



# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



## M E M O R A N D U M

**TO:** Chairman and Members  
Park Authority Board

**VIA:** Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

**FROM:** Janet Burns  
Financial Management Branch

**DATE:** February 25, 2015

### *Agenda*

**Administration, Management and Budget Committee**  
**Wednesday, February 25, 2015 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Boardroom – Herrity Building**  
**Chairman: Ken Quincy**  
**Vice Chair: Harold L. Strickland**  
**Members: Edward R. Batten, Sr., Michael Thompson, Jr.**

1. Approval - Fee Adjustments to the Published Fee Schedule for 2015 – Action\*
2. FY 2014 Second Quarter Review – Fund 10001, Park Authority General Fund – Information\*
3. FY 2014 Second Quarter Review – Fund 80000, Park Authority Revenue Fund – Information\*
4. FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review – Fund 10001, Park Authority General Fund – Information \*
5. FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review – Fund 80000, Park Revenue and Operating Fund – Information \*
6. FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review – Fund 30010, General County Construction Fund – Information \*
7. FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review – Fund 30400, Park Authority Bond Construction
8. Fund – Information \*
9. FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review – Fund 80300, Park Improvement Fund – Information \*
10. Park Authority Revenue and Operating Fund – Debt Service Reserve Closure and Reallocation – Action\*
11. Review of Park Authority General Fund Reductions Reflected in the FY 2016 Advertised Budget – Discussion\*

\*Enclosures



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## **ACTION**

### Approval – Fee Adjustments to the Published Fee Schedule for 2015

#### ISSUE:

Approval of recommended fee adjustments to the Park Authority's published fee schedule for 2015.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends that the Park Authority Board approve all proposed fee adjustments as advertised.

#### TIMING:

Board action is requested on March 11, 2015, as fee changes take effect beginning April 1, 2015.

#### BACKGROUND:

Park Authority staff reviews fees annually to ensure that the agency remains on target to meet financial goals established by the Park Authority Board. As a result of the review completed during the fall of 2014, a number of modifications to the adopted fee schedule were identified. Administration, Management and Budget Committee review of the staff proposal occurred at its November and December 2014 meetings.

On December 11, 2014, the Park Authority Board authorized public notification of the proposed fee adjustments and set a date for a public comment meeting. (See Attachment 1 for proposed fee adjustments.)

Public notification of the fee proposal and public comment meeting included a press release to news organizations, and advertisement of the fee proposal at staffed park sites and Park Authority headquarters and on the Park Authority's web site. Social media posts also announced the public comment period and meeting several times. Public comments were solicited during a 30-day comment period (extending from January 7 through February 5, 2015) and at a public comment meeting held on January 21, 2015.

The public comment meeting attracted 28 speakers, most of who attended to address issues that were not actually a part of the current year's fee proposal. Twenty-six of the

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28 speakers were opposed to the existing commercial photography fees (approved by the Board in 2011) being applied to 'for fee' family photography sessions that commercial photographers locate in parks. One speaker, representing Alexandria Masters Swimming, opposed the proposed adjustments to RECenter indoor swimming pool base rental rates. And one speaker expressed concerns about operational issues related to the recent construction at Spring Hill RECenter, which were addressed by staff after the meeting ended.

An additional 193 comments were received via email and social media during the 30-day comment period. As with the public comment meeting, comments received during the 30-day period were dominated by concerns associated with the existing commercial photography fees, a topic that is not included in the 2015 package of proposed fee adjustments. We note that 187 of the 193 comments received during the comment period pertained to that topic – 183 in opposition; 4 in support of the existing fees. Opposition to the proposed increase in RECenter swimming pool base rental rates was received from representatives of Alexandria Masters Swimming and Northern Virginia Nereids Synchronized Swim Club – two of the 118 contracted swim groups impacted by this particular set of fees. Two commenters addressed the proposed adjustments for RECenter pass fees – one supportive, one opposed. One comment opposed the existing out-of-county entrance fee at Burke Lake, which also is not addressed in the current fee proposal. Finally, a resolution was received from the McLean Citizen's Association in support of the entire fee proposal as advertised.

Due to the volume of feedback surrounding the commercial photography fee issue, Public Information Officer Judy Pedersen convened a staff meeting to discuss, recent impacts of commercial photography shoots on park resources and operations, and alternatives for addressing photographers' concerns. Ms. Pedersen has invited members of the photography community to meet with managers from the impacted sites in order to discuss potential alternatives. A separate discussion item has been placed on the March 25, 2015, Administration, Management and Budget Committee agenda to address the commercial photography fee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Proposed fee changes are projected to generate approximately \$89,614 in additional revenue in FY 2015 and \$361,141 in FY 2016.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Proposed Fee Adjustments FY 2015

Attachment 2: Meeting Summary – Public Comment Meeting on Proposed Fee Changes for FY 2015

Attachment 3: Public Comments on Proposed Fee Adjustments for FY 2015

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STAFF:

Kirk Kincannon, Director

Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO

Barbara Nugent, Director, Park Services Division

Cindy Walsh, Director, Resource Management Division

Nick Duray, Marketing Services Manager, Park Services Division

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# **Proposed Fee Adjustments**

## **FY 2015**



**Fairfax County Park Authority**

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## **Organization of the FY 2015 Fee Proposal**

The FY 2015 Park Authority Fee Proposal begins with the 'Current Situation – System-wide Considerations,' which describes the important factors in the Park Authority's overall operating environment that had an effect on the composition of this year's fee adjustment proposal. This overview is followed by separate sections for each of the specific fee adjustments that are being proposed. Each of these sections first outlines important situational factors specific to that business area that had an effect on the development of the fee adjustment proposal. This is then followed by a summary of the fee adjustments proposed for that business area.

The Park Authority Board maintains oversight approval for approximately 500 facility use/rental fees in its Schedule of Rates, Fees and Other Charges. Although staff reviews the entire fee schedule annually, only new fees and/or those recommended for adjustment are included in the annual fee proposal. Fee adjustments resulting from review of the FCPA Fee Schedule are designated as Park Authority Board approved. Programs and administrative fees are not included in this process. These are designated by Policy 305 – User Fees as director-approved.

### **Current Situation – Systemwide Considerations**

- Fees generated in the Park Authority's Revenue and Operating Fund (ROF) pay for personnel expenses and operating costs at all Park Authority-operated golf courses and RECenters; at lake parks for fee-sustained facilities and program operations; and for rental facilities, programs, and store sales at nature centers, visitor centers, historic sites and other parks. Sustained revenue growth is essential to support the ROF and to offset increases in operating expenses. Income from fees must also pay back debt service associated with revenue bonds used to develop golf course facilities.
- Revenue growth is intended by design to come from multiple sources, including new facility improvements and expansions, program participation growth, new facility users, cost management and fee increases. Several facility expansions that will contribute to future revenue growth have recently been completed or are nearing completion, including those adding fitness and recreational space at Oak Marr and Spring Hill RECenters, and expansion of meeting room space at Twin Lakes golf course. Expansion of the Water Mine at Lake Fairfax Park is scheduled for completion in late summer of 2015.
- As a matter of policy the Park Authority prefers to adopt regular, gradual fee increases rather than infrequent, but larger increases that are more disruptive to its customers. As the Park Authority's fee policy states "where feasible, comparatively small and regular fee increases are preferred over less frequent, larger increases."
- Sufficient revenue must be produced annually to meet long-term debt service obligations for park facility revenue bonds, which are repaid with revenues from user

fees. Debt obligations include the Facilities Revenue Bonds Series 1995, Refunding 2013A (expires 2021) and the Laurel Hill Public Facilities Projects, Laurel Hill Golf Course note payable to Fairfax County, Refunding Series 2012A (expires 2032). Park Revenue Fund debt payment obligations were \$923,340 (due to one-time savings associated with the 2013A Refunding of the Facilities Revenue Bond Series 1995) in FY 2014. Debt obligations for FY 2015 and FY 2016 will be \$1,576,890 and \$1,602,082 respectively. It is important to note that both the Laurel Hill Public Facilities Project and the Park Facilities Bond have both been refunded to take advantage of the historically low rates of 2012 and 2013. The Master Indenture on park facility revenue bonds also includes a requirement that the Revenue Fund maintain a level of net revenue before debt service sufficient to meet 125% of annual debt service payments.

- The Park Authority's Park Revenue Funds Financial Management Plan for FY 2015-2017 identifies several significant near-term budgetary impacts, including the following:
  - Health care benefits. Benefits across the board continue to rise. In FY 2014, the total cost associated with health care benefits for all ROF personnel was \$1,653,051. Although not yet formally announced, health care benefits for full-time employees are expected to increase 7.5% in calendar year 2015 resulting in an additional \$128,662 and up to a 10% increase in calendar year 2016 for another \$184,416. In response to Federal health care legislation, the Park Revenue and Operating Fund also began absorbing health care benefit costs for eligible exempt limited term employees in FY 2012. The estimated cost of this benefit in FY 2013 was \$63,000 and \$110,000 in FY 2014.
  - Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB). These costs for ROF employees were transferred from the county to the Park Authority in FY 2011 (\$631,555). In FY2014, the charge was \$751,439, up \$9,302 from FY 2013.
  - Employee compensation – market adjustment rate. Employee compensation was originally frozen in FY 2014, however, the Board of Supervisors approved a one-time discretionary bonus given on September 10, 2014, that impacted the ROF by \$224,181. An FY 2015 market rate adjustment of 2.29% was given to all employees in the August 2014, resulting in an impact to the ROF of \$602,138. To date, budget guidance for FY 2016 does not include any direction on compensation increases, however, a work team is studying the compensation package for general county employees which may be considered later this year. At the time of the development of this proposal, numbers have been mentioned to be as high as 3% which could impact the ROF by an additional \$660,000.

- Retirement impacts - leave payouts. Like the general county, the Park Authority will be facing an increased number of retirements as baby boomers exit the work force in increasing numbers. In FY 2015 the Authority will have 65 Merit employees eligible for retirement, 22 of those are in the Park Revenue and Operating Fund. An additional 17 employees become eligible in FY 2016, seven of which are in the ROF. When an employee retires from merit service, the employee is paid for the balance of their annual leave, and any compensatory time up to 240 hours. The ROF incurred \$94,000 in leave payouts in FY 2014 and that amount is expected to increase in the coming years. The estimated DROP payout for FY 2015 is projected at \$165,313, and \$196,037 in FY 2016.
- Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Initiatives. Several planned FCPS initiatives will have a financial impact on businesses operated in the Park Authority's Revenue and Operating Fund, including:
  1. Monday schedule change. In June 2014 FCPS announced a schedule change at elementary schools, increasing the long-standing shortened Monday time schedule to a full-day schedule. Over the years, county residents have counted on and taken advantage of utilizing Park Authority programs at centers and other sites to provide services to their children after school on Mondays. Staff had developed afternoon programs to fulfil the needs of working parents. The schedule change is estimated to impact revenue by approximately \$191,000.
  2. SLEEP initiative. For several years FCPS has researched the impacts of a later school start time for children. Options were identified and at the time of this report it appears FCPS plans to shift high school schedules back by up to 30 minutes beginning in September 2015. This change would shift high school swim team use of RECcenters for practice and competition into what are traditionally high use times for the general public with an estimated revenue impact of \$168,500.
  3. Participant fee increase. January 2014 the Park Authority received notice that the FCPS will be raising their per participant fee for use of schools with an estimated impact to the ROF of \$7,000.
- Cost recovery expectations. The primary use of net revenue in the ROF is facility and services reinvestment into projects such as the Park Improvement Fund, the county-endorsed Revenue and Operating Capital Sinking Fund and information system replacements (ParkNet and golf). FY 2014 ROF actual net revenue was \$148,527, and was impacted by both anticipated construction impacts to key facilities and unanticipated weather effects. FY 2015 revised net revenue is currently budgeted at \$1,329,032 and, based on the current model, FY 2016 net revenue is projected at \$1,056,187.

The out-year projection in the Park Authority's FY 2015 – FY2017 Park Revenue Funds Financial Management Plan does not yet account for several possible cost impacts including those associated with the pending school initiatives, possible compensation increases and potential General Fund salary transfers. Combined, these represent a potential of \$1.28 million in added uncontrolled costs. The plan notes the need for careful monitoring to effectively manage this period of uncertainty and maintain service for county residents.

- General market conditions and Park Authority use/revenue trends that have influenced the composition of the FY 2015 fee proposal are outlined below. Collective consideration of these factors has resulted in a modest fee proposal that attempts to remain sensitive to economic conditions and primarily focuses on niche opportunities throughout the system in an effort to produce incremental revenue growth.

Consumer price index (CPI). Modest inflationary growth has continued in the first half of 2014, according to data from the U.S. Department of Labor. August 2014 data shows that the Washington-Baltimore CPI grew 1.9% for the first half of calendar 2014 compared to the same period the previous year. Over the past two years, the Washington-Baltimore region CPI has experienced cumulative growth of 3.4%; three-year CPI growth was 5.6%.

Other measures of the current condition of the local economy that are typically considered in the annual fee proposal include trends in the Fairfax County unemployment rate and sales tax receipts for retail sales. The plan also tracks consumer confidence in the economy by reporting recent trends in the national consumer confidence index developed by The Conference Board.

Unemployment. While seasonal fluctuations occur, local unemployment continues to trend gradually downward. July 2014 unemployment for Fairfax County was 4.2%, down from 4.5% the previous July. As is the usual pattern, current unemployment in Fairfax County is considerably lower than at either the national or state level (6.5% and 5.4% respectively for July 2014). Within northern Virginia, Fairfax County unemployment remains about 'middle-of-the-pack' – higher than Arlington County (3.5%), but lower than either Loudoun (4.3%) or Prince William (4.7%) counties.

Retail sales. The recent local retail sales trend, as reflected in sales tax receipt patterns, has largely been sluggish. Sales tax receipts for FY 2014 declined 0.9% compared to the previous year. And while sales tax receipt growth spiked in July 2014 (up 5.2% compared to the previous July), same month sales tax receipts have been down in six of the first eight months of the year.

Consumer confidence. The Conference Board's consumer confidence index (CCI) is a national measure of consumer optimism on the state of the economy and is viewed by economists as a leading indicator of the U.S. economy. The CCI continues trending upward and as of July 2014 was at its highest level since October 2007. July improvement in consumer confidence resulted from a bolstering of both the present situation and future expectations components of the consumer confidence index. The Conference Board anticipates that improvement in consumer confidence is likely to continue into the second half of calendar 2014.

- Park Authority use/revenue trends.

Golf. Golf demand continues to be negatively impacted by the dual effects of a sluggish economy and a continued reduction in operating days due to adverse weather. The impact is evident nationally as well as locally. Underlying dynamics of golf demand are difficult to separate from weather impacts at this point. To illustrate, in FY 2014 golfers played 268,151 rounds at Park Authority courses, down 3.1% from the previous year. However, the reduction in rounds played was largely due to an 11.8% reduction in course operating days resulting from unusually adverse winter. (Total operating days for Park Authority courses in FY 2014 decreased by 293 days collectively.) Accounting for weather effects, average rounds per day per course actually increased 9.8% in FY 2014 up from 112 to 123.

Golfers continue to respond to challenging economic conditions with judicious belt tightening – employing more frequent discount seeking, and shifting play to less expensive courses and off-peak times when possible. Course operators continue to respond in kind with aggressive discounting to fill tee sheets as well as an increased and targeted use of dynamic pricing.

RECenters. Combined general admission and pass attendance declined 5.8% in FY14 compared to the previous year, and revenue decreased 0.8%. These declines are considered temporary and are primarily attributed to the partial facility shutdown associated with the Oak Marr RECenter facility expansion. RECenter use and revenues are expected to rebound now that the Oak Marr expansion is completed. A second facility expansion project at Spring Hill RECenter will finish late in the second quarter of this year. Both projects are components of the Park Authority's Financial Sustainability Plan, and are designed to address the growing public need for RECenter facilities and services. Use and revenue are expected to rebound once both of these projects come online.

Resource Management. Growth in the Resource Management Division's (RMD) stewardship education programs continues. Revenue in programming grew 9.8% from FY 2013 to FY 2014. Overall revenue growth was up 8% with all revenue categories showing some growth, especially programming. Revenue

from rentals and marina operations also grew marginally. Amusements (carousel, wagon rides, etc.) and shelter rentals continue to be services that attract visitors and also support other revenue categories such as concessions, store and vending sales.

## RECenters

### Current Situation

- Combined general admission and pass attendance declined 5.8% in FY 2014 compared to the previous year, and revenue decreased 0.8%. These declines are considered temporary and are primarily attributed to the partial facility shutdown associated with the Oak Marr RECenter facility expansion. RECenter use and revenues are expected to rebound now that the Oak Marr expansion is completed and a second expansion at Spring Hill RECenter is due to be completed late in the second quarter of this year. Both projects are components of the Park Authority's Financial Sustainability Plan, and are designed to address the growing need for RECenter facilities and services.
- The Washington-Baltimore consumer price index has increased 5.6% since the last RECenter admission adjustments were implemented in FY 2012. Recognizing our region is still recovering from a prolonged economic downturn and that improved profitability comes from multiple sources, including program growth and cost control, staff is recommending only a marginal increase to RECenter admission fees.
- A comparative analysis of admission fees with those of other local public and private providers showed that RECenter list prices are in line with or slightly above other providers. While this would imply little opportunity to raise rates, it must be recognized that the RECenters rely on price discounting to a greater degree than other operators, which lowers the effective rate users pay. Additionally, most other comparable municipal facilities in the area are supported by significant tax subsidies.
- To illustrate the effective rate – in FY 2014 95% of RECenter leisure fitness pass revenue was derived during sale periods where discounts ranged up to 15%. To illustrate the savings, a 12-month in-county adult pass purchased during last year's sale periods sold for \$561, compared with a regular list price of \$660.
- RECenters are challenged with increased operating costs. These increases are especially significant in the areas of utilities and repair/maintenance of aging infrastructure.
- A comparative analysis of public ice skating sessions fees and hourly rink rental shows that Mount Vernon fees are below those of other facilities located in northern Virginia and suburban Maryland.

- As a condition of the donated spray park at Lee District, admission fees are not charged for individual or family use of this facility, but group fees are permitted to offset operational costs. Group fees are also an important tool in managing very limited capacity. Groups represent a relatively small proportion of overall attendance, which exceeded 79,000 visitors in 2014. However, one large group can represent as much as 20% of spray park capacity, so group fees were added to the fee structure in 2011 to minimize the impact of groups on family use.
- RECenter swimming pool rental fees are structured to encourage high-volume rental. Groups renting at least 3,000 hours per contract are eligible for a discounted rental rate. Low-volume users pay the base rental rates. Although most RECenter swimming pool contracts come from low-volume users, the vast majority of rental hours (more than 80%) are generated by high-volume renters. Base rental fees were last adjusted in 2012 and 2014, while discounted pool rental rates for high-volume users have increased every year. To maintain an appropriate discount for high-volume renters, the base rate must be adjusted periodically.

### Proposed RECenter Fee Adjustments

Based on the conditions described above, proposed RECenter fee adjustments for FY 2015 are as follows.

1. Leisure fitness pass fees. Staff recommends an adjustment to the 12-month Leisure Fitness Pass only. General admission, monthly and six-month pass fees would remain unchanged. These fees were last updated in 2012.

	12-Month RECenter Leisure Fitness Pass Fees			
	CURRENT FEE		PROPOSED FEE	
	Base	Discount	Base	Discount
<u>12 Months</u>				
Single Adult	\$943	\$660	\$957	\$669
2 Person Adult	\$1,482	\$1,037	\$1,504	\$1,052
Dependent	\$234	\$164	\$237	\$166
Youth	\$943	\$613	\$957	\$622
Senior	\$943	\$613	\$957	\$622
2 Person Senior	\$1,482	\$963	\$1,504	\$977
Senior/Adult	\$1,482	\$1,000	\$1,504	\$1,015
Family	\$1,759	\$1,231	\$1,785	\$1,249

2. Public skating session fees. Staff recommends elimination of the public skating daily fee base rate to attract neighboring non-county residents. The resident discount for passes would still be maintained. An adjustment in the public skate sessions daily and pass rates is also recommended to better align these fees with the surrounding market and to aid in the site cost recovery. Ice operations, along with natatorium operations, are major consumers of utilities. The public skating sessions (daily and discount pass) fees were last updated in 2013.

Public Skating Sessions – Daily Fee				
Mt. Vernon RECenter				
	CURRENT FEE		PROPOSED FEE	
	<u>Base</u>	<u>Discount</u>	<u>Base</u>	<u>Discount</u>
Adults	\$ 7.50	\$ 6.75	Eliminate	\$ 7.00
Youth/Student	\$ 7.50	\$ 5.50	Eliminate	\$ 5.50
Seniors	\$ 7.50	\$ 5.00	Eliminate	\$ 5.50
Family <sup>1</sup>	\$26.50	\$21.25	Eliminate	\$22.00
<sup>1</sup> Family (1-2 adults and up to 4 children for a total of 5)				

Public Skating Sessions – Discount Pass				
Mt. Vernon RECenter				
	CURRENT FEE		PROPOSED FEE	
	<u>Base</u>	<u>Discount</u>	<u>Base</u>	<u>Discount</u>
Adults	\$ 67.50	\$ 60.30	\$ 69.50	\$ 62.70
Youth/Student	\$ 67.50	\$ 50.40	\$ 69.50	\$ 52.40
Seniors	\$ 67.50	\$ 44.10	\$ 69.50	\$ 52.40

3. Ice skate rental fee. Staff recommends an adjustment to the skate rental fee to better align with the market and contribute to improved site cost recovery. The fee was last updated in 2013.

Ice Skate Rental – Mt. Vernon RECenter		
	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
Individual	\$ 3.25	\$ 3.50

4. RECenter indoor swimming pool base rates. Staff recommends increasing the indoor swimming pool base rental fees as follows. Base rental rates were last adjusted in 2014.

RECenter Indoor Swimming Pool Base Rates – Per Hour		
	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
Swimming Lane – 25 yard lane	\$22.00	\$23.20
Swimming Lane - 50 meter lane	\$42.18	\$50.94
Diving Well – 25 yard pool	\$65.65	\$75.00
Diving Well – 50 meter pool	\$81.44	\$93.65
Entire Pool – 25 yard pool	\$209.08	\$252.46
Entire Pool – 50 meter pool	\$418.15	\$434.46

5. Our Special Harbor Sprayground for profit/commercial group admission fees. Staff recommends the following adjustment to the commercial group admission fees at Our Special Harbor. These fees were last updated in 2011.

Our Special Harbor Sprayground – For Profit/Commercial Group Admission, Per Person		
	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
County Resident	\$ 3	\$ 5
Non-County Resident	\$ 8	\$10

6. Clemijontri Park for profit/commercial group admission fees. Staff recommends establishing county and non-county group admission fees for for profit/commercial groups of 12 people or more. Admission to Clemijontri would remain free for individuals and families. This is the same fee structure and conditions for group use implemented at Our Special Harbor and will help to manage the impact of large commercial group use at this site.

Clemijontri Park – For Profit/Commercial Group Admission, Per Person		
	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
County Resident	----	\$ 5
Non-County Resident	----	\$10

## Lakefront Parks

### Current Situation

- The current situation in the Park Revenue and Operating Fund necessitates that the lakefront park sites strengthen their cost recovery effort. This year's fee recommendations will continue to address those areas that have the potential to improve the cost recovery of these sites.
- The campgrounds at both Lake Fairfax Park and Burke Lake Park continue to be popular destinations for local family campers and visitors to the area. The campground operations at both sites performed very well in FY 2014. Camping revenues from Burke Lake and Lake Fairfax Parks increased 36.1% in FY 2014. These local campgrounds continued to experience strong visitation greatly benefiting from their close proximity to the nation's capital.
- Demand remains steady at the Water Mine with revenues growing 2.5% over last year. The Water Mine will undergo expansion in 2015, adding a series of new waterpark features and expanding capacity by approximately 60%. The expansion will add considerable entertainment value to the park, justifying the first comprehensive adjustment in the Water Mine fee structure since 2008.
- Visitation of park amusements (train, carousel and mini-golf) continues to be strong, attendance grew 15.5% and revenue grew by 18.7% in FY 2014.
- Due to the age and type of lakefront park amusements, repair and maintenance expenses have steadily increased. The synthetic putting surface at Burke Lake Park's miniature golf facility is aging leading to a decline in the quality of the playing experience and is in need of replacement. A fee increase would aid in recovering the lifecycle maintenance costs associated with these improvements. Carpet replacement was completed at Jefferson Falls miniature golf facility in FY 2011 and at Lake Accotink Park in FY 2014.

## Proposed Lakefront Park Fee Adjustments

Based on the conditions described above, proposed lakefront park fee adjustments for FY 2015 are as follows.

1. Miniature golf fees. Staff recommends establishing a two-tier (weekday, weekend/holidays) fee structure for mini-golf as shown below. This restructuring of fees aids in the cost recovery of the site. Miniature golf fees were last updated in 2012.

### Miniature Golf Fees - Burke Lake Park, Oak Marr RECenter and Jefferson District Park

	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>Weekdays</u>	<u>Weekends/Holidays</u>
Adults	\$7	\$7	\$8
Juniors/Seniors	\$6	\$6	\$7
Group Rate-Adults	\$6	\$6	\$7
Group Rate-Juniors/Seniors	\$5	\$5	\$6

### Miniature Golf Fees – Lake Accotink Park

	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>Weekdays</u>	<u>Weekends/Holidays</u>
Adults	\$4	\$4	\$5
Juniors/Seniors	\$3	\$3	\$4
Second 9-Holes	\$3	\$3	\$3
Group Rate-Adults	\$3	\$3	\$4
Group Rate-Juniors/Seniors	\$2	\$2	\$3

2. Train Ride. Staff recommends the following adjustment to the train ride fee at Burke Lake Park. This fee was last adjusted in 2011.

### Train Ride – Burke Lake Park

	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
Per Person, Per Ride	\$2.50	\$2.75

3. Carousel Ride. Staff recommends the following adjustment to the carousel ride fee. This fee was last adjusted in 2011.

### Carousel Ride Fee - Burke Lake, Frying Pan Farm, Lake Accotink, Lake Fairfax and Clemjontri Parks

	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
Per Person, Per Ride	\$1.75	\$2.00

4. Campsite rental fees. Staff recommends adding a holiday surcharge for campsite rental for the following holidays – Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends (Friday – Monday) and July 4<sup>th</sup>. The current fee structure would remain unchanged for campsite rentals on all other days. Campsite rental fees were last adjusted in 2010.

Holiday Campsite Rental Fees		
	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
<u>Non-Electric Camp Site – Burke Lake, Lake Fairfax</u>		
Per night, per site	\$28.00	\$31.00 <sup>3</sup>
Per night, per site (senior, County Resident)	\$18.00	\$19.00 <sup>3</sup>
Per night, per site (senior, Non-County Resident)	\$25.00	\$28.00 <sup>3</sup>
<u>Electric Camp Sites with 20/30 – Lake Fairfax</u>		
Per night, per site	\$37.00	\$41.00 <sup>3</sup>
Per night, per site (senior, County Resident)	\$24.00	\$26.00 <sup>3</sup>
Per night, per site (senior, Non-County Resident)	\$33.00	\$36.00 <sup>3</sup>
<u>Electric Camp Sites with 20/30/50 – Lake Fairfax</u>		
Per night, per site	\$45.00	\$50.00 <sup>3</sup>
Per night, per site (senior, County Resident)	\$29.00	\$32.00 <sup>3</sup>
Per night, per site (senior, Non-County Resident)	\$40.00	\$44.00 <sup>3</sup>
<u>Group Camping</u>		
Lake Fairfax Park	\$120.00 <sup>1</sup>	\$135.00 <sup>1,3</sup>
Burke Lake Park	\$90.00 <sup>2</sup>	\$100.00 <sup>2,3</sup>
Additional Per Person, Per Night	\$6.00	\$7.00 <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Fee includes up to 20 campers, per night

<sup>2</sup> Fee includes up to 15 campers, per night

<sup>3</sup> Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, and Labor Day Weekends including Friday

5. Water Mine – daily admission, group admission and season pass fees. Staff recommends the following adjustments to Water Mine daily admission, group admission and season pass fees to accompany the facility expansion that will be completed in 2015. Limited changes were made to selected Water Mine fees in 2013 and 2010, but a comprehensive adjustment of these fees has not occurred since 2008.

Water Mine – Daily Admission and Group Rate		
	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
<u>Daily Admission Weekday</u>		
Over 48" Tall	\$13.50	\$14.85
Under 48" Tall	\$11.25	\$12.25
2 Years & Under	Free	Free
After 5 p.m.	\$ 8.25	\$ 9.00
<u>Daily Admission Weekend/Holiday</u>		
Over 48" Tall	\$14.50	\$15.95
Under 48" Tall	\$11.25	\$12.25
2 Years & Under	Free	Free
Group Rate-Per Individual	\$10.00	\$11.00

Water Mine – Season Passes

<u>Season Passes</u>	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
Single	\$ 95.00	\$105.00
Family of 2	\$168.00	\$184.00
Each Additional Person	\$ 53.00	\$ 58.00

## Picnic Shelter and Area Reservations

### Current Situation

- At the conclusion of each picnic season evaluations are conducted of use and demand data and of potential additions or deletions to the inventory of reservable picnic areas. Staff is also surveyed for suggestions and or identification of possible service enhancements. Based on these evaluations and input, staff recommends the following:
  - Fee increases ranging from \$5 to \$25 at nine facilities, with no increases at fifty-one others.
  - The addition of existing shelter facilities to the reservable inventory at Lee District Park and Mt. Eagle Park.
  - The addition of a new shelter at Riverbend Park, expected to open in July 2015.
  - The addition of new reservable open picnic areas to Clemyjontri and Lee District Parks.

### Proposed Picnic Rental Fee Adjustments:

1. Picnic rental fees. Staff proposes the following changes to reservation fees.

	----- CURRENT FEE -----		----- PROPOSED FEE -----	
	Full-Day Rental	Half-Day Rental	Full-Day Rental	Half-Day Rental
	<u>Prime/Non-Prime</u>	<u>Prime/Non-Prime</u>	<u>Prime/Non-Prime</u>	<u>Prime/Non-Prime</u>
Clemyjontri Canopy	\$115	\$85	\$125	\$95
Clemyjontri Picnic Area	n/a	n/a	\$115	\$85
Lee District Shelter	n/a	n/a	\$80	\$80
Burke Lake Shelter D (previously Small Shelter)	\$60	n/a	\$80	\$80
Riverbend Shelter	n/a	n/a	\$185/\$135	\$110/\$85
Lake Fairfax Picnic Area L	n/a	n/a	\$125/\$100	\$110/\$85
Mt. Eagle Shelter	n/a	n/a	\$85/\$60	n/a
Levelle Dupell Shelter	\$70/\$55	n/a	\$75/\$60	n/a
Annandale Shelter	\$70/\$55	n/a	\$75/\$60	n/a
Ellanor C Lawrence Shelter	\$70/\$55	n/a	\$75/\$60	n/a
Nottoway Shelter 1	\$145/\$120	\$100/\$80	\$150/\$125	\$105/\$85
Mason District Shelter	\$125/\$100	\$80/\$65	\$150/\$125	\$100/\$80
Roundtree Shelter	\$85/\$60	n/a	\$100/\$75	n/a
Dunn Loring Shelter	\$70/\$55	n/a	\$75/\$60	n/a

# Athletic Field Rental

## Current Situation

- At the conclusion of each fiscal year an evaluation is conducted on the fees charged for use of athletic fields. Usage data and fee comparisons with other jurisdictions are used to determine if fees should be adjusted.
- The synthetic turf field rental fee was established in 2005 at \$60/hour. That fee was changed in 2006 to \$90 per hour. The grass field rental fee was established in 2008 at \$40 per hour. Neither fee has been adjusted since.
- Other jurisdictions have many different options for use of fields including daily fees, per team fees or fees based on number of participants. There were only a few neighboring jurisdictions charging rental fees similar to the Park Authority's hourly structure. They include the Town of Herndon, City of Alexandria and the Fairfax County Public Schools. The proposed fee adjustments bring FCPA hourly rental fees more in line with these jurisdictions.

## Proposed Athletic Field Rental Fee Adjustments:

1. Field Rental Fees: Staff proposes the following changes to athletic field rental fees:

Athletic Field Rental, Per Hour – All Locations		
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Synthetic Turf – without lights	\$ 90	\$ 100
Grass (rectangle or diamond)	\$ 40	\$ 45

## Golf

### Current Situation

- Golf continues to demonstrate flat performance with weather having the most significant impact on operating days, rounds and overall performance. During FY 2014 golf courses were closed due to adverse weather conditions a total of 293 days representing an 11.8% reduction from the previous year. The third quarter proved to be the most impacted with a total decrease of 242 operating days – a reduction of 41.4%.
- Total rounds played were up 3.7% through the first half of the year but the year finished down 8,608 rounds (3.1%) as a result of negative performance in the second half of the year. Data from the National Golf Foundation (NGF) for rounds played in the Washington-Baltimore region from January-July 2014 reported play down 12.0% compared to the same time period the previous year. During this same period of time Park Authority play was down 11.1%.
- Revenue performance mirrored the rounds played performance with the positive 2.4% growth in revenues over the first half of the year being negatively impacted by decreases over the second half of the year. Total gross revenues for the year were down 1.3%.
- Efforts continued to grow the number of core golfers through promotional discounts on Frequent Player Passes. FY 2014 Frequent Player Pass revenue dipped 3.2% overall with weekend pass sales increasing by 1.06% while weekday passes decreased by 3.27%. Total revenues associated with the Frequent Player Pass program remained relatively strong accounting for \$1,225,207 of total revenue for all courses.
- Recent data from local market surveys indicates that once again most golf courses are holding list price fees at current levels with only a few raising them slightly. The majority of effort is being targeted at looking for the right mix of discounting to attract play to slower periods of the day. The NGF continues to report that golfers are maintaining past frequency of play by more carefully managing their cost per round, most typically by shifting play to off-peak times and less expensive courses. As recommended in the Golf Operational Review conducted by the National Golf Foundation Consulting, the golf section continues to refine various twilight and super twilight discounting strategies at our golf courses to attract additional play during our non-peak time periods.
- Given the continued economic pressures on golf's customers, this year's fee proposal includes only a minimal number of adjustments. Market survey results and course utilization data support this recommendation.

- Based on a recommendation from the 2012 NGF Consulting study, staff initiated in FY 2014 revised terminology to the Fee Schedule to bring it more in line with the industry standard. The traditional “Prime” and “Non-Prime” designation was replaced with the now more commonly recognized “In-Season” and “Off-Season” terminology. Staff also initiated a new and slightly higher “Off-Season Weekend” rate structure at both Greendale and Twin Lakes in recognition of higher demand. The “Off Season” weekday rate at Twin Lakes was also reduced in FY 2014, however, due to the timing of these adjustments the effect of these “Off Season” adjustments will not be known until the spring of 2015. Staff is not recommending any further revisions to the fee terminology or designations at this time.
- Staff is recommending a slight adjustment to the rental fees of the newly expanded and operational Oaks Room at Twin Lakes. These rental rates are consistent with other similarly sized facilities in the service area.

### Proposed Golf Fee Adjustments

1. In-Season Weekday Greens Fee. Staff is recommending the following changes. These fees were last adjusted in FY 2012. In-season weekdays are defined as follows:

Burke Lake, Jefferson, Oak Marr, Pinecrest: Mon. – Fri., mid-March – mid-December.

Greendale and Twin Lakes: Mon. – Thurs., April – October.

	In-Season Weekday Greens Fees – 9 Holes	
	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
Burke Lake	\$16	No Change
Jefferson	\$18	\$19
Oak Marr	\$17	No Change
Pinecrest	\$18	\$19
Greendale	\$21	No Change
Twin Lakes – Oaks & Lakes	\$27	No Change

2. Facility Rental Fees – Twin Lakes Oaks Room. Staff is recommending the following changes to these fees based on market surveys of comparable facilities.

	Facility Rentals – Twin Lakes Oaks Room	
	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
Parties, Receptions, Socials	\$200/hour, 3 hour minimum	\$300/hour, 4 hour minimum
Meetings	\$125/hour	\$175/hour

## Resource Management Division Room Rentals

### Current Situation

- Demand for small meeting room rentals at Resource Management Division (RMD) locations remains steady after adjusting fees last year. The \$55 price point implemented in FY 2014 at all nature center locations but Riverbend remains within renters' tolerance zone.
- The new Sully visitor center opened in September 2014 and visitors have shown a desire to rent the room. Staff recommends the small meeting room fee implemented at nature centers in FY 2014 for consistency.
- At \$75 per hour, the current Riverbend Nature Center-Private Group Rental rate is higher than the small room rental rates of other RMD locations. Rental volume at this site is lower than other RMD locations, and price appears to be a factor. Staff recommends adopting the \$55 price point implemented at other nature centers in FY 2014 for consistency and to stimulate demand.
- Overall rental volume and revenue continues to grow at Frying Pan Visitor Center. However, weekday rentals from 8:30 to 5:00 p.m. remain slow. Staff recommends reducing non-prime rental fees to capture some demand during off-peak times.
- The accompanying security deposit for room rentals at RMD locations ranges from \$50 to \$100 depending on conditions. Staff feels the \$50 security deposit amount is too low as potential damages to facilities exceed that amount.

**Proposed RMD Room Rental Fee Adjustments:**

1. RMD room rental fees. Staff recommends the following adjustments to room rental fees.

Resource Management Division  
Small Meeting Room Rental, Per Hour

	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
<u>Nature Center Room Rental</u> – EC Lawrence, Hidden Oaks, Hidden Pond, Huntley Meadows		
Classroom Rental	\$55	No Change
Security Deposit	\$50	\$75
 <u>Sully Visitor Center</u>		
Classroom Rental	----	\$55
Security Deposit	----	\$75
 <u>Riverbend Nature Center</u>		
Private Group Rental	\$75	\$55
Security Deposit	\$100	\$75
 <u>Green Spring Gardens</u>		
Library Rental	\$55	No Change
Library Security Deposit	\$50	\$75
Classroom Rental	\$55	No Change
Classroom Security Deposit	\$50	\$75
 <u>Visitor Center at Frying Pan Farm</u>		
Auditorium Rental:	<u>Prime / Non-Prime</u>	<u>Prime / Non-Prime</u>
4 Hour Rental	\$380 / \$285	No Change / \$190
Extra Hour	\$95 / \$ 70	No Change / \$ 50

## Group Admission: Nature Centers, Historic Sites, Green Spring Gardens

### Current Situation

- High demand for programming space in smaller facilities is causing crowding and impacts the visit experience of scheduled guests when large, unexpected groups arrive for unscheduled visits. Unscheduled private groups are conducting business through camps, field trips and other programs without compensating the FCPA, and their presence often impacts the visit experience of scheduled guests.
- Staff recommends adopting a group admission fee to mitigate the impact of large, unanticipated groups, similar to that already in use at Martin Luther King Park and Our Special Harbor Sprayground.
- Huntley Meadows and Green Spring Gardens currently charge a program fee for groups. This option requires groups to register prior to or on the day of their visit, enabling staff to better accommodate them.

### Proposed Group Admission Fee Adjustments:

1. For Profit/Commerical Group admission fee. Staff proposes the following group use fee at the locations shown.

For Profit/Commercial Group Admission, Per Person  
E.C Lawrence Park, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, Hidden Pond Nature Center,  
Huntley Meadows Park, Riverbend Park, Colvin Run Mill Park, Sully Historic Site and  
Green Spring Gardens Park

	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Group Admission, Per Person <sup>1</sup>	----	\$3
<sup>1</sup> Groups of 12 or more		

## Riverbend Boat Rentals

### Current Situation

- Demand for boat rental at Riverbend Park is strong. Boat rental revenue has doubled since FY 2012, with the largest spike occurring in FY 2013. Demand is greatest for half-day rentals.
- Fees are currently higher for canoe rental than they are for rowboat rental. Moving to a consistent set of boating fees at Riverbend would both simplify the fee structure and provide a greater variety of use options at the same price point, thereby encouraging greater use.
- Evidence suggests full-day canoe rental may be slightly overpriced, providing an impediment to increased use. Lowering the price for all-day canoe rental is recommended to stimulate demand.

### Proposed Riverbend Boat Rental Fee Adjustments:

1. Riverbend boat rental fees. Staff proposed the following adjustments to rowboat and canoe rental fees. These fees were last adjusted in FY 2012.

	Riverbend Rowboat Rental Fees	
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Half-day rental	\$15	\$18
Full-day rental	\$25	\$30

	Riverbend Canoe Rental Fees	
	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Half-day rental	\$18	No Change
Full-day rental	\$36	\$30

## Frying Pan Farm Park Equestrian Use

### Current Situation

- Frying Pan Farm Park, Turner Farm and Laurel Hill now all have equestrian facilities open to the public. Turner Farm and Laurel Hill have opened outdoor riding rings to the public, while Frying Pan still has many equestrian facilities for use.
- All three sites can be used for individual use or special events, such as shows or clinics. Equestrian use at Frying Pan has been declining. One reason is that users are choosing to use Turner or Laurel Hill for free to avoid the charge at Frying Pan.
- The current fee structure for purchasing riding passes at Frying Pan is either a daily fee or an annual fee which runs from May to May. Many riders struggle to justify the purchase of an annual pass because as the weather changes they may not need to use Frying Pan's riding facilities. A lot of our riders come to use the indoor during the winter/spring months, but have a place to ride once the weather is not as cold or wet. With an option to buy a pass in a smaller portion the act of pro-rating the annual riding pass should discontinue.
- Stall rentals remain flat and current pricing does not reflect any incentive to rent multiple days. Several of the organizers from multi-day shows have complained that the stall fee gets to be too expensive after several days. By offering a discount for multiple day usage, we can ease the burden on the shows and encourage other organizations to host their events here.

### Proposed Resource Management Division Fee Adjustments:

1. Equestrian Fees. Staff recommends the following adjustments to Frying Pan Farm Park equestrian fees. These fees were adjusted in FY 2011.

Equestrian Use and Facility Fees  
 Frying Pan Farm Park

	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Individual Rider Annual Pass	\$ 200	No Change
Individual Rider Quarterly Pass	-----	\$ 55
Stall Rental, per day	\$ 20	No Change
First Day Stall Rental	-----	\$20
Second Day Stall Rental	-----	\$20
Third Day Stall Rental	-----	\$18
Fourth Day Stall Rental	-----	\$17
Fifth and more Stall Rental	-----	\$15

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**Meeting Summary – Public Comment Meeting on Proposed Fee Changes for FY 2015  
January 21, 2015**

7 p.m. INTRODUCTIONS

Judy Pedersen, Public Information Officer

7:05 p.m. WELCOME

**Park Authority Board representatives present:** Ken Quincy, Kala Leggett Quintana, Hal Strickland, Michael W. Thompson, Frank Vajda, Tony Vellucci, Edward R. Batten

**PARK Authority staff present:** Kirk Kincannon, Cindy Walsh, Peter Furey, Barbara Nugent

7:10 p.m. OVERVIEW - FEE PROCESS

**Nick Duray**, Marketing Services Manager

7:15 p.m. SPEAKERS

***From Speakers List:***

**Pam Lepold** (Braddock District): Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks. Request to amend fee.

**Marian Lazano** (Braddock District): Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**Jennifer Morris** (Braddock District): Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**Martha Fitzsimons**: Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**Korena Nilesley**: Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Janet Basel**: (Braddock District) Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**Toby Readway**: (Sully District) Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**Bill Readway**: (Sully District) Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**Albert Riveras** (Mason District) Concerned about Spring Hill RECenter men's locker room slippery floor, entrance less space, less locker space, requests answers who pays fees, Request hours to be extended, Fees should be competitive.

**Jennifer Nicholson** (Braddock District): Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Dusty Marony** (Braddock): Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Heather Reagan**: Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Melissa Denison** (Braddock District): Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Andrew Killian** (Mount Vernon District & Lee District): representing Alexandria Masters Swimming, opposes proposed adjustments to swimming pool base rates. Request to reduce bulk rate or reduce base rate & increase discount rate.

**Jessica Wallick**: Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Thomas Vandike** (Hunter Mill District): Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Sara Cook** (Braddock District): Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**Thad Nicholson** (Braddock District): Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**Vatia Polsavan/VP**: Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography

sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Teresa Osborn:** Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**Wayne Hall:** Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**John Miscall (Braddock District):** Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Kevin Ellwell:** Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Macey (Didn't say last name):** Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Richa Isem:** Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Erin Mosely (Providence District):** Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Mark Schnider:** Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks, and associated permit requirements.

**Jay David (Sully):** Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

**Hanalei Lanane:** Opposed to existing commercial photography fees applied to family photography sessions in parks.

## Public Comments on Proposed Fee Adjustments for FY 2015

**From:** Multitasking Mom  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 08, 2015 7:19 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Permit Fees for Photographers in FC parks...

Hi,

I am a professional photographer of 5 years, and I actually support the idea of fees for photographers. Fees will help cover the costs when photographers and their clients don't respect park properties (although I bet most of the photographers damaging properties are not legal businesses collecting/paying sales taxes or declaring revenue. Legitimate business owners would be more likely to respect the park properties.) Plus, fees will reduce the number of photographers who are in the parks hindering regular residents from enjoying the grounds.

However, I do find your fees to be exorbitant, even for legitimate business owners. Photography is a highly competitive industry, and the current rate of \$100 per photographer for 2 hours is well beyond what most photographers can pay.

Another park, Meadowlark Gardens, has a very fair system:

1. Photographers must register with the gardens and provide proof of insurance.
2. Photographers must reserve their time in advance.
3. Photographers are charged \$25 for a 2 hour system.
4. Only 4 photographers are allowed to be shooting in the park at any given time

That is a possible model for Fairfax County parks.

Or, Fairfax County could issue photographers a photo permit once they

1. Provide a business license
2. Provide proof of insurance

And then the tag would be good for a year. There could be two tiers of tags -- one could be \$250 and provide access to parks for a year. Another permit could be \$50, and then the photographer would be required to pay each park whatever their fee is to use the property. The fees should range from \$20-\$50, depending on the park.

But I do think it is a great idea to make sure photographers using the grounds are properly insured and running a legitimate business.

Finally, the higher the park usage fee, the more the park should be enforcing fees and checking up on photographers on the ground. There is nothing more annoying to a legitimate photographer who has paid to be on the grounds to see other scoff-law photographers who have NOT paid to be shooting on the grounds.

Thank you for considering my views.

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Dear Park Authority Board,

I have put together a document that addresses how Fairfax County Park Policy regarding family photography in our free public parks is inconsistent with the laws governing the Park Authority. I ask that you review the following information and formally request a Board Action be taken to change the fee structure regarding family photography in Fairfax County's free local parks.

Fairfax County is the only County in NOVA that charges a fee for Family Photography and Requires a Permit

Currently, Fairfax County is the only county in all of NOVA that charges a fee for family photography in our free public parks. The fee is \$100 and also requires a permit. This fee allows two hours of photography in a free public park and the permit takes up to 5 days to acquire. This fee is exorbitant and the permit process differs within the park system making it confusing as well as time consuming to acquire.

Here are links to all the other county websites. There is no fee or permit requirement for family photography.

Alexandria: <http://alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=12342>

Arlington: <http://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showdocument?id=17609>

Culpeper: <http://www.visitculpeperva.com/search.cfm?cx=002045182467070324981%3Aalz3ysj2qfm&cof=FORID%3A11&ie=UTF-8&q=photography+permit&sa=Search>

Fairfax: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/press/photography-permit.htm>

Fauquier: [http://www.fauquiercounty.gov/government/departments/parksrec/index.cfm?action=pr\\_forms](http://www.fauquiercounty.gov/government/departments/parksrec/index.cfm?action=pr_forms)

Loudoun: <http://www.loudoun.gov/Search/Results?searchPhrase=photography%20permit&page=1&perPage=10>

Orange: <http://orangecountyva.gov/Search/Results?searchPhrase=photography%20permit&page=1&perPage=10>

Prince William: <http://www.pwcgov.org/searchcenter/pages/results.aspx?k=photography%20permit>

Spotsylvania: <http://www.spotsylvania.va.us/content/95/10818.aspx?cx=008339891885646369985:qfooysehn0&cof=FORID%3A11&ie=UTF-8&q=photography+permit&sa=Search>

Not requiring fees or permits for family photography is in line with the current fee structure Fairfax County has adopted regarding For Profit groups who visit our local parks.

For Profit groups are allowed to bring unlimited numbers of people to county parks and are allowed access to park grounds and resources without having to pay a fee or apply for a permit. Even the 2015 Park Authority Fee Proposal allows For Profit groups of 11 people or less free access to the county's parks and amenities. In the 2015 Fee Proposal, For Profit groups of 12 or more people would only be charged \$3 per person and receive unlimited time and access to our parks.

Documentation regarding the 2015 Park Authority Fee Proposal regarding For Profit Groups.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/archives/2015-fee-proposal.pdf> (Page 22)

Why is a family being charged \$100 for two hours when For profit groups of up to 11 people can visit the same park and are allowed unlimited time and access to park grounds and amenities for free?

Allowing families to take pictures in free public parks in Fairfax County is keeping with the policies of all the other counties in NOVA. Fairfax County is the only county in all of NOVA that charges fees to families for portrait photography.

Charging families a fee for portrait photography in our free public parks is also not keeping with the regulations of The Park Policy Manual.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parkpolicy/>

Policy 305 User Fees states: That fees are to be approved by the Park Authority Board annually with input from the citizenry.

Fees are established and maintained at levels which:

1. Can reasonably be expected to collectively produce revenue sufficient to recover all costs of the Park Revenue Fund and all other financial obligations as set forth in the financial management principles of the Park Authority's Financial Management Plan;

Families taking pictures in a public park have no additional cost impact for parks.

2. Are competitive with comparable facilities and services in the area;

\$100 fees and permit requirements is not consistent or competitive with any other free public park in NOVA.

3. Reflect relevant market, economic and financial considerations;

A \$100 fee and permit requirement for family photography does not reflect relevant market, economic and financial considerations. Photographers cannot afford to pay the photography fee because it would be on average 37.59% of their sitting fee. As 1 person small businesses, we also do not have the man power to keep up with the permit process. Inevitably, the cost and hassle of permits will be passed on to families. In addition to being excessive and time consuming, the \$100 photography fee may also limit lower income families from being able to use the parks as it will bring the average sitting fee to \$366. (The average sitting fee for a family portrait is \$266. A Google search of local photographers revealed that of the 20 photographers sampled, the average sitting fee is \$266.)

4. Attempt to balance the availability of facilities and services with their affordability;

As shown above, the fees charged to For Profit groups differ greatly from the fees and permit requirements imposed upon families. For Profit groups are allowed to use park facilities and grounds for free and are not required to apply for a permit. Even the 2015 Fee Proposal regarding For Profit groups allows groups of 11 people or less free access to park grounds and amenities and does not require a permit. The average family size is 3.14 people (US 2010 Census: <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-14.pdf>) and they are expected to pay \$100 for 2 hours of access to park grounds and also apply for a permit that takes up to 5 days to acquire. The cost of the \$100 fee would also make the availability of the parks out of reach for low income families. This is not a fair balance of services and affordability.

5. Reflect the principle that, where feasible, comparatively small and regular fee increases are preferred over less frequent, larger increases;
6. Allow the Park Authority, where feasible, to build reserves to fund capitalized repair and maintenance of Park Revenue Fund facilities.

300.7 - 300.8

I am specifically stating that parks that are solely funded by our personal and business taxes should not be charging families to have a picture taken in our public parks.

A family's personal taxes and my business and personal taxes fund Fairfax County public parks. I am already paying 6% of every photography session, whether in a park, my studio or another state to fund our public parks. If a family wants to take a picture in a public park they should not be charged a fee of \$100 and required to fill out a permit application to do it.

Judy Pedersen, who is Park staff, put together a list of parks she felt were comparable to parks in Fairfax County. On her list there was only one free public park, Brookside Gardens, which is run by Montgomery County. Brookside's policy regarding family photography is to allow free access for families of up to 10 people to take pictures in the park. Below is a link to their policies.

<http://www.montgomeryparks.org/brookside/documents/photopermitapplication2011.pdf>

I request that a Board Action be taken to change the fee structure regarding family photography in Fairfax County's free local parks.

I am asking the Board to change the fee structure to allow families to take pictures in Fairfax County's free public parks without requiring a permit or charging a fee. These parks are funded solely by tax dollars

generated from families and small businesses. The current fee structure in Fairfax County regarding family portraiture in our free public parks is not consistent all of the other counties in NOVA. Fairfax County's Park Policy Manual shows that charging families a \$100 fee and requiring a permit is not in line with access allowed to other groups within the fee structure.

I am not asking for a policy change at Meadowlark Gardens or any other privately run parks. I am also not asking for a change in fee structure regarding weddings or wedding portraits at local parks. I feel a permit requirement and \$100 fee is acceptable for wedding photography. Budgets for weddings are generally much larger and there are typically more people involved in the portrait session. I also feel it is acceptable to charge a fee of \$100 and require a permit for commercial photography in public parks as they again typically have larger budgets and may require set up in an area of the park.

I thank you for your time and consideration regarding this important matter. I invite the board to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. I am happy to personally meet with you to discuss this matter and am also available to answer any questions by phone or email. I know we all have busy lives but this matter affects many families and small businesses in the area. I ask that you consider adopting this fee structure change regarding fees and permit requirements for families who want to take photos in their free public parks.

Thank you,  
Pamela Lepold

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**From:** Pamela Lepold  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 17, 2015 11:11 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

Dear Park Authority Board,

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. Fairfax County is the only NOVA County that charges photography fees. This fee serves as an additional tax, and it's tailored to affect people who can afford to hire a photographer to take photos. It's discriminatory in its design and its effect. That in itself is problematic. The secondary issue is that once a fee is charged, is it even reasonable? I'd argue that \$100 is excessive for photos of families. The harm that a family would do coming to a county park is minimal (grass is hardly ruffled; it's likely ruffled no more than if others walk through it). Secondly, one can argue there are positive externalities to families taking photos in a park. It likely disincentivizes people from doing inappropriate or illegal things, like using drugs in public, using obscene language, or engaging in any type of violence. When people see a family, there's a certain amount of decorum they want to display.

The photography fee is effectively a very discriminatory tax, in that it's aimed at a select population of people (mostly those who can afford to hire photographers or have good photo equipment to take outdoor photos) and affects what should be a public space, for which these people have already paid (a double tax). Who's to say photographers or family having their pictures taken do any more harm to the aesthetics of the Fairfax County parks as people who use the park land for other purposes. As stated above, one can reasonably argue the presence of families having their photos taken in the parks makes the parks safer and less of a draw for criminal or other unfavorable activity.

Feedback from FCPA PIO regarding other jurisdictions charging fees in 2010 and 2014 pit private vs public parks – not apples to apples comparison. The one public park that was sampled was Brookside Gardens and it does not charge a fee for family photography. Current family photography fees appear inconsistent with Park Policy regarding For Profit Groups. There is no consistency with fees being charged to different vendors. Some for profit vendors are allowed free park access while others pay \$50. Photographers seem to have the highest fee at \$100 and also have the most limited time at only 2 hours

of access before they have to pay an additional \$50 per hour. The current fee structure places a disproportionate financial burden on photographers and the families who hire them.

Thank you,

Pamela Lepold  
5416 Southport Lane  
Fairfax, VA 22032

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**From:** Terry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 13, 2015 9:29 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Regarding required fees for photographing in Fairfax Co Parks

To:  
The Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Thank you for your consideration in this.,

Terry Wingfield  
6475 Overlook Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22312

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**From:** Elaine Simonsen  
**Sent:** Friday, January 09, 2015 12:53 PM  
**To:** PAMELA LEPOLD  
**Cc:** Stone, Kiel A; Smith, Lindsey W.; Anthony Vellucci; Parkmail; Kat Forder; Marian Lozano; Martha Fitzsimon; Jenifer Morris Photography; Amy Czelusniak Studios; jon miskell  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Board Action

Thank you, Pamela for taking the time to research and put this together. I agree with your statements. There should be no fee required for portrait photography at our local Fairfax County parks.

Thank you,  
Elaine  
Elaine Simonsen Photography, LLC

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-----Original Message-----

From: Rosemary Titrington Simonsen  
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2015 9:07 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Park Photography Fee

Dear Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

This letter is in opposition to the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

It is difficult to imagine why it is necessary to charge photographers to schedule time for such activities. If photographers are using park locations or facilities that require scheduling they should be responsible for the same regulations and fees as other Fairfax County residents.

The products of these photographers provide good advertising for Fairfax County, thereby contributing to tourism.

Sincerely,

Rosemary T. Simonsen  
3285 Lothian Road  
Fairfax, VA 22031-4854

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**From:** Kevin D. Elwell  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 14, 2015 8:43 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** Pamela Lepold  
**Subject:** Fees for Photographers in Parks

Dear Sirs,

I used to be a full-time photographer and had my own business. Unfortunately between the competitive landscape for the business, my inability to find capitalization (the average photographer must have about \$20,000 in equipment between cameras, lenses, lighting and computers), and the expensive cost of living in NoVA I was forced to find other means of support. As my family grew, this became even more untenable.

My passion has been photography for a long time and now I pursue it on the side as a vocation where I can occasionally make money and also to volunteer my time in support of worthy causes. One of the causes I support is [HeartsApart.org](http://HeartsApart.org). I take pictures of deploying Soldiers, Airmen, and Marines so that they have something to carry with them when they are apart from their loved ones and families. If these soldiers are killed in the line of duty, these images will be the last pictures they'll have of each other, so it's an honor for me to participate in such a worthy endeavor.

I've recently learned that it is the intention of the County to enforce a law associated with charging photographers permit fees for using the parks. I strongly object to this as it creates even more of a hurdle for individuals such as myself to ever become viable as a full-time photographer, which is of course a dream for me to return to my passion.

We already pay for the parks in taxes. Other businesses that use the parks in their business do not have to pay anything. There's simply no reason to charge a low-margin business fees when other counties and cities do not. If I have to pay a fee for a volunteer session I'll have to find other venues or other means of getting these families photographs.

I ask you to reconsider such an oppressive move on the part of small business owners in Fairfax County.

Sincerely,

Kevin D. Elwell

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**From:** Wendy Sewell  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 14, 2015 6:01 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:** Photography fee

Dear Sir;

I am writing to appose the photography fee that Fairfax County is thinking about charging for family photos taken in our area parks. I feel this is totally unjust. Some of our tax dollars go towards area parks so we, the general public are already paying for the parks. It is unfair to charge us again to take our family photos in the parks that we have already contributed too. Please stop this action which would affect our families.

Wendy Sewell  
Ashburn, VA

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**From:** Victoria Carroll  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 14, 2015 5:56 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:**

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. It seems unnecessary and quite steep. If there is no charge to use the park, other than to rent the pavilions which is understandable because of the resources needed for clean-up, then why should there be a charge for taking pictures.

Thank you,  
Victoria Carroll

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**From:** Tracy James  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 12:09 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Photo fee in public parks

Don't we pay enough taxes to use "our" parks for free! I am NOT in support of the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our parks. Those are public spaces that are paid for by our tax dollars and we should be able to utilize these spaces to come together to support our local photographers.

Tracy James  
5342 Black Oak Drive  
Fairfax, Va 22032

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**From:** Dorie Howell ~ Photographer  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 10:35 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Fairfax County Park Authority Board re: photography permits

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board.

Please uphold the Photography permit fees in Fairfax County Parks. These fees ensure that the parks can operate and keep the properties nice for those who wish to conduct commercial transactions on the property.

The parks are their for the public to enjoy not for photographers to use as their private studios.

The biggest gripe that photographers have, besides the fee itself, is that they are not enforced so those of us who would buy a permit for our business if needed, know that many others don't and are operating under the radar.

I did not have to purchase a permit last year for my business but if and when I conduct business in a Fairfax County Park I would have no problem paying my fair share.

No one should expect to be able to come onto park property and conduct business without paying some sort of usage fee.

Thank you!

Dorie Howell

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**From:** Rebecca Parsons  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 10:25 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** Pamela Lepold  
**Subject:**

Please lift this radical fee of \$100 to hold photography shoots in your public park. This land is funded by all of us who wish to use the land in a non destructive and peaceful way.

Rebecca

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**From:** Elian Zarour  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 10:22 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Fee for Family Photos

Hello,

I hope all is well with you. My name is Elian Zarour and I have been reading on this new fine you would like to pass: \$100 for families to take photos at parks.

I have been informed there is a meeting this Wednesday, but due to class I will be absent from that. However, I did want to state how I do not find this fine fair. I work for an Outdoor Experiential Program and talk to a lot of the park staff and even some of them do not agree with this fine. We are paying taxes

on parks and many even include a fee to enter onto the property so to add an additional fee for taking pictures, I think will have an adverse effect.

Frankly, why are the parks now feeling the need to do this?

Thank you for your time,  
Elian

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**From:** Anne Stenger  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 14, 2015 4:57 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** Pamela Lepold  
**Subject:** Fairfax County Park photography permit and fee requirements

To: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board.

I am writing to alert you to the fact that I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks and request that you overturn any initiative to enact such requirements.

I am unable to attend the hearing on this matter on January 21st, however, I expect my vote be taken in consideration by proxy.

Regards,  
Anne Stenger  
12150 Penderview Terr #1307  
Fairfax, VA 22033

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**From:** wayne  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 14, 2015 3:48 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamelalepold@verizon.net](mailto:pamelalepold@verizon.net)  
**Subject:** Photography Fee and Permit Requirement for Family Photography?

It is with utmost disdain that I vehemently object to the proposal to levy a photography fee and require a permit for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks throughout Fairfax County. This superfluous fee will only hurt small businesses in a time when many struggling firms are trying rebound. Please make the right choice and ensure that this proposal is not enacted.

Sincerely,

Thomas Wayne Brazell  
1840 Michael Faraday Drive  
Reston, VA 20190

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**From:** Ivan Luka  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 2:32 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** The Fairfax County Park Authority

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed enforcement and photography fee and permit requirement for family photography. As far as I am concerned, my taxpaying dollars already pay for the parks and this should be inclusive so why should someone be charged for taking more formal photos at the parks? Will

I start getting charged down the road if I want to go and get pictures taken with a loved one or take a picture of my dog or any of the wildlife at the park? This is silly and makes no sense and it's time for the government to start making sensible decisions. Nobody should be getting charged for things their taxpaying dollars already cover. Seems criminal to me.

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Ivan Luka  
Sales Manager/Realtor  
*Bethesda Realty Group*

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**From:** Jennifer Gulley  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 2:31 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:** Oppose photography fee for Fairfax public parks

Dear Fairfax County Park Authority,

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. The current fee structure places a disproportionate financial burden on photographers and middle to low income families.

*Jennifer Gulley*

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**From:** Michael Linegang  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 12:54 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** Pamela Lepold; [bamcg124@aol.com](mailto:bamcg124@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Comment on Proposed Fees

To the Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

I reviewed the proposed fee structure and noted no change to the photography fee and permit requirements for professional photography. I oppose the current photography fee and permit requirement as described on the Fairfax County website:  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/press/photography-permit.htm>

I see no reason why Fairfax County residents should be charged a fee to use their taxpayer funded public parks merely because they are doing so in the presence of a professional photographer. I encourage the Board to eliminate this fee and requirement.

Sincerely,  
Michael Linegang  
2337 Riviera Drive  
Vienna, VA 22181

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**From:** Len Spoden  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 4:47 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:** The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

I do a lot of family photography for middle to lower income families, and this fee is a real deterrent for them to use the public parks that we all have paid for via our tax dollars.

Also, the administrative burden and hassle for the photographer makes using the parks very inconvenient. Appointments get cancelled and rescheduled all the time, having to worry about changing my reservation with the county and possibly the need to get a refund if the appointment is cancelled is a lot of overhead.

Given the small amount of revenue that the county receives from these fees vs. the burden and taxpayer frustration felt by your constituents, I ask that you would please consider removing the fees for family photography.

Len Spoden  
Len Spoden Photography  
1804 Brookstone Ct.  
Vienna, VA 22182

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**From:** Ralph Cocco  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 4:29 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:** Photography Fee in Public Parks

Attention Fairfax County Park Authority Board.

I am very opposed to charging a \$100.00 fee and require a permit for portrait photographers to take photos in free public parks. I for one would like to hear the justification for that.

**Ralph J. Cocco**  
**P N P Creations**  
**903 West Maple Ave.,**  
**Sterling, VA 20164**

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From: Jennifer Catron  
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2015 4:03 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Photography in the parks

My name is Jennifer Catron and I am writing in regards to a change in policy that will charge people with cameras when they are taking photographs of other people in the parks system. Our parks in the US are some of the greatest resources we have to cherish and use and we pay taxes to maintain them, police them and use them. To discriminate against photographers who use the land without marring it or damaging the area is absolutely unfair and doesn't ring true with the original way that these parks were supposed to be used. What's next? When the laws were made to protect these areas it was made with the intent that the citizens of this country would get to use, admire, and photograph them in all their splendor. Cameras are owned and carried by virtually every citizen in this country and most likely every citizen that walks onto the park lands. Why discriminate against someone that actually knows how to use a camera vs. someone with a cell phone camera?

Jennifer Catron

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**From:** Photography by Sara Riddle  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 2:41 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:** The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

To whom it may concern,

I was shocked and extremely disappointed when I learned that Fairfax County is trying to institute a \$100 permit fee to shoot in a public park. Not only is that amount ridiculous (I'd rather pay that amount to shoot at a National Park!), I strongly oppose the photography and permit fee requirement for portrait photography in taxpayer funded public parks.

Why on earth would one of the wealthiest counties in the US need to institute a fee for shooting in a public park - it's very simple, the answer is greed.

Did you know that Professional Photography is one of the hardest professions with more than 85% of new businesses failing within the first five years? Did you know that Professional Photographers have one of the highest overheads of any profession? If you're looking to make more money for your parks I suggest looking elsewhere and stop going after hard working, local small business owners who are *already* contributing to the public park system by paying our taxes.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Sara Riddle

Photography by Sara Riddle  
835 Ferndale Ter. NE  
Leesburg, VA 20176

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**From:** Photography by Sara Riddle  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 5:46 PM  
**To:** Pedersen, Judith  
**Cc:** Duray, Nick; Pamela Lepold  
**Subject:** Re: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

Judy,

I appreciate your response but I couldn't disagree with you more.

These are public parks on public land and you're trying to treat them like National Parks which is downright ridiculous. I could understand charging a fee if photo sessions were causing extreme wear and tear on public parks or for large events but that is far from the case here and everyone knows it.

It doesn't matter if there's an annual or individual permit - that doesn't change a thing, it's still wrong.

You do realize that photographers *already* support public parks through personal AND business taxes, yes? Fairfax county is in the top 3 most wealthy counties in the entire country - why do you need even more money for public parks? I'd like to see an audit for each dollar in your annual fiscal budget for each park to see where the money is going because something obviously isn't right here. This is nothing but pure greed.

Sara Riddle

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**From:** Dorie Howell ~ Photographer  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 10:35 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Fairfax County Park Authority Board re: photography permits

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board.

Please uphold the Photography permit fees in Fairfax County Parks. These fees ensure that the parks can operate and keep the properties nice for those who wish to conduct commercial transactions on the property.

The parks are their for the public to enjoy not for photographers to use as their private studios.

The biggest gripe that photographers have, besides the fee itself, is that they are not enforced so those of us who would buy a permit for our business if needed, know that many others don't and are operating under the radar.

I did not have to purchase a permit last year for my business but if and when I conduct business in a Fairfax County Park I would have no problem paying my fair share.

No one should expect to be able to come onto park property and conduct business without paying some sort of usage fee.

Thank you!

Dorie Howell

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**From:** Dorie Howell ~ Photographer  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 11:06 PM  
**To:** Pedersen, Judith  
**Cc:** Duray, Nick  
**Subject:** RE: Fairfax County Park Authority Board re: photography permits Howell IN FAVOR OF FEE

Judy,

You are welcome. There is lots of discussion about this in the photography world these days. What seems to be the premise is that many people really do not see the difference between tax dollars paying for a park for a Sunday Bar-B-que and tax dollars paying for upkeep on an outside studio for a business. There is a real disconnect in understanding on this issue.

Most of the well established photographers understand the difference but many of the newer ones (who aren't paying the fees anyway) don't.

Also, this information is being distributed all over the area (photographers in PA and MD think they should have a say in this) and people are being encourage to write in, even if they are not Fairfax County residents. As a tax paying resident, I don't think that this is an issue that they should have a significant say in. If they want to conduct business in our parks and aren't even contributing on a personal tax basis, then it seems to me (and many others that I have spoke with) that a permit is completely reasonable.

I can be reached at 703.766.8399 if needed and for the record I am a Fairfax County resident and have been for over 22 years.

Thank you!  
Dorie Howell  
10732 Hunters Place  
Vienna, VA 22181

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**From:** Geary, Mary K.  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2015 8:32 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Fees for using the county parks

I oppose the fees you have placed on photographers for using the county parks. NOT all photographers are lucrative and not all of their clients are either. This may force the photographers to pass on the fee to their clients. The county parks are public places which should not have fees to use unless you are from another county.

Thank you,

Mary K. Geary  
5433 Lighthouse Lane  
Burke, VA 22015

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**From:** Marian Lozano  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2015 12:32 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** PAMELA LEPOLD  
**Subject:** Photography Fees

Dear Park Authority,

I'm writing to express my concern over the astronomical fee which is being charged to photographers to take photos in local public parks, as well as the unbelievable amount of work this permit is going to create for photographers and for county staff. I specialize in family and newborn photography and my family photo session fee is \$150. Now I am being asked to hand over \$100 every time I want to take photos anywhere in the county that I live in, and that I pay both residential and business taxes in? This is absurd. This fee is not applied to any other small business in local parks. Dog walkers, nannies, fitness trainers, painters, etc. are left alone. Yet photographers are being singled out.

This fee was apparently decided upon out-of-the-blue and without any dialogue with local photographers in advance. We should have been made aware that such a permit was being considered since we are so directly affected by it, and also so we could have had the chance to explain what this would do to our business. I was caught off-guard by a Green Spring Garden staff member one morning last year in front of my clients and told I wasn't to come back without a permit. This was after years of shooting there, during which time I was often the ONLY person in the park aside from my clients. I often shoot early in the morning or late in the day, as do most other photographers, b/c that is when the light is best. It's also when most regular park visitors are not there. When there are other visitors there, we are respectful and stay out of their way. Unfortunately, the general attitude coming from staff there is that photographers are a nuisance. I can't help but feel that this permit was put in place b/c certain staff members just want to control every aspect of that park.

Well I purchased the \$500 "discounted" permit last year to save myself from paying \$100 every session and so that I would be left alone while shooting. I was SHOCKED at the amount of red tape I had to go through to actually use it. I sometimes shoot as many as 6 sessions a week, not necessarily at Green Spring, but in other local parks as well. I was told to contact Diana Fuentes with the park authority before EVERY session to get permission to use my permit. To make things more complicated, when I'd want to do a session at Green Spring Gardens or E.C. Lawrence park she would have to contact them directly and get their permission for me to be there (even though I have a permit), and then reply back to me to let me know I was approved. Then, in the case of Green Spring Gardens, I would also have to go to the visitors center, find a staff person and let them know I had arrived before my session could begin. In most cases, I was there before the visitors center was open (though the grounds were) so there was nobody to report to, and on the rare occasion that they were open the staff person would have no idea what I was

talking about. These hoops that we are being forced to jump through make no sense and were not thought through at all.

I am positive that I am one of the few photographers who actually paid for this ridiculous permit, but if EVERY photographer is forced to purchase it and go through this bureaucracy every time they want to use a public park, Fairfax County will literally have to hire tons of staff just to deal with us or we will cripple the park authority with our e-mails and phone calls asking permission to use our permits. And all this just so we can take a photos of a resident Fairfax County family in their local park???

I think the Park Authority needs to strongly reconsider the burden that this permit puts on the small photography businesses who operate in Fairfax County. In most cases we are "one man band" operations who can neither afford this fee, nor handle all the red tape we have to go through to use the permit. This permit is misguided and needs to be reconsidered.

Thank you,  
Marian Lozano

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**From:** Fluttering Shutter  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 10:32 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Photographer Fees

Hello-

I am a photographer and I am writing to you about the fees imposed by the parks to be allowed to use the property. This places a large burden on local photographers. We must pass that fee along to our clients, therefore decreasing our profit. Asking for \$100 for two hours is asking for a VERY large percentage of our session fees.

Increasing fees also makes it harder to showcase the beautiful parks that are in Fairfax County. There is a reason that the parks are popular to photographers: they're beautifully maintained and make for fantastic photographs of your residents and taxpayers. People ask where photographs are taken, which can increase the use of the park.

There are various other issues with this type of fee.

- Asking photographers to pay \$500 per year and then telling them to fill out and submit the form for EACH session is an unfair burden. If someone pays that (very large) amount of money to be able to use the parks for a year, why would you also put that kind of burden on them? Professional photographers and NOT going to want to crash someone else's event. They want to be able to highlight their client in the best way possible.
- There is also NO consistent enforcement, which makes it an unfair process to everyone. Some photographers have even reported being told to pay in cash by parks staff. That doesn't sound very legitimate, does it?
- There was apparently ONE person asked about the fees? Not a public discussion and inquiry.
- Are other small businesses being required to comply with the same standards? If a private sports coach uses a Fairfax ball field, are they required to pay the same amount of money? Even if they are actually more likely to do damage to the property? Why is it that other small business' require \$50 or 15% of revenue (whichever is greater), while photographers have to pay so much more than that?

I support you having a fee for small businesses to use your property. You need to maintain it and upgrade it, and we benefit from that. However, I also think that there needs to be more input sought from the people that it is directly effecting and needs to be fair to ALL small business owners. Thank you for taking the time to read this e-mail.

Justine Smith  
Fluttering Shutter Photography

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**From:** Gordon Hay  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 7:37 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:** Photography and Permit Fee

I am writing to you as a resident of Fairfax County, a member of the Northern Virginia Photographic Society and an avid amateur photographer to ask you to please stop charging people who want to photograph people (individuals, families) in our publicly funded county parks and to remove the requirement for a county permit to photograph people. I always supports the bonds that you ask our residents to support come election time as your parks are the best; but if you don't change this ridiculous requirement you will lose my vote for all future bond requests. My intention in making that statement is not to be intimidating as I know you can't be intimidated and that is not my intention. It is merely to let you know how strongly I feel about this issue.

I will be out of State for your meeting so will not be able to attend. Thanks you for your consideration.  
Gordon Hay  
Falls Church Virginia

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**From:** Betsey Darley  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 7:03 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:** Fairfax county park authority

I wanted to write to oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

I think it's silly to charge such a high fee for small business owners when we as Fairfax taxpayers already pay fees for public parks.

Betsey Darley  
4727 carterwood drive, Fairfax, va 22032

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**From:** Lisa Julia Hill-Sutton  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 6:49 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** [Marketing Mail] Opposition to permit requirement for photographers

Greetings to The Fairfax County Park Authority Board.

My name is Lisa Hill-Sutton, owner of Lisa Julia Photography, and I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. The fee and permit requirements present an unfair and considerable burden on the many photographers who own a small business and live and work in Fairfax County. While I do not live or work in Fairfax, I wish to show my support to all my fellow professional colleagues who are affected by the fee and permit. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lisa Hill-Sutton  
Woodbridge, Virginia

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**From:** Amy  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 5:12 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** Pamela Lepold; Gary. Alleva  
**Subject:** Attn: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

To: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

I am writing to inform you that I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Kind Regards,  
Amy Alleva  
22405 Nickman Way  
Leesburg, VA 20175

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**From:** Michael Lepold  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 17, 2015 8:09 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Please manage your budget better so you do not have to make bogus fees to compensate.

Michael Lepold

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**From:** Patty Schuchman Photography  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 17, 2015 7:48 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** I do NOT oppose the fee for photographers in public parks

To whom it may concern,

I am writing **in support** of the fee for anyone to use a public park for commercial use. I do not believe any business should profit from using public parks that tax payers pay for and hope the county will enforce it's permit fee ruling once and for all. Our parks have become the FREE backdrop for photographers who will only profit from them with the convenience and resulting images.

I do believe families and individuals should be able to photograph the public parks, but anyone in business as a photographer bringing clients to a public park should pay a fee to use the park. That business will only profit by using the park backdrop and as such, this fee should be factored into any professional photographer's fee structure.

It's a cost of doing business and if a business can't afford to pay the fee, they need to reevaluate their business model.

Our public parks are for the enjoyment of all - and the mass numbers of photographers that over run our public parks with their clients, their equipment and their props gets in the way of the public being able to enjoy the space freely. The public pays the tax base for ALL, not for a business to profit from the environment.

Please do NOT revoke the permit fee, please start enforcing the FEE.

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From: Martha Bernardi  
Sent: Saturday, January 17, 2015 9:28 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: No fees for photographers

There have been no incident or police reports shown to back up claims of significant damage to Parks by photographers. No fees should be imposed on photographers to use our free parks!

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**From:** Sarah Sewell  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2015 6:34 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** Pamela Lepold  
**Subject:** Photography Fee and Permit Requirement

To whom it may concern;

I'm writing in regards to the Fairfax County photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. I strongly oppose this fee and permit requirement due to the the financial burden it will place on our community photographers and families.

Sarah Sewell  
2292 Gunsmith Sq.  
Reston, VA 20191

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**From:** Anna Edwards  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2015 5:24 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamelalepold@verizon.net](mailto:pamelalepold@verizon.net)  
**Subject:** Photography fee charged for use of FFX Co. public parks  
To whom it may concern,

I ask that you permanently drop the fees that are being charged to the photographers for use of the parks to create photographs.

It is a great advertisement for FFX County to see the wonderful parks that are available to the public.

The photographer does not cause expense to the county for the use of the parks. If the photographer has to pay the fees currently being charged, the fees would have to be ingested by the people who are being photographed, otherwise the photographer could not afford to continue to have an active business that pays taxes to the county.

This use of the park by photographers is just as much a gain for the people being photographed as it is for the photographer.

Please consider by request. It is a win win situation for all the people involved.

Sincerely,  
Anna Edwards

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**From:** E. Page Meador, Au.D.  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2015 3:24 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:** ATTN: THE FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY BOARD

To Whom it May Concern:

Please accept this email as notification of my opposition to the photography fee and permit requirement, which is assigned to photographers taking pictures in free public parks.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth P. Meador

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**From:** Dave Myles  
**Sent:** Friday, January 16, 2015 1:24 PM  
**To:** Parkmail; Braddock BOS Email; Stone, Kiel A; Chairman Email  
**Subject:** Photographer Permit Fees

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a concerned resident and photographer of Fairfax County with the pending action on requiring permits for use of public parks in the county. Over the years I have seen more and more aggressive attitudes towards photographers using public places. The requiring of permits adds a serious burden to any photographer but especially professional photographers running a small business. I am specifically a hobbyist photographer. I do not shoot for profit. My photographs are not for sale. I do work with models at times. I have had very bad experiences from park rangers or managers who told me to leave because of a lack of a very expensive permit.

Any photographer understands the needs to keep public parks usable for everyone. But requiring photographers to pay a permit fee but nobody else is discrimination. What's more, the rules/fees don't fit any common sense. No distinction is made between what is a professional photographer and hobbyist. Does the use of a quality camera make someone a professional? I have a very nice camera, shoot with models often but I am not professional and yet I would be required to pay some large fee?

Assuming I was willing to pay the fee, which I'm not, what does that come with? I would assume if the county is going to require a professional photographer to pay a large permit fee then the county should guarantee the photographer unlimited access to the specific area, block pedestrian traffic, etc. but that doesn't seem to be the case. What is actually happening is the parks will choose to charge an expensive fee to any/all photographers just to use the park....but they don't charge anyone else.

If I decide to set up an easel and paint will I be charged? If I use a point and shoot camera to take pics of flowers do I need a permit? If I want to take sunrise shots on a tripod do I need a permit? If I want to do yoga or join a group of joggers do we need a permit? Do hikers require a permit?

The rules are arbitrary and nonsensical and add an undue burden on photographers. Clearly, if a wedding party wanted to set up with large lights, reflectors, assistants, etc. that would be a commercial shoot and some sort of permit would make sense. But a photographer walking around with a high school student doing their senior pic or with a small family taking pics of them and their children should NOT require some permit nor should a hobbyist photographer walking around with a pretty girl.

I urge common sense concerning the requirement of permits and setting rules. It would be a good idea to actually discuss these things with photographers. More often than not the attempt to push heavy fees on

photographers is just a way to extort money from small business owners and not to keep the park nice for everyone else.

A distinction needs to be made between a truly commercial professional photographer (weddings, print magazine), a small business photographer (family/children photos) and a hobbyist photographer (photographing for fun). Ultimately, if you're not going to charge a permit to hike, walk a dog, do yoga, jog, etc. then you shouldn't for hobbyist photographers. IF a permit is going to be required for small business and commercial photography it should be in relation to the type of shoot and time needed and include some special access or rights like blocking off areas of the park since you're not debating charging anyone else to use the park.

Regards,

Dave Myles

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From: Martha FitzSimon  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 12:41 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Fairfax County park photography fee and permit

Dear Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

First of all, thank you for all of your service to Fairfax County. I greatly appreciate all of your hard work for the County.

I am writing regarding a concern I have about the \$100 fee to and the advance permit required of photographers who photograph in County Parks. Since Fairfax County photographers are paying County taxes as businesses and, if they live in the County, as residents, these additional burdens are unnecessary and do not serve businesses and residents well.

While my business is located in the City of Fairfax, I know that there is a lot of reciprocity between the County and City. For example, when I go to Burke Lake Park on the weekends and when it has an ID-checker person in the guardhouse (during non-winter months), I am let in at no charge when I show my ID showing I'm a City resident. I know that many Fairfax County students attend City of Fairfax schools (and the City is paid for each student), so I would think there is reciprocity on this as well.

But even if there is no reciprocity between the City and the County on this issue, I would still oppose the \$100 fee and the permit in support of my colleagues.

I believe this issue is on the agenda for the board meeting this coming Wednesday. I look forward to having the opportunity to discuss this issue.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter and I look forward to meeting you next week.

All the best,

Martha  
Martha FitzSimon Photography

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From: Monique Burgos  
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 8:30 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Get rid of Fees for use of Parks!  
To Whom It May Concern,

I have recently learned that fees are being charged for the use of our local parks here in Fairfax County.

Photographers, and in turn, families, are being charged a \$100 fee for the use of parks that we already pay taxes to use.

I find this disturbing, and as a parent I feel taken advantage of.

I am also the Director of a preschool in Fairfax. Our goal is to have low tuition costs in order to serve the families in this community.

We live in a very rich county. I find it hard to believe that this fee is necessary.

Please honor the families and small businesses that help this community thrive. Get rid of this ridiculous fee.

Thank you,

Monique Burgos,  
5802 Bridgetown Ct, Burke Va 22015

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From: jon miskell  
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 6:36 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: Pamela Lepold  
Subject: Photography Fees/Permit Requirements

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Jon A. Miskell  
5414 Southport Lane  
Fairfax, VA, 22032

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**From:** Kat Forder  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 17, 2015 11:40 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Photography permits

Dear Park Authority Board,

I request that the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in Fairfax public parks be removed. I would like to see this permit and fee process removed because the permits are unfair, are inconsistently applied and places an unnecessary burden on our small businesses.

Fairfax County is the only NOVA County that charges photography fees. This fee serves as an additional tax, on top of the business and personal taxes photographers already pay.

I have been told that the permit fee is in place because of the excessive harm that photographers and their clients cause to the park. A family in a park having their pictures made surely causes less harm than a dog relieving itself in a park? Charging \$100 for a family to smile at a camera is pretty excessive.

This permit application process is a burden on small businesses to apply for and track the application(s). The \$500 annual fee is an admirable effort to reduce the burden on small businesses, but again, the fee amounts to a double tax and completely fails to achieve the original goal of serving “primarily as a management tool to minimize disruption to other park activities and would also guarantee that photographers have access to their desired location” (to quote Judy Pendersen, Thursday, January 27, 2011, Fairfax County Times)

This fee and permit process places a disproportionate financial burden on photographers and the families who hire them.

Kat Forder Photography  
5800 Main Street, Suite 4,  
Elkridge MD, 20175

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**From:** robert kelberg  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 17, 2015 10:17 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** county park fees

Dear sirs:

I was surprised and outraged to learn that our county is charging a fee, and a substantial one at that, for taking what I presume to be professional family photographs and portraits in the public parks. If the parks need money that badly, let it come from general revenues. These targeted fees are morally corrosive and in fact represent the thin end of the wedge. What next? a fee for painting a picture or playing a musical instrument in the park. for having a picnic, for making a speech. These are public and free spaces, and should be preserved as such. I am a liberal democrat, but even I do not think we need another level of licensing and bureaucratic enforcement.

Robert Kelberg

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**From:** Jenifer Morris Photography  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 10:47 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** Pamela Lepold  
**Subject:** Opposition to Photography Permit Fee

I am a professional photographer who has lived in Fairfax County for 25 years. I feel so fortunate to live in a county with excellent schools, services and parks. I have spent many hours hiking, boating and taking advantage of the fun recreational activities with my kids. I value that these parks are free to county residents...except when I enter with a camera. I feel charging photographers a fee is onerous to those of us that are self-employed and follow the rules. Increasing my rates to cover the \$100 fee will have the negative impact of reducing the number of clients I can convince to take a family portrait session.

I have always run my business properly in being licensed by the county, paying the state BPOL fees, paying sales taxes on my earnings and observing the permitting rules within MD, DC and VA. In many cases a permit or notification of the other regional authorities is requested to make sure that professional photography is spread out through the park and doesn't require an actual fee. I am happy to comply with the registrations requested—but paying a fee will greatly impact my business in a negative way.

You will also find that most professional photographers are very respectful of park lands and are not the ones to be stepping in flower beds or abusing the grounds. Many county residents visit the parks with cameras to document the special times with their families; I don't think residents who are professional photographers should be singled out to pay a fee. The enforcement of such regulations is an unnecessary cost and not likely to be evenly enforced.

Friendly Regards,

Jenifer

Jenifer Morris Photography

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**From:** Brian D. Leclair  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 10:16 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** Chairman Email; Mt. Vernon BOS Email  
**Subject:** Fee for "for profit/commercial use photographers" in Fairfax County parks

Dear Fairfax County Park Authority,

I contact you today to vehemently oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. My personal property taxes on my home and cars fund our public parks. It is un-American to charge me twice for the same public use.

I also see that Fairfax County is the only county in Northern Virginia that charges photography fees. We want to welcome our residents to our parks, yet fees and restrictions do just the opposite. Additionally, this fee places a disproportionate financial burden on families, since the professional photographers will undoubtedly pass along this cost along to the clients. Clearly, this means that the fee is not being imposed on the professional photographers in their "for profit/commercial use." Rather, it is being imposed on regular citizen taxpayers, like me, who can ill afford to take on any additional charges. I fear this type of fee is a slippery slope. What is next - charging me for walking through Fairfax County parks in order to offset the wear and tear caused by my footsteps? Yes, this sounds ridiculous, but no more so than charging families, couples, and individuals who simply want to come to our lovely county and enjoy the scenery for posterity. Fairfax County is a beautiful place with a great deal to offer. This erosion of our civil liberties is not what Fairfax County is all about. We are better than this.

Please roll back this unnecessary and un-American fee.

Thank you,  
Brian D. Leclair  
Mount Vernon

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**From:** aarathi vemana  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 10:04 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** Pamela Lepold  
**Subject:** Photography fee

To the Fairfax County Park Authority Board.

I am writing to let you know I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Sincerely,

Aarathi Vemana  
10421 Mount Sunapee Rd Vienna VA, 22182

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From: Maggie Holmes  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 10:36 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: Pamela Lepold  
Subject: To The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

To The Fairfax County Park Authority Board:  
I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Sincerely,  
Margaret Holmes  
1601 Clarendon Blvd Apt 607  
Arlington, VA 22209

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**From:** Alfred Wilhelm  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 10:01 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** \$100 fee

Fairfax is going to prevent families from using the parks for pictures by commercial photographers. I have two children that help their families make ends meet by taking family pictures for a fee - commercial photographers. The \$100 fee is prohibitive. There is a very small margin in this business and the \$100 fee will eat it all plus. Weddings are different, but family shots should be excluded from any fees. These are no different from a family taking its own pictures. Photography equipment is expensive and making a shoot cost money. Thus lower income families turn to a commercial photographer, frequently someone who does it part time to help with the family budget. Trying to make money on the backs of lower income families is unnecessary, and simply sad. Discourages use of the parks by families. Poor taste, poor business, poor judgment.

Alfred D. Wilhelm  
a former resident of Fairfax County for 40 years

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From: David Wooddell  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 9:58 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Attention Public Information Office/Fee Comments.

Attention Public Information Office/Fee Comments.

I am writing to express my disappointment with the Fairfax County Park Authority for your fees charged to photographers. I've been a photographer in this area for more than 30 years, as well as a writer. I've published at National Geographic, where I was on staff for 22 years, and before that at the US Chamber of Commerce, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Charging a fee for someone to engage in First Amendment right should be illegal. I think it is unconstitutional. To charge one media, that of photography, and not the writers and artists who also create while in your parks, should also be illegal.

As a business person, and truly I am a small business owner, as are most commercial photographers, your fee structure is a restraint of trade. The majority of photographers can not afford such fees. I've read that someone at the FCPA did a google search – but I challenge that. Professional researchers have not been able to come up with the same results, so I think it must be faulty interpretation, and sloppy research on the part of your employee.

I understand that comment has consistently been cut off on this subject by someone on your staff. I feel an open government policy at your county agency should not be in the business of restricting public comment. I wonder how your congressional representatives will feel about such actions on the part of the

FCPA – which is why I am copying my congressman, as well as the congressmen who represent Fairfax County on this subject.

To summarize: the fees you charge violate First Amendment rights of the media. Your fees are a restraint on small business owners. And your fees were not made in a transparent, open government manner.

Sincerely, David W. Wooddell

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From: Sarika  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 9:24 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: Pamela Lepold  
Subject: Opposition to Park Photography Fee!!!

Hello -

I am writing to state my opposition to the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

I take photos with my growing family throughout the year with my photographer and including a fee of \$100 in most cases would be outrageous on top of what we pay to our photographer for her hard work and labor. It is not fair to charge this on families who are using the Parks that we pay for via taxes to capture special moments and memories with our family. Please reconsider this fee/permit!

Thank you,  
Sarika Lamont  
Fairfax, VA 22030

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From: Seizetheday Photography LLC.  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 10:42 AM  
To: Parkmail; permit.fees@gmail.com  
Subject: photography fee and permit requirement

Dear Park Authority,  
I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Have a blessed day  
Agung Fauzi | Seize the Day Photography LLC

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**From:** Janet Braziel  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 7:56 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** Pamela Lepold  
**Subject:** opposition of the photography fee and permit requirement

Dear Fairfax County Park Authority Board:

My name is Janet Braziel, and I am a Fairfax County resident living at 5896 Burnside Landing Drive, Burke, VA 22015.

I am writing this letter to express my opposition to the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. This fee and permit does not promote the spirit of accessibility to all residents in which the public parks are intended to be utilized. In addition, the fee penalizes small businesses and families in Fairfax County.

Regards,  
Janet Braziel

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**From:** Danielle Sewell  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 18, 2015 9:57 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

To the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.  
Sincerely,  
Danielle Haslinger

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**From:** Olivia De La Pena  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 18, 2015 9:23 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:** Park fee

To whom it may concern,

Fairfax county should not charge a \$100 photoshoot fee in the public parks. The parks are already a public expenditure in which taxpayers should enjoy without additional fees. This fee should be repealed.

Sincerely,

Olivia de la Peña.

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**From:** Cristina Rodrigues  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 18, 2015 9:15 PM  
**To:** Parkmail; [pamela@lepoldphotography.com](mailto:pamela@lepoldphotography.com)  
**Subject:** The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

Good evening,

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

My name is: Ana Cristina Rodrigues  
46569 Whitechapel Way  
Sterling VA 20165

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**From:** Thomas Kinder  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 20, 2015 9:32 AM  
**To:** [chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov)  
**Cc:** [permits.fees@gmail.com](mailto:permits.fees@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Portrait Photographer Park Fees

Chairman Bulova:

I strongly advocate that the fee for photography in the Fairfax County parks be dropped. I would like to make two points:

Unless strong evidence to the contrary is available, I am skeptical that either of the following is true:

1. Photographers cause significant inconvenience to other park users; or
2. Photographer fees provide significant revenue to the parks.

Since retiring, I am in Lake Accotink Park daily. I observe 2-3 portrait photographers annually, and they appear to bother no one. So I see no rationale for the fee. We should encourage use and support of the parks, and portrait photographers promote the natural beauty of the county park system and introduce the parks to new users. The portrait photographer fee serves no public purpose, it neither prevents a nuisance nor raises revenue.

Second, I am a photographer (rarely portraits) and former FCPS school teacher. I know several young aspiring photographers who are exploring the business either part time or full time. Because they are just starting, they charge low fees, so they may do a portrait for \$ 100 or less. For them, the present fee system is a crushing burden. We should be encouraging their initiative rather than hindering it.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Thomas Kinder

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From: James G Stroud  
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 8:30 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Charging photographers

Hi I just read an article that you guys charge for targets to shoot Newpark I thought it was a joke but it was serious that is most ludicrous thing I've ever heard of in my entire life. I hope you repel it. I am not a tea party person Republican or Democrat I'm right in the middle but this I see as an overreach of government. James

Jim

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From: Jonathan Bostic  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 1:03 PM  
To: OPA 703Fairfax  
Subject: Burke Lake Park Entrance Fee

[This email message was generated from a Web form submission by a Fairfax County website user at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/contact/MailForm.aspx?agId=100844>]

Message:I understand that the entrance fee is being paid due to me not being a county resident. I am also that it goes to the maintenance and clean-up of the park. I love going to Burke Lake Park. I play disc golf and love the outdoors. I am currently Active duty Military. I am writing this to see if maybe you could come up with a monthly membership or something? If i go to Burke Lake Park 6 times during the month that is 60 dollars. Maybe have like a 25 dollar monthly membership. I am expressing my opinion as Park attendee who would love to be able to attend the park more.

Submitted By: Jonathan Bostic

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From: richard schlecht  
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 9:49 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: David Wooddell  
Subject: Park Photography fees

We in this household (and business) vote a resounding NO to the notion of a parks photography fee. As Ms. Forder says, do you charge dog walkers? fitness trainers? Private school field trips? Let's just keep it simple; these are public places, and anyone using them for photography, commercial or not, is not causing any damage that has to be paid for. This is just a blatant revenue enhancer. Photographers, as citizens, have already paid taxes to support these places.

sincerely,

Richard Schlecht

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**From:** Allen Thornburgh  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 11:11 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Fee for using the park for photography

This fee gives preference to those in the community who are well off and can afford this huge fee. What about those who are not so well off? People of all walks of life want to have their family group portraits taken, but this discourages those who can't afford the fee. This is really a discriminatory fee, because photographers will have to raise their prices to cover the fee, and this will not be affordable to the lower class. They will be walking in the park watching the well off getting their portraits taken. Not a good thing for Fairfax County.

Marge and Allen Thornburgh, C.P.P.

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**From:** Laura Whitfield  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 10:42 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** PAMELA LEPOLD  
**Subject:** Fairfax County professional photography fee

To The Fairfax County Park Authority Board:

As relatively new residents to Fairfax county we were surprised to see that NOVA charges a \$100 fee for professional photographers to use public parks. These are public commons that have been paid for and maintained by our tax dollars. Professional photographers using the grounds to take portraits of small groups/families are not impeding the use of the parks for others. We oppose the fee as well as the permit requirement. Please consider revoking this fee.

Thank you,

Richard and Laura Whitfield  
9206 Cutting Horse Court  
Springfield VA 22153

---

**From:** The Montgomerys  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 9:08 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Cc:** PAMELA LEPOLD  
**Subject:** The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

To whom this concerns,

We oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Respectfully,

Sean and Christie Montgomery  
11808 N Oxbow Ct.  
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

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**From:** Patricia Cominsky  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 8:21 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Park photography usage fee

To: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board.

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Patricia Cominsky  
Former Bonnie Brae resident and user of the Fairfax parks

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From: WALLPhotoGrafx  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 7:04 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: Pamela Lepold  
Subject: Against a fee for photographer's use of public parks

Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

I am against the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer-funded public parks.

Nearly all professional photographers who operate in Fairfax county do so as a small business, and in many cases owned and operated by one individual, as the costs associated with doing business makes it cost-prohibitive to hire employees. Additionally, while there are some who are able to run a photography business on a full-time basis; the majority of professional photographers in this area are only able to operate their business on a part-time basis as the photography business in itself is not capable of generating enough regular income on its own to sustain living in this area.

Implementing an additional cost such as the fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer-funded public parks will have a significant negative impact on the majority of photography small business owners in Fairfax County; and if implemented and enforced may cause many of these professional photographer to shutter their businesses or at the very least to take their business out of Fairfax County all together.

Professional photographers today face not only stiff competition from brick-and-mortar studios in retail outlets such as Walmart, JC Penny and Sears, but we also face growing competition from consumers themselves due to the innovations in the digital camera industry. For decades professional photographers have been competing with chain studios in retail outlets who often employ persons with little or no training or experience in photography but are able to meet the customers' minimum demands at greatly reduced costs. Today, however we face a new challenge as many people are able to purchase quality digital cameras for themselves and are willing to sacrifice the quality over reduced cost.

I personally have lost jobs to individuals who have elected to enlist the aid of a "friend with a camera" to shoot their wedding, portraits, or other such events. This fee will also give greater power to this form of competition, as this category of competitor will not be required to pay a fee and gain a permit for photography in the parks.

Currently, I am in the early stages of trying to build and grow my business, and this will really have a significant impact on my efforts to do so.

However, in the past year I have learned a good deal about what I am required to do in order to conduct business as a professional photographer in the state of Virginia, and I submit to the board that professional photographers are already, in part, financially supporting the Fairfax County parks even if it is indirectly.

Professional photographers operating in the state of Virginia are required to charge their customers sales tax, not just for the sale of goods, but for services - such as a photography session - as well. We are require to charge 6% sales tax, of which 1% goes to the locality in which our business is located. So as a photographer if I am shooting a session with a client in a Fairfax County Park I already am paying 1% of that session fee back to Fairfax County through the sales tax I am required to charge the client.

Finally, there is yet one more point I would like to make and that is the fact that in addition to owning and operating my business in Fairfax County, I am a property owner as well. I pay property taxes to the county, of which a portion is supposed to be budgeted for Fairfax County Parks. That is already a significantly greater contribution to the parks than a number of my neighbors, as county residents who do not own property do not pay taxes, yet are afforded the same free access to the parks as those residents who own property.

I would like to recommend that if the parks are that greatly in need of additional funding, they are considering imposing this \$100 permit fee on photographers to use the parks as a backdrop for family photos, which I personally cannot see as a significant revenue generator for the Parks Authority, the better approach to generating revenue would be to find a means by which the Parks are able to collect some form of usage fees from non-tax-paying residents.

Sincerely,

Wayne V. Hall  
Owner, Photographer and Graphic Designer  
WALL Photography & Design

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**From:** Don Becht  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 6:56 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Charge to photograph in the park

I am not a professional but sometimes do shoot portraits of my daughters in the parks. Will you charge me too? If not how would you distinguish between me and a professional? You should charge mountain bike trail riders, they are actually damaging our parks.

Don Becht

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From: Maisi  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 5:35 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: January 21 Board meeting regarding photographer fees

Hello,

I am writing in reference to the upcoming vote at the January 21, 2015 Park Authority Board meeting regarding Fairfax County Park usage fees for photo sessions. I am opposed to a PER SHOOT FEE or an EXORBITANT ANNUAL FEE.

I am a Fairfax County resident and child/family photographer specializing in special needs children. I also have many active duty military clients, who select me to take family portraits pre or post deployment. The Fairfax county parks provide a beautiful backdrop for my portraits. In addition, I enjoy going to Fairfax county parks alone to photograph birds, flowers, and wildlife.

My family session fee is \$200. I pay for my business license, state and local sales tax, as well as other state taxes, etc. as all small business owners do. After taking out taxes, equipment and other business costs, insurance, etc. my net income is approximately \$12,000/year. This is probably more than many local photographers make.

Please consider the following points in your decision:

1. Most photographers in the area are like me: small business owners who like to take family/engagement/child portraits for individual or personal use - - not big production companies with lighting equipment, staff, production sets, etc. who will be published in magazines. I can understand charging for LARGE productions/photo shoots, but not individual family photo shoots.
2. The families I photograph and I have already paid our local taxes for the use and upkeep of Fairfax County Parks. Shouldn't I be able to provide family portraits for Fairfax County families while they are out in nature enjoying the beautiful parks in our county - - parks we already pay for through our taxes?
3. Very frequently, when I take a family to a Fairfax County Park it is the first time they have visited. They almost always say, "I didn't know this was here!" or "This is so beautiful, I am coming back!" I feel like I'm an ambassador for the Fairfax County Park system, showing local families how wonderful the parks are!
4. The paperwork and time required for getting a "per shoot" pass each time I do a family session would be cost and TIME prohibitive. It would have a significant impact on my business. If the goal is to reduce the amount of people who use the parks, then this will indeed work. I would not go to the trouble of getting a per shoot pass (driving out to the park in advance, doing the paperwork, etc.); I would just simply use Alexandria City, Washington DC, or other local areas to do my photo sessions.
5. I do not know of any other business that is charged for using the Fairfax County Parks. My child's playgroup (which I paid an annual fee to join) often used Fairfax County Parks for trips, picnics, etc. Fitness instructors and exercise groups (who charge for classes/membership) also use the parks for walking, etc. Will these small businesses have to pay to use the parks as well? If I go to the park to take photographs of birds, etc. will I have to pay as a professional photographer? Will anyone with a camera be charged to take pictures inside the parks?
6. Two local venues I use are the Carlyle House and River Farm, both in Alexandria City. Carlyle House charges \$25 per shoot, and River Farm charges \$200 per year. The River Farm annual option is great because I can register with them, receive a pass that I keep on my camera bag, and I can use the pass for shoots without having to go through the hassle of making an appointment and getting a pass for each shoot.

I would prefer not paying any fees to use Fairfax County parks for my family photo sessions. Although I can understand charging a reasonable annual fee (to me “reasonable” would be \$100) to use Fairfax County parks, I think it is detrimental to both my small business and the Fairfax County residents I serve to charge an exorbitant fee or make photographers pay and fill out paperwork for each photo session they do.

I hope my perspective is helpful to you as weigh this issue.

Thank you for your time,

Maisi Julian  
5421 Waycross Dr. Alexandria 22310  
Maisi Julian Photography

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**From:** Jeanne Taylor -- Jeanne Taylor Photography  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 4:23 PM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Photography Fee

To The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

As a local pet photographer, small business owner and tax payer in Northern VA, I strongly oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

If this ruling is intended for a specific set (such as weddings or private events), please state so. I refuse to pay a \$100 use fee on a \$125 one-hour session. There are plenty of other local spaces that do NOT require this exorbitant fee and I am happy to use them. I pay personal property taxes as a citizen; I pay business property taxes as a small business owner. I should not and will not be twice-taxed.

Jeanne Taylor

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From: eldar  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 3:47 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: fees for photographers in parks

Dear Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

My name is Eldar Tariverdi and I am the owner of Photo Craft in Burke, VA.

It has been recently brought to my attention that Fairfax County has begun enforcing a rule, to charge photographers who use Fairfax County parks, \$100.00 per visit.

As a Photographic retailer in Northern Virginia, who caters to full time and part time photographers, I feel that this charge/fee would be to the detriment of all parties involved.

If a photographer has to pay \$100.00 each time to visit and photograph in a public park, that would be \$100.00 they would have less to spend on equipment and supplies that they would need thus hurting local business and especially local photographic retail businesses.

I kindly ask that you revise, remove this policy and look forward to a positive outcome. Thank you.

Eldar  
Photo Craft

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From: Erin Drake  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 2:57 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: Pamela  
Subject: To: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

To: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board  
Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov

I am writing to oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded parks. I feel that this inappropriately applies different standards to different people for the same service. As a true lover of the monuments and parks in the county and throughout the area, I would strongly urge you to reconsider this stance.

Sincerely,  
J. Erin Drake

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From: Christine Paul  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 12:12 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Photography Park fees

I am writing in support of adding the photographer fee structure to the agenda at the meeting this week. As a small business owner in Fairfax County, this fee structure has had a huge impact on my business and continues to frustrate clients who are tax paying residents of this community. This fee is extremely high in relation to the cost of each shoot, especially when we serve local families who use these parks regularly and simply want to capture that family time in a place they know and love.

On top of the fee structure being unreasonably high, the addition of huge signage at locations such as Colvin Run Mill makes PAYING business photographers frustrated by an inability to take an unobtrusive shot on the grounds. I was recently at the park as a resident with my children and there were so many signs I couldn't even take a photo of my own children without an ugly sign in the background.

The county has not thought through the fee structure and use of land completely. Oftentimes grounds may be used in "off hours" when the parks are already closed and the use of the land is not impeding others from enjoying the park. How is this use monitored? How are photographers who refuse to pay but still continue to use the parks anyway dealt with? If I pay the fee, how can I guarantee I am not fighting off non paying photographers for locations in the park and can I ask park patrons to move since I am now a paying client of the park?

Each park has handled it so differently, it is often confusing and exhausting as a small business owner. I chose to move into surrounding counties with my business, but this is not a solution for a small business that PAYS TAXES TO FAIRFAX COUNTY regularly. (Just got my bill the other day)

This issue needs to be addressed in a public forum and not decided behind closed doors.

Regards,  
Christine Paul

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From: Dan Moldover  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 11:51 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Photographer Fee

I am not a Fairfax resident, but I work in Fairfax County and live in nearby Loudoun. I have read, with interest, the proposal to charge commercial photographers for a park use permit. I think you'll find the enforcement costs will be more than the revenue it generates:

- 1) It is often difficult to tell the difference, at a glance, between a professional photographer engaged in a shoot vs. an enthusiast photographer doing the same thing. I do not get paid for my photography, but will often ask my children to make many poses as I search to get just the "right" shot with my DSLR.
- 2) A photographer's biggest obstacle is getting the lighting just right. This may mean waiting for a day with the right amount of clouds (or sun). As you likely know, weather prediction is a very inexact science. Requiring a permit for a certain date, then having the constantly reschedule those dates at the last minute will cause an administrative nightmare for your staff to manage (as well as for the photographer).
- 3) Photographers will get clever and only charge consulting fees for their time in the park. They will then let the family take the pictures for themselves. The photographer will set up the shoot, pick the spot, the time of day, etc, then let the family "pull the trigger". At that point, the photographer isn't using the park to take pictures. They're using it for a business meeting, which requires no permit. Good luck winning on that one!
- 4) How will you regulate nature photographers who don't know if / when they will sell their pictures? Will everyone with a camera (or a cell phone) be subject to this usage fee?

Ultimately, fees like this make Fairfax a less desirable place to live without bringing any compensating benefit to the county. Please consider that when deliberating this change.

Sincerely,

Dan Moldover  
Enthusiast Photographer

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From: Bud  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 11:44 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Fees on photographers using parks

I think the philosophy and understanding are backward. There should be no fees to Fairfax residents, who have already paid to use the parks through taxation. If a family using the park wants pictures taken, and consequently hires a photographer, why should the family be charged twice? If a family has a birthday party in the park, and consequently hires a clown, magician, or other entertainer, should they be charged extra for that entertainer? No to both.

If a commercial venture uses the park as their office/studio on a more or less continuous basis, and promotes their services using the park, then the situation is different. However, for an occasional family photo, consider the fees paid through the resident's taxation. Out of country families (or out of region for a regional park), do whatever you would normally do for non-residents. But for Fairfax residents, there should be no fee.

Thanks,

Bud Esper  
Fairfax, VA

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From: Brian Kelley  
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 11:29 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Regarding Fairfax Parks photography fees

To Whom It May Concern,

I have recently learned about the new policy (from the Washington Post) to charge professional photographers a fee to shoot on county parkland at the rate of \$100 for the first two hours and \$50 for each additional hour. While the news article noted that the park authority did research comparable rates in 2010, I am not sure what \$50/hour is comparable to, considering the park authorities of adjacent counties and cities charge \$0/hour to shoot on their park land. The National Park Service does charge photographers (and not without generating controversy of its own for the mere idea of charging people to use public land in this way), but they charge \$50/day, not \$50/hour.

The idea that the current rates for professional photography are comparable to other similar parks is not a persuasive argument to this Fairfax resident. This policy seems like it would be costly to enforce, and it also seems like it would be very easy for couples looking to get their engagement photographs to simply cross the county line . . . in any direction.

I will not be able to attend this Wednesday's public hearing, but I do hope that this topic comes up for discussion. I am writing to you now in such hopes.

Thank You,  
Brian Kelley  
4982 DeQuincey Dr.  
Fairfax, VA 22032

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From: Heather Sewell  
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 7:36 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Fairfax Parks Photography Fee

Dear Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

I'm writing to express my concern & displeasure with the \$100 fee you'll be charging photographers in our public, taxpayer-funded parks. Photographers & families pay those taxes just as much as everyone else, so why are they being singled out? It seems punitive, pointless, highly discriminatory, and excessive.

Another concern I have is how exactly you plan to fairly & judiciously enforce this fee. How do you plan to decipher whether someone in your park is a professional photographer or simply a family taking snapshots with a higher quality camera? I'm not a professional photographer - I run a children's educational charity for a living. But I'm one of those people that likes photography & typically carries around a higher quality camera. Does that mean I'm going to be targeted too? Am I going to have to face questioning every single time I try to take pictures in Fairfax County parks? That's not exactly going to encourage me to continue to visit & contribute to your parks. Having park rangers questioning visitors in this manner also seems like an incredibly wasteful & pointless use of the rangers' time & park resources.

My husband & I got married at Great Falls National Park nearly two years ago. I realize it's not a Fairfax County park, but if we had been forced to pay an additional fee to have a photographer there, it would have been extremely prohibitive to us. It would have discouraged us from taking advantage of park facilities that we love, that are unique to our area, and that our taxes pay for. I specifically chose a park because I wanted to have an inviting, natural, simple atmosphere. If I had to be concerned about park rangers constantly bugging us, interrogating us about some arbitrary fee, it would have taken away from that feeling we went to the park to attain.

Please don't ruin that special feeling of Fairfax County's parks! Please don't ruin their inviting atmosphere! In my opinion, it isn't worth a measly \$100 to risk losing that special feeling. I love your parks & visit them regularly. I especially love Clemyjontri Park, one that as a disabled person I greatly, greatly appreciate. I take my nephews & niece there every time they visit from across the country. I'm always bringing my camera & taking snapshots. I'd hate to have our time there interrupted with constant questions & excessive fees. I recently met members of the Lebowitz family - the founders of Clemyjontri - at a charity function in Washington, DC. I'd be willing to bet that Mrs. Adele Lebowitz & her entire family would agree with my concerns about this proposed fee & the risk it would pose to the very nature of these special parks.

If a law or fee can't be enforced fairly, clearly, and simply, it shouldn't be implemented. If a law or fee is discriminatory & needlessly targets a small group for no clear, discernible reason, it shouldn't be implemented. If your parks seem to be having a problem with certain photographers taking advantage of resources or being disrespectful, by all means punish or expel those few photographers. But please don't burden all for the mistakes of a few or punish families simply visiting your parks to enjoy & capture the feelings & memories that only parks can offer!

I'm sorry I won't be able to attend the meeting on the 21st to show in person just how much I care about this issue! I'm afraid I'll be in New York, working to develop my children's educational charity. But please know I will be there in spirit. I care deeply about this & do NOT want to see this fee implemented! I hope you will take these concerns to heart & reconsider.

Thank you very much for your time, consideration, and your service to Fairfax County & Virginia as a whole.

Sincerely,  
Heather Lawver Sewell & Marshall Sewell  
Regular Fairfax County park visitors & contributors

44010 Choptank Terrace  
Ashburn, VA 20147

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From: Annette Bell  
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 6:39 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Photography Fee and Permit Requirement for Family Photography

To The Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

I am writing to let you know that I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in taxpayer funded public parks.

My parents and I are small business owners, so we understand how difficult it is to make money as a small business when faced with the bureaucracy of large and small government agencies. Most people make money and get taxed once, but small business owners are taxed first for their corporation and then for their personal income. If you add fees from other groups, you can see how it makes it really difficult for the owner to make any money, especially if they are working as individuals, such as photographers. Think about what it costs for a photographer to take a family's photographs, and then subtract the fee out of it, and consider how much money the photographer is actually going to gross before they pay corporate and personal taxes. Since the parks are already funded by taxpayers (likely including both the photographer's and the families' taxes), it really makes no sense to charge them a fee. Further, families and individuals--and even groups of school children--don't need permits to visit these parks, so photographers shouldn't be required to have them either.

I appreciate your careful consideration in this matter.

Regards,

Annette Bell  
27228 Bridle Place, Chantilly, VA 20152

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From: Doug Elliott  
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 6:26 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

To Whom it May Concern,

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Thank you,

Doug Elliott

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From: Sara Nguyen  
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 2:07 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: pamelalepoldphotography.com  
Subject: FCPA Board (re: photography fee / permit requirement)

TO: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

FROM: Sara and Nick Nguyen

6104 Arrington Drive  
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

RE: Opposition to the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

I am unable to attend the meeting on January 21st, but I would like to express my concern as a Fairfax County resident regarding this fee that will be imposed. As taxpayers, I think it's excessive to charge us \$100 to use our county parks for family photography, and the permit requirement will simply create more bureaucracy that is simply not needed.

I am also concerned that enforcing this fee will hurt small businesses and families in our area. Please seriously consider overturning the fee.

Thank you.

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From: sinthu  
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 1:07 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: Pamela Lepold  
Subject: Petition For Photography Fee

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board  
My husband and I live in Fairfax County, Alexandria with our two daughters. We oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family portraits. Our taxes already pay for our public parks and our photographers should not be charged a fee. If you have any concerns, please contact us at 202-550-0827.

Regards  
Sanjay and Sinthu Arnold  
8294 Jakes Place  
Alexandria, VA  
22309

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From: JoAnn Obie  
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 10:10 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Opposition to your proposed photography fee and permit for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Dear The Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

This email is written in support of my family and friends and small business colleagues in the wedding business in Fairfax county who are appalled, as am I, that the county government would even think of charging any kind of additional taxes and fees to photograph our families in the public parks and places we already pay taxes on. What's next, taxes to photograph the birds in the trees? Our children playing in the parks? I sure hope that's not already in place.

Please reconsider your unconstitutional attempts to further burden the residents of your county. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jo Ann Obie  
Formerly 12411 Ox Hill Rd  
Fairfax, VA 22033

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From: Tim Leslie  
Sent: Saturday, January 17, 2015 7:02 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Photography Fee

Dear Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

I am writing you today to request that the board remove all fees associated with commercial photography in our parks. As a county resident, I seek to be able to take photos and have photos taken of me without having to worry about permits or other regulations.

Should FCPA deem such a process remains important, I believe it critical to reduce the price. \$100 is bananas. A \$10 fee would allow the park service to monitor activity without burdening local businesses.

Again, I do not believe the fee is a positive move for Fairfax County Residents (of which I am one), and wish it removed as quickly as possible.

Timothy Leslie  
Burke, VA

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From: robert kelberg  
Sent: Saturday, January 17, 2015 10:18 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: county park fees

Dear sirs:

I was surprised and outraged to learn that our county is charging a fee, and a substantial one at that, for taking what I presume to be professional family photographs and portraits in the public parks. If the parks need money that badly, let it come from general revenues. These targeted fees are morally corrosive and in fact represent the thin end of the wedge. What next? a fee for painting a picture or playing a musical instrument in the park. for having a picnic, for making a speech. These are public and free spaces, and should be preserved as such. I am a liberal democrat, but even I do not think we need another level of licensing and bureaucratic enforcement.

Robert Kelberg

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From: Neil Colton  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 11:34 AM  
To: Sully District Michael R. Frey  
Cc: Parkmail  
Subject: Park Fees for Commercial Photography

Mr. Frey ~

My name is Neil Colton. I am a professional photographer, living in your district. Yesterday. I received an email from the DC Chapter of the ASMP, urging me to make my voice heard as an opponent of the possible new fees for commercial photography in Fairfax County Parks.

I am writing in support of the new or reinstated fees, not in opposition to them.

The fees that I have seen seem fair and reasonable. As a professional photographer, I believe it is incumbent upon me, and my fellow professionals, to support fair and reasonable access and use fees for venues that we consider important to the content we produce.

First and foremost, our parks are intended for the use of individuals, families, residents and guests for pleasure and recreation. Photographers are fortunate to have these wonderful venues available to them as resources for their work.

I am very disappointed in the way this proposal has been mischaracterized by some photographers and organizations, the ASMP among them.

Best Regards,

Neil Colton  
Photographer  
Washington, DC

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From: Missy Elliott  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 9:03 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Fairfax County Park Authority Board - opposition to \$100 photo fee

Dear Fairfax County Park Authority Board:

Please note I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Melissa Elliott  
7074 Leestone Street  
Springfield, Virginia 22151

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From: Stacy Hall  
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 12:29 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: pamelalepold@verizon.net  
Subject: Opposition to the photography fee and strict permit requirements

To The Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

It has come to my attention that Fairfax County charges a \$100 sitting fee and requires a permit for professional pictures to be taken in our county parks. As a resident, I'm appalled by this. I can understand charging a professional photographer a SMALL fee to obtain an annual permit to take pictures in the park, similar to fees charged by the county for other professional permits, but to charge this each time the pictures are taken is just an abuse of power.

Our tax dollars provide funds toward the parks and you should be encourage our residents to use the parks, not tax them to do so.

I worry about the slippery slope this leads to. Will we then have to obtain an additional permit to take pictures at our own child's birthday party or play date, or other event at the park?

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Stacy R. Hall

10719 Oak Place  
Fairfax, VA 22030

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**From:** PAMELA LEPOLD  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 20, 2015 11:51 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Information for the Park Authority Board

Dear Park Authority Board,

I want to make you aware of an issue that is up and coming this Wednesday, January 21, 2015. Local photographers and residents are asking that the Photography Fees and Permit Requirements for Fairfax County Public Parks be amended.

Photographers and residents are challenging the fee structure of The Fairfax County Park Authority. Charging families and small businesses \$100 and requiring a permit to take pictures in our free public parks is excessive and unfair. Other For Profit groups pay nothing for park usage with no limitations on time, access or number of people in the group. The Fairfax County Park Authority's fee structure is discriminatory. The current fee structure targets a single type of park user and charges that user a higher fee and requires a permit (which takes 5 days to acquire).

Research conducted to support these fees in 2010 by FCPA PIO used Privately Funded Botanical Gardens around the country as the basis for developing Fairfax County's current fee structure for Public Parks. Pitting Private and Member Only Parks against Taxpayer Funded Public Parks is not an apples to apples comparison. Even under the current comparisons, the FCPA PIO stated the average annual permit rate at the Privately Funded Botanical Gardens was \$308. The Fairfax County Park Authority charges \$500 for an annual permit. 2014 research shows that there is no other county in NOVA that charges a photography fee or requires a permit for family photography in public parks.

The current Photography Fees violate 4 of the 6 levels of The Park Authorities Policy 305. One of which states, Parks are to be competitive with comparable facilities and services in the area. Fairfax County is the ONLY County in NOVA that charges fees for family photography in public parks and therefore is not competitive nor comparative with services offered by other public parks in the area.

The Photography Fee structure was passed in 2011 but was not publicized or enforced until recently. Now that residents and photographers are aware of the fee and permit requirements, they are asking that the appropriate actions be taken to remove the fee and permit requirement for small group / family photography in our public parks.

**We have received overwhelming press supporting us on this issue.**

1. The Washington

Post: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/local/wp/2015/01/19/professional-photographers-challenge-100-fee-to-shoot-in-fairfax-county-parks/>

2. The Fairfax

Times: <http://www.fairfaxtimes.com/article/20150119/NEWS/150119512/1117/area-photographers-object-to-park-fee&template=fairfaxTimes>

3. WTOP: <http://wtop.com/fairfax-county/2015/01/photographers-dispute-fairfax-co-park-fees-public-shoots/>

4. ASMP (American Society of Media Photographers) sent out a call to action last week alerting local photographers to the January 21st meeting.

5. ExposedDC: <http://exposeddc.com/2015/01/15/fairfax-county-to-meet-wednesday-jan-21-to-hear-comments-on-new-photographer-permit-fees/>

6. Jamie's List: <https://jamieslist.wordpress.com/2015/01/15/fairfx-co-public-hearing-on-photo-fees/>

7. The Fairfax County Park Authority's rating has fallen 4.3 to 2.0 due to public distain regarding these fees. <https://www.facebook.com/fairfaxcountyparks?sk=reviews&pnref=story>

I would like to ask for your full support in overturning these excessive photography fees and cumbersome permit requirements. Can I count on you to show your support?

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. Documentation is attached.

Thank you,  
Pamela Lepold

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## Attachment to Jan. 20, 2015 Lepold E-mail Petition For Park Authority Board Action Regarding Photography Fees

### Purpose:

To seek relief from the current photography fee structure for small groups / family portraits of 11 members or less in Fairfax County Parks.

### Scope:

This petition only covers small groups / family portraits of 11 family members or less at Fairfax County Public Parks.

This petition does not cover wedding photography, corporate or advertising photography. No change is proposed to the current photography fee structure for wedding photography, corporate or advertising photography. This petition does not cover privately funded parks.

### Requested Board Action:

This petition requests the Fairfax County Park Authority Board take up a motion to modify the current photography fee structure. The current Fairfax County Park Authority **Schedule of Rates, Fees & Other Charges** dated 1 April 2014, is reflected in Appendix A. The proposed photography fee schedule is contained in Appendix B, effective with the new 2015 Fairfax County Park Authority **Schedule of Rates, Fees & Other Charges**.

### Background

#### The undersigned petitioners:

- Recognize the need for various fees
- Understand the rationale for why fees were initially adopted and put into place
- Recognize that FCPA facilities may charge a fee for small groups / families of 12 or more people
- Seek to achieve fairness and consistency with other local public park jurisdictions with respect to small group / family photography opportunities
- Current quick facts regarding For Profit/Commercial Use Photographer's Fees
  1. Fees were implemented in 2011
  2. In 2014 Photography fees generated \$5250 in revenue.
  3. The percentage of that revenue that was from portrait photography in 2014 was \$3100.
- Fairfax County is the only NOVA County that charges photography fees (Appendix C)
- Feedback from FCPA PIO regarding other jurisdictions charging fees pit private vs public parks – not apples to apples comparison. (Appendix D)

- 2010 Research by FCPA PIO presented Privately funded Botanical Gardens and not Public Parks as comparisons to the Board. (Appendix E)
- Current Photography Fees appear inconsistent with Park Policy regarding For Profit Groups. (Appendix F)
- Current fee structure places a disproportionate financial burden on photographers and middle to low-income families. (Appendix G)
- Current revenue from Photography fees charged in 2014. (Appendix H)

Appendix A: The current Fairfax County Park Authority **Schedule of Rates, Fees & Other Charges** dated 1 April 2014.

Appendix B: Proposed photography fee schedule effective with the new 2015 Fairfax County Park Authority **Schedule of Rates, Fees & Other Charges**.

Appendix C: Fairfax County is the only NOVA County that charges photography fees

Appendix D: Feedback from FCPA PIO regarding other jurisdictions charging fees pit private vs public parks – not apples to apples comparison.

Appendix E: 2010 Research by FCPA PIO presented Privately funded Botanical Gardens and not Public Parks as comparisons to the Board.

Appendix F: Current Photography Fees appear inconsistent with Park Policy regarding For Profit Groups.

Appendix G: Current fee structure places a disproportionate financial burden on photographers and middle to low-income families.

Appendix H: Current revenue from Photography fees charged in 2014.

## Appendix A Current 2014 Fee Structure

<b>Commercial Use of Park Lands</b>	
For Profit/Commercial Use	\$ 350 per day
Non-Profit Commercial Use	\$ 100 per day
Staff Support	\$ 35 per hour
Security Deposit (refundable)	\$ 100 per use
<u>For Profit/Commercial Use Photographer's Fees</u>	
Base Session, 2 Hours	\$ 100
Each Additional Hour	\$ 50
Annual Permit Fee	\$ 500
Users will also be charged for all staff and operating costs and/or loss of regular park revenue associated with each use. Call the Park Authority's Public Information Officer at (703)324-8662 for more information.	

## Appendix B Suggested 2015 Fee Structure

<b>Commercial Use of Park Lands</b>	
<b>For Profit/Family Portrait Photography Fees</b>	
Base Session, 2 Hours, 11 people or less	No Charge
Each Additional Hour	\$25
<b>For Profit/Wedding Portraits, Corporate and Advertising Use Photography Fees</b>	
Base Session, 2 Hours	\$100
Each Additional Hour	\$ 50
Annual Permit Fee	\$500
Users will also be charged for all staff and operating costs and/or loss of regular park revenue associated with each use.	

## Appendix C

### Fairfax County is the only NOVA County that charges a fee for Family Photography and Requires a Permit.

Currently, Fairfax County is the only county in NOVA that charges a fee for small group / family photography in public parks. The fee is \$100 and also requires a permit. This fee allows two hours of photography in Public Parks and requires a permit (takes up to 5 days to acquire). This fee is exorbitant and the permit process differs within the park system making it confusing as well as time consuming to acquire.

NOVA County websites. There is no fee or permit requirement for family photography.

- Alexandria: <http://alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=12342>
- Arlington: <http://parks.arlingtonva.us/arlington-county-park-rules-regulations/>
- Culpeper: <http://www.visitculpeperva.com/search.cfm?cx=002045182467070324981%3Aal3ysj2>

- [gfm&cof=FORID%3A11&ie=UTF-8&q=photography+permit&sa=Search](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/press/photography-permit.htm)
- Fairfax: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/press/photography-permit.htm>
- Fauquier: [http://www.fauquiercounty.gov/government/departments/parksrec/index.cfm?action=pr\\_forms](http://www.fauquiercounty.gov/government/departments/parksrec/index.cfm?action=pr_forms)
- Loudoun: <http://www.loudoun.gov/Search/Results?searchPhrase=photography%20permit&page=1&perPage=10>
- Orange: <http://orangecountyva.gov/Search/Results?searchPhrase=photography%20permit&page=1&perPage=10>
- Prince William: <http://www.pwcgov.org/searchcenter/pages/results.aspx?k=photography%20permit>
- Spotsylvania: <http://www.spotsylvania.va.us/content/95/10818.aspx?cx=008339891885646369985:qfooysehn0&cof=FORID%3A11&ie=UTF-8&q=photography+permit&sa=Search>

## Appendix D

### Feedback from FCPA PIO regarding other jurisdictions charging fees pits private vs public parks – not similar comparison.

In 2010, Judy Pedersen, FCPA PIO, put together a list of 14 parks she felt were comparable to public parks in Fairfax County. All 14 parks were Botanical Gardens, privately funded and most were located in other states across the country. The 2010 data listed the average fee per photography session (there was no break down of wedding vs portrait photography pricing) at the private parks at \$102 and fees for an annual permit averaged \$308. From this data, Fairfax County adopted a fee Schedule in 2011 for their public parks that required photographers to obtain a permit for each session and pay a fee. The fee was \$100 for a 2 hour session and \$500 for an annual permit.

In 2014, FCPA PIO put together another list of parks she felt were comparable to Fairfax County Public Parks. On the list were 6 parks and only one was a public park, Brookside Gardens (run by Montgomery County). Brookside's policy regarding family photography is to allow free access for families of up to 10 people. Below is a link to their policies.

<http://www.montgomeryparks.org/brookside/documents/photopermitapplication2011.pdf>

Here are the 6 parks FCPA PIO listed as comparable examples to public parks in Fairfax County in 2014. The FCPA PIO's comparison and fee structure is followed by my research gathered from park websites regarding the correct fee structure for family photography at the parks.

FCPA PIO: Meadowlark Gardens (NVRPA) allows individual admissions of \$4 per person for up to ten people and if the group is larger, then charges the per person fee plus a \$25 per hour charge. (11 people x \$4 + \$25=\$69 for one hour).

Research: Meadowlark Gardens: Run by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. The only additional charge for photography in the gardens is a \$25 photography fee for two hours. Patrons have to pay the entrance fee to enter the park whether taking

pictures or not. So it isn't valid to include an entrance fee onto the permit charge. Only 1 wedding party is allowed at a time in the park and up to 5 families can be photographed during the same 2 hour window (12/17/14 spoke with Michelle). Another point to mention is that the fee at Meadowlark also gives the photographer and family exclusivity.

[http://www.nvrpa.org/park/meadowlark\\_botanical\\_gardens/content/fees](http://www.nvrpa.org/park/meadowlark_botanical_gardens/content/fees)

FCPA PIO: The National Park Service has fees that begin at \$50 per day for three to ten people. However, there is a \$100 application fee, an \$80 administration fee, and hourly management fees depending on the size of the shoot.

Research: National Park Service: The application fee is \$90 and the photography location fee is \$50 for a two-hour window and up to 10 people.

<http://www.nps.gov/nama/planyourvisit/permits-faqs.htm>

FCPA PIO: Brookside Gardens (Silver Spring, MD) requires registration but does not charge for ten or fewer; when the group exceeds that number there is a \$350 fee.

Research: Brookside Gardens: Run by Montgomery County. A Free Public Park. There is NO photography fee for up to 10 people.

<http://www.montgomeryparks.org/brookside/documents/photopermitapplication2011.pdf>

FCPA PIO: Museum of the Shenandoah Valley (VA) requires advance registration and has a \$100 fee plus individual admission fees.

Research: Museum of the Shenandoah Valley: Not a public park. Spoke with Katherine on 1/13/15 and family portrait photography during normal business hours is free. Admission fees do apply, \$10 for adults and children are free.

<http://themsv.org/visit/general-information>

FCPA PIO: Woodlawn House (Alexandria, VA) has a \$100 per hour fee and requires staff to accompany the photographer.

Research: Woodlawn House: Again, not a public park. Woodlawn is run by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and is primarily rented as a wedding venue. I emailed them to find out pricing information for family photography since I could not find any on their website. On December 19, 2014 I received a response from Meredith who states that they have not had any requests for family photography on the grounds and there is no information currently regarding permits and fees for family photography.

FCPA PIO: Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden (Henrico, VA) requires admission for groups over six; Charges \$300 fee for 1.5 hours, and \$100 each additional hour.

Research: Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden: Charges \$150 fee for 1.5 hours and includes admission for up to 6 people (12/19/2014 Spoke with Sarah phone: 804.262.9887 x345).

[http://www.lewisginter.org/facility-rental/weddings\\_and\\_receptions/portraits.php](http://www.lewisginter.org/facility-rental/weddings_and_receptions/portraits.php)

Research: Carlyle House (Alexandria, VA). A privately funded park. A permit is \$25 for the YEAR. The permit allows a photographer to reserve the entire park for 2 hours. Reservations may be made throughout the year with no limitations. The Carlyle House also has permitted photographer's names on a list of park photographers and recommends them to potential wedding clients who are interested in the venue.

#### Appendix E

### 2010 Research by FCPA PIO presented Privately funded Botanical Gardens and not Public Parks as comparisons to the Board.

Photography fee and guideline comparisons for botanical gardens

Garden	Permit application required/ Schedule/drop in	Fee	Per hour	Per session	Per year	Restrictions
Olbrich BG	Yes, must be scheduled	\$25 for one hour session, no refunds	25			Typical do not disturb
South Carolina BG	Yes,	\$250/year unlimited; \$100/single session		100	250	Photographers must be members and registered as photographer
Reynolda Gardens	Yes, Reservation 24 hrs in advance	\$40/session		40		
Denver BG	Yes, schedule 5 days in advance	\$250 for wedding, Model, Professional and Commercial Engagement, family groups, portfolio with professional photographer \$75/session		75	250	Only during open hours, must pay admission for addition people in groups over 5
City of Boston	Yes, 10 days in advance,.	\$50/residents, \$100 non-residents, one hour max	50 or 100			
Chicago BG	No reservations required or permitted, on day of arrival	\$125/session		125		Must pay parking fee, can't used previously reserved areas

	only					
Hatcher Garden	Yes,	\$25/half hour, \$50/hour,\$250/year, double for video photography	50		250	
Lauritzen Gardens	Written request	\$125/session, included with facility rental		125		
Red Butte BG	Written request, advance schedule	\$100/day, plus admission for all members of the group; \$500/year for photo studio plus \$25/ photographer		100	500	
Columbus BG	Schedule 48 hrs in advance	Become member, min \$100, or \$35/hour	35		100	
Dixon BG	Must be member	\$500 annually, \$150/2 hours	75		500	
Frederick Meijer Gardens	Schedule in advance, may need to pay for staff to accompany	\$300/2 hrs, no add'l fee with room rental, \$500 for commercial	150			
Norfolk BG	Schedule in advance, waive fee with room rental	\$75/2 hours and four people,\$100/2 hours for 10 people	50			
Missouri BG	Schedule in advance	Family level membership at \$150, one photography use per year, during open hours		150		
Averages (rounded)			62	102	308	

## Appendix F

### Current family portrait photography fees appear inconsistent with Park Policy regarding For Profit Groups

Through 2014, For Profit groups have been allowed to bring unlimited numbers of people to county parks. For Profit Groups have been allowed unlimited access to park grounds and resources without having to pay a fee, provide advanced notice or apply for a permit.

The 2015 Park Authority Fee Proposal continues to allow For Profit groups of 11 people or less free access to the county's parks and amenities with no permit or advanced notice requirement. In the 2015 Fee Proposal, For Profit groups of 12 or more people would only be charged \$3 per person and receive unlimited time and access to our parks with no permit requirement or advanced notification.

Documentation regarding the 2015 Park Authority Fee Proposal regarding For Profit Groups.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/archives/2015-fee-proposal.pdf> (Page 22)

Other For Profit businesses are allowed to purchase a business license and solicit business within the park. The cost of the Business License is \$50 or 15% of gross revenues, whichever is greater. A Business License is valid for one month and allows the vendor to solicit park patrons to sell their products/services.

Examples of vendors who's services fall under the Business Activities License are as follows: Food trucks, clinics, workshops, programs and other events. All of those vendors have a cost impact on the Park Authority. Trash removal and staff to manage the flow of patrons to the workshops and clinics to name a few. Photographers do not solicit business from the Parks and have no cost impact on the Park Authority. However, photographers are charged the highest permit rate of \$100 for two hours access.

Documentation regarding Business Activities License Fees

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/downloads/fee-schedule.pdf> (Page 28)

### Business Activities License Fees

No person shall sell or make an offer to sell goods or services or conduct business activities within a park without the express written permission of the Park Authority. If approved, such permission is granted through issuance of a Business Activity License.

Business Activity License Permit Fees:

- \$50 or 15% of gross revenues, whichever amount is greater.
  - The \$50 minimum fee is due at the time of application, and the balance (if applicable) is due no later than 30 days after the event.
  - Long term permits (lasting more than one month) must pay the Business Activity fee monthly.

OR

- The applicable athletic field rental fees established in the fee schedule for business activities held on athletic fields, including sports programs and camps, clinics and tournaments.

*Gross revenue includes sales of any food and beverages, products or services, registration fees, participation fees, donations and ticket sales generated by an activity, clinic, workshop, program or any other event. The gross revenue may be adjusted by deducting Park Authority facility rental fees paid in conjunction with the activity/event.*

The Park Authority offers a waiver of the gross revenue percentage for events that donate the proceeds to an organization registered as a Charity with the Commonwealth of Virginia. The fee for the permit is \$50 plus any applicable rental fees or other charges. The fee waiver only applies to the revenue that is donated to the Charity organization. Any revenues from the event not donated to the charity are excluded from the waiver.

Please call FCPA Business Office at (703)324-8516 for further information.

Charging small groups / families a fee for portrait photography in our free public parks is not keeping with the regulations of The Park Policy Manual.  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parkpolicy/>

Policy 305 User Fees states: *That fees are to be approved by the Park Authority Board annually with input from the citizenry.*

Fees are established and maintained at levels which:

1. Can reasonably be expected to collectively produce revenue sufficient to recover all costs of the Park Revenue Fund and all other financial obligations as set forth in the financial management principles of the Park Authority's Financial Management Plan;

Families taking pictures in a public park have no additional cost impact for parks.

2. Are competitive with comparable facilities and services in the area;

\$100 fees and permit requirements are not consistent nor competitive with any other public park in NOVA. All public parks in NOVA allow small group / family photography at no cost. Therefore, the fee structure imposed by the Fairfax County Park Authority is neither competitive nor comparative with services offered by other public parks in the area.

3. Reflect relevant market, economic and financial considerations;

A \$100 fee and permit requirement for small group / family photography does not reflect relevant market, economic and financial considerations. Photographers cannot afford to pay the photography fee because it would be on average 44.44% of their sitting fee.

Photographers are typically 1 person small businesses. We do not have staff to keep up with the permit process. There is also no policy in place for refunds. Cancellations happen all the time when taking portraits. Bad weather, illness and schedule conflicts just name a few. There is currently no policy in place to handle refunds or rescheduling.

Inevitably, the cost and hassle of permits will need to be passed on to families. The \$100 photography fee may limit lower income families from being able to afford to use the parks as it will bring the average sitting fee to \$325. (A survey of 346 local photographers found that the average sitting fee for a family portrait is \$225. <http://www.katforder.com/2013/09/05/dc-area-portrait-photographer-survey-part-1/>.)

#### 4. Attempt to balance the availability of facilities and services with their affordability;

As shown above, the fees charged to For Profit groups differ greatly from the fees and permit requirements imposed upon small groups / families. For Profit groups are allowed to use park facilities and grounds for free and are not required to apply for a permit or even give advanced notice. A group of 20, 50 or 100 patrons arriving on a bus seeking access to the park has a much greater impact on staff, resources and other patron's experiences at the park.

The 2015 Fee Proposal regarding For Profit groups allows groups of 11 people or less free access to park grounds and amenities and does not require a permit or advanced notice. The average family size is 3.14 people according to the US 2010 Census: (<http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-14.pdf>) Even though the average family consists of 3 people, families are expected to pay \$100 for 2 hours of access to public parks and also apply for a permit that takes up to 5 days to acquire.

Photographers do not solicit business from the Parks and have no cost impact on the Park Authority. However, photographers are charged the highest permit rate of \$100 for two hours access.

The cost of the \$100 fee would also make the availability of the parks a strain or possibly out of reach for low-income families. This is not a fair balance of services provided to patrons. Affordability across For Profit groups is inconsistent.

5. Reflect the principle that, where feasible, comparatively small and regular fee increases are preferred over less frequent, larger increases;
6. Allow the Park Authority, where feasible, to build reserves to fund capitalized repair and maintenance of Park Revenue Fund facilities.

7.300.7 - 300.8

8.

Appendix G

Current fee structure places a disproportionate financial burden on photographers and low-income families.

### 2013 DC Area Retail Photographer Survey

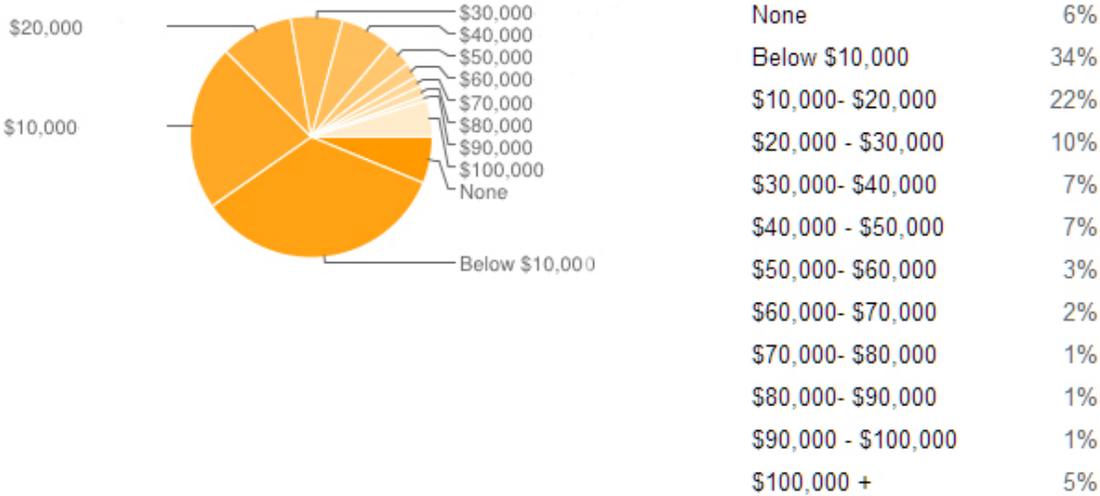
<http://www.katforder.com/2013/09/05/dc-area-portrai-photographer-survey-part-1/>

346 Portrait Photographers in Maryland, DC or Virginia completed the survey.

#### Portrait Photographer's Income

- 52% of the respondents reported that their business gross for the previous year was below \$30,000. This is despite **living in the richest area of the country**.
- Despite 41% of the respondents relying completely on their income as their only employment, the majority (52%) reports a salary from their business of \$20,000 or less. This is significant considering the **average a family of four needs for basic costs of living is \$88,000** and **less than the Bureau of Labor Statistic's** numbers of a median salary of \$28,490. This indicates that the majority of portrait photographers responding have businesses that are in peril and, if the trend continues, will not be sustainable into the future.
- 88% of the respondents aim to take 10 clients (sessions) a month or less (120 a year). To achieve a \$20,000 in salary and \$30,000 in gross business income the average these portrait photographers are earning per client falls below \$300.
  - Only 8% of the respondents reported making a salary that near or above \$88,000 (the basic cost of living for a family of four), yet 60% reports making more this year than the previous year.

**How much salary did your business pay you last year?**



Area Portrait Photographers gross on average less than \$300 per portrait session. Photographers cannot afford to pay \$100 of their gross profit to the Park Authority. The excessive fees being charged by the Fairfax County Park Authority for use of publicly funded parks will inevitably be passed along to families who desire to have their family portraits made in their community park.

## Appendix H

**Pedersen, Judith** 

To: Pamela Lepold &lt;pamelalepold@verizon.net&gt;

Cc: Parkmail, Fuentes, Diana E.

FOIA for Photography Permit information

January 13, 2015 10:12 AM

[Hide Details](#)[Park Permit Fees](#) 

Dear Ms. Leopold,

The total amount of revenue generated in calendar year 2014 via photography permits was \$ 5,250.00. The permit breakout was \$3,100 for family portraits, \$ 1,800 for wedding and engagement photographs and \$350.00 for a variety of commercial photographs. We will not be breaking them out like this in the future as it is irrelevant to us what the purpose of the photography session is in terms of payment or activity. The impacts on the sites are generally similar.

I have also attached the analysis of botanical gardens that we did originally. Keep in mind, our issue was primarily at Green Spring Gardens and historic sites where we were being overrun by photographers using the facilities as their studios. This documentation was gathered in 2010.

Best wishes,

Judy Pedersen  
Public Information OfficerJudy Pedersen  
Public Information Officer  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
12055 Government Center Parkway  
Suite 927  
Fairfax, VA 22035-1118  
[Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov)  
Office: 703-324-8662  
Cell: 703-475-2267Photography fee and  
guideline co... 2010.doc**Contact Information:**Pamela Lepold  
Pamela Lepold Photography

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From: Sandra Gibeault  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 8:43 PM  
To: Braddock BOS Email; Stone, Kiel A; Chairman Email; permits.fees@gmail.com  
Subject: re: Photography Permitting Fees for Fairfax County Parks.

To whom it may concern:

I am a photographer in the DC Metro area and I am writing to you today to express my concerns about Fairfax County Parks permits that are required for photographers and their clients in Fairfax County public parks.

I would like to see this permit and fee process removed because the permits are unfair, are inconsistently applied. I also think that the application process places an unnecessary burden on our small businesses.

The current permit process:

- groups retail portrait photographer making headshots with one camera and one client in the same category as a large wedding, or even a large magazine production with trucks, production crew, props and dozens of staff. Small retail portrait photographers with a single client, a couple, or a family should have even less impact on any space than a family having a picnic, playing ball, or walking a dog.
- is not applied consistently (as admitted by the Public Information office) and enforcement is spotty which leaves clients to shop around for businesses who are willing to break the law and avoid the permit to save costs.
- is not applied equitably. Some photography businesses are charged, some are not. Photographers are told different policies when they call for information.
- the terminology used in the regulations and policies can be confusing. The Parks Authority Board uses the term "Commercial photography" to mean any photographer earning money with photography work, regardless of business size, number of people participating, regardless of the fee the photographer is charging (or not), regardless of our business income, or specialty. The term "Commercial photography" is also a specialty within the photography industry, just as portrait photography, wedding photography, sports photography, editorial photography are specialties. This has led to a lot of confusion over who exactly is required to seek a permit. To many portrait and studio photographers "commercial photography" means a big movie set, Hollywood production or elaborate set pieces

I would like to see the Parks Authority Board vote to repeal this regulation.

Respectfully,  
Sandra J. Gibeault  
Waldorf, Maryland

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From: Bill Kovarik  
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 4:02 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Photographic fees

Dear Sir or Ms.,

As a former resident of Fairfax County, and currently a Professor of Communication at Radford University, where I teach mass media law and ethics, I would like to comment on what I understand to be a relatively new imposition of fees for commercial photography in county parks.

Although user fees are a useful way of covering costs for services in many cases, and are often perfectly appropriate, there is a major problem in this case relative to state and federal constitutional law.

The US First Amendment states: "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech or of the press ..." This has been held in numerous cases, through the incorporation process and by extension of the 14th amendment, to apply to all federal, state and local governments.

The Virginia Declaration of Rights of 1776, still incorporated in the state constitution, also says in Section 12. "That the freedom of the press is one of the great bulwarks of liberty, and can never be restrained but by despotic governments."

Since all commercial photographers are in effect members of the press, and since user fees cannot be charged for exercising Constitutional rights, it would seem that the county ordinance is, on the face of it, rather obviously unconstitutional.

Perhaps the best remedy for this abridgment of a free press would be an appeal to the Fairfax County Circuit Court with respect to a Dillon Rule revue, which would probably expedite the Constitutional question and quickly relieve the county of its embarrassment.

Sincerely,

Prof. William Kovarik

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**From:** Stacey Rose Harris  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 21, 2015 9:45 AM  
**To:** Parkmail  
**Subject:** Photography fee

Hello. I am writing to give my opinion on the \$100 fee to shoot professional photography in FCPA parks. I think it is unfair and is simply a way to extract money from the public. Here is why.

1. Photography shots do not impose a "cost" on the park in the same way that admitting someone to the facility imposes a cost.
2. The fee will simply be passed on to the customers, who presumably are county residents and would otherwise be able to be on park grounds and take pictures themselves. At a minimum, photographers shooting county residents should not be charged the fee.
3. If the rationale is to charge the photographer simply because they are making money, then you should be charging anyone who makes money while at the park, for any reason, including personal trainers, tutors, personal coaches, babysitters. Not fair to target the photographers just because they are easily identifiable.
4. The fee is high! \$100 would practically double the cost of the photo shoot, on average.
5. Is there a problem with photographers cluttering the parks right now? I am not aware of any.
6. At a minimum, if you are going to charge a fee, make it a nominal fee like \$10. Or, give each photographer a certain number of "passes" (like 20) before they are charged a fee.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Stacey Rose Harris, Partner*  
DiMuroGinsberg PC

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From: Lissa Cherbaka  
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 11:12 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Photography fee

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to let you know that I am aware that photographers are being required to obtain a permit and pay a fee to use the public parks in Fairfax County for family portraits. This fee seems exorbitant and requiring a permit does not make sense, since the scheduling of outdoor photography sessions are heavily dependent on weather. The fee and permit requirements seem unfair and would cause significant hardship on small business photographers.

I am not in favor of these requirements and ask that you please reconsider them.

Thank you for your time and service.  
Lissa Cherbaka  
8911 Stewart St  
Burke VA 22015

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From: VA Virginia  
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 10:57 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Park photo fee is ABSURD

I strongly oppose the park photography fee. Seeing families and couples in love posing for a sweet memory at a tax funded park...so now you want to tax THAT via a permit fee?? WRONG! So they reschedule due to weather and have to get another permit? People that live in apartments have no place to go for a beautiful family memory. So hike the fee up another 100 bucks?!?! End this nonsense, Fairfax. Absurd.

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From: Ruth Mara  
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 10:40 AM  
To: Parkmail; parksweb  
Subject: Park Fee Adjustments

Comments: My husband and I are both in favor of the proposed rate hikes. We are members. We Mount Vernon rec center and occasionally one of the others, and we are willing to pay higher fees.

Name: Ruth Mara  
Street: 2725 Fairhaven Ave.  
City: Alexandria  
State: VA  
Zip Code: 22303

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From: Adrienne Elwell  
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 10:39 AM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

To: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. This requirement has potential to negatively affect any of us who chose to get family portraits taken in our local Fairfax County parks as well as the photographers taking our portraits. Our tax

dollars cover park usage and we are always respectful visitors to our lovely local parks. Please Fairfax County do not charge excessive fees for family photography in our local parks.

Thank you for your consideration.

Adrienne Elwell  
6720 Hartwood Lane  
Centreville, VA 20121

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From: Toby Chieffo-Reidway  
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 10:06 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board

To the board of the Fairfax County Park Authority,

I am writing this to inform you that I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for Family Photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

Toby Chieffo-Reidway, Ph.D., SAG-AFTRA  
Irish Eyes Photography by Toby

Toby and Bill Reidway  
15182 Stillfield Place  
Centreville, VA 20120

January 20, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I write in opposition to the fees and permits required for family / portrait photography in taxpayer-funded Fairfax County parks, and to support an exemption for those fees and permits for any photo sessions of groups smaller than 12. The fees and regulations in question are exorbitant in scope, and disproportionately burden lower income residents of Fairfax County. Moreover, as a means of generating county revenue and controlling park expense, the fees and permits are grossly inefficient and run counter to the parks' core purpose – providing a scenic and nature-based environment for the benefit and enjoyment of Fairfax County residents. FCPA should eliminate the fees for any photo sessions for less than 12 subjects.

The current photographer fees and permit requirements - \$100 for a 2-hour session, subject to a permit requiring a 5-day waiting period – are vastly out of synch with the way I and most family photographers currently do business. I have just completed my first year as professional family photographer. This past year, I charged my clients between \$180-200 for a one-hour photo session with no additional fees. The majority of my earnings are used for equipment, and education to further better my craft. I didn't begin my business with the understanding that it would bring in a huge profit, but rather because I love photography, portraiture and providing families with beautiful memories that will last a lifetime. These additional fees and permits are enough to totally derail a small business like mine.

Our Fairfax County public parks are the ideal setting for creating special moments for our county residents. I have never encountered a time in one of our public parks where photographers were rude to park visitors or asked a passersby to get out of the background during a shoot—additionally, I noted that photographers greet each other with the utmost respect should they be at a park at the same time. Most importantly, I hear the children that I am taking photos of remark to their parents how much fun they are having in the park and could they come back again for another visit soon. Isn't that what we want, for families to enjoy our beautiful landscape? Landscape, by the way, that is paid for not only by our taxpaying clients, but also by us photographers who pay not once, but TWICE, for both personal and

business taxes. Why would you have us pay again? I just don't understand the downside to allowing residents to have their family pictures taken on our public land without additional fees and paperwork. I find it hard to imagine that those sitting on the board today don't take yearly family photos for holiday cards, or never have photo-shoots to remember a special day and would enjoy doing so in our parks without additional fees or permits—the alternative is to have to travel outside of your own county where these fees and permits don't exist on public land, which by the way is every county but ours.

Bizarrely, there is currently no distinction in the photography fees assessed for a small family portrait session (average cost to the subject \$266) and a large wedding party (total costs often reaching thousands of dollars). Making this even worse is the fact that small family photo sessions – unlike larger wedding style shoots – impose virtually zero additional expenses on the parks themselves, and no disruption to other park guests. While the subjects of a large wedding photo shoot can likely absorb an additional \$100 in fees without making much difference to the overall cost, for couples and small families it can be enough to put even a low-priced professional photo shoot at the parks financially out of reach.

The permit process itself is also flawed, disproportionately burdening smaller photographers and their clients. Leaving aside the administrative burden of dealing with multiple forms and wait periods, small photo sessions – again as opposed to large wedding-style shoots - are often planned spontaneously, heavily influenced by weather, and subject to a high cancelation / rescheduling rate by the subjects. When a non-refundable fee must be received five days in advance for a specific date, it's becomes virtually impossible for a small-franchise photographer to manage client expectations and recover the costs of doing business.

In correspondence on this matter, the Fairfax County PIO described the problem facing the county as being “overrun by photographers using the facilities as their studios.” This is a grossly unfair characterization, as it implies photographers taking advantage of taxpayer resources as a means of improving their own bottom lines. The truth is precisely the opposite. Photo shoots take place at public parks because that is where the clients – the vast majority of them Fairfax County residents already supporting the parks via their local taxes and private donations – want their families photographed. Many of them – particularly those without their own backyards or access to other, private facilities – simply have no alternative if they want a pristine, nature-based setting for a family photo. The current fee structure, applied without discrimination to large or small parties, will in effect deny a prime benefit of the parks to those with the fewest alternatives.

Finally – I understand the total revenue received from photography fees last year to have been just over \$5000, out of a total operating budget of several million. I submit that the fees, while placing a serious burden on individuals and small businesses, are of minimal financial benefit to the FCPA, and may even be a net loss when enforcement costs are accounted for. At the very least, more information is owed to the public as to the expected impacts of the fees going forward in *all* the parks, including any policy changes with respect to enforcement.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration – I can be reached at 703-919-4441 if you have any questions.

Best regards,

*Toby Chieffo-Reidway, Ph.D., SAG-AFTRA  
Bill Reidway  
Irish Eyes Photography by Toby  
15182 Stillfeld pl.  
Centreville VA 20120*

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From: Jim Turbok  
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 12:42 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Photographer fees

Members,

Your proposal to charge a \$100 fee for professional photographs of small groups in county parks is unjustified. As long as no damage is done to park facilities or other individuals are blocked from using the park during a photography session such a fee should not be charged. The fee would be too expensive for the photographer and for his or her subjects. I am a Fairfax County resident who visits the county parks and I see many users, none of whom pay fees, why should small scale photographers be different?

Thank you for your consideration,  
James M. Turbok  
Fairfax, VA

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From: mary tracy  
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 12:17 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: comments on photography fees

were there ever any public hearings before this policy was adopted? Did both the Park Authority and the Board of Supervisors vote on this policy after public comment had been solicited or without giving users an opportunity to comment? (a search of park auth website produced nothing showing that this was ever an agenda item).

How much money is spent administering the photography fee program? Fairfax County wastes far too much money on policies like this that are put into place without knowledge of park users and too often are based on one-sided information. What were the facts behind the claim that Green Spring Gardens and historic sites were being "overrun by photographers using the facilities as their studios"?

If other for-profit groups with less than 11 people are not charged, it seems unfair to charge photographers with similar-sized groups.

will all Park Authority Board members actually see all citizen comments or will they just be presented with a summary that may not reflect actual concerns expressed to the staff?

Note: i am not a professional photographer, just a concerned citizen. mary tracy, alexandria, va, 22307

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From: Katie Vogel  
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 5:18 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Photography Fee and Permit for Public Parks

To The Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

It has come to my attention that there will be a County Meeting tonight to discuss imposing a fee and permit requirement for families to take pictures in our taxpayer funded public parks. I am hoping this is not the case, as these parks not only completely free to the public, but this decision will also hurt small businesses in our area. Not only that, but these fees would violate park policy.

I am not able to be present at the meeting tonight as I am out of town, but I hope you carefully consider the implications of imposing such a fee and choose to allow these parks to remain an option for photographers and families.

Thank you for your time,

Kathleen Vogel

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From: Amy Trimble  
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 4:40 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: pamela@lepoldphotography.com  
Subject: photographer fee and permit

Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

I do not agree with the fee and permit you are looking to impose on photographers for using the public parks. These are public areas therefore allowing people to enjoy them and use them in a variety of ways. Pictures provide away of publicizing the beauty of our Fairfax County parks to people all over the world. As many families send pictures to family and friends who live elsewhere.

It is unfair to put a fee and permit on one group and not all groups. How can you pick one group over others?

Thank you for your time and attention to the fairness in this matter.

Amy Herbert  
9559 Cherry Oak Ct.  
Burke, VA

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From: Peter Blaise Monahon  
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2015 11:49 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Cc: Peter Blaise Monahon  
Subject: Proposed fees for photography in Fairfax Parks

Dear Fairfax County Government,

Regarding governmental fees for photography anywhere:

Photography is speech recognized by the Supreme Court as 1st Amendment protected free speech since the inception of modern photography in the late 1800s.

As such it is un-Constitutional for the government to charge a fee for photography.

Period.

You can charge for exclusive use of public facilities, but that has nothing to do with speech, nothing to do with photography, nothing to do with profit or loss.

If any government employee ever approaches me while I am photographing anywhere, especially in Fairfax parks, I will pursue you back to the Supreme Court who already decided this issue in the late 1800s.

It is also none of your business how I earn a living, and whether or not I will incorporate any experience or artifact I create while I am on public property into an income-generating enterprise.

In other words, NEVER approach anyone with a camera unless you are prepared to say, " ... THANK YOU for exercising your free speech rights, protecting one and all in America and creating a referential historical record proof of our existence -- I've got your back ..."

Never touch my camera.

Never tell me I can't photograph anything.

Never tell me I need permission or permits to photograph.

Never try to confiscate my camera.

Never try to see or delete my photos -- they are my Constitutionally protected copyright artifacts from the creation of even the latent image, and you have no superior rights over my copyright.

If you need money, go to Congress, but do not break the Constitution, do not interfere in any way with my protected free speech rights and copyright, and do not monopolize any marketplace by favoring some competitors over others.

Thank you.

Peter Blaise Monahon  
3705 S. George Mason Dr. #605-S  
Falls Church, VA 22041 US

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From: PAMELA LEPOLD  
Sent: Saturday, January 24, 2015 9:18 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Thank you

Dear Members of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board,

Thank you very much for welcoming all of us to your meeting on Wednesday evening! We all sincerely appreciated your willingness to hear & consider our concerns regarding the park's family photography fee & permit structure. It means a great deal to me personally to know that so many of you care about what we had to say & how we feel about this very important issue.

We look forward to a solution that addresses our concerns of welcoming families to Fairfax County parks and to address their desire to create & capture memories in their parks. We look for fair and equitable treatment for all businesses, and easily understandable procedures that don't put undue stress or strain on families, photographers, and park staff. If I can do anything to help in any way as we work toward this solution, I hope you won't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you again!

Sincerely,  
Pamela Lepold

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From: david Whitney  
 Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:26 AM  
 To: Parkmail  
 Cc: Nugent, Barbara A.; Pedersen, Judith; Kreitler, Carrie T; Paczan, Patty; 'Drew Killian'; 'DOUGLAS L PRINCE'  
 Subject: Alexandria Masters Comments on FCPA Fee Proposals, Feb 2015

All,

The attached file contains comments from Alexandria Masters Swimming on the FCPA proposed fees for 2015-2016.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this feedback to the County. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Whitney  
 Alexandria Masters Swimming

**Alexandria Masters Request to FCPA for Change to the 2015-2016 Fee Proposal, Feb 2015**

Alexandria Masters Swimming (AMS) is a 501c(7) non-profit organization that has been offering a masters swimming program at FCPA RECenters since 1998. Our lane rental rates have been increased every year except one since 2004. AMS has conducted an impact study of the proposed FCPA lane rental rate of \$23.20 (a 5.45% increase) for 2015-16.

Over the past 4 years AMS made several lane increases to accommodate growth of the team and to offer a greater variety of practice times. Unfortunately, our growth spurt has leveled off, and we ended up with a sizeable deficit last year, and are anticipating another deficit for this year. We cannot sustain our current volume of 1,800+ lanes under the current rate of \$22 per lane/hr, not to mention an increase to \$23.20. AMS has already increased swimming fees and decreased the number of clinics offered during 2014. Maintaining or raising our lane rental rate have the unintended consequence of a loss of revenue for FCPA from AMS, as explained in the following two scenarios:

- At the current rate of \$22 per lane/hr, AMS will need to reduce the number of lanes. Potential cuts include 1-lane reductions for 5 weekly practice times, reducing our total lanes rented from 1,832 to 1,660. The result will be a reduction in total FCPA payment from \$40,304 to \$36,520.
- With the proposed rate of \$23.20 per lane/hr, AMS will need to consider further reductions, which include the 1-lane reductions for the 5 weekly practices mentioned above, plus elimination of the Tuesday/Thursday mid-day practices at Mount Vernon RECenter, thereby reducing the total lanes rented from 1,832 to 1,520. These cuts will result in a reduction in total FCPA payment from \$40,304 to \$35,264. The lower contract costs will be required in this scenario to offset the expected loss of swimmers due to elimination of practice times.

Neither of these scenarios is desirable for our swimmers or for FCPA, and both scenarios will stifle any potential growth. With a lane rental rate of \$20 or less, AMS will be much better positioned to maintain the current lanes rented and to consider further options for expansion. Our current 1,832 lanes rented at the rate of \$20 would result in a payment to FCPA of \$36,640, which is higher than both undesirable scenarios mentioned above. Placing us in a position to grow could result in additional lanes rented and greater total revenue for FCPA in the future. AMS proposes the following two options for your consideration that will be a win-win for both FCPA and AMS:

- Option 1: Reduce the minimum requirement for the discounted rate from 3,000 lanes to 1,500 lanes. If AMS qualified for the discounted rate, AMS could maintain its current practice schedule and be treated equally with other masters swimming programs using FCPA RECenters (most of which are for-profit).

- Option 2: Reduce the base rental rate below \$22 while increasing the discount rate above the current \$19.22. Over 70% of the lane rentals are at the discounted rate, so small increases to the discount rate will allow for a larger decrease to the base rate, while still providing the same revenue to FCPA. The lower base rate might also enable the smaller organizations to rent additional lanes and grow their programs accordingly.

Without some relief in the lane rental rate, AMS will be forced to cut back on our masters swimming program, resulting in a lesser offering to our taxpaying swimmers of Fairfax County and reduced revenue for FCPA.

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From: Mickey Osterreicher  
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 5:39 PM  
To: Parkmail  
Subject: Comments on Proposed Permit & Fee for Photography

Please see attached comments by thirteen news organizations, photographers' organizations and First Amendment advocacy groups on the Proposed FCPA Permit & Fee for Photography rules.

Very truly yours,

Mickey H. Osterreicher, Esq.  
General Counsel  
National Press Photographers Association (NPPA)

National Press Photographers Association  
1100 M&T Center • 3 Fountain Plaza • Buffalo, NY 14203  
Phone: 716.566.1484 • Fax: 716.608.1509

**Via Email**

February 4, 2015

Fairfax County Park Authority  
Public Information Office  
12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927  
Fairfax, VA 22035-1118

**RE: Proposed Photography Permits & Fees**

To the Fairfax County Park Authority Board:

The undersigned news organizations, photographers' organizations and First Amendment advocacy groups wish to express our strong objections to the Fairfax County Park Authority's (FCPA) proposed permit and fee structure and the abridgments they would impose on the First Amendment rights of citizens and visual journalists.

Your proposed rules create an unnecessary and burdensome distinction between amateur and professional photographers. Whether the images being made and recorded are for journalism, weddings or any other type of photography/filming (hereinafter "photography"), distinguishing between professional photographers and amateurs who are doing precisely the same things, at the same times, and in the same places, is arbitrary, capricious and unconstitutional. As we have noted in comments regarding federal legislation governing photography on U.S. Park lands – the focus should be on whether the activity places an unusual burden on the land resource. It is also important to note that most major municipalities in the U.S. where photography occurs, have adopted a similar approach to the one we are recommending that protects the constitutional rights of all

parties.

Our opposition to the currently proposed language that “all professional photographers are required to obtain a professional photography permit” and that “with the permit you will have a scheduled use of the park area, avoiding conflicts with other groups and events” is based upon its being overly broad and vague while at the same time imposing a time-table for such activity. Additionally, the 5 day permit processing period proposed for FCPA approval creates a potential prior restraint on photography of all types.

We believe that the proper question to ask is whether the photography creates any unusual impact on the land. If the activity presents no more impact on the land than that of the general public, then it should be exempt from permit and fee requirements. A permit should only be required if the photography takes place at locations where members of the public are not allowed, or if the photography substantially impedes public access to areas where the public is normally allowed -- and then only when the photography is clearly commercial in nature. If the primary purpose is to inform the public, then no permit or fee should be required – and unless the photography is clearly commercial, the default is that it should be considered informational.

Unfettered access is necessary in coverage of the important public policy issues that arise in the conservation and use of public park resources. Journalists should be free to report to the public on public issues from public lands at any time. That protection should extend not only to individuals traditionally identified as newsgatherers, but also for freelance visual journalists and members of the public who may use cameras on a speculative basis to photograph or film activities on public lands without having an assured media outlet for their work.

Therefore, we strongly urge the FCPA to revise its proposed rules accordingly to craft an unambiguously worded policy that protects not only park resources but our First Amendment guarantees.

Thank you very much for your time and attention in this matter. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Mickey H. Osterreicher  
NPPA General Counsel

*On behalf of:*

American Photographic Artists  
American Society of Media Photographers  
American Society of News Editors  
Associated Press Media Editors  
Association of Alternative Newsmedia  
Graphic Artists Guild  
North American Nature Photography Association  
PACA Digital Media Licensing Association  
Radio Television Digital News Association  
Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press  
Society of Environmental Journalists  
Society of Professional Journalists  
White House News Photographers Association

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-----Original Message-----

From: Heather Rafii

Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 11:08 AM

To: Parkmail

Subject: Photography permit

This is an email regarding the \$100 per visit to photograph in our fairfax county parks photography permit or \$500 annual permit. I attended the meeting last month, but did not speak.

Personally I am not apposed to some sort of fee, though \$100 is quite excessive considering Meadowlark charges \$25. I purchased the \$500 annual permit in October of 2014 as soon as I learned of the fee. I have been photographing at Green Spring gardens since 2009 and before I started photographing there I did call and ask if there was any sort of fee and I was told no I also asked about bringing in props and was told it was not a problem. In the 5 years I have been photographing there more and more photographers have 'discovered' the location and are using it. I was only asked one time if I had a permit-when I client that won a charity auction parked by mistake inside the gates after 5 pm and the employee came around looking for them. That is when I discovered there is now a permit and a very high fee to use the gardens. I only use the location about 5-6 times a year but decided to get the annual pass just in case I go over. My clients spend \$200 for a session fee, so this permit eats into 1/2 of my profit for this. I do not ask my clients to pay the fee I feel this is part of doing business.

Here are my concerns, besides the cost of them:

- 1) Since there is no entrance gate like at Meadowlark, there is no way to enforce the permits, every time I am there now I see at least 4-5 other 'professional' photographers in Green Springs gardens and I guarantee only maybe one of them has a permit. So I get annoyed that they are using the space for free where I had to pay. Also there are some prime areas where I have 'applied' to use where they are currently using. The application is also a little vague on where you will be using the space I don't know until I get there all the time and see what is currently blooming.
- 2) As was mentioned at the meeting, the need to apply each time for a permit. Although I never had an issue at Green Springs Gardens with obtaining a permit quickly, it would be nice to just have a yearly permit and that is your proof. Maybe calling the location the day of to say you be there to make sure there is nothing going on. But even then there is enough space to go somewhere else.
- 3) Staff leaves at 5 so again most photographers use the space after they have already left so no way to enforce it, plus the gates are closed so parking becomes an issue.

Please contact me if I can be of further help or if you have any questions.

Heather Rafii

Heather Leigh Photography

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From: Eaeen Marini

Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 10:53 PM

To: Paczan, Patty; Parkmail; Kreidler, Carrie T

Cc: President; Valarie Zhang

Subject: ATTN: Public Info Office/Fee Comments

Thank you for sharing the notice regarding the Fairfax County Park Authority Proposed Fee Schedule Public Comment Period. In the attached letter and below, I have described the effect of a potential rate increase to our families and not-for-profit swim club.

Northern Virginia Nereids (NVN) Synchronized Swim Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to strive for excellence in the sport of synchronized swimming by providing opportunities to foster and promote synchronized swimming through training and competitive opportunities for athletes and coaches from recreation levels to competitive levels in the Northern Virginia area.

We provide the opportunity for youth through young adults to learn the sport of Synchronized Swimming (Synchro). Unlike many other swim teams that use Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) RECenters / pools, NVN only charges their swimmers what is being charged to NVN. In other words, NVN does not make any profit off of club fees. Many local swim teams can and do make a profit off of their fees because they are a for-profit entity.

There are very specific guidelines in regards to maintaining a non-profit classification, one being that you cannot carry a cash reserve for the purpose of using those funds for other than the original intent of the non-profit. As such, all of our costs are passed along to swimmer families, offset only by what fundraising we can do every season.

For instance, our most advanced swimmers typically pay just under \$400.00 per month for club fees. FCPA is proposing indoor swimming pool base rate rental increases in the range of 5% to 21% for the 2015 / 2016 swim season. Our main rental is the diving well at Audrey Moore RECenter, a 50 meter pool. The rate for the well is proposed to increase 15% in 2015/2016. We also rent a 25 yard swim lane which is proposed to increase 5.5%. These increases will add significant cost per month to the already high pool costs that parents are now paying. In order for NVN to sustain year after year, we need to average around 30-40 swimmers. Our big concern right now that if the rates are increased again this year in addition to the significant increase from last year, we may start to see a decline in the amount of swimmers / their parents that have the available funding to pay such significant costs on a monthly basis.

Last season, FCPA increased the rental rates for the diving well by approximately 5%. FCPA also decreased the space that was allocated in that well rental by removing a swim lane that was previously included in the rented space. NVN had to pay to rent that additional lane to safely accommodate our swimmers' practice. The net effect was a 45% increase in our pool rental costs projected for 2014/2015 over the 2013/2014 season.

NVN and the Audrey Moore RECenter facility have enjoyed over a 30 year history together. We have always tried to represent our team well and work with the management of the center so that all needs are being met and a professional relationship was established over time. NVN is the only local synchronized swim team that has such an extensive history with just one public RECenter. This is a testament that not only synchronized swimming is here to stay but also that we have appreciated the access that having a long history has allowed by providing a stable and reliable venue for our practices.

We are a small club. We do not have hundreds of swimmers. We have been successful and plan on being successful in the future. However, as a non-profit organization, we cannot continue to be hit with 5% to 25% increases in pool rental costs, especially after the 45% increase last season. We will lose our swimmers because parents will not be able to afford the pool costs.

The Park Authority RECenters were based on providing access to all peoples, regardless of their financial status. In many ways, NVN is aligned with that purpose. We try to provide excellent coaching and training in an economical way that most parents can afford. We sought and received non-profit status because we wanted to offer the unique opportunity to as many swimmers as we could.

When you are competing for pool space and time with teams that are for-profit, it is not a level playing field. We cannot charge hundreds of dollars in increases to our families and maintain our swim team. We cannot just increase the fees exponentially to cover the anticipated costs.

Therefore, as President of Northern Virginia Nereids, I request that either a waiver of the 2015/2016 pool rental fee increase be applied to our account OR we come to some arrangement that we are provided a standard increase that will not be in excess of 5% annually.

I am open to having a discussion about this topic. I am open to discussing other options that FCPA may have available to a non-profit swim club.

Thank you for your time and support,

Eaen Marini, President of NVN Synchronized Swimming Club (NVN Synchro)

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Comments on Proposed Fee Adjustments by the Fairfax  
County Park Authority for Fiscal Year 2015  
Comments by  
Dennis Weller  
13012 Yates Ford Road  
Clifton, VA 20124

It is difficult to comment on the proposal document, because the information provided in the proposal document does not appear to be correct.

On Page 9 of the proposal, a chart is provided, showing the current fees for the country RECenters, and the new fees proposed for comment. The current fees shown in the chart do not appear to be correct, nor do they match the current fees shown on the county website. For example, the annual fees shown for two adults is \$1,482, and the discounted fee is shown as \$1,037. But according to the county website, the current discounted fee is actually \$881.

Since the chart does not present the existing fees correctly, it is difficult to know what to make of the proposed fees shown in the chart. Are they also incorrect? If so, it's difficult to provide any meaningful comment. If the fees shown in the chart are what is actually being proposed, then the chart is very misleading.

It suggests that the county is proposing a very modest increase, when in fact the proposed fees represent an increase of nearly twenty percent. This does not comport with the policy, set forth in the document, of making small changes in fees, rather than dramatic ones.

At the very least, if there is a requirement to provide notice and seek comment on the proposed fee increases, I would suggest that the park authority has not met that requirement by publishing the document, since it does not correctly show the increases in fees that are being proposed.

I use the rec centers on a regular basis, and I see the users with whom I share the facilities every day. Many of them are elderly, and depend on the facilities to deal with serious physical limitations. I see them bravely force themselves to do their exercise routines, even though they do so with great difficulty. Many of these users are retired, and do not appear to have the financial resources to cope with a twenty percent increase in their fees.

Although I am also retired, and my resources are also limited, they are probably greater than those of many of the friends I see at the rec centers. But the proposed fees would put the cost of rec center membership at a level comparable to that of commercial fitness centers in this area. These alternative facilities are generally newer and offer more complete services than the rec centers. They don't have coin-operated lockers. They don't sell their facilities for other purposes, such as craft fairs and high schools swim meets. And in the summer months they don't turn into summer camps and child care facilities. The document notes that the rec centers have experienced a small decline in revenues. As a professional economist, I would respectfully suggest that the rec centers are selling a service, and that in setting fees for the rec centers the country must consider the value they provide compared with alternative providers in the area. A twenty percent increase in fees would put the rec centers at a significant competitive disadvantage, and it is likely that this would lead to a further reduction in membership. In considering the proposed fees, the county cannot assume that the proposed increase will produce the expected increase in revenues.

The document also seeks to justify the proposed increases in fees by citing increases in the costs of pay and benefits for county employees. But the rec centers are operated by a partner -- a private entity that does not share the cost structure described in the document. So it's not clear what relevance the county's expenses for employee benefits and pensions might have for the fees charged by the rec centers. At the very least, the document does not provide any justification for what appears to be a very significant increase.

I suggest that, at a minimum, the park authority needs to correct the document so that it accurately describes the fee increases that are being proposed, and then repeat the notice and comment process so that county residents have a meaningful opportunity to comment on the proposal.

More fundamentally, if the new fees shown in the document are actually those being proposed, then they are unreasonable. They are unaffordable for many current users of the rec centers. For those who might be able to afford the proposed fees, they are not competitive with those of commercial fitness centers in the area. Either way, they represent an error in judgement by the park authority, and should be reconsidered.

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**McLean Citizens Association Resolution  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
FY 2015 Fee (Increase) Proposal  
February 4, 2015**

**WHEREAS**, the primary use of net revenue in the Park Authority's Revenue and Operating Fund (ROF) is facility and services reinvestment into projects such as the Park Improvement Fund;

**WHEREAS** the proposed modest fee increases have been influenced by the Consumer Price Index, unemployment, retail sales, and consumer confidence; and,

**WHEREAS**, Golf and RECenter revenues are decreasing but there are revenue increases from rentals, marine operations, amusements such as carousels, and picnic shelter rentals, and from high volume pool renters; Lake Fairfax and Burke Lake Park campground operations and miniature golf have positive revenues but high maintenance expenditures,

**WHEREAS**, the Park Authority recommends establishing county and non-county group admission fees for for-profit/commercial groups of 12 people or more for Clemenjontri Park, among other increases; and

**WHEREAS**, the increases set forth in the Park Authority Proposed Fee Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2015 (2015 Proposal) appear to be generally incremental, fair and reasonable to augment operating expenses to keep up with increasing use of park facilities;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the MCA supports the fee increases in all categories as proposed by the Park Authority in the 2015 Proposal as a necessary step in bringing Park Authority revenue into line with actual costs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the fee structure should be reexamined each time the Park Authority wants to issue additional bonds so that the revenue is available to support the associated debt.

*Approved by the MCA Executive Committee  
February 4, 2015*

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McLean Citizens Association, PO Box 273, McLean, Virginia 22101

cc: John Foust, Dranesville District Supervisor  
Grace Han Wolf, Dranesville District Park Authority Board  
Ben Wiles, Staff, Supervisor John Foust's office  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

## Fee Comments From Facebook

Jessica Colvert White

Jan 19th, 4:41am

I also oppose the photography fee and permit required by Fairfax County parks. This is beyond ridiculous! The whole point of public parks is for the public to be able to freely use them, not just the wealthy! I have been paying taxes in this county for years. What is next? A fee for picnics or playground usages? Come on Fairfax County! We deserve better!!

Bill Jenne

Jan 19th, 8:44am

Please don't charge photographers an extra fee to use public facilities. Like other state residents, photographers are already taxed to provide funding for state parks through their state income tax. It is a double tax.

Photographers don't take away anything from the parks by taking pictures there. Their use of the park has no more significant impact on the park than anyone else who is visiting the park. Why discriminate against photographers?

The county won't gain any significant revenue by charging a photography fee and it will just discourage people from visiting the parks and using their cameras, because people will be confused about whether or not they need a permit to photograph in a public park.

The more ways that people can find for using public parks, in this case- family photography, will ultimately create more public support for the parks, which could mean more support for park budgets in the future.

When people see beautiful family photographs taken in a public park setting then they will be reminded what a great resource the parks are, and be more likely to visit the parks and support greater budgets in the future. By encouraging different uses of public parks, like photography, the park authority will more likely increase the number of visitors to county parks, and then increase public support for more parks and park budgets. Thereby they would create more support for park budgets than would they gain collecting a small amount of photography permit fees.

Dave Myles

Jan 19th, 10:48am

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a concerned resident and photographer of Fairfax County with the pending action on requiring permits for use of public parks in the county. Over the years I have seen more and more aggressive attitudes towards photographers using public places. The requiring of permits adds a serious burden to any photographer but especially professional photographers running a small business. I am specifically a hobbyist photographer. I do not shoot for profit. My photographs are not for sale. I do work with models at times. I have had very bad experiences from park rangers or managers who told me to leave because of a lack of a very expensive permit.

Any photographer understands the needs to keep public parks usable for everyone. But requiring photographers to pay a permit fee but nobody else is discrimination. What's more, the rules/fees don't fit any common sense. No distinction is made between what is a professional photographer and hobbyist. Does the use of a quality camera make someone a professional? I have a very nice camera, shoot with models often but I am not professional and yet I would be required to pay some large fee?

Assuming I was willing to pay the fee, which I'm not, what does that come with? I would assume if the county is going to require a professional photographer to pay a large permit fee then the county should guarantee the photographer unlimited access to the specific area, block pedestrian traffic, etc. but that doesn't seem to be the case. What is actually happening is the parks will choose to charge an expensive fee to any/all photographers just to use the park....but they don't charge anyone else.

If I decide to set up an easel and paint will I be charged? If I use a point and shoot camera to take pics of

flowers do I need a permit? If I want to take sunrise shots on a tripod do I need a permit? If I want to do yoga or join a group of joggers do we need a permit? Do hikers require a permit?

The rules are arbitrary and nonsensical and add an undue burden on photographers. Clearly, if a wedding party wanted to set up with large lights, reflectors, assistants, etc. that would be a commercial shoot and some sort of permit would make sense. But a photographer walking around with a high school student doing their senior pic or with a small family taking pics of them and their children should NOT require some permit nor should a hobbyist photographer walking around with a pretty girl.

I urge common sense concerning the requirement of permits and setting rules. It would be a good idea to actually discuss these things with photographers. More often than not the attempt to push heavy fees on photographers is just a way to extort money from small business owners and not to keep the park nice for everyone else.

A distinction needs to be made between a truly commercial professional photographer (weddings, print magazine), a small business photographer (family/children photos) and a hobbyist photographer (photographing for fun). Ultimately, if you're not going to charge a permit to hike, walk a dog, do yoga, jog, etc. then you shouldn't for hobbyist photographers. IF a permit is going to be required for small business and commercial photography it should be in relation to the type of shoot and time needed and include some special access or rights like blocking off areas of the park since you're not debating charging anyone else to use the park.

[Stewart Leathwood](#)

Jan 19th, 5:45pm

I oppose any attempt to charge a fee for photographers in any county owned property.

[Matt Sewell](#) \$100 for a picture? What's next - fee for making eye contact with park wildlife?

[Randy Wyant](#) — [1 star](#), too, am opposed to a photography fee within the parks. I am a photographer and use the parks as a setting once in a while. I have never seen another photographer in a park while we were there, so I don't think the issue is that the parks are being overrun by photographers.

[Susan Wyant](#) — [1 star](#) Many folks like to have their family portraits done in Fairfax Parks. Adding \$100 to pay for park usage just is not right. Especially when we all live in the county. What happened to free access? Not happy with the permit and \$100 fee. Meeting Wed. to dispute this... Give us back our parks!

[Karen Manfredi](#) — [1 star](#) oppose the photography fee and permit requirements for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

[Maggie Holmes Lam](#) — [1 star](#) oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

[Kimberly Barton Jay](#) — [1 star](#) oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

Heather Lawver Sewell — [1 star](#)

It's with great disappointment that I must give Fairfax County Parks only one star! Their parks are amazing, but I vehemently DISAGREE with their \$100 photography fee for simply taking family photos in Fairfax County Parks! I've sent a letter to the Fairfax County Board, but received no response. I'm hoping that by posting here, more Fairfax & Virginia residents will become aware of this excessive & unfair fee that discriminates against families & photographers for no clear, justifiable reason!

Compare the \$100 photography fee to the fact that For-Profit companies can bring in groups of 11 people to Fairfax parks for FREE! No fees at all! The first 11 people are free, then it's only \$3 for each additional person! For a for-profit company! How does that compare to families capturing memories? To equal the fee imposed on families simply for taking photos, a For-Profit company would have to bring in a group of 44 people!! How is that fair? Is a simple family outing to take photos really that much more of a strain on the park resources than a massive busload of people? I don't see how.

Fairfax tried to justify this fee by comparing themselves to privately owned botanic gardens that charge similar fees. Yet they could only find under a dozen botanic parks in the entire country that charge such fees! I'm hoping residents of Fairfax & all of Virginia will stand up to this excessive bullying of families & photographers before this trend continues to parks throughout Virginia & the DC area.

Take a stand! Fees should be fair, equal, and reasonable. The \$100 family photographer fee is unfair, unequal, and unreasonable!

**Mary Rodgers** This terrible !

**John Carey** — [1 star](#) oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Kara Miller Kramer** — [1 star](#) oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks. It should be free to use the parks for pictures!

**Susan May Bausch** — [1 star](#) oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Erin Drake** — [1 star](#)To: The Fairfax County Park Authority Board  
Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov

I am writing to oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded parks. I feel that this inappropriately applies different standards to different people for the same service. As a true lover of the monuments and parks in the county and throughout the area, I would strongly urge you to reconsider this stance.

Sincerely,  
J. Erin Drake

**Sinthuja Arnold** — [1 star](#) oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography. Fairfax County public parks are funded by taxpayers.

**Kevin D. Elwell** — [1 star](#) have a hard time believing that the County feels it's fair to charge photographers, who already struggle as a small business, a \$100 fee to use the parks. Shouldn't they be charging nannies and dog walkers similarly? I thought the parks were supposed to be free for residents to use?

**April Breeding Estrada** — [1 star](#) oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Jennifer Barnes Keller** — [1 star](#) oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Wayne Brazell** — [1 star](#)It is with utmost disdain that I vehemently oppose the Photography Fee and Permit Requirement for Family Photography in Fairfax County "funded" Public Parks. In essence, this is merely a superfluous "tax" on the shoulders on small businesses at a time when these entities are trying to rebound from a distressed economy. Please to not enact this proposal.

**Elizabeth Kriskovich Tansing** — [1 star](#)Our area is very blessed and proud to have such beautiful parks, for everyone to enjoy. This is why many love to have their family picture or child's portrait taken in these lovely parks. However, to require photographers to pay and obtain a \$100 Photography Fee and Permit in already taxpayer-funded public parks will only serve to hurt small businesses. The additional \$100 fee on top of the already thin profit margin many photographers earn, could substantially harm the viability of these small businesses. This is tantamount to double-taxation on photography businesses. Our community should be working to support each other by supporting local businesses. Please reconsider imposing this fee.

**Elizabeth Kriskovich Tansing** — [1 star](#)Our area is very blessed and proud to have such beautiful parks, for everyone to enjoy. This is why many love to have their family picture or child's portrait taken in these lovely parks. However, to require photographers to pay and obtain a \$100 Photography Fee and Permit in already taxpayer-funded public parks will only serve to hurt small businesses. The additional \$100 fee on top of the already thin profit margin many photographers earn, could substantially harm the viability of these small businesses. This is tantamount to double-taxation on photography businesses. Our community should be working to support each other by supporting local businesses. Please reconsider im  
**Julie Pearson Watson** I'm in total agreement with Elizabeth! What real-world justifications can you

come up with for this fee?? It seems to me that you should be more concerned with people littering and intentionally destroying the Parks than charging fines for those of us who actually respect and enjoy the beauty of it. I ask that you reconsider imposing this fee and, if money is an issue, increase the fines to those who litter and/or intentionally do something to destroy the parks. Thank you for your consideration!

Kat Forder — 1 star

I have read in the Washington Post that the original goal of having the \$100 permit fee is so that the permit would be used "primarily as a management tool to minimize disruption to other park activities and would also guarantee that photographers have access to their desired location (as quoted from Park Chief Information Officer Judy Pendersen). The current fee and application process does not accomplish this purpose at all, and therefore should be repealed. Photographers do not get any special access or minimized disruption for this fee, and citizens do not get any assurance of affordable access to their parks. Other small businesses are not charged for similar low-impact use of the park and enforcement of this process is arbitrary and far from equitable. This is a time consuming process for the Parks Authority staff, and for photographers; all for very little gain.

**Ron Newcomb** — 1 star You oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Sarika Lamont** — 1 star I am writing to state my opposition to the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

I take photos with my growing family throughout the year with my photographer and including a fee of \$100 in most cases would be outrageous on top of what we pay to our photographer for her hard work and labor. It is not fair to charge this on families who are using the Parks that we pay for via taxes to capture special moments and memories with our family. Please reconsider this fee/permit!

**David Nagel** — 1 star I oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks. People in Fairfax, wake up! This is crazy. You really should rethink this fee given one of the reasons people like Fairfax is because of the beautiful parks. Given the redskins are so terrible at least give us the parks at no cost.

**Andrea Matthews Sholders** — 1 star I oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Agung Fauzi** — 1 star I oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Sharron Alcantara Wynn** — 1 star I oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Jessica Caso** — 1 star I oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Marian Clark Lozano** — 1 star I have to give the park authority one star bc of the ridiculous \$100 fee that is being charged to tax paying families and photographers for taking family photos in local public parks. This fee truly hurts small businesses.

**Kara Lynn** — 1 star I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

**Cris Brafman Kittner** — 1 star I strongly oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks. Fairfax County Park Authority should welcome photographers, especially as oftentimes we introduce families who then start using the park and appreciating the tax money that goes to making these the great places that they are.

**Tim McClellan** — 1 star This idea of taxing photographers in a county park, where their previous taxes have already gone to build and maintain the park, is a bad idea. This hurts the small business/photography business more than it helps the park funding.

**Melissa McClung Elliott** — 1 star I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

**Bell Fam** — 1 star I enjoy the parks, but the photography fee and permit requirement are discrimination against very small businesses. Photographers and their clients pay taxes which fund parks already (most likely). Also, photographers are already subject to corporate and personal taxes, which is more than most individuals have to deal with. I hope Fairfax County Park Authority will repeal this decision and take a step towards encouraging small business.

**Christy Borjes** — 1 star This is completely ridiculous in no way should there be a fee to use our public parks!

**Teresa Brown Osborn** — 1 star think that it is RIDICULOUS that they are trying to charge a \$100 fee!!!! I oppose it and can not believe they are trying to charge families this! These are taxpayer funded parks!!!!  
**Tammy Rinehart Kochel** — 1 star Fees for families who want to take pictures in taxpayer funded parks are excessive.

**Michael Lepold** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Libby Wilson** — 1 star How ridiculous that you would try and stifle small businesses by charging photographers a fee to take pictures outdoors!! Whose bright idea was this?

**Martha FitzSimon** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks. There is no feasible reason for this policy. Please join us at the Weds., Jan. 21 meeting to voice your opinion. See Pamela Lepold's post for the details.

**Sarah Hudson Koch** — 1 star oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks.

**Laura Ritchie** — 1 star oppose charging money to use PUBLIC parks for photographers to take family photos. Talk about nickle and diming the member our community!!!! Ridiculous!

**Jon Miskell** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Monique Burgos** — 1 star have recently learned that fees are being charged for the use of our local parks here in Fairfax County.

Photographers, and in turn, families, are being charged a \$100 fee for the use of parks that we already pay taxes to use.

I find this disturbing, and as a parent I feel taken advantage of.

We live in a very rich county. I find it hard to believe that this fee is necessary.

Please honor the families and small businesses that help this community thrive. Get rid of this ridiculous fee.

**Doug Elliott** — 1 star oppose the ABSURD Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography. These are Public Parks maintained and funded by tax payers!

**Elaine Breeding Simonsen** — 1 star No way can I support this charge of \$100 to photographers to use the park. Such a wrong thing to do.

**Jessica Collins** — 1 star oppose the photography fee and permit requirements for family photography in our taxpayer funded parks.

**Luis A Lozano** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Roger Constantin** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Deborah Ashton** — 1 star Please reconsider the proposal to impose fees and permit requirements for photographers wanting only to share the beauty and promote the Fairfax County Park to the community.

**Adrienne Paul Elwell** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Jo Ann Obie** — 1 star oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. Fairfax County is the only NOVA County that does this. Not fair to tax payers!

**Charissa Chiu Ignacio** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Rebecca Parsons** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Sue McLaughlin** We pay taxes for these parks, these are the people parks. I oppose the photography fee and permits in these parks.

**Danielle Sewell Haslinger** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Beth Arrigo Collins** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

[Jodi Bochert](#) — 1 star oppose the photography fee and permit for family photography in our taxpayer funded parks.

[Matthew Haslinger](#) — 1 star oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. Fairfax County is ignoring small businesses, like local photographers, in order to put more money in the pockets of Fairfax politicians.

Jenifer Moss Morris — 1 star

I am a professional photographer who has lived in Fairfax County for 25 years. I feel so fortunate to live in a county with excellent schools, services and parks. I have spent many hours hiking, boating and taking advantage of the fun recreational activities with my kids. I value that these parks are free to county residents...except when I enter with a camera. I feel charging photographers a fee is onerous to those of us that are self-employed and follow the rules. Increasing my rates to cover the \$100 fee will have the negative impact of reducing the number of clients I can convince to take a family portrait session.

I have always run my business properly in being licensed by the county, paying the state BPOL fees, paying sales taxes on my earnings and observing the permitting rules within MD, DC and VA. In many cases a permit or notification of the other regional authorities is requested to make sure that professional photography is spread out through the park and doesn't require an actual fee. I am happy to comply with the registrations requested—but paying a fee will greatly impact my business in a negative way.

You will also find that most professional photographers are very respectful of park lands and are not the ones to be stepping in flower beds or abusing the grounds. Many county residents visit the parks with cameras to document the special times with their families; I don't think residents who are professional photographers should be singled out to pay a fee. The enforcement of such regulations is an unnecessary cost and not likely to be evenly enforced.

Pamela Lepold — 1 star

I oppose the photography fee and permit requirement for family photography in our taxpayer funded public parks. Fairfax County is the only NOVA County that charges photography fees. This fee serves as an additional tax, and it's tailored to affect people who can afford to hire a photographer to take photos. It's discriminatory in its design and its effect. That in itself is problematic. The secondary issue is that once a fee is charged, is it even reasonable? I'd argue that \$100 is excessive for photos of families. The harm that a family would do coming to a county park is minimal (grass is hardly ruffled; it's likely ruffled no more than if others walk through it). Secondly, one can argue there are positive externalities to families taking photos in a park. It likely disincentivizes people from doing inappropriate or illegal things, like using drugs in public, using obscene language, or engaging in any type of violence. When people see a family, there's a certain amount of decorum they want to display.

The photography fee is effectively a very discriminatory tax, in that it's aimed at a select population of people (mostly those who can afford to hire photographers or have good photo equipment to take outdoor photos) and affects what should be a public space, for which these people have already paid (a double tax). Who's to say photographers or family having their pictures taken do any more harm to the aesthetics of the Fairfax County parks as people who use the park land for other purposes. As stated above, one can reasonably argue the presence of families having their photos taken in the parks makes the parks safer and less of a draw for criminal or other unfavorable activity.

Feedback from FCPA PIO regarding other jurisdictions charging fees in 2010 and 2014 pit private vs public parks – not apples to apples comparison. The one public park that was sampled was Brookside Gardens and it does not charge a fee for family photography. Current family photography fees appear inconsistent with Park Policy regarding For Profit Groups. There is no consistency with fees being charged to different vendors. Some for profit vendors are allowed free park access while others pay \$50. Photographers seem to have the highest fee at \$100 and also have the most limited time at only 2 hours of access before they have to pay an additional \$50 per hour. The current fee structure places a disproportionate financial burden on photographers and the families who hire them.

[T Wayne Parsons](#) Come on.....there HAS to be something you can invent better than jacking up your taxpayers this way. Go back to your committees and try again, how many times should one have to pay for the parks ?

**Patricia Charlier Cominsky** — 1 star oppose the proposed fee to photographers or families. We already pay taxes that go to support state parks so any additional fees are unreasonable.

**Sarah Payerchin Sewell** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Brooke Elizabeth** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks - absolutely ridiculous. We pay taxes to use the parks - are you going to start charging runners to run? Bikers to bike? Why in the heck charge photographers to photograph?

**Jennifer Mandolesi** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and permit requirements for Family Photography in our Tax Payer funded Public Parks....

Toby Chieffo-Reidway — 1 star

I write in opposition to the fees and permits required for family / portrait photography in taxpayer-funded Fairfax County parks, and to support an exemption for those fees and permits for any photo sessions of groups smaller than 12. The fees and regulations in question are exorbitant in scope, and disproportionately burden lower income residents of Fairfax County. Moreover, as a means of generating county revenue and controlling park expense, the fees and permits are grossly inefficient and run counter to the parks' core purpose – providing a scenic and nature-based environment for the benefit and enjoyment of Fairfax County residents. FCPA should eliminate the fees for any photo sessions for less than 12 subjects.

**Bill Jenne** — 1 star

Charging photographers a fee to do family portraits in public parks is a double tax on photographers.

They already pay to support the parks through their income tax.

It's not fair considering there is no more impact on the park from photography than from any other type of usage.

Moreover, the amount of fees collected from photographers will be insignificant, while at the same time it will discou...

**Victoria Curtis** — 1 star am usually a fan of the parks and park services but I heard about the Photography fee. I oppose the ABSURD Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography. These are Public Parks maintained and funded by tax payers! I believe that if these fees should be allowed, that they not be imposed on groups smaller than 12.

**Melissa Dennison** — 1 star completely disagree with the fee being imposed on photographers. It is unjust and does not represent your mission statement. The parks are for all to enjoy.

**Maggie Carr Shannon** — 1 star oppose the fee for family/professional photographers. This should not happen- a public park is public- for all to enjoy. Next will you charge teachers for using the park to teach a class?

**Melissa Casey Przybysz** — 1 star oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks. It's ridiculous.

**Brenna Hall Hessler** — 1 star oppose the fee for family photography. It is unfair to charge such a high fee for use of a place already paid by taxpayer money. Please allow people to use the parks as they should...to capture great memories!

**Kara Livolsi Stamper** — 1 star am opposed to the exorbitant fees proposed for family photographers to use taxpayer-funded Fairfax County parks!

**Amy Johnson Boyle** — 1 starIt has come to my attention that you charge fees, and require permits for professional photographers to use your parks. Not just little fees, either!!! I use the Fairfax County Parks all the time, and not once have I ever run into any problems with said photographers!!!! I think there is room for all of us to enjoy the Fairfax County parks, without having to issue special permits and charging exorbitant fees to professional photographers, who earn their living by photographing families with the beautiful backdrop of Fairfax County parks!

**Nicole Driessen Isenberg** — 1 starCharging fees for families who want to take pictures in taxpayer funded parks is unreal.

Clifford Chieffo — 1 star

I write in opposition to the fees and permits required for family / portrait photography in taxpayer-funded Fairfax County parks, and to support an exemption for those fees and permits for any photo sessions of groups smaller than 12. The fees and regulations in question are exorbitant in scope, and disproportionately burden lower income residents of Fairfax County. Moreover, as a means of generating

county revenue and controlling park expense, the fees and permits are grossly inefficient and run counter to the parks' core purpose – providing a scenic and nature-based environment for the benefit and enjoyment of Fairfax County residents. FCPA should eliminate the fees for any photo sessions for less than 12 subjects.

**Julie LeVine** — 1 starThe fee you are proposing for photographers to use our PUBLIC parks is outrageous and exorbitant!!

**Pamela Kultgen** — 1 star

I write in opposition to the fees and permits required for family / portrait photography in taxpayer-funded Fairfax County parks, and to support an exemption for those fees and permits for any photo sessions of groups smaller than 12. The fees and regulations in question are exorbitant in scope, and disproportionately burden lower income residents of Fairfax County. Moreover, as a means of generating county revenue and controlling park expense, the fees and permits are grossly inefficient and run counter to the parks' core purpose – providing a scenic and nature-based environment for the benefit and enjoyment of Fairfax County residents. FCPA should eliminate the fees for any photo sessions for less than 12 subjects.

**Pamela Kultgen** — 1 star

I write in opposition to the fees and permits required for family / portrait photography in taxpayer-funded Fairfax County parks, and to support an exemption for those fees and permits for any photo sessions of groups smaller than 12. The fees and regulations in question are exorbitant in scope, and disproportionately burden lower income residents of Fairfax County. Moreover, as a means of generating county revenue and controlling park expense, the fees and permits are grossly inefficient and run counter to the parks' core purpose – providing a scenic and nature-based environment for the benefit and enjoyment of Fairfax County residents. FCPA should eliminate the fees for any photo sessions for less than 12 subjects.

**Kerry Albrittain Williams** — 1 starThis is ridiculous! Why doesn't the county have better things to do than extort money from people who want to enjoy the parks and take pictures. These people pay county taxes to maintain these parks already. Why does it always have to pick on the little guy or gal!! Shame on them!

**Jen Michael Nicholson** — 1 starI oppose the photography fee and permit fee imposed for family photography in taxpayer funder county parks.

**Rhonda Canada Yanosky** — 1 starI oppose the photography fee of \$100 and permit requirements being considered by the Fairfax County Park Authority. This organization ought to be promoting opportunities for families to get together and celebrate being together. God's gifts are free; FCPA should be a steward, not a tax collector.

**Heather Auer Regan** — 1 starI oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks.

**Beverly Chieffo** — 1 starIn reading about this park fee, I am sad to think a public park could place a restriction like this on its community. Whose park is it? Hasn't the community paid for it and its upkeep? Why must their be added fees for something as benign as family photographs. It is an unfriendly requirement and should be reconsidered.

**Stacia Loveall-Center** — 1 starI am opposed to the fees and permits required for family / portrait photography in taxpayer-funded Fairfax County parks. And, I support an exemption for those fees and permits for any photo sessions of groups smaller than 12. Photographers have been unjustly singled out. It is a public park, not a private one.

**Kelly Auer Sabine** — 1 starI am in opposition to the hefty fees and permit expenses currently required for professional photographers in our public parks

**Jose Burgos** — 1 starThis fee is a desperate attempt to squeeze money out of honest people. Shame on you.

**Rashmi Ghei** — 1 starI oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks. If the fee is not removed, the fee will ultimately be passed onto families, who are already paying for the photography session, in addition to the taxes to maintain the parks.

**Alicyn Drew** — 1 starI always loved the parks until this recent photographer fee which is disenfranchising small business owners and county residents that want their images taken in the park but don't feel they should have to pay an additional \$100 for the privilege. I attended the meeting tonight and enjoyed hearing all of the speakers. I hope that the county will reconsider to a more reasonable policy as this policy is simply driving the photographers out of the parks

Kristi Allen Oller — 1 star

I write in opposition to the fees and permits required for family / portrait photography in taxpayer-funded Fairfax County parks, and to support an exemption for those fees and permits for any photo sessions of groups smaller than 12. The fees and regulations in question are exorbitant in scope, and disproportionately burden lower income residents of Fairfax County. Moreover, as a means of generating county revenue and controlling park expense, the fees and permits are grossly inefficient and run counter to the parks' core purpose – providing a scenic and nature-based environment for the benefit and enjoyment of Fairfax County residents. FCPA should eliminate the fees for any photo sessions for less than 12 subjects. You are discouraging your residents from using the parks!!

Scarlett Bates — 1 starHow does anyone justify charging fees to photographers to use a public place that we ALL pay to use through our already high taxes? I am not a photographer, simply a tax paying citizen of Fairfax County. Shame on you, Fairfax County. I would understand if their use required additional personnel or in some way increased the costs to maintain the parks, but it doesn't. Its simply a way for the Count to double dip in to everyone's pockets. It's as bad as the airlines nickel and diming people with additional baggage costs, fees to print tickets, etc.

Linda Elliott Beuhring — 1 starI oppose the Photography fee and Permit Requirements for Family Photography in our Taxpayer funded Public Parks. I enjoy several of our parks and believe that any family photos taken there are a tribute to the natural beauty that can be found in Fairfax County. I am an amateur photographer who takes photos in the parks, and yes, many include my family. Do I need to worry that soon I may be charged for that as well? Really.

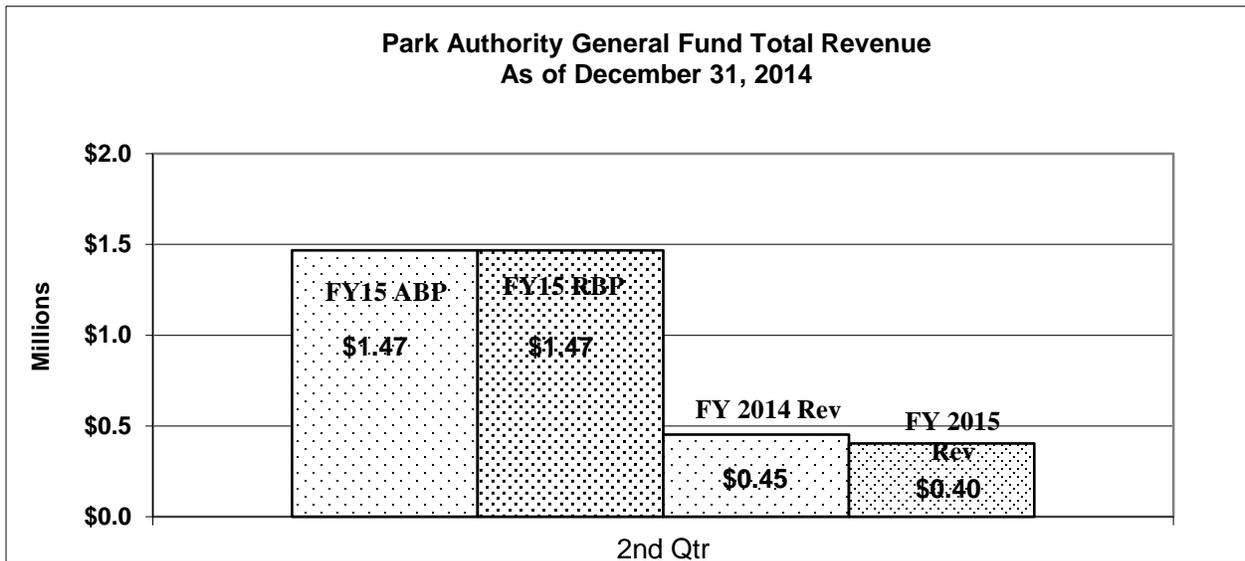
Board Agenda Item  
March 11, 2015

## INFORMATION

### FY 2015 Second Quarter Budget Review, Fund 10001, Park Authority General Fund

#### Revenue:

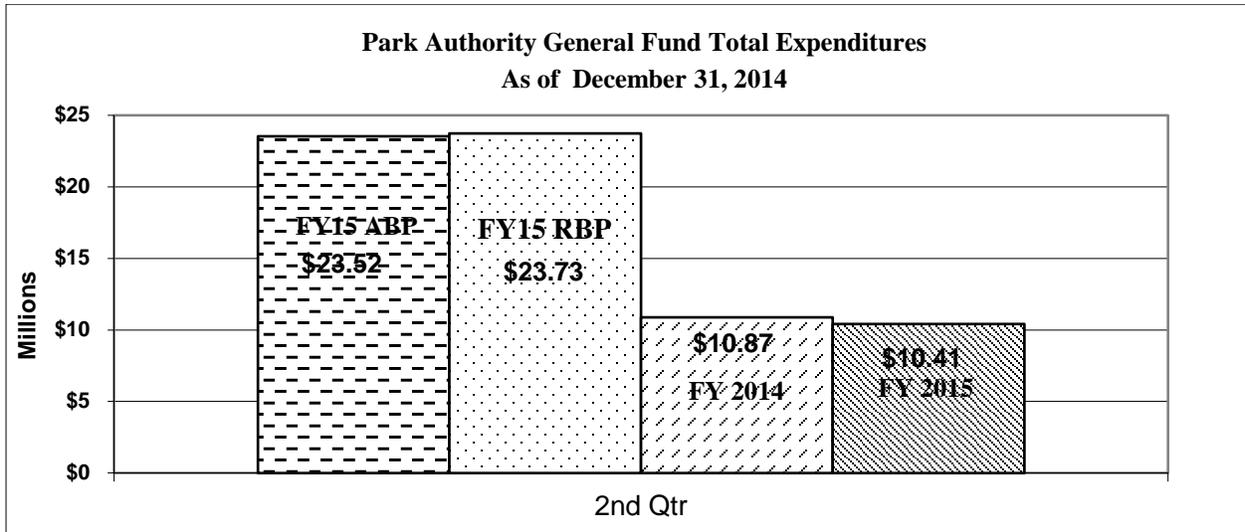
Second quarter General Fund revenue is \$403,982 as compared to \$453,010 last year at the second quarter. The FY 2015 revenue budget is \$1,467,166. Revenue is down due to an increase in the number of RecPAC scholarship registrations and a reduction in General Fund school-based and vendor class offerings.



#### Expenditures:

General Fund expenditures are \$10,412,845 as compared to \$10,873,409 last year at this time, a decrease of \$460,564.

Board Agenda Item  
March 11, 2015



*Personnel Services* are \$9,257,029 as compared to \$9,755,642 in the previous year, a decrease of \$498,613. This decrease is due to higher vacancies, and lower leave pay outs.

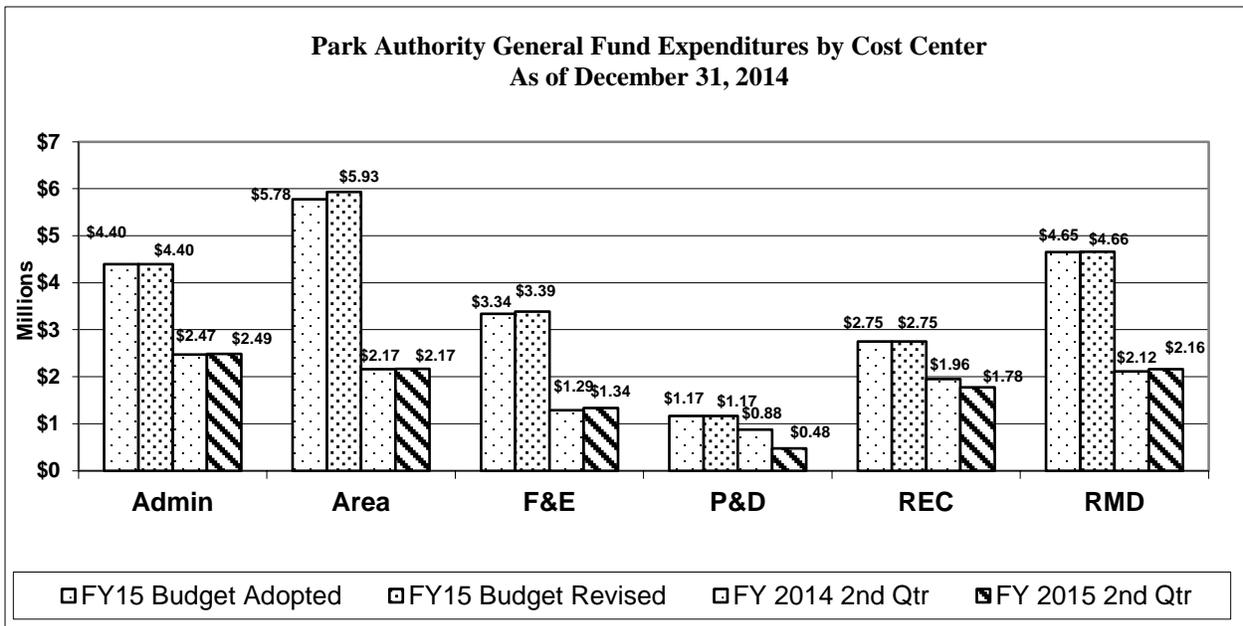
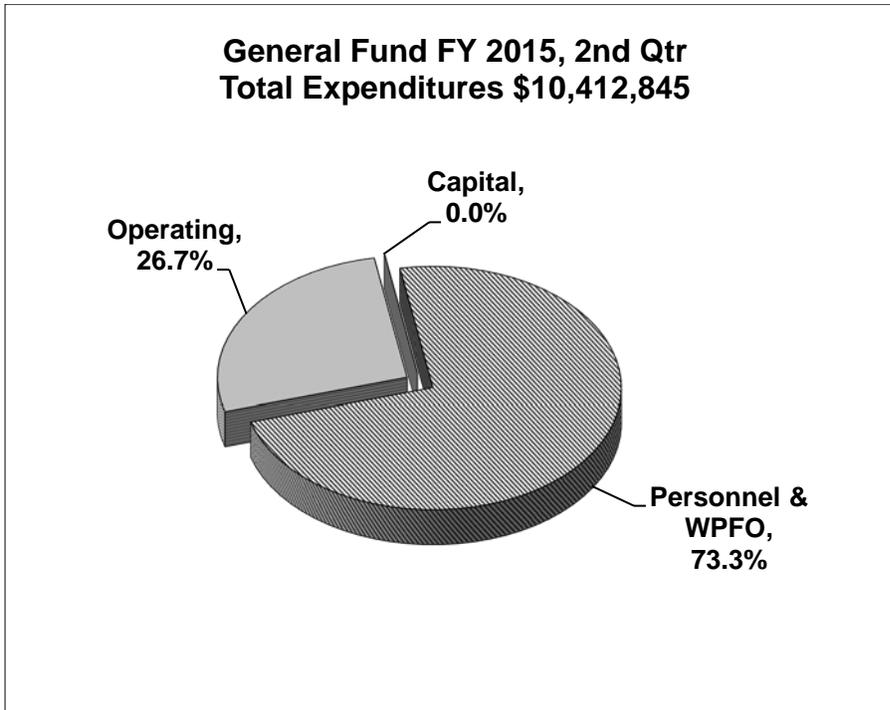
*Operating Expenditures* are \$2,784,531 as compared to \$2,632,193 in the previous year, an increase of \$152,338. This increase is mainly due to timing of recording Department of Vehicle Services (DVS) charges.

*Recovered Costs* are (\$1,628,715) as compared to (\$1,514,426) in the previous fiscal year, an increase of \$114,289. This increase is due to the timing of processing Work Performed for Others (WPFO). Recovered costs include recovery for the Athletic Field Project, Planning and Development bond projects, 30 percent of the salary for the Director of the Park Foundation, salaries for educational programs and services for Resource Management Division, Public-Private Venture Support, the Survey Crew, and for capital project management salaries. All required Recovered Cost charges will be made during the Fiscal Year.

*Capital Equipment* expenditures are \$0 due to no budget.

The Park Authority will continue to monitor and manage expenses to come in at the Revised Budget Plan.

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ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Fairfax County Park Authority, General Fund, Fund 10001, Revenue and Expenditures, as of December 31, 2014

STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director  
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/Chief, Business Development  
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO  
Janet Burns, Senior Fiscal Administrator  
Michael P. Baird, Manager, Capital and Fiscal Services  
Susan Tavallai, Senior Budget Analyst

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY  
GENERAL FUND, FUND, 10001  
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES  
As of December 31, 2014

	FY 2015		FY 2015(Y-T-D)		Rev Bdgt v. Actual	2014		INC/DEC OVER PR YEAR	% INC/DEC	FY 2015	FY 2014
	BUDGET ADOPTED	BUDGET REVISED	REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES/ RESERVATIONS		Y-T-D ACTUAL	% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED			% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED	
<b>TOTAL AGENCY</b>											
<b>Authorized Positions /Staff Years</b>	<b>355/353</b>		<b>355/353</b>			<b>355/353</b>					
<b>Expenditures:</b>											
Personnel Services	22,421,608	22,421,608	9,257,029	0	13,164,579	9,755,642	(498,613)	-5.11%	41.29%	44.05%	
Operating Expenses	4,829,283	5,033,067	2,784,531	791,362	1,457,174	2,632,193	152,338	5.79%	55.32%	53.88%	
Capital Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Subtotal	27,250,891	27,454,675	12,041,560	791,362	14,621,753	12,387,835	(346,275)	-2.80%	43.86%	45.82%	
Less: Recovered Costs	(3,726,605)	(3,726,605)	(1,628,715)	0	(2,097,890)	(1,514,426)	(114,289)	7.55%	43.71%	40.64%	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>23,524,286</b>	<b>23,728,070</b>	<b>10,412,845</b>	<b>791,362</b>	<b>12,523,863</b>	<b>10,873,409</b>	<b>(460,564)</b>	<b>-4.24%</b>	<b>43.88%</b>	<b>46.65%</b>	
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>1,467,166</b>	<b>1,467,166</b>	<b>403,982</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,063,184</b>	<b>453,010</b>	<b>(49,028)</b>	<b>-10.82%</b>	<b>27.53%</b>	<b>24.75%</b>	
<b>Net Cost to the County</b>	<b>22,057,120</b>	<b>22,260,904</b>	<b>10,008,863</b>	<b>791,362</b>	<b>11,460,679</b>	<b>10,420,399</b>	<b>(411,536)</b>	<b>-3.95%</b>	<b>44.96%</b>	<b>48.52%</b>	

The Revised Budget Plan includes:

\$203,785 Carryover from FY 2014 is included in the FY 2015 Revised Operating Budget Plan

**FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY**  
**GENERAL FUND, FUND, 10001**  
**REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES**  
As of December 31, 2014

	FY 2015		FY 2015(Y-T-D)		Rev Bdgt v. Actual	2014		INC/DEC OVER PR YEAR	% INC/DEC	FY 2015	FY 2014
	BUDGET ADOPTED	BUDGET REVISED	REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES/ RESERVATIONS		Y-T-D ACTUAL	% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED			% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED	
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>											
<b>Expenditures:</b>											
Personnel Services	3,271,968	3,271,968	1,504,756		1,767,212	1,477,909	26,847	1.82%	45.99%	45.66%	
Operating Expenses	1,128,170	1,128,170	1,007,456	129,955	(9,241)	1,015,647	(8,191)	-0.81%	89.30%	90.03%	
Capital Equipment	0	0			0		0	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Subtotal	4,400,138	4,400,138	2,512,212	129,955	1,757,971	2,493,556	18,656	0.75%	57.09%	57.12%	
Less: Recovered Costs	(42,790)	(42,790)	(21,394)	0	(21,396)	(21,394)	0	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>4,357,348</b>	<b>4,357,348</b>	<b>2,490,818</b>	<b>129,955</b>	<b>1,736,575</b>	<b>2,472,162</b>	<b>18,656</b>	<b>0.75%</b>	<b>57.16%</b>	<b>57.19%</b>	

<b>Area Management</b>											
<b>Expenditures:</b>											
Personnel Services	6,845,840	6,845,840	2,626,007		4,219,833	2,706,737	(80,730)	-2.98%	38.36%	39.61%	
Operating Expenses *	720,770	870,770	430,708	220,088	219,974	419,666	11,042	2.63%	49.46%	52.41%	
Capital Equipment	0	0	0		0		0	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Subtotal	7,566,610	7,716,610	3,056,715	220,088	4,439,807	3,126,403	(69,688)	-2.23%	39.61%	40.95%	
Less: Recovered Costs	(1,784,606)	(1,784,606)	(888,576)	0	(896,030)	(960,976)	72,400	-7.53%	49.79%	53.85%	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>5,782,004</b>	<b>5,932,004</b>	<b>2,168,139</b>	<b>220,088</b>	<b>3,543,777</b>	<b>2,165,427</b>	<b>2,712</b>	<b>0.13%</b>	<b>36.55%</b>	<b>37.02%</b>	

The Revised Budget Plan includes:

\* \$150,000 Carryover from FY 2014 is included in the FY 2015 Revised Operating Budget Plan. \$125,000 for Tririga, and \$25,000 incentive initiative.

**FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY**  
**GENERAL FUND, FUND, 10001**  
**REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES**  
As of December 31, 2014

	FY 2015		FY 2015(Y-T-D)		Rev Bdg v. Actual	2014		INC/DEC OVER PR YEAR	% INC/DEC	FY 2015	FY 2014
	BUDGET ADOPTED	BUDGET REVISED	REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES/ RESERVATIONS		Y-T-D ACTUAL	% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED			% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED	
<b>F &amp; E MAINTENANCE</b>											
<b>Expenditures:</b>											
Personnel Services	1,543,474	1,543,474	608,744		934,730	684,479	(75,735)	-11.06%	39.44%	45.53%	
Operating Expenses*	1,799,706	1,848,491	729,349	85,098	1,034,044	602,546	126,803	21.04%	39.46%	34.24%	
Capital Equipment	0	0			0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>3,343,180</b>	<b>3,391,965</b>	<b>1,338,093</b>	<b>85,098</b>	<b>1,968,774</b>	<b>1,287,025</b>	<b>51,068</b>	<b>3.97%</b>	<b>39.45%</b>	<b>39.44%</b>	

F&E Bonuses are loaded in Area Management

\* \$48,785 Carryover from FY 2014 is included in the FY 2015 Revised Operating Budget Plan for fuel charges.

<b>PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT</b>											
<b>Expenditures:</b>											
Personnel Services	2,827,538	2,827,538	1,180,212		1,647,326	1,393,143	(212,931)	-15.28%	41.74%	49.88%	
Operating Expenses	32,488	32,488	14,341	2	18,145	15,544	(1,203)	-7.74%	44.14%	47.85%	
Capital Equipment	0	0			0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Subtotal	2,860,026	2,860,026	1,194,553	2	1,665,471	1,408,687	(214,134)	-15.20%	41.77%	49.85%	
Less: Recovered Costs	(1,693,453)	(1,693,453)	(718,745)	0	(974,708)	(532,056)	(186,689)	35.09%	42.44%	31.42%	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>1,166,573</b>	<b>1,166,573</b>	<b>475,808</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>690,763</b>	<b>876,631</b>	<b>(400,823)</b>	<b>-45.72%</b>	<b>40.79%</b>	<b>77.43%</b>	

<b>Rec Activities</b>											
<b>Expenditures:</b>											
Personnel Services	3,186,438	3,186,438	1,381,999		1,804,439	1,517,494	(135,495)	-8.93%	43.37%	48.37%	
Operating Expenses	1,034,085	1,034,085	394,017	172,216	467,852	438,817	(44,800)	-10.21%	38.10%	42.44%	
Capital Equipment	0	0			0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>4,220,523</b>	<b>4,220,523</b>	<b>1,776,016</b>	<b>172,216</b>	<b>2,272,291</b>	<b>1,956,311</b>	<b>(180,295)</b>	<b>-9.22%</b>	<b>42.08%</b>	<b>46.90%</b>	
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>1,467,166</b>	<b>1,467,166</b>	<b>403,982</b>		<b>1,063,184</b>	<b>453,010</b>	<b>(49,028)</b>	<b>-10.82%</b>	<b>27.53%</b>	<b>24.75%</b>	
<b>Net Cost to the County</b>	<b>2,753,357</b>	<b>2,753,357</b>	<b>1,372,034</b>	<b>172,216</b>	<b>1,209,107</b>	<b>1,503,301</b>	<b>(131,267)</b>	<b>-8.73%</b>	<b>49.83%</b>	<b>64.21%</b>	

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY  
GENERAL FUND, FUND, 10001  
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES  
As of December 31, 2014

	FY 2015		FY 2015(Y-T-D)		Rev Bdgt v. Actual	2014		INC/DEC OVER PR YEAR	% INC/DEC	FY 2015	FY 2014
	BUDGET ADOPTED	BUDGET REVISED	REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES/ RESERVATIONS		Y-T-D ACTUAL	% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED			% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED	
<b>RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>											
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>											
Personnel Services	4,746,350	4,746,350	1,955,311		2,791,039	1,975,880	(20,569)	-1.04%	41.20%	42.55%	
Operating Expenses*	114,064	119,063	208,660	184,003	(273,600)	139,973	68,687	49.07%	175.25%	107.62%	
Capital Equipment	0	0			0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Subtotal	4,860,414	4,865,413	2,163,971	184,003	2,517,439	2,115,853	48,118	2.27%	44.48%	44.32%	
Less: Recovered Costs	(205,756)	(205,756)	0		(205,756)	0	0	#DIV/0!	0.00%	0.00%	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>4,654,658</b>	<b>4,659,657</b>	<b>2,163,971</b>	<b>184,003</b>	<b>2,311,683</b>	<b>2,115,853</b>	<b>48,118</b>	<b>2.27%</b>	<b>46.44%</b>	<b>46.32%</b>	

The Revised Budget Plan includes:

\* \$4,999 Carryover from FY 2014 is included in the FY 2015 Revised Operating Budget Plan for archeological preservation

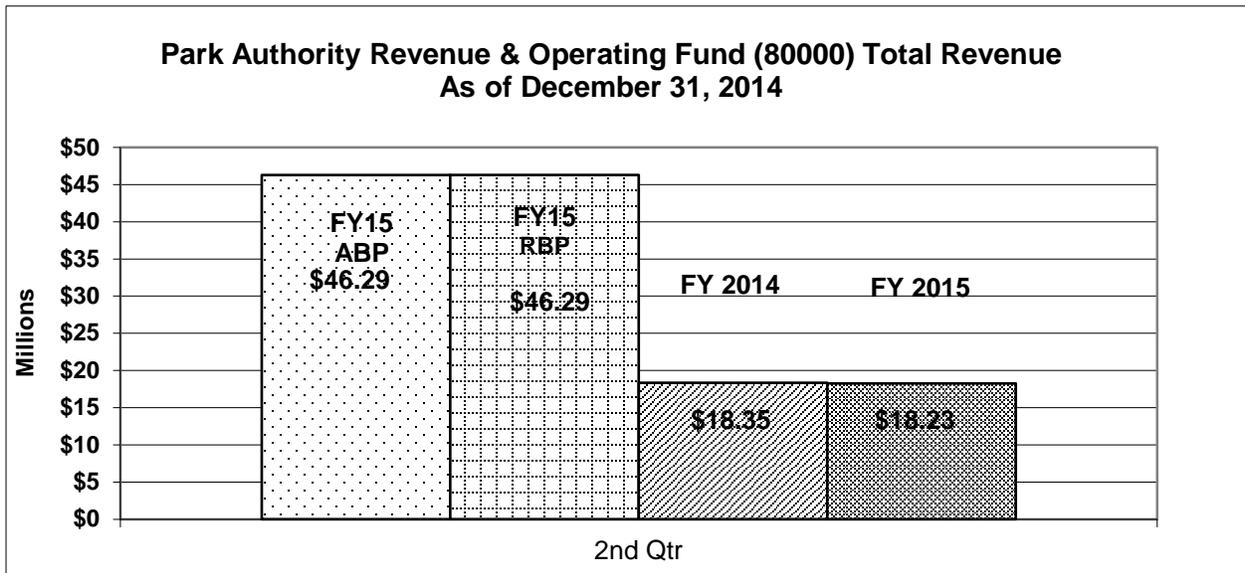
Board Agenda Item  
March 11, 2015

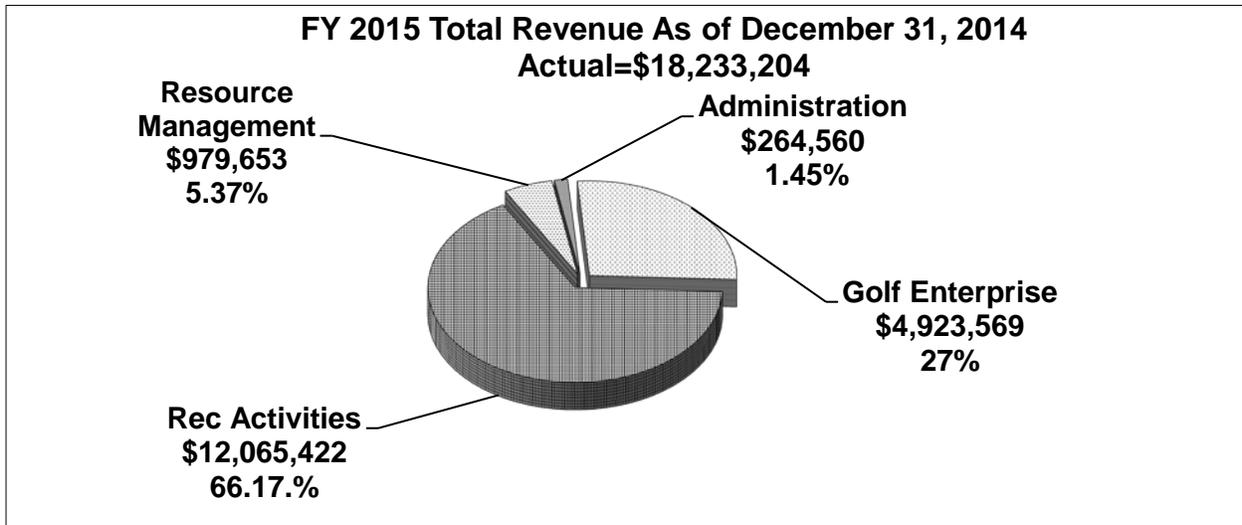
**INFORMATION**

FY 2015 Second Quarter Budget Review, Fund 80000, Park Authority Revenue and Operating Fund

Revenue

Second Quarter Fund 80000 revenue is \$18,233,204 as compared to \$18,354,308 last year, a decrease of \$121,104 or 0.7 percent. The FY 2015 revenue budget is \$46,285,055 and the second quarter actual revenue represents 39.4 percent of the budget versus 42.3 percent of the total budget in the prior year.





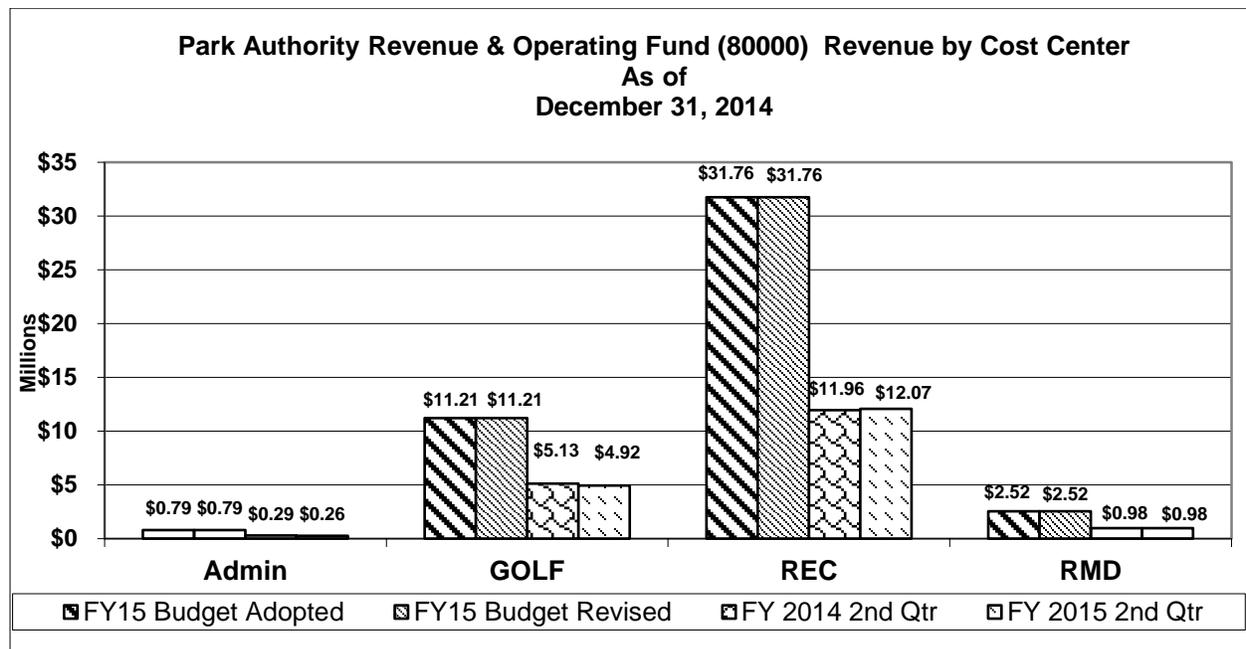
*Administration* revenue is \$264,560 representing 1.45 percent of the total actual fund revenue receipts. Administration revenue is down \$21,715 or 7.6 percent, from the second quarter of last fiscal year. This is due to decreases in rental properties and sales of surplus equipment.

*Golf revenue* is \$4,923,569 representing 27 percent of total actual fund revenue receipts. Golf revenue is down by \$201,561, or 3.9 percent from the second quarter of last fiscal year. This is due to decreases in green fees, driving range fees, equipment rentals, and pro shop sales.

*Rec Activities (RECenters, Lake Front Parks, and Park Services Administration)* revenue is \$12,065,422 representing 66.17 percent of total actual fund revenue receipts. Rec Activities revenue decreased by \$105,850, or 0.89 percent, from the second quarter of last fiscal year. This is due to decreases in admissions and programs.

*Resource Management* revenue is \$979,653 representing 5.37 percent of the total fund revenue receipts. Resource Management program revenue decreased by \$3,698, or 0.4 percent from the second quarter of last fiscal year. This is due to a decrease in rental revenue due to facilities being closed for renovation.

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Expenditures

Overall expenditures are \$23,201,673 as compared to \$22,681,150 last year at this time, an increase of \$520,523, or 2.3 percent. This is due to increases in Personnel Services, a decrease in Operating Expenses, and an offset in Recovered Costs. Debt Service increased by \$636,794 due to one - time refunding saving in FY 2014.

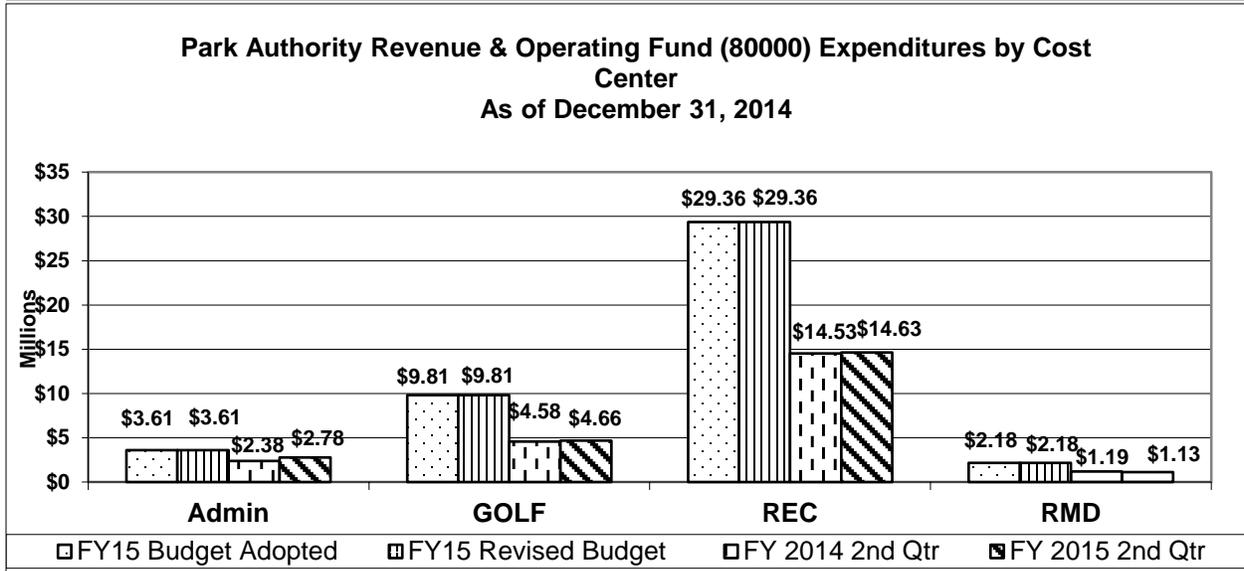
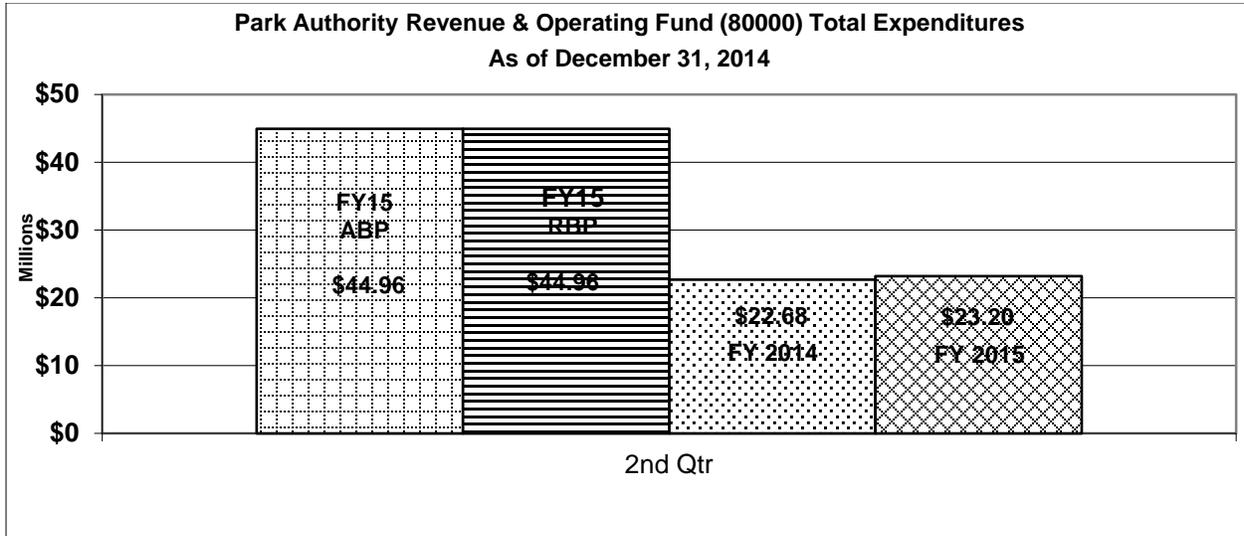
*Administration* total expenditures are \$2,781,320, reflecting an increase of \$398,286, or 16.7 percent, as compared to last year second quarter. This increase is due to increase in Debt Service of \$636,794 which is partially offset by decreases in gifts and donations expenses, building and maintenance cost, and an increase in recovered costs.

*Golf* total expenditures are \$4,662,460, an increase of \$84,330 or 1.8 percent, as compared to last year at the second quarter. This is due to increases in Operating Expenses and Capital Equipment, partially offset by a decrease in Personnel Services.

*Rec Activities* total expenditures are \$14,632,269, an increase of \$102,227, or 0.7 percent, as compared to last year at this time. Rec Activities personnel expenditures are up by \$218,579 which is due to the market rate adjustment. Operating expenditures are down by \$116,353.

Resource Management total expenditures are \$1,125,624, a decrease of \$64,319 or 5.4 percent as compared to last year. Personnel, Operating, and Capital Equipment expenditures are all down.

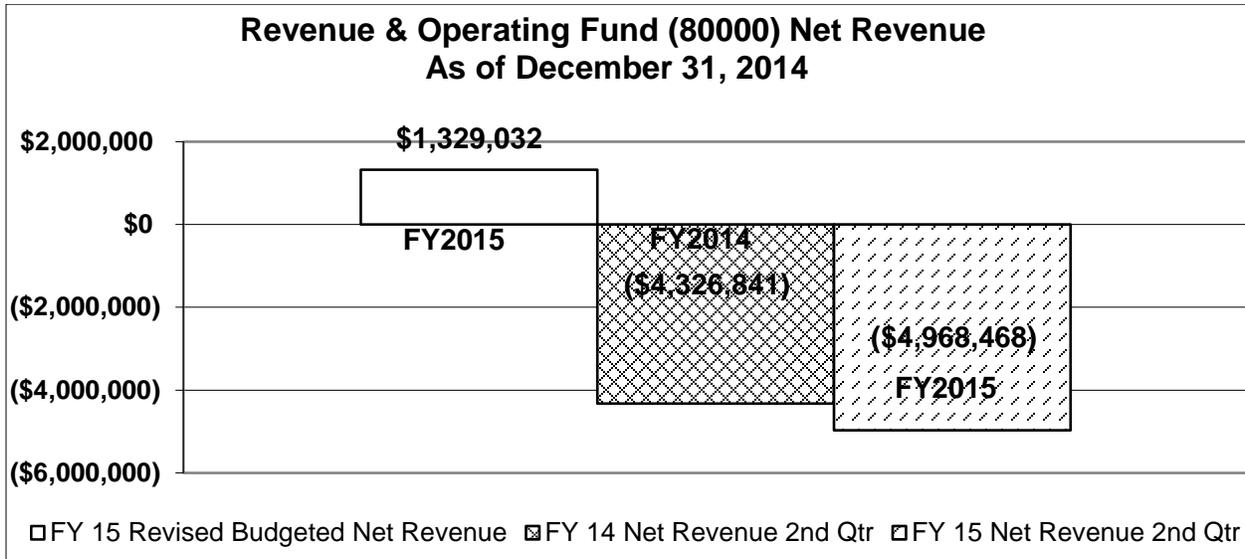
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Net Revenue

Net revenue as of the second quarter is (\$4,968,468) as compared to (\$4,326,841) last year at this time primarily due to an increase in debt service costs. The Revenue and Operating Fund will be challenged to end the Fiscal Year with a positive balance.

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**ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:**

- Attachment 1: Quarterly Trends for Fund 80000
- Attachment 2: Cumulative Trends for Fund 80000
- Attachment 3: Fairfax County Park Authority, Park Revenue & Operating Fund, Fund 80000, Revenue and Expenditures, as of December 31, 2014 (Second Quarter FY2015)
- Attachment 4: FY 2015 Revenue and Expenditure Analysis- By Site, Fund 80000

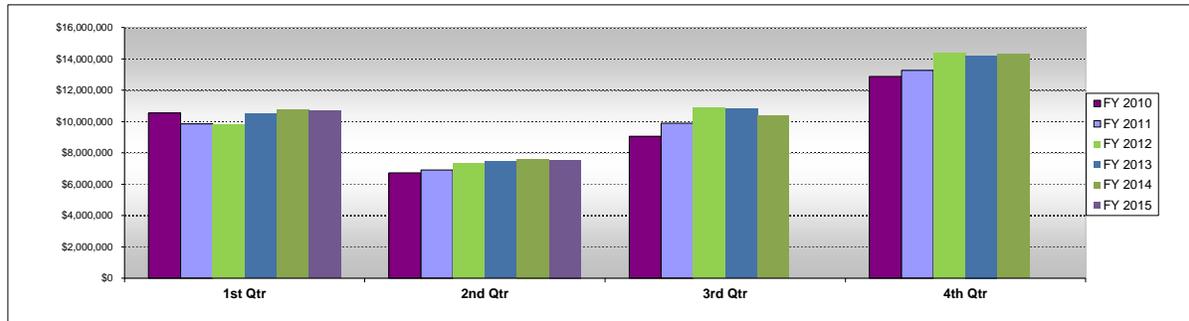
**STAFF:**

- Kirk W. Kincannon, Director
- Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/Chief, Business Development
- Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
- Janet Burns, Senior Fiscal Administrator
- Michael P. Baird, Manager, Capital and Fiscal Services
- Susan Tavallai, Senior Budget Analyst

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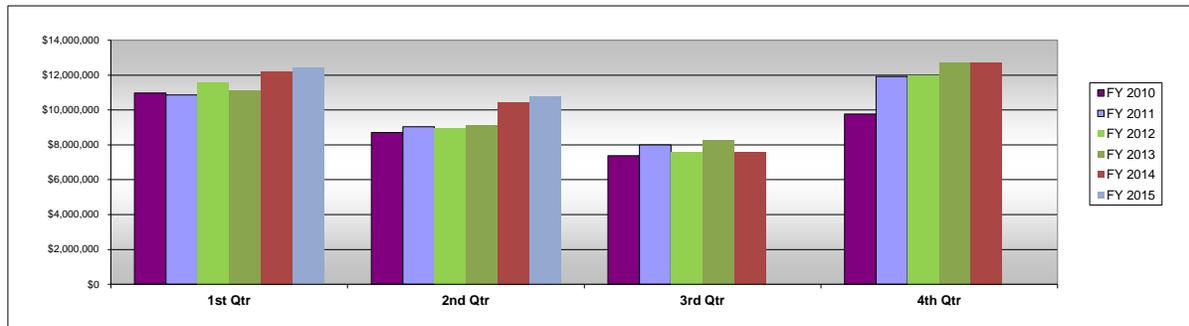
### FY 2015 QUARTERLY TRENDS FOR FUND 80000 ACTUAL REVENUE TRENDS

Qtr		FY 2010		FY 2011		FY 2012		FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015	
1st Qtr	25.80%	\$10,539,980	26.88%	\$9,864,208	24.69%	\$9,810,404	23.10%	\$10,496,391	24.43%	\$10,752,611	24.97%	\$10,680,321	23.08%
2nd Qtr	17.30%	\$6,720,219	17.14%	\$6,916,002	17.31%	\$7,347,940	17.30%	\$7,451,186	17.35%	\$7,601,697	17.66%	\$7,552,882	16.32%
3rd Qtr	24.94%	\$9,063,703	23.11%	\$9,893,922	24.77%	\$10,909,076	25.69%	\$10,797,265	25.13%	\$10,381,622	24.11%		0.00%
4th Qtr	31.96%	\$12,889,434	32.87%	\$13,276,058	33.23%	\$14,402,440	33.91%	\$14,213,051	33.09%	\$14,319,183	33.26%		0.00%
Actual	100.00%	\$39,213,336	100.00%	\$39,950,190	100.00%	\$42,469,860	100.00%	\$42,957,893	100.00%	\$43,055,113		\$46,285,055	
Budget													



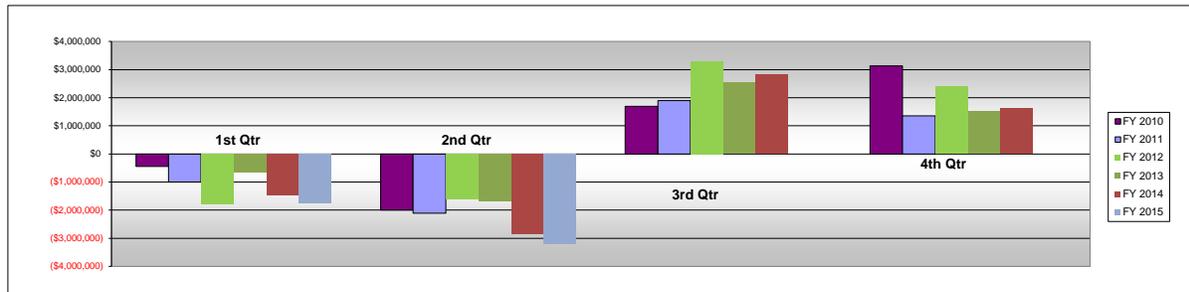
### ACTUAL EXPENDITURE TRENDS

Qtr		FY 2010		FY 2011		FY 2012		FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015	
1st Qtr	28.38%	\$10,979,486	29.39%	\$10,858,789	29.49%	\$11,587,348	28.87%	\$11,148,607	27.03%	\$12,214,036	28.43%	\$12,440,564	27.67%
2nd Qtr	23.08%	\$8,711,966	23.32%	\$9,027,838	24.52%	\$8,936,602	22.26%	\$9,140,101	22.16%	\$10,467,113	24.37%	\$10,761,107	23.94%
3rd Qtr	20.25%	\$7,373,664	19.74%	\$8,001,847	21.73%	\$7,611,759	18.96%	\$8,261,936	20.03%	\$7,561,571	17.60%		0.00%
4th Qtr	28.29%	\$9,760,631	26.13%	\$11,919,294	32.37%	\$12,002,810	29.90%	\$12,692,796	30.78%	\$12,713,945	29.60%		0.00%
Actual	100.00%	\$36,825,747	98.57%	\$39,807,768	108.10%	\$40,138,519	100.00%	\$41,243,440	100.00%	\$42,956,665		\$44,956,023	
Budget													



### ACTUAL NET REVENUE TRENDS

Qtr		FY 2010		FY 2011		FY 2012		FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015	
1st Qtr	-50.44%	(\$439,505)	-34.74%	(\$994,580)	-698.32%	(\$1,776,944)	-76.22%	(\$652,216)	-38.04%	(\$1,461,425)	-38.04%	(\$1,760,243)	-132.45%
2nd Qtr	-153.53%	(\$1,991,747)	-157.43%	(\$2,111,835)	-88.45%	(\$1,588,662)	-68.14%	(\$1,688,915)	-98.51%	(\$2,865,416)	-98.51%	(\$3,208,225)	-241.40%
3rd Qtr	163.55%	\$1,690,039	133.58%	\$1,892,075	79.25%	\$3,297,317	141.43%	\$2,535,329	147.88%	\$2,820,051	147.88%		#DIV/0!
4th Qtr	140.42%	\$3,128,803	247.31%	\$1,356,764	56.83%	\$2,399,630	102.93%	\$1,520,255	88.67%	\$1,605,238	88.67%		#DIV/0!
Actual	100.00%	\$2,387,590	188.72%	\$142,424	5.97%	\$2,331,341	100.00%	\$1,714,453	100.00%	\$98,448		\$1,329,032	
Budget													

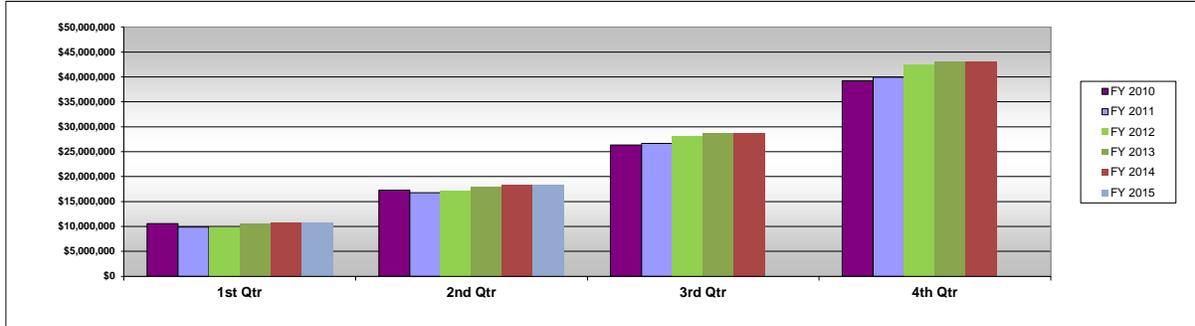


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**CUMULATIVE TRENDS FOR FUND 80000**

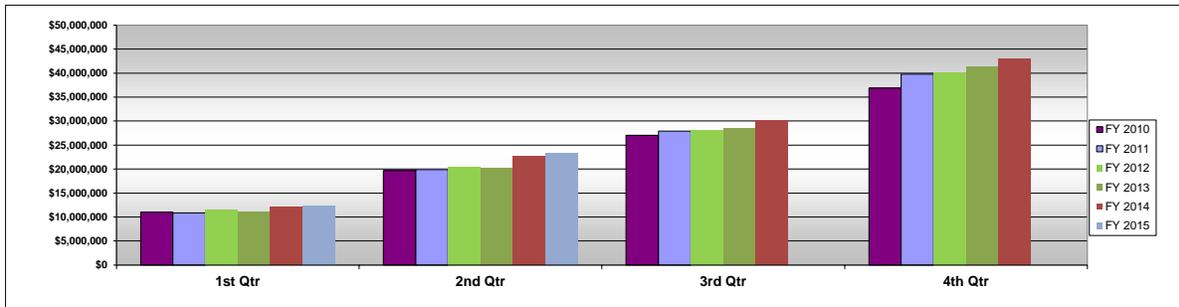
**ACTUAL CUMULATIVE REVENUE TRENDS**

qtr		Actual FY 2010		Actual FY 2011		FY 2012		FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015	
1st Qtr	25.80%	\$10,539,980	26.88%	\$9,864,208	24.69%	\$9,810,404	23.10%	\$10,496,391	24.43%	\$10,752,611	24.43%	\$10,680,321	25.03%
2nd Qtr	43.10%	\$17,260,199	44.02%	\$16,780,210	42.00%	\$17,158,344	40.40%	\$17,947,577	41.78%	\$18,354,308	41.78%	\$18,233,203	42.73%
3rd Qtr	68.04%	\$26,323,902	67.13%	\$26,674,132	66.77%	\$28,067,420	66.09%	\$28,744,842	66.91%	\$28,735,930	66.91%		66.89%
4th Qtr	100.00%	\$39,213,336	100.00%	\$39,950,190	100.00%	\$42,469,860	100.00%	\$42,957,893	100.00%	\$43,055,113	100.00%		100.23%



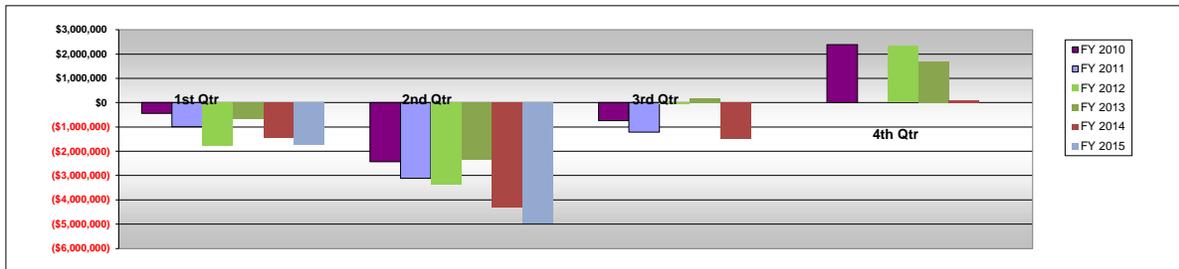
**ACTUAL CUMULATIVE EXPENDITURE TRENDS**

		FY 2010		FY 2011		FY 2012		FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015	
1st Qtr	28.38%	\$10,979,486	29.81%	\$10,858,789	27.28%	\$11,587,348	28.87%	\$11,148,607	27.03%	\$12,214,036	27.03%	\$12,440,564	29.61%
2nd Qtr	51.46%	\$19,691,452	53.47%	\$19,886,627	49.96%	\$20,523,950	51.13%	\$20,288,708	49.19%	\$22,681,149	49.19%	\$23,201,671	54.99%
3rd Qtr	71.71%	\$27,065,116	73.50%	\$27,888,474	70.06%	\$28,135,709	70.10%	\$28,550,644	69.22%	\$30,242,720	69.22%		73.33%
4th Qtr	100.00%	\$36,825,747	100.00%	\$39,807,768	100.00%	\$40,138,519	100.00%	\$41,243,440	100.00%	\$42,956,665	100.00%		104.15%



**ACTUAL CUMULATIVE NET REVENUE TRENDS**

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
1st Qtr	(\$439,505)	(\$994,580)	(\$1,776,943)	(\$652,215)	(\$1,461,424)	(\$1,760,243)
2nd Qtr	(\$2,431,253)	(\$3,106,417)	(\$3,365,606)	(\$2,341,131)	(\$4,326,841)	(\$4,968,468)
3rd Qtr	(\$741,214)	(\$1,214,342)	(\$68,289)	\$194,198	(\$1,506,790)	
4th Qtr	\$2,387,589		\$2,331,341	\$1,714,453	\$98,448	



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**FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY  
REVENUE & OPERATING FUND, FUND 80000  
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES  
As of December 31, 2014**

	FY 2015		REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES	ENCUMBRANCES/ RESERVATIONS	Rev Bdgt v. Actual	FY 2014		INC/DEC OVER PR YEAR	% INC/DEC	FY 2015	FY 2014
	BUDGET ADOPTED	BUDGET REVISED				%Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED	% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED				
	ACTUAL										
<b>TOTAL AGENCY</b>											
<b>Authorized Positions /Staff Years</b>	245/ 245					245/245					
<b>REVENUE*</b>	\$46,285,055	\$46,285,055	\$18,233,204	\$0	\$28,051,851	\$18,354,308	(\$121,104)	-0.66%	39.4%	42.3%	
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>											
Personnel Services	\$28,824,333	\$28,824,333	\$13,812,471	\$0	\$15,011,862	\$13,743,255	\$69,216	0.5%	47.9%	48.9%	
Operating Expenses	\$14,286,882	\$14,286,882	\$7,436,707	\$3,077,036	\$3,773,139	\$7,551,051	(\$114,344)	-1.5%	52.1%	54.1%	
Capital Equipment	\$543,000	\$543,000	\$85,444	\$0	\$457,556	\$53,084	\$32,360	N/A	15.7%	9.0%	
			\$0								
Recovered Cost	(\$1,053,315)	(\$1,053,315)	(\$395,798)	\$0	(\$657,517)	(\$265,080)	(\$130,718)	49.3%	37.6%	25.2%	
Subtotal	\$42,600,900	\$42,600,900	\$20,938,824	\$3,077,036	\$18,585,040	\$21,082,310	(\$143,486)	-0.68%	49.2%	50.7%	
<b>DEBT SERVICE:</b>											
Expenditures	\$809,774	\$809,774	\$717,500	\$0	\$92,274	\$80,706	\$636,794	789.0%	88.6%	44.0%	
Indirect Cost	\$775,000	\$775,000	\$775,000	\$0	\$0	\$775,000	\$0	N/A	100.0%	N/A	
Laurel Hill Debt Svc	\$770,349	\$770,349	\$770,349	\$0	\$0	\$743,134	\$27,215	3.7%	100.0%	100.0%	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$44,956,023	\$44,956,023	\$23,201,673	\$3,077,036	\$18,677,314	\$22,681,150	\$520,523	2.3%	51.6%	52.4%	
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	\$1,329,032	\$1,329,032	(\$4,968,469)	(\$3,077,036)	\$9,374,537	(\$4,326,842)	(\$641,627)	-14.8%	N/A	N/A	
<b>Deferred Revenue Impact</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A	
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	\$1,329,032	\$1,329,032	(\$4,968,469)	(\$3,077,036)	\$9,374,537	(\$4,326,842)	(\$641,627)	-14.8%	N/A	N/A	

**FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY**  
**REVENUE & OPERATING FUND, FUND 80000**  
**REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES**  
As of December 31, 2014

	FY 2015		REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES  ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES/ RESERVATIONS	Rev Bdgt v. Actual	FY 2014	INC/DEC OVER PR YEAR	% INC/DEC	FY 2015	FY 2014
	BUDGET ADOPTED	BUDGET REVISED				Y-T-D ACTUAL			%Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED	% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED
<b>Administration</b>										
<b>REVENUE</b>	\$786,188	\$786,188	\$264,560	\$0	\$521,628	\$286,275	(\$21,715)	-7.6%	33.7%	36.1%
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>										
Personnel Services	\$1,433,191	\$1,433,191	\$570,389	\$0	\$862,802	\$587,003	(\$16,614)	-2.8%	39.8%	41.2%
Operating Expenses	\$875,444	\$875,444	\$338,172	\$23,471	\$513,801	\$428,767	(\$90,595)	-21.1%	38.6%	49.0%
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$5,708	\$0	(\$5,708)	\$33,504	(\$27,796)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Recovered Cost	(\$1,053,315)	(\$1,053,315)	(\$395,798)		(\$657,517)	(\$265,080)	(\$130,718)	-49.3%	37.6%	25.2%
Subtotal	\$1,255,320	\$1,255,320	\$518,471	\$23,471	\$713,378	\$784,194	(\$265,723)	-33.9%	41.3%	62.9%
DEBT SERVICE:	\$809,774	\$809,774	\$717,500	\$0	\$92,274	\$80,706	\$636,794	789.0%	88.6%	44.0%
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$2,065,094	\$2,065,094	\$1,235,971	\$23,471	\$805,652	\$864,900	\$371,071	42.9%	59.9%	60.5%
Indirect Cost	\$775,000	\$775,000	\$775,000	\$0	\$0	\$775,000	\$0	N/A	100.0%	N/A
Laurel Hill Debt Service	\$770,349	\$770,349	\$770,349	\$0	\$0	\$743,134	\$27,215	3.7%	100.0%	100.0%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$3,610,443	\$3,610,443	\$2,781,320	\$23,471	\$805,652	\$2,383,034	\$398,286	16.7%	77.0%	80.8%
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	(\$2,824,255)	(\$2,824,255)	(\$2,516,760)	(\$23,471)	(\$284,024)	(\$2,096,759)	(\$420,001)	-20.0%	89.1%	97.2%

**FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY**  
**REVENUE & OPERATING FUND, FUND 80000**  
**REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES**  
As of December 31, 2014

	FY 2015		REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES  ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES/ RESERVATIONS	Rev Bdgt v. Actual	FY 2014	INC/DEC OVER PR YEAR	% INC/DEC	FY 2015	FY 2014
	BUDGET ADOPTED	BUDGET REVISED				Y-T-D ACTUAL			%Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED	% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED
<b>GOLF ENTERPRISES</b>										
<b>REVENUE</b>	\$11,214,905	\$11,214,905	\$4,923,569		\$6,291,336	\$5,125,130	(\$201,561)	-3.9%	43.9%	47.6%
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>										
Personnel Services	\$6,263,657	\$6,263,657	\$2,890,655	\$0	\$3,373,002	\$3,013,565	(\$122,910)	-4.1%	46.1%	47.3%
Operating Expenses	\$3,280,800	\$3,280,800	\$1,693,487	\$705,245	\$882,068	\$1,564,565	\$128,922	8.2%	51.6%	48.7%
Capital Equipment	\$263,000	\$263,000	\$78,318	\$0	\$184,682		\$78,318	N/A	29.8%	0.0%
Recovered Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$9,807,457	\$9,807,457	\$4,662,460	\$705,245	\$4,439,752	\$4,578,130	\$84,330	1.8%	47.5%	46.5%
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	\$1,407,448	\$1,407,448	\$261,109	(\$705,245)	\$1,851,584	\$547,000	(\$285,891)	52.3%	18.6%	59.8%
<b>Deferred Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	\$1,407,448	\$1,407,448	\$261,109	(\$705,245)	\$1,851,584	\$547,000	(\$285,891)	52.3%	18.6%	59.8%
<b>LAKE PARKS</b>										
<b>REVENUE*</b>	\$2,778,700	\$2,778,700	\$1,438,954	\$0	\$1,339,746	\$1,406,759	\$32,195	2.3%	51.8%	48.24%
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>										
Personnel Services	\$1,285,801	\$1,285,801	\$877,012	\$0	\$408,789	\$852,246	\$24,766	2.9%	68.2%	49.00%
Operating Expenses	\$741,100	\$741,100	\$405,443	\$131,690	\$203,967	\$399,365	\$6,078	1.5%	54.7%	31.47%
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Recovered Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$2,026,901	\$2,026,901	\$1,282,455	\$131,690	\$612,756	\$1,251,611	\$30,844	2.5%	63.3%	41.6%
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	\$751,799	\$751,799	\$156,499	(\$131,690)	\$726,990	\$155,148	\$1,351	0.9%	20.8%	-168.1%
<b>Deferred Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	\$751,799	\$751,799	\$156,499	(\$131,690)	\$726,990	\$155,148	\$1,351	0.9%	20.8%	-168.1%

**FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY  
REVENUE & OPERATING FUND, FUND 80000  
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES  
As of December 31, 2014**

<u>FY 2015</u>				<u>FY 2014</u>				<u>FY 2015</u>	<u>FY 2014</u>
BUDGET ADOPTED	BUDGET REVISED	REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES	ENCUMBRANCES/ RESERVATIONS	Rev Bdgt v. Actual	Y-T-D ACTUAL	INC/DEC OVER PR YEAR	% INC/DEC	%Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED	% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED
		<b>ACTUAL</b>							

<b>RECenters</b>										
<b>REVENUE*</b>	\$28,406,000	\$28,406,000	\$10,341,628	\$0	\$18,064,372	\$10,286,426	\$55,202	0.5%	36.4%	39.65%
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>										
Personnel Services	\$16,805,989	\$16,805,989	\$7,798,372	\$0	\$9,007,617	\$7,632,465	\$165,907	2.2%	46.4%	47.76%
Operating Expenses	\$7,999,990	\$7,999,990	\$4,350,411	\$1,974,745	\$1,674,834	\$4,394,572	(\$44,161)	-1.0%	54.4%	56.93%
Capital Equipment	\$280,000	\$280,000	\$0	\$0	\$280,000	\$0	\$0	N/A	0.0%	0.00%
Recovered Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$25,085,979	\$25,085,979	\$12,148,783	\$1,974,745	\$10,962,451	\$12,027,037	\$121,746	1.0%	48.4%	50.0%
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	\$3,320,021	\$3,320,021	(\$1,807,155)	(\$1,974,745)	\$7,101,921	(\$1,740,611)	(\$66,544)	3.8%	-54.4%	-90.9%
<b>Deferred Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	\$3,320,021	\$3,320,021	(\$1,807,155)	(\$1,974,745)	\$7,101,921	(\$1,740,611)	(\$66,544)	3.8%	-54.4%	-90.9%

<b>Rec Activities Administration</b>										
<b>REVENUE*</b>	\$575,000	\$575,000	\$284,840	\$0	\$290,160	\$266,367	\$18,473	6.9%	49.5%	46.32%
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>										
Personnel Services	\$1,359,977	\$1,359,977	\$811,131	\$0	\$548,846	\$783,225	\$27,906	3.6%	59.6%	86.56%
Operating Expenses	\$888,950	\$888,950	\$389,900	\$161,427	\$337,623	\$468,170	(\$78,270)	-16.7%	43.9%	118.90%
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Recovered Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$2,248,927	\$2,248,927	\$1,201,031	\$161,427	\$886,469	\$1,251,395	(\$50,364)	-4.0%	53.4%	96.4%
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	(\$1,673,927)	(\$1,673,927)	(\$916,191)	(\$161,427)	(\$596,309)	(\$985,028)	\$68,837	-7.0%	54.7%	136.1%
<b>Deferred Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	(\$1,673,927)	(\$1,673,927)	(\$916,191)	(\$161,427)	(\$596,309)	(\$985,028)	\$68,837	-7.0%	54.7%	136.1%

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY  
REVENUE & OPERATING FUND, FUND 80000  
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES  
As of December31, 2014

	FY 2015		REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES  ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES/ RESERVATIONS	Rev Bdg v. Actual	FY 2014	INC/DEC OVER PR YEAR	% INC/DEC	FY 2015	FY 2014
	BUDGET ADOPTED	BUDGET REVISED				Y-T-D			%Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED	% Of BUDGET SPENT/ COLLECTED
						ACTUAL				
<b>RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>										
<b>REVENUE</b>	\$2,524,262	\$2,524,262	\$979,653	\$0	\$1,544,609	\$983,351	(\$3,698)	-0.4%	38.81%	40.14%
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>										
Personnel Services	\$1,675,718	\$1,675,718	\$864,912	\$0	\$810,806	\$874,751	(\$9,839)	-1.1%	51.61%	51.74%
Operating Expenses	\$500,598	\$500,598	\$259,294	\$80,458	\$160,846	\$295,612	(\$36,318)	-12.3%	51.80%	60.85%
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$1,418	\$0	(\$1,418)	\$19,580	(\$18,162)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Recovered Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$2,176,316	\$2,176,316	\$1,125,624	\$80,458	\$970,234	\$1,189,943	(\$64,319)	-5.4%	51.72%	54.67%
<b>NET REVENUE(LOSS)</b>	\$347,946	\$347,946	(\$145,971)	(\$80,458)	\$574,375	(\$206,592)	\$60,621	-29.3%	-41.95%	-75.5%

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FY 2015 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES ANALYSIS BY SITE FUND 80000  
AS OF December 31, 2014

	FY	YTD REVENUE	YTD EXPENSE	YTD NET
<b>OVERALL</b>				
ADMINISTRATION	2014	286,275	2,383,034	(2,096,759)
	2015	264,560	2,781,320	(2,516,760)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(21,715)	398,286	(420,001)
GOLF ENTERPRISES	2014	5,125,130	4,578,130	547,000
	2015	4,923,569	4,662,459	261,110
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(201,561)	84,329	(285,890)
REC ACTIVITIES	2014	11,959,552	14,530,042	(2,570,490)
	2015	12,065,422	14,632,269	(2,566,847)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		105,870	102,227	3,643
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	2014	983,351	1,189,943	(206,592)
	2015	979,653	1,125,623	(145,970)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(3,698)	(64,320)	60,622
COMBINED TOTAL	2014	18,354,308	22,681,149	(4,326,841)
	2015	18,233,204	23,201,671	(4,968,467)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(121,104)	520,522	(641,626)
<b>GOLF ENTERPRISES</b>				
Administration	2014	55,590	140,074	(84,484)
	2015	48,524	177,770	(129,246)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(7,066)	37,696	(44,762)
Burke Lk. Golf Course	2014	539,867	413,694	126,173
	2015	498,334	381,015	117,319
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(41,533)	(32,679)	(8,854)
Greendale Golf Course	2014	725,455	536,043	189,412
	2015	667,373	508,246	159,127
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(58,082)	(27,797)	(30,285)
Jefferson Golf Course	2014	535,354	463,746	71,608
	2015	559,104	540,223	18,881
<b>VARIANCE</b>		23,750	76,477	(52,727)
Pinecrest Golf Course	2014	363,611	375,597	(11,986)
	2015	337,176	367,953	(30,777)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(26,435)	(7,644)	(18,791)
Twin Lakes Golf Course	2014	1,364,716	1,242,408	122,308
	2015	1,311,383	1,334,626	(23,243)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(53,333)	92,218	(145,551)
Oak Marr Golf Course	2014	591,896	386,667	205,229
	2015	524,510	369,577	154,933
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(67,386)	(17,090)	(50,296)
Laurel Hill Golf Course	2014	948,642	1,019,900	(71,258)
	2015	977,166	983,051	(5,885)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		28,524	(36,849)	65,373

FY 2015 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES ANALYSIS BY SITE FUND 80000  
AS OF December 31, 2014

	FY	YTD REVENUE	YTD EXPENSE	YTD NET
<b>RECenters</b>				
<b>Admin Rec Ctr</b>	2014	31,534	591,754	(560,220)
	2015	52,856	825,070	(772,214)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		21,322	233,316	(211,994)
<b>George Washington Rec Ctr</b>	2014	210,717	289,115	(78,398)
	2015	207,911	259,755	(51,844)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(2,806)	(29,360)	26,554
<b>Lee Rec Ctr</b>	2014	1,474,917	1,927,014	(452,097)
	2015	1,462,536	1,675,121	(212,585)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(12,381)	(251,893)	239,512
<b>Oak Marr Rec Ctr</b>	2014	1,118,795	1,490,167	(371,372)
	2015	1,628,359	1,642,086	(13,727)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		509,564	151,919	357,645
<b>Providence Rec Ctr</b>	2014	1,056,428	1,183,762	(127,334)
	2015	983,401	1,223,270	(239,869)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(73,027)	39,508	(112,535)
<b>South Run Rec Ctr</b>	2014	1,567,113	1,305,550	261,563
	2015	1,438,341	1,415,852	22,489
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(128,772)	110,302	(239,074)
<b>Springhill Rec Ctr</b>	2014	1,066,728	1,270,600	(203,872)
	2015	875,761	1,102,137	(226,376)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(190,967)	(168,463)	(22,504)
<b>Audrey More Recenter</b>	2014	1,399,865	1,457,119	(57,254)
	2015	1,414,534	1,484,758	(70,224)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		14,669	27,639	(12,970)
<b>Cub Run Recenter</b>	2014	1,229,187	1,392,801	(163,614)
	2015	1,165,357	1,361,207	(195,850)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(63,830)	(31,594)	(32,236)
<b>Mt Vernon Rec Ctr</b>	2014	1,131,141	1,119,156	11,985
	2015	1,112,574	1,159,526	(46,952)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(18,567)	40,370	(58,937)
<b>Marketing</b>	2014	0	121,446	(121,446)
	2015	0	124,704	(124,704)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		0	3,258	(3,258)
<b>Business Office</b>	2014	0	376,365	(376,365)
	2015	0	353,283	(353,283)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		0	(23,082)	23,082
<b>Production Services</b>	2014	0	465,211	(465,211)
	2015	0	503,982	(503,982)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		0	38,771	(38,771)
<b>Clemyjontri</b>	2014	70,409	68,385	2,024
	2015	60,832	74,941	(14,109)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(9,577)	6,556	(16,133)
<b>Rec Activities Admin</b>	2014	266,367	288,372	(22,005)
	2015	284,840	219,061	65,779
<b>VARIANCE</b>		18,473	(69,311)	87,784
<b>Burke Lake Park</b>	2014	463,166	270,350	192,816
	2015	492,845	266,979	225,866
<b>VARIANCE</b>		29,679	(3,371)	33,050

FY 2015 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES ANALYSIS BY SITE FUND 80000  
AS OF December 31, 2014

	FY	YTD REVENUE	YTD EXPENSE	YTD NET
<b>Lake Fairfax Park</b>	2014	780,433	794,874	(14,441)
	2015	789,289	818,345	(29,056)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		8,856	23,471	(14,615)
<b>Lake Accotink</b>	2014	92,752	118,002	(25,250)
	2015	95,988	122,191	(26,203)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		3,236	4,189	(953)
<b>RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>				
<b>Administration</b>	2014	15,081	109,229	(94,148)
	2015	21,147	103,835	(82,688)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		6,066	(5,394)	11,460
<b>Colvin Run Mill</b>	2014	29,621	18,900	10,721
	2015	26,924	16,126	10,798
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(2,697)	(2,774)	77
<b>E.C. Lawrence</b>	2014	26,986	57,027	(30,041)
	2015	27,796	55,638	(27,842)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		810	(1,389)	2,199
<b>Frying Pan Farm Park</b>	2014	411,519	419,544	(8,025)
	2015	396,418	390,887	5,531
<b>VARIANCE</b>		15,101	28,657	(13,556)
<b>Green Spring Gardens</b>	2014	123,052	140,494	(17,442)
	2015	135,353	155,282	(19,929)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		12,301	14,788	(2,487)
<b>Hidden Oaks Nature Ctr</b>	2014	62,924	61,439	1,485
	2015	65,788	68,614	(2,826)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		2,864	7,175	(4,311)
<b>Hidden Pond Nature Ctr</b>	2014	52,940	65,308	(12,368)
	2015	46,335	57,241	(10,906)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(6,605)	(8,067)	1,462
<b>Huntley Meadows Park</b>	2014	41,560	25,122	16,438
	2015	34,456	14,616	19,840
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(7,104)	(10,506)	3,402
<b>Riverbend Park</b>	2014	93,978	145,489	(51,511)
	2015	108,685	108,040	645
<b>VARIANCE</b>		14,707	(37,449)	52,156
<b>Sully</b>	2014	44,348	48,544	(4,196)
	2015	49,469	61,458	(11,989)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		5,121	12,914	(7,793)
<b>Historic Prop. Rent &amp; Services</b>	2014	81,343	98,847	(17,504)
	2015	67,283	93,886	(26,603)
<b>VARIANCE</b>		(14,060)	(4,961)	(9,099)

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## **INFORMATION**

### FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review – Fund 10001, General Fund

The Park Authority is requesting a funding increase of \$50,000. This funding request supports the Board of Supervisor initiative, Resident Curator Program. This pilot initiative will preserve historic buildings and sites by allowing individuals or other entities to “lease” and care for the properties under the supervision/guidance of the program manager.

#### Budget Reduction:

As a part of FY 2016 budget process, agencies were asked to come up with 1% budget reduction for FY 2015 and Park Authority’s share is; \$225,000 reduction in Personnel Services and \$10,000 in Operating expenses. The Park Authority is requesting a net decrease of \$185,000. The total funding will be \$23,543,070.

#### ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Fairfax County Park Authority, FY 2015 Third Quarter Review Summary General Fund, Fund 10001.

#### STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director  
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/Chief, Business Development  
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO  
Janet Burns, Senior Fiscal Administrator  
Michael P. Baird, Manager, Capital and Fiscal Services  
Susan Tavallai, Senior Budget Analyst

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**FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY**  
**FY 2015 THIRD QUARTER REVIEW SUMMARY**  
**General Fund, Fund 10001**

	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Third Qtr Request	Increase/ Decrease
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>				
Personnel Services	\$20,718,392	\$22,421,608	\$22,236,608	(\$185,000)
Operating Expenses	\$5,539,180	\$5,033,067	\$5,033,067	\$0
Capital Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$26,257,572</b>	<b>\$27,454,675</b>	<b>\$27,269,675</b>	<b>(\$185,000)</b>
<b>LESS:</b>				
Recovered Costs	(\$3,220,825)	(\$3,726,605)	(\$3,726,605)	\$0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$23,036,747</b>	<b>\$23,728,070</b>	<b>\$23,543,070</b>	<b>(\$185,000)</b>
<b>REVENUE:</b>	<b>\$1,314,874</b>	<b>\$1,467,166</b>	<b>\$1,467,166</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Expenditures Adjustment:**

## Personnel Services:

An increase of \$40,000 in Personnel Services for Resident Curator

A decrease of \$225,000 as a result of one-time reduction

## Operating Expenses:

An increase of \$10,000 for Resident Curator

A decrease of \$10,000 as a result of one-time reduction

**Revenue Adjustment:**

There is no requested adjustment to revenue.

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## **INFORMATION**

### FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review – Fund 80000, Park Authority Revenue and Operating Fund

The Park Authority is not requesting any changes to the appropriations currently allocated. Park Authority is projected to be in line with Revenue Budget appropriation of \$46,285,055 and Expenditure Budget appropriation of \$44,956,023.

#### ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Fairfax County Park Authority, FY 2015 Third Quarter Review Summary, Park Revenue and Operating Fund, Fund 80000

#### STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director  
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO  
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/Chief, Business Development  
Janet Burns, Senior Fiscal Administrator  
Michael P. Baird, Manager, Capital and Fiscal Services  
Susan Tavallai, Senior Budget Analyst

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**FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY**  
**FY 2015 THIRD QUARTER REVIEW SUMMARY**  
**PARK REVENUE AND OPERATING FUND**  
**Fund 80000**

	FY 2014 ACTUAL	FY 2015 CURRENT BUDGET	FY 2015 THIRD QTR REQUEST	INCREASE/ (DECREASE)
<b>REVENUE:</b>	\$43,055,110	\$46,285,055	\$46,285,055	\$0
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>				
Personnel Services	\$28,157,182	\$28,824,333	\$28,824,333	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$13,723,071	\$14,286,882	\$14,286,882	\$0
Capital Equipment	\$246,571	\$543,000	\$543,000	\$0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$42,126,824</b>	<b>\$43,654,215</b>	<b>\$43,654,215</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Less:</b>				
Recovered Costs	(\$904,380)	(\$1,053,315)	(\$1,053,315)	\$0
Indirect Cost	\$775,000	\$775,000	\$775,000	
Debt Service	\$743,134	\$770,349	\$770,349	
			\$0	\$0
	<b>\$42,740,578</b>	<b>\$44,146,249</b>	<b>\$44,146,249</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Laurel Hill Debt</b>	<b>\$180,206</b>	<b>\$809,774</b>	<b>\$809,774</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Expenditures with Laurel hill Debt</b>	<b>\$42,920,784</b>	<b>\$44,956,023</b>	<b>\$44,956,023</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Net Revenue/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$134,326</b>	<b>\$1,329,032</b>	<b>\$1,329,032</b>	<b>\$0</b>

	FY 2014 ACTUAL	FY 2015 CURRENT BUDGET	FY 2015 THIRD QTR REQUEST	INCREASE/ (DECREASE)
<b>REVENUE SUMMARY BY COST CENTER:</b>				
Administration	\$857,672	\$786,188	\$786,188	\$0
Golf Enterprises	\$10,007,348	\$11,214,905	\$11,214,905	\$0
REC Activities	\$29,591,897	\$31,759,700	\$31,759,700	\$0
Resource Management	\$2,598,193	\$2,524,262	\$2,524,262	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$43,055,110</b>	<b>\$46,285,056</b>	<b>\$46,285,056</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>EXPENSE SUMMARY BY COST CENTER</b>				
Administration	\$2,878,854	\$2,800,669	\$2,800,669	\$0
Golf Enterprises	\$9,254,978	\$9,807,457	\$9,807,457	\$0
REC Activities	\$28,377,923	\$29,361,807	\$29,361,807	\$0
Resource Management	\$2,228,824	\$2,176,316	\$2,176,316	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$42,740,579</b>	<b>\$44,146,249</b>	<b>\$44,146,249</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Laurel Hill Debt</b>	<b>\$180,206</b>	<b>\$809,774</b>	<b>\$809,774</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Expenditures with Laurel hill Debt</b>	<b>\$42,920,785</b>	<b>\$44,956,023</b>	<b>\$44,956,023</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$134,326</b>	<b>\$1,329,033</b>	<b>\$1,329,033</b>	<b>\$0</b>

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## **INFORMATION**

### FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review, Fund 30010, General County Construction Fund

The Park Authority is not requesting any changes to the appropriations currently allocated for Fund 30010, General County Construction Fund. Total Fund 30010, General County Construction Fund budgeted expenditures are \$10,259,534 for FY 2015.

#### ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Fairfax County Park Authority, Fund 30010 Project Summary

#### STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO

Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/Chief, Business Development

Janet Burns, Senior Fiscal Administrator

Michael P. Baird, Manager, Capital and Fiscal Services

Susan Tavallai, Senior Budget Analyst

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**Fairfax County Park Authority  
FY 2015 Third Quarter Review  
Fund 30010 Project Summary**

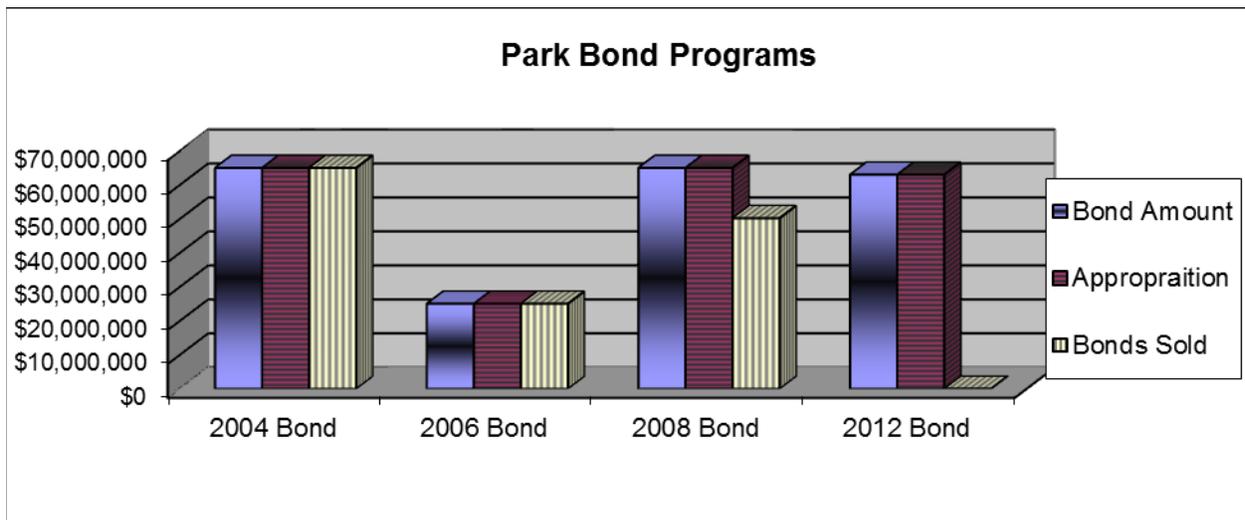
<b>Non-Recurring Funding</b>		<b>FY 15 Adopted</b>
PR-000083	American w/Disability Act Retrofit for DOJ audit (yellow, green)	\$1,950,000
2G51-005-000	Parks- General Maintenance	\$425,000
<b>Total Non-Recurring Funding:</b>		<b>\$2,375,000</b>
<b>Recurring Funding</b>		
2G51-006-000	Parks-Ground Maintenance	\$787,076
2G51-007-000	Parks-Facility Equipment/Maintenance	\$470,000
2G51-008-000	Laurel Hill	\$297,120
2G51-001-000	Park Maintenance at FCPS Athletic Fields	\$860,338
2G51-002-000	Athletic Field Maintenance	\$2,700,000
2G51-003-000	Athletic Services Fee - Field Maintenance (Expanded Maintenance Program)	\$1,000,000
PR-000080	Synthetic Turf Field Development Fund	\$200,000
PR-000097	Synthetic Turf Field Replacement Fund	\$1,250,000
2G51-032-000	EAI-Invasive Plant Removal	\$150,000
2G51-034-000	EAI - Park Lighting and Energy	\$170,000
<b>Total Recurring Funding:</b>		<b>\$7,884,534</b>
<b>AGENCY TOTAL REQUEST:</b>		<b>\$10,259,534</b>

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## INFORMATION

### FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review, Fund 30400, Park Authority Bond Construction

The Park Authority had a total of \$65,000,000 authorized bonds from the 2004 Bond Program, and \$25,000,000 authorized as part of the fall 2006 Bond Program in Fund 30400 for park land acquisition and development. All bonds associated with the 2004 and 2006 programs have been sold. A \$65,000,000 park bond was approved as part of the fall 2008 Bond Referendum. As part of the FY 2014 Bond Sale, \$11,360,900 from the fall 2008 program was sold, leaving a balance of \$14,812,100 associated with the fall 2008 program. (A total of \$38,827,000 of FY 2008 bonds was sold during prior fiscal years). In addition, a \$63,000,000 park bond was approved as part of the fall 2012 Bond Referendum. The full complement of \$63,000,000 from the 2012 program was appropriated as part of the FY 2013 Third Quarter; no bonds from this program have been sold.



Based on a beginning cash balance in FY 2015 of \$1,745,920, and bond sales in the amount of \$77,812,100, the total for FY 2015 is \$79,558,020 to expend in the Capital Improvement Program for parkland acquisition, development and renovation for Fund 30400, Park Authority Bond Construction. These funds represent the full appropriation of funds from the 2004, 2006, 2008, and 2012 Park Bond Program.

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- Remaining Balance \$1,745,920
- Scheduled Bond Sales \$77,812,100
- FY 2015 Third Quarter Total \$79,558,020

No additional funding is requested in the fund.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The FY 2015 Third Quarter appropriation for Fund 30400, Park Authority Bond Construction is \$79,558,020.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review Fund Statement - Fund 30400,  
Park Authority Bond Construction Fund

Attachment 2: FY 2015 Fund 30400 – Summary of Capital Projects – Third Quarter

STAFF:

Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO

Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/Chief, Business Development

Janet Burns, Senior Fiscal Administrator

Michael Baird, Manager, Capital and Fiscal Services

FY 2015 THIRD QUARTER REVIEW FUND STATEMENT					
Fund: 30400, Park Authority Bond Construction					
Agency: Park Authority					
	1. FY 2014 Actual	2. FY 2015 Adopted Budget Plan	3. FY 2015 Revised Budget Plan	4. 2015 Third Quarter Estimate	5. Increase (Decrease)
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$7,325,999</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,745,920</b>	<b>\$1,745,920</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Revenue:					
Sale of Bonds <sup>1</sup>	\$11,360,900	\$0	\$77,812,100	\$77,812,100	\$0
Bond Premium <sup>1</sup>	\$1,639,100				
Grant <sup>2</sup>	\$37,500				
Total Revenue	\$13,037,500	\$0	\$77,812,100	\$77,812,100	\$0
<b>Total Available</b>	<b>\$20,363,499</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$79,558,020</b>	<b>\$79,558,020</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Expenditures:	\$18,617,579	\$0	\$79,558,020	\$79,558,020	\$0
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$18,617,579</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$79,558,020</b>	<b>\$79,558,020</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Ending Balance <sup>3</sup></b>	<b>\$1,745,920</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<sup>1</sup> The sale of bonds is presented here for planning purposes only. Actual bond sales are based on cash needs in accordance with Board policy and county debt service ratios. On November 4, 2008 voters approved a \$65 million Park Authority Bond Referendum to continue land acquisition, park development, park and building renovation and stewardship. The FY 2014 actual reflect \$11.360 million sold in January 2014. In addition, \$1.639 million in Bond Premium has been applied to this fund. On November 6, 2012, the voters approved a \$63 million Park Bond. Including prior sales, a total of \$77.812 million remains in authorized but unissued bonds for this fund.

<sup>2</sup> Funding in the amount of \$37,500 received in FY 2014 from the National Trust for Historic Preservation will be used as a contribution toward the cost of the restoration of Colvin Run Mill.

<sup>3</sup> Capital Projects are budgeted based on total project cost. Most projects span multiple years, from design to construction completion. Therefore, funding for capital projects is carried forward each fiscal year, and the ending balance fluctuate, reflecting the carryover of these funds.

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### FY 2014 Carryover Summary of Capital Projects

#### Fund 30400, Park Authority Bond Construction

Project		Total Project Estimate	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Current Year Adopted Budget	Adopted + Carryover + Out of Cycle	Adjustments to Carryover	Carryover Revised Budget
PR-000001	Athletic Fields-2004	\$8,633,562	\$134,367.13	\$0	\$431,717.16	\$0.00	\$431,717.16
PR-000002	Athletic Fields - Synthetic Turf-2006	\$10,000,000	\$197,632.21	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PR-000005	Park and Building Renovation- 2008	\$30,672,451	\$1,155,893.40	\$0	\$11,917,712.53	\$1,639,100.00	\$13,556,812.53
PR-000006	Infrastructure Renovations- 1998	\$4,900,000	\$109,117.53	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PR-000007	Trails and Stream Crossings- 2004	\$4,895,000	\$99,195.15	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PR-000008	Trails and Stream Crossings- 2006	\$5,000,000	\$1,150,658.92	\$0	\$682,460.08	\$0.00	\$682,460.08
PR-000009	Community Park/New Facilities 2012	\$7,285,000	\$0.00	\$0	\$7,285,000.00	\$0.00	\$7,285,000.00
PR-000010	Grants and Contributions	\$2,742,427	\$0.00	\$0	\$2,610.00	\$37,500.00	\$40,110.00
PR-000011	Natural and Cultural Resources-2004	\$3,830,000	\$640,572.87	\$0	\$253,078.07	\$0.00	\$253,078.07
PR-000012	Stewardship-2008	\$11,739,950	\$1,449,741.71	\$0	\$3,826,530.76	\$0.00	\$3,826,530.76
PR-000013	Natural and Cultural Resources Fac-1998	\$10,000,000	\$727,540.59	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PR-000014	Community Park Development-2002	\$5,000,000	\$40,718.71	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PR-000015	Community Parks/Courts- 2004	\$9,580,646	\$4,830.00	\$0	\$785,031.55	\$0.00	\$785,031.55
PR-000016	Park Development-2008	\$18,846,595	\$814,153.57	\$0	\$6,497,341.61	\$0.00	\$6,497,341.61
PR-000017	Community Park Development-1998	\$10,050,223	\$5,439.11	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PR-000018	Building Renovation and Expansion-2004	\$23,029,864	\$244,353.39	\$0	\$568,970.72	\$0.00	\$568,970.72
PR-000021	Land Acquisition-2008	\$14,386,988	\$836,081.98	\$0	\$844,954.08	\$0.00	\$844,954.08
PR-000022	Building New Construction- 2004	\$4,439,968	\$1,105,391.28	\$0	\$152,696.49	\$0.00	\$152,696.49
PR-000091	Existing Facility/Renovation- 2012	\$23,302,500	\$2,663,966.76	\$0	\$19,747,130.33	\$0.00	\$19,747,130.33
PR-000092	Facility Expansion-2012	\$19,497,500	\$7,227,715.96	\$0	\$11,981,395.53	\$0.00	\$11,981,395.53
PR-000093	Land Acquisition and Stewardship-2012	\$12,915,000	\$10,209.00	\$0	\$12,904,791.00	\$0.00	\$12,904,791.00
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$240,747,674</b>	<b>\$18,617,579.27</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$77,881,419.91</b>	<b>\$1,676,600.00</b>	<b>\$79,558,019.91</b>

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Board Agenda Item  
March 11, 2015

## **INFORMATION**

### FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review, Fund 80300, Park Improvement Fund

Fund 80300, Park Improvement Fund, is the fund for money received from grants, right-of-way fees, easements, proffers, donations, lease payments, interest on pooled investments and transfers from Fund 80000, Park Revenue and Operating Fund. These funds are used for improvements for revenue facilities and park sites where grants, proffers and donations have been received for specific park improvements.

With regard to Fund 80300, Park Improvement Fund, the Park Authority has a current appropriation of \$21,825,934 for projects in the fund. Based on the beginning balance of \$24,033,860; offset by the reserve set aside for the Golf Revenue Bond in the amount of \$700,000 and the Lawrence Trust Reserve in the amount of \$1,507,926, the available balance for expenditure on capital projects is \$21,825,934. This amount is based on the FY 2014 Carryover approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The Park Authority submission of the FY 2015 Third Quarter Budget Review for Fund 80300, Park Improvement Fund to the Department of Management and Budget will reflect the current FY 2015 appropriation and not request appropriation of additional funds for FY 2015.

Fund 80300 receives its appropriation at the end of the fiscal year as part of the Carryover Review. Any funds received during the current fiscal year will be appropriated during the next Carryover Review in September 2015.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

The FY 2014 Carryover appropriation request for Fund 80300, Park Improvement Fund is \$21,825,934. Funds received during FY 2015 will be requested to be appropriated as part of the FY 2015 Carryover Review. Therefore, no additional funds will be requested to be appropriated in FY 2015.

#### ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

- Attachment 1: FY 2015 Third Quarter Review Fund Statement - Fund 80300, Park Improvement Fund
- Attachment 2: FY 2014 Carryover Summary of Capital Projects, Fund 80300, Park Improvement

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March 11, 2015

STAFF:

Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO

Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/Chief, Business Development

Janet Burns, Senior Fiscal Administrator

Michael P. Baird, Manager, Capital and Fiscal Services

FY 2015 THIRD QUARTER REVIEW FUND STATEMENT					
Fund: 80300, Park Capital Improvement Fund					
Agency: Park Authority					
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Adopted Budget Plan	FY 2015 Revised Budget Plan	FY 2015 Third Quarter Estimate	Increase (Decrease)
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$28,696,358</b>	<b>\$4,780,337</b>	<b>\$24,033,860</b>	<b>\$24,033,860</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Revenue:					
Interest	\$23,855	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Revenue <sup>(1)</sup>	\$2,229,695	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,253,550</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Transfers In:					
Park Revenue Fund (80000)	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Transfer In</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	
<b>Total Available</b>	<b>\$32,449,908</b>	<b>\$4,780,337</b>	<b>\$24,033,860</b>	<b>\$24,033,860</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Expenditures:	\$7,131,048	\$0	\$21,825,934	\$21,825,934	\$0
Transfers Out:					
General County Counstruction (30010) <sup>2</sup>	\$1,285,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$8,416,048</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$21,825,934</b>	<b>\$21,825,934</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Ending Balance <sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>\$24,033,860</b>	<b>\$4,780,337</b>	<b>\$2,207,926</b>	<b>\$2,207,926</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Lawrence Trust Reserve <sup>(4)</sup>	\$1,507,926	\$1,507,926	\$1,507,926	\$1,507,926	\$0
Repair and Replace Reserve <sup>(5)</sup>	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$0
Facilities and Services Res <sup>(6)</sup>	\$2,572,411	\$2,572,411	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Unreserved Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$19,253,523</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

(1) Other revenue reflects easements, donations, monopoly and proffer revenue.

(2) In lieu of General Fund support, a transfer of \$1,085,000 from Fund 80300, Park Improvement Fund, to Fund 30010, General Construction and Contributions, supported Project PR-000083, Americans with Disabilities Act Improvements. Moreover, an amount of \$200,000 was transferred to Fund 30010, General Construction and Contributions, in order to support Project 2G51-006-000, Parks Grounds Maintenance, for tennis and basketball courts maintenance.

(3) Capital Projects are budgeted based on total project cost. Most projects span multiple years, from design to construction completion. Therefore, funding for capital projects is carried forward each fiscal year, and ending balances fluctuate, reflecting the carryover of these funds.

(4) This Reserve separately accounts for the Ellanor C. Lawrence monies received for maintenance and renovation to this site. In accordance with the FCPA Board, the principal amount of \$1,507,926 received from the donation will remain intact, and any interest earned will be used according to the terms of the Trust.

(5) The Golf Revenue Bond Indenture requires that a security reserve and capital repair reserve be maintained in the Capital Improvement Plan for repairs to park facilities.

(6) In FY 2001, the Park Authority created this reserve to support the maintenance and renovation of revenue-generating facilities. As part of the FY 2014 Carryover Review, the balance of the Reserve is reallocated to PR-000101, Revenue Facilities Sinking Fund.

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## FY 2014 Carryover Summary of Capital Projects

## Fund 80300, Park Capital Improvement

Project	Total Project Estimate	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Current Year Adopted Budget	Adopted + Carryover + Out of Cycle	Adjustments to Carryover	Carryover Revised Budget
2G51-010-000 Stewardship Education	\$137,314	\$2,114.72	\$0	\$39,676.41	\$2,314.00	\$41,990.41
2G51-011-000 Restitutions For VDOT Takings (Rvt)	\$316,541	\$17,742.01	\$0	\$98,194.56	\$5,000.00	\$103,194.56
2G51-014-000 Mark Bleiweis Memorial Field	\$8,500	\$1,281.80	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2G51-015-000 Fox Mill Park	\$116,045	\$5,180.90	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2G51-016-000 Telecommunications-Administration	\$26,000	\$0.00	\$0	\$25,814.45	\$0.00	\$25,814.45
2G51-017-000 Fund Contingency		\$0.00	\$0	\$1,339,215.47	(\$1,339,215.47)	\$0.00
2G51-018-000 Park Easement Administration	\$3,808,981	\$239,840.25	\$0	\$576,498.30	\$78,713.00	\$655,211.30
2G51-019-000 Historic Artifacts Collections	\$52,382	\$245.95	\$0	\$4,043.58	\$0.00	\$4,043.58
2G51-020-000 History Special Events	\$8,000	\$148.75	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2G51-021-000 Park Rental Building Maintenance	\$1,593,558	\$83,263.28	\$0	\$106,324.73	\$0.00	\$106,324.73
2G51-022-000 Archaeology Proffers	\$169,732	\$3,784.81	\$0	\$49,379.37	\$0.00	\$49,379.37
2G51-023-000 Stewardship Publications	\$75,877	\$6,340.00	\$0	\$38,410.33	\$796.00	\$39,206.33
2G51-024-000 Stewardship Exhibits	\$13,325	\$0.00	\$0	\$3,496.35	\$0.00	\$3,496.35
2G51-025-000 E.C. Lawrence Trust	\$500,644	\$184.68	\$0	\$313,574.30	\$1,305.00	\$314,879.30
2G51-026-000 Grants and Contributions	\$828,928	\$5,629.74	\$0	\$31,065.42	\$0.00	\$31,065.42
2G51-027-000 Gabrielson Gardens	\$2,000	\$0.00	\$0	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
2G51-028-000 Land Acquisition Support	\$156,420	\$0.00	\$0	\$54,362.43	\$0.00	\$54,362.43
2G51-033-000 Burke Lake Driving Range PPEA	\$50,000	\$6,564.00	\$0	\$42,926.00	\$0.00	\$42,926.00
2G51-035-000 Park Authority Resource Management Plans	\$455,604	\$0.00	\$0	\$418,291.00	\$37,313.00	\$455,604.00
2G51-036-000 Cost of Facility Ownership Study	\$10,000	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
2G51-037-000 Grants Match	\$250,000	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00
2G51-038-000 Catastrophic Events	\$250,000	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00
PR-000025 Lee District Land Acquisition & Develop	\$781,362	\$177,606.53	\$0	\$0.00	\$63,500.00	\$63,500.00
PR-000026 Countywide Trails	\$55,276	\$5,628.00	\$0	\$26,251.45	\$0.00	\$26,251.45
PR-000027 Merrilee Park	\$17,139	\$0.00	\$0	\$17,139.00	\$0.00	\$17,139.00
PR-000028 Lee Districtwide (Lee District Park) Telecommunications	\$345,408	\$73,570.41	\$0	\$5,717.47	\$52,566.00	\$58,283.47
PR-000029 Dranesville Districtwide (Pimmit) Telecommunications	\$182,754	\$0.00	\$0	\$84,874.94	\$81,916.00	\$166,790.94
PR-000030 Springfield Districtwide (Confed Fort) Telecommunications	\$116,200	\$0.00	\$0	\$95,160.18	\$18,378.00	\$113,538.18
PR-000032 Vulcan	\$3,678,055	\$121,297.39	\$0	\$2,655,920.22	\$0.00	\$2,655,920.22
PR-000034 Ft. Willard-Fort Restoration	\$85,000	\$1,711.23	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PR-000036 Lee District Tree House	\$259,515	\$7,338.40	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PR-000037 Mt. Vernon Districtwide Parks	\$395,569	\$0.00	\$0	\$267,741.83	\$67,341.00	\$335,082.83

## FY 2014 Carryover Summary of Capital Projects

### Fund 80300, Park Capital Improvement

Project	Total Project Estimate	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Current Year Adopted Budget	Adopted + Carryover + Out of Cycle	Adjustments to Carryover	Carryover Revised Budget
PR-000038 Oakton Community Park	\$100,000	\$0.00	\$0	\$93,784.40	\$0.00	\$93,784.40
PR-000039 Land Acquisition	\$10,773,305	\$2,211,559.75	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PR-000040 Lee Districtwide (Byron Avenue) Telecommunications	\$499,294	\$118,471.53	\$0	\$142,557.96	\$125,828.00	\$268,385.96
PR-000041 Hunter Mill Districtwide (Clark Cross) Telecommunications	\$91,263	\$0.00	\$0	\$68,176.00	\$23,087.00	\$91,263.00
PR-000044 Sully Districtwide Parks	\$102,565	\$51,083.80	\$0	\$27,267.70	\$23,837.00	\$51,104.70
PR-000045 Springfield Districtwide (So Run) Telecommunications	\$326,017	\$0.00	\$0	\$85,017.32	\$18,114.00	\$103,131.32
PR-000046 Beulah Road Park	\$7,670	\$4,421.79	\$0	\$3,248.21	\$0.00	\$3,248.21
PR-000047 Robert E Lee Recreation Center	\$554,636	\$9,015.00	\$0	\$26,255.80	\$0.00	\$26,255.80
PR-000048 Sully Districtwide (Cub Run SV) Telecommunications	\$368,173	\$86,538.06	\$0	\$153,760.21	\$17,266.00	\$171,026.21
PR-000049 Hunter Mill Districtwide (Frying Pan) Telecommunications	\$425,171	\$16,708.62	\$0	\$132,287.53	\$41,857.00	\$174,144.53
PR-000050 Dranesville Districtwide (Riverbend) Telecommunications	\$96,164	\$0.00	\$0	\$7,916.04	\$2,688.00	\$10,604.04
PR-000051 Hunter Mill Districtwide (Stratton) Telecommunications	\$2,288,301	\$19,261.13	\$0	\$608,875.13	\$145,217.00	\$754,092.13
PR-000052 Sully Plantation	\$898,876	\$7,914.06	\$0	\$529,299.05	\$32,527.00	\$561,826.05
PR-000053 Green Spring Farm Park	\$110,000	\$0.00	\$0	\$60,250.00	\$0.00	\$60,250.00
PR-000054 Mason District Park	\$805,791	\$44,426.00	\$0	\$357,309.75	\$58,203.00	\$415,512.75
PR-000055 Braddock Districtwide (Wakefield) Telecommunications	\$2,004,338	\$0.00	\$0	\$18,736.65	\$0.00	\$18,736.65
PR-000056 Stuart Ridge/Sugarland Run Park	\$24,886	\$0.00	\$0	\$14,896.00	\$0.00	\$14,896.00
PR-000057 General Park Improvements	\$15,674,157	\$895,371.69	\$0	\$2,128,292.77	\$864,445.47	\$2,992,738.24
PR-000058 Park Revenue Proffers	\$12,728,760	\$820,244.46	\$0	\$4,225,897.22	\$774,390.00	\$5,000,287.22
PR-000060 Mt. Air Park	\$46,701	\$0.00	\$0	\$3,059.92	\$0.00	\$3,059.92
PR-000061 Mastenbrook Volunteer Grant Program	\$501,270	\$0.00	\$0	\$79,183.26	\$0.00	\$79,183.26
PR-000062 Historic Huntley	\$479,195	\$0.00	\$0	\$455,637.83	\$7,666.00	\$463,303.83
PR-000063 Open Space Preservation	\$713,319	\$283,165.00	\$0	\$0.00	\$30,154.00	\$30,154.00
PR-000069 Mt Vernon Districtwide (So Run SV) Telecommunications	\$71,170	\$0.00	\$0	\$71,170.00	\$0.00	\$71,170.00
PR-000073 Hunter Mill Districtwide (Stuart) Telecommunications	\$93,672	\$0.00	\$0	\$66,354.00	\$27,318.00	\$93,672.00
PR-000074 Laurel Hill	\$25,000	\$25,000.00	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PR-000084 ParkNet	\$3,327,000	\$24,940.42	\$0	\$1,153,945.18	\$0.00	\$1,153,945.18
PR-000086 Mt Eagle Park	\$30,000	\$651.08	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

## FY 2014 Carryover Summary of Capital Projects

### Fund 80300, Park Capital Improvement

Project		Total Project Estimate	Prior Year Actual Expenditures	Current Year Adopted Budget	Adopted + Carryover + Out of Cycle	Adjustments to Carryover	Carryover Revised Budget
PR-000088	Lewinsville Park-Field #2 Synthetic Turf	\$2,395,619	\$1,749,030.09	\$0	\$22,436.71	\$0.00	\$22,436.71
PR-000094	Pimmit Run-Dranesville Districtwide	\$172,053	\$3,772.84	\$0	\$168,280.16	\$0.00	\$168,280.16
PR-000098	Grist Mill Park-Smith Synthetic Turf Field	\$208,944	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00	\$208,944.00	\$208,944.00
PR-000099	SullyHighlands Park	\$120,000	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00
PR-000100	Countywide Park Improvements	\$149,711	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00	\$149,711.00	\$149,711.00
PR-000101	Revenue Facilities Capital Sinking Fund	\$2,574,782	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00	\$2,574,782.00	\$2,574,782.00
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$73,533,932</b>	<b>\$7,131,048.17</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$16,999,972.59</b>	<b>\$4,825,961.00</b>	<b>\$21,825,933.59</b>

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## **ACTION**

### Park Authority Revenue and Operating Fund – Debt Service Reserve Closure and Reallocation

#### ISSUE:

Approval to close-out the Debt Service Reserve and move the balance of \$770,349 in that reserve to the Revenue Facilities Capital Sinking Fund (PR-000101) and Emergency Project (PR-000057), both in Fund 80300.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the closing of the Debt Service Reserve in the Revenue and Operating Fund and reallocate those funds to the following:

1. ~~\$500,000~~ **\$370,349** to the Revenue Facilities Capital Sinking Fund (PR-000101)
2. ~~\$270,349~~ **\$400,000** to the Emergency Project (PR-000057)

#### TIMING:

Board approval is requested on March 11, 2015. The Reserve Closure and Reallocation will be done either as part of the FY 2015 Third Quarter Review or at FY 2015 Carryover based on guidance from the Department of Management and Budget.

#### BACKGROUND:

The Master Indenture of Park Facilities Revenue Bond (Series 1995) and subsequent Park Facilities Refunding Bond (Series 2001) requires the Authority to establish Debt Service Reserves. With the new Refunding Bond (Series 2013, Twin Lakes and Oak Marr), the Debt Service Reserve is no longer required per the fourth Master Indenture. The balance in the Twin Lakes and Oak Marr Debt Service Reserve was used toward the payment of the Refunded Bonds on July 10, 2013.

The Revenue Refunding Bonds, Laurel Hill Public Facilities Projects, Series 2012A also does not require a debt service reserve or other similar reserve. Park Authority staff has conferred with county bond staff and the county's financial advisor, Public Financial Management, Inc. (PFM) to confirm that the Park Authority does not need a debt service reserve of any type for the Laurel Hill debt. The current balance in the Laurel Hill Debt Service Reserve is \$770,349.

As noted in the July 9, 2014, "Park Authority Revenue Funds-Funds, Reserve and Project Name Changes" board item, the Revenue Facilities Capital Sinking Fund (PR-

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000101) aligns with the goals and objectives set forth by the county and will provide additional funding to help address revenue facility planned long-term life cycle needs. Given that the county is projecting budget shortfalls in both FY 2016 and FY 2017, continuing to find ways to fund this Project will allow the Park Authority to continue to invest in Park Revenue facilities maintenance needs. The current balance in the Revenue Facilities Capital Sinking Fund is \$2,574,574; however, the preliminary annual funding amount needed for maintenance is estimated to be \$4.1 million.

The Emergency Project (PR-000057), a sub-project within General Park Improvements, is designed for use for unplanned and emergency repairs not supported by the annual operating budget. Colvin Run Mill shaft replacement in the amount of \$35,000 is an example of how this project helped the Park Authority fund an unplanned and emergency repair that could not be totally funded from the operating budget. The current balance in the Emergency Project is \$465,000 based on the Colvin Run Mill shaft replacement.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The FY 2015 Revised Budget for Park Improvement Fund, Fund 80300 is \$21,825,934. The FY 2015 Revised Net Revenue for the Park Revenue & Operating Fund, Fund 80000 is \$1,329,032.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment I: Fund Statement, Fund 80000, Park Revenue and Operating Fund

STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director  
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO  
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/Chief, Business Development  
Janet Burns, Senior Fiscal Administrator  
Michael P. Baird, Capital Services Manager

## FUND STATEMENT

### Fund 80000, Park Revenue and Operating Fund

	FY 2014 Estimate	FY 2014 Actual	Increase (Decrease) (Col. 2-1)	FY 2015 Adopted Budget Plan	FY 2015 Revised Budget Plan	Increase (Decrease) (Col. 5-4)
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	\$5,483,245	\$5,483,245	\$0	\$4,112,549	\$4,131,770	\$19,221
Revenue:						
Interest on Bond Proceeds	\$18,363	\$39	(\$18,324)	\$12,497	\$12,497	\$0
Park Fees <sup>1</sup>	42,640,784	42,066,097	(574,687)	45,485,027	45,485,027	0
Interest	133,735	6,621	(127,114)	133,735	133,735	0
Sale of Vehicles and Salvage Equipment	32,459	50,998	18,539	32,459	32,459	0
Donations and Miscellaneous Revenue	609,928	931,355	321,427	621,337	621,337	0
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$43,435,269	\$43,055,110	(\$380,159)	\$46,285,055	\$46,285,055	\$0
<b>Total Available</b>	\$48,918,514	\$48,538,355	(\$380,159)	\$50,397,604	\$50,416,825	\$19,221
Expenditures:						
Personnel Services	\$28,408,109	\$28,157,182	(\$250,927)	\$28,824,333	\$28,824,333	\$0
Operating Expenses	13,956,598	13,708,872	(247,726)	14,286,882	14,286,882	0
Recovered Costs	(1,053,315)	(904,380)	148,935	(1,053,315)	(1,053,315)	0
Capital Equipment	293,000	246,571	(46,429)	543,000	543,000	0
Debt Service:						
Fiscal Agent Fees	\$3,233	\$0	(\$3,233)	\$3,233	\$3,233	\$0
Bond Payments <sup>2</sup>	180,206	180,206	0	806,541	806,541	0
<b>Subtotal Expenditures</b>	\$41,787,831	\$41,388,451	(\$399,380)	\$43,410,674	\$43,410,674	\$0
Transfers Out:						
General Fund (10001) <sup>3</sup>	\$775,000	\$775,000	\$0	\$775,000	\$775,000	\$0
County Debt Service (20000) <sup>4</sup>	743,134	743,134	0	770,349	770,349	0
Park Capital Improvement Fund (80300)	1,500,000	1,500,000	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Transfers Out</b>	\$3,018,134	\$3,018,134	\$0	\$1,545,349	\$1,545,349	\$0
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	\$44,805,965	\$44,406,585	(\$399,380)	\$44,956,023	\$44,956,023	\$0
<b>Ending Balance<sup>5</sup></b>	\$4,112,549	\$4,131,770	\$19,221	\$5,441,581	\$5,460,802	\$19,221
Debt Service Reserve <sup>4</sup>	\$743,134	\$743,134	\$0	\$770,349	\$770,349	\$0
Revenue and Operating Fund Stabilization Reserve <sup>6</sup>	2,053,518	2,053,518	0	2,136,097	2,136,097	0
Donation/Deferred Revenue <sup>7</sup>	1,246,804	1,246,804	0	1,246,804	1,350,000	103,196
Set Aside Reserve <sup>8</sup>	69,093	88,314	19,221	1,288,331	1,204,356	(83,975)
<b>Unreserved Ending Balance</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

<sup>1</sup> Revenue in FY 2014 was reduced by an amount of \$810,000 based on the Oak Marr RECenter fitness room temporary closure due to renovation/expansion.

<sup>2</sup> Debt service represents principle and interest on Park Revenue Bonds which supported the construction of the Twin Lakes and Oak Marr Golf Courses. In addition, the FY 2014 Estimate amount reflects the actual Debt Service payment required after one-time refunding savings.

<sup>3</sup> Funding in the amount of \$775,000 is transferred to the General Fund to partially offset central support services supported by the General Fund which benefit Fund 80000. These indirect costs include support services such as Human Resources, Purchasing, Budget and other administrative services.

<sup>4</sup> Debt service payments which support the development of the Laurel Hill Golf Club are made from Fund 20000, County Debt Service.

<sup>5</sup> The Park Revenue and Operating Fund maintains fund balances at adequate levels relative to projected operation and maintenance expenses, as well as debt service requirements. These costs change annually; therefore, funding is carried forward each fiscal year, and ending balances fluctuate, reflecting the carryover of these funds.

<sup>6</sup> The Revenue and Operating Fund Stabilization Reserve includes set aside cash flow and emergency reserves for operations as a contingency for unanticipated operating expenses or a disruption in the revenue stream.

<sup>7</sup> The Donation/Deferred Revenue Reserve includes donations that the Park Authority is obligated to return to donors in the event the donation cannot be used for its intended purpose. It also includes a set aside to cover any unexpected delay in revenue from sold but unused Park passes.

<sup>8</sup> The Set Aside Reserve is used to fund renovations and repairs at various park facilities as approved by the Park Authority Board.

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## **DISCUSSION**

### Review of Park Authority General Fund Reductions Reflected in the FY 2016 Advertised Budget

This item reviews the General Fund reductions reflected in the FY 2016 Advertised Budget including:

- 3% reductions submitted by Park Authority staff and adopted by the Department of Management and Budget (DMB)
- Mission Savings suggestions adopted by DMB
- Additional all Agency reduction applied by DMB

### ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: None. Documents will be distributed at the meeting.

### STAFF:

Kirk Kincannon, Director  
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO  
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/Chief, Business Development  
Janet Burns, Senior Fiscal Administrator  
David Bowden, Director, Planning & Development Division  
Todd Brown, Director, Park Operations Division  
Barbara Nugent, Director, Park Services Division  
Cindy Walsh, Director, Resource Management Division  
Peter Furey, Manager, Golf Enterprises

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