district size, lot area, lot width or open space requirements of a cluster subdivision in the R-E and R-1 Districts are not appropriate, unless significant benefits can be achieved in the preservation of the natural environment, scenic view shed(s) or historic resources by permitting such modifications; and 5) Lot yield shall be limited to that which could reasonably result under conventional development. [Not Shown]
6. Commercial uses should be limited to existing commercial areas in the vicinity of Walker Road and Route 193, and Walker Road and Colvin Run Road. Commercial uses in these areas should be neighborhood-serving in nature and should be restricted to the existing commercially-zoned parcels. However, it would be appropriate for some required commercial parking to be located on the residentially-zoned portion of Tax Map 12-4((16)), provided that the Alfred Leigh House is rehabilitated and maintained as defined in "The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects." The Fairfax County Architectural Review Board should provide guidance. The parking should be buffered from surrounding residential development. Such parking use should only be continued in conjunction with the continued maintenance of the Leigh House. Should the Leigh House be demolished, use of the residentially-zoned land for parking should cease

and the land should be restored to its original condition or a condition appropriate for residential use.

7. The Route 7 Corridor is planned for and should continue to be reserved for residential development. Industrial, office, research and development (R&D), and retail commercial uses are not appropriate in the Route 7 Corridor. Uses requiring special permits and special exception approval should be rigorously reviewed and permitted only when the use is of a size and scale that will not adversely impact adjacent land uses and the overall character of the corridor in order to prevent commercial or quasi-commercial encroachment. [Not shown]
8. The northwest and northeast quadrants of the intersection of Route 7 and Springvale Road are planned for residential use at .5-1 dwelling unit per acre. Consolidation of parcels and a coordinated access point to Springvale Road should be required. (See Figure 25.)
9. In this planning sector uses requiring special permits and special exception approval should be rigorously reviewed and permitted only when the use is of a size and scale that will not adversely impact adjacent land uses and the overall low density residential character of the area. [Not shown]
10. The area south of Leesburg Pike (Route 7), south of Baron Cameron Avenue and east of Hunter Mill Road is planned for residential use at .5-1 dwelling unit per acre. Development at this density is similar to existing residential development in the area and will help to maintain a low density buffer around Reston. Additional Plan guidance is included under Land Use Recommendation #10 for Sector UP5.
11. The area bounded by Hunter Mill Road, Colvin Run, Leesburg Pike (Route 7), Difficult Run and the Dulles Airport Access Road is part of the Difficult Run watershed and is planned for low density residential development at .2-.5 dwelling units per acre as shown on the Plan map. Uses requiring special permit or special exception approval should be rigorously reviewed and permitted only when the use is of a size and scale that will not adversely impact adjacent land uses and the overall low density residential character of the area. The cumulative effect of special permit and special exception uses should be considered prior to allowing additional uses or the expansion of existing uses to determine if adding new uses or expanding existing uses will change the low density residential character of the area.
12. Turner Farm Park, in the heart of the Great Falls area, is planned for an astronomical observatory for educational and recreational use by County schools and residents due to having among the darkest night sky in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area. The night sky in the area surrounding the planned observatory should be protected from excessive and improper lighting. New development (i.e., public and private) in planning sector UP2 and planning sector UP3, north of Leesburg Pike (Rt. 7) and west of Difficult Run, should provide energy efficient lighting that reduces glare, eliminates light trespass and reduces sky glow.
13. Encourage the use of pervious and semi-pervious materials for paved areas (e.g. parking lots, driveways, walkways and patios). [Not shown].

Transportation

Transportation recommendations for this sector are shown on Figures 25 and 26. In some instances, site-specific transportation recommendations are included in the land use recommendations section. The figures show access orientation, circulation plans, interchange impact areas and generalized locations of proposed transit facilities. The recommendations contained in the Area Plan text and maps, the Policy Plan and Transportation Plan map, policies and requirements in the Public Facilities Manual, the Zoning Ordinance, and other standards will be utilized in the evaluation of development proposals. Development proposals should also be evaluated against the Hunter Mill Road Traffic Calming Study (Northern Virginia Regional Commission, 2006), which provides both a traffic calming conceptual plan for Hunter Mill Road, as well as context sensitive roadway design techniques.

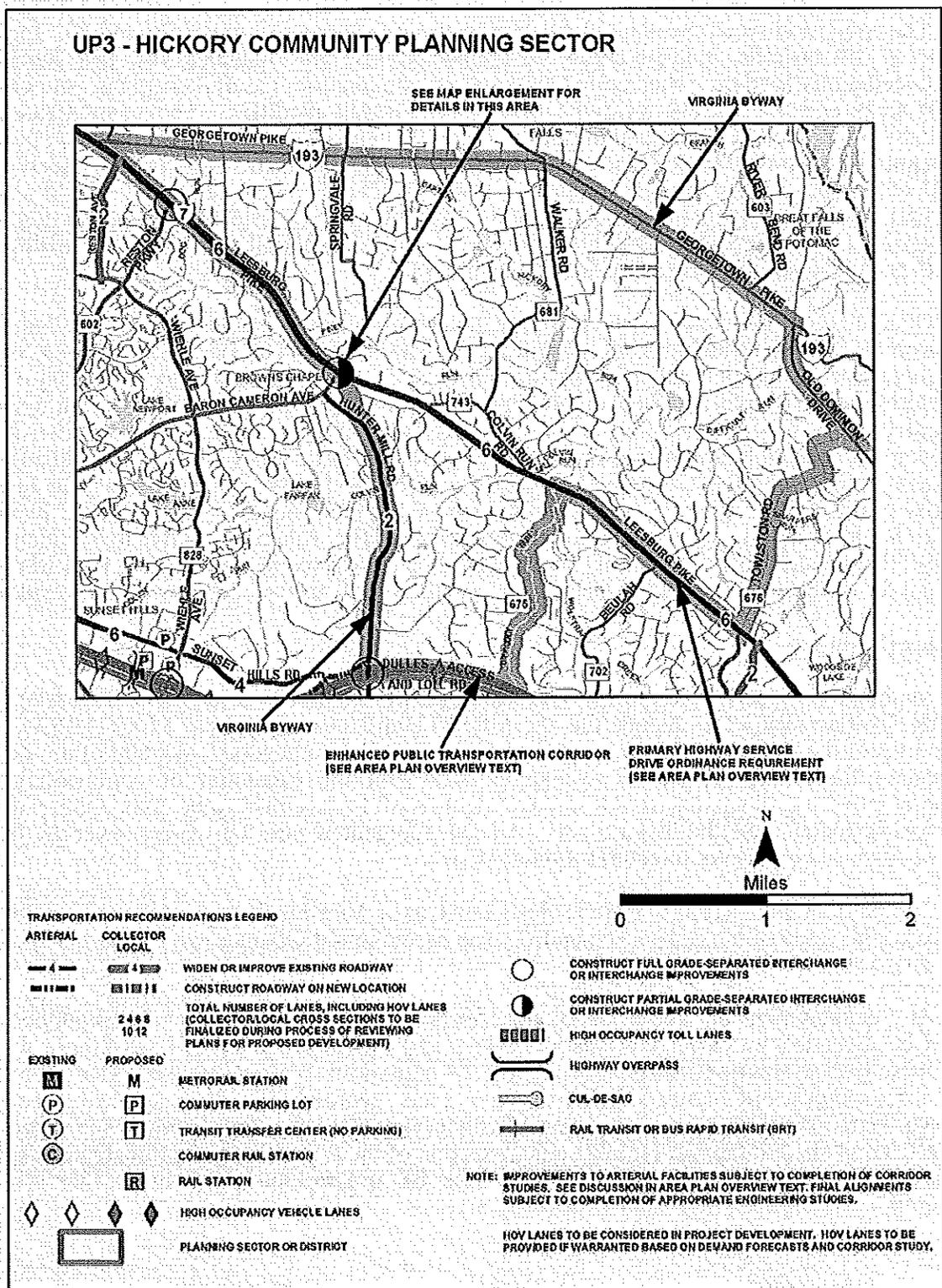
Georgetown Pike, which has been designated a Virginia Byway and determined eligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places, should be maintained within its existing right-of-way. Center turn lanes and deceleration and acceleration lanes should be discouraged and curb cuts should not be allowed unless no other alternative exists. Georgetown Pike is commonly acknowledged to contain some traffic hazards. However, it is generally acceptable in its present condition to local residents. Major changes in alignment or widening the road would damage the scenic and historic character and the historic integrity of the Byway and have been strongly opposed by residents of adjacent areas. Planning efforts should focus on other means of dealing with traffic volume in order to maintain this Byway. Scenic and conservation easements should be sought along Georgetown Pike wherever practical for the preservation of the historic and scenic significance and beauty of the corridor.

Heritage Resources

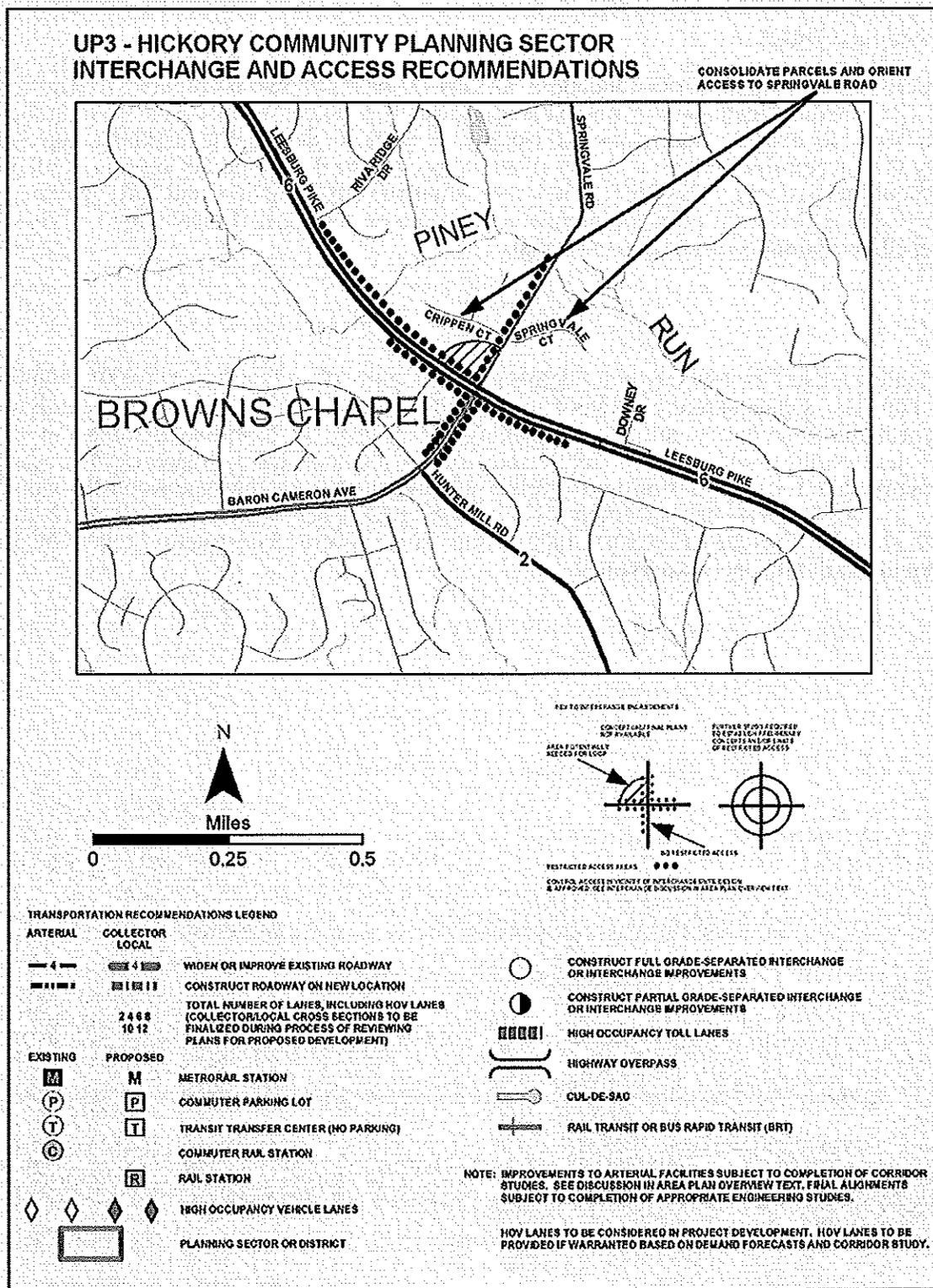
Maintain the Colvin Run Mill Historic Overlay District and consider expanding the Historic Overlay District to include the Dr. Alfred Leigh House (Tax Map 12-4((1))15A). The regulations of the Colvin Run Mill Historic Overlay District (Appendix 1, A1-600 of the Zoning Ordinance) limit development to residential uses with the exception of commercial uses appropriate to the mill site itself. All improvements shall be designed to be compatible with the scale and appearance of the historic site. All development within the historic overlay district must be reviewed by the Architectural Review Board.

Georgetown Pike (Route 193) is designated as a Virginia Byway pursuant to Section 33.1-63 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The protection of Georgetown Pike is discussed in the Transportation section above.

Any development or ground disturbance in this sector, both on private and public land, should be preceded by heritage resource studies, and alternatives should be explored for the avoidance, preservation or recovery of significant heritage resources that are found. In those areas where significant heritage resources have been recorded, an effort should be made to preserve them. If preservation is not feasible, then, in accordance with countywide objectives and policies as cited in the Heritage Resources section of the Policy Plan, the threatened resource should be thoroughly recorded and in the case of archaeological resources, the artifacts recovered.



TRANSPORTATION RECOMMENDATIONS FIGURE 25



INTERCHANGE AND ACCESS RECOMMENDATIONS **FIGURE 26**
UP3 HICKORY COMMUNITY PLANNING SECTOR

Parks and Recreation

Park and recreation recommendations for this sector are shown on Figure 27. The column "Park Classification" includes existing park facilities. The "Recommendations" column includes entries for both existing and proposed facilities. Prior to developing parkland, the Fairfax County Park Authority initiates a master planning process to determine the appropriate facilities and design for that park. This process involves extensive citizen review and participation. If an existing park is listed but no recommendation appears on that line, it means the park has been developed in accordance with its master plan.

Trails

Trails planned for this sector are delineated on Figure 28 and on the 1":4,000' Countywide Trails Plan Map which is referenced as Figure 2 in the Transportation element of the Policy Plan and is available from the Department of Planning and Zoning. Trails in this sector are an integral part of the overall County system. While some of the segments have already been constructed, the Countywide Trails Plan Map portrays the ultimate system for the sector and the County at large. In addition, the map specifies a classification for each segment, which represents the desired ultimate function and surface type of the trail. Specific construction requirements are detailed in the Public Facilities Manual.

FIGURE 27
PARKS AND RECREATION RECOMMENDATIONS
SECTOR UP3

PARK CLASSIFICATION	RECOMMENDATIONS
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS:	
Lockmeade	Consider additional land acquisition to expand park uses.
COMMUNITY PARKS:	
Lexington Estates	Pursue acquisition of adjacent surplus Federal land to expand the park and provide active recreational facilities at this site. Initiate a master planning process and develop park accordingly.
Fox Manor	Seek interim use agreement on school site adjacent to southern section of park for development of active recreation facilities.
DISTRICT PARKS:	
Great Falls Nike	Initiate a master planning process and develop in accordance with the approved plan for active recreation. Consider future expansion if feasible.
	Most of the western part of this sector is also served by Baron Cameron District Park.
COUNTYWIDE PARKS:	
Colvin Run Mill (Heritage Resources)	
Colvin Run Stream Valley Difficult Run Stream Valley	Protect Difficult Run and Colvin Run EQC and their tributaries of Piney Run, Hickory Run and Dog Run through acquisition, dedication and/or donation of land and open space easements to the Fairfax County Park Authority. Complete the "Rails to River" countywide trail.
	Seek historic preservation easements on selected historic properties.

TRAILS PLAN MAP FOR THIS SECTOR
UNDER CONSTRUCTION

SEE THE 1" = 4000' SCALE
COUNTYWIDE TRAILS PLAN MAP