

**PUBLIC HEARING: November 15, 2005  
Lee District Park Master Plan Revision  
DRAFT  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**Attendance:**

**FCPA BOARD MEMBERS:**

**Edward S. Batten, Sr., Lee District; Harrison A. Glasgow, At-Large; Winifred Shapiro, Braddock District;**

**FCPA STAFF: Tim White, Deputy Director, Park Authority; Judy Pedersen - Public Information Officer, Lynn Tadlock – Director, Planning & Development Division; Sandra Stallman, Acting Manager, Planning Branch; Leonadus Plenty, Robert E. Lee RECenter Manager; Jesse Rounds, Project Manager, Planning Branch; Kathleen Kust, Planning Branch**

**CITIZENS: 35 citizens in attendance**

The meeting started at 7:00 p.m. and was facilitated by Judy Pedersen. Following introductions of Park Authority Board Members and Staff, she introduced Jesse Rounds to present the Master Plan Revision that will update the Plan that was originally approved in 1974.

Ms. Pedersen then opened the floor for speakers to comment. The following citizens spoke:

James Lucero, President Pioneer Baseball

- Pioneer Baseball has been based at Lee District Park for 50 years
- 50 teams play Pioneer Baseball
- The plan has many good ideas but the loss of 2 fields is a blow to Pioneer
- With existing overlay conditions Pioneer would lose too much field space
- Provided written proposal to PAB members and staff that includes the following proposed plan changes:
  - 90' diamond to replace existing northwestern diamond/rectangle field overlay;
  - Move rectangles out of overlay condition and grass infields of existing diamonds in the southeastern portion of the athletic field area.
  - Add a permanent batting cage.
  - If the plan is changed Pioneer would adopt fields upon completion.

Doug Boulter, President Virginia Hills Citizens Association

- The plan has many errors:
  - Huge population growth is not born out by facts. Most new development is in-fill.
  - The Level of Service for both South Kings Highway and Telegraph Road are listed at C. It seems more like it should be F. The roads are gridlocked during rush hour.
- The population of this area is skewing older.
- At the public workshop citizens and planners discussed a trail from Lee District Park to Huntley Meadows. The current solution is unacceptable. The Park Authority should consider a pedestrian overpass.
- The lighting of fields for youth use is important but VA Hills CA is concerned about the impact of adult users on neighborhood streets.
- The VA Hills Citizens Association strongly opposes lighting.

Susie Baird, Pioneer Baseball parent

- Pioneer teams have difficulty competing because they lack access to quality fields including lighting and batting cages.

Bob McLaren, 7810 Kincardine Ct. Alexandria, Environmental Quality Advisory Committee member

- Supports Natural Resource Area.
- Supports VA Hills CA proposal for more direct connection to Huntley Meadows.
- Need to seriously consider innovative stormwater management schemes.
- Lighting should follow the County ordinance.

\_\_\_\_\_ Lee/Mount Vernon Soccer

- Supports Pioneer proposal.
- Overlay fields are dangerous
- There are no lighted fields in Lee or Mount Vernon Districts
- The Park Authority should consider artificial turf on these fields.

William Cummings, Pioneer Baseball

- The lights are needed, only two leagues have lights (Central Springfield and Woodlawn).
- This will affect baseball countywide.

Northern Virginia Girls Softball Association

- Would like to share batting cages. Currently uses temporary setup. Would like to see permanent cages at Lee District Park.

Stuart Shrouder

- Pioneer baseball is a healthy alternative for kids.

- Too many kids play video games. Baseball and soccer are great alternatives.
- Supervisor Kauffman's son was a great player.

Question cards:

- We need more rowing machines at Lee RECenter.
  - o Leon said he would pass the request on to Monica who purchases new machinery for the RECenter.
- Lighted adult softball supports Pioneer's plan.
- More handicapped spaces should be designed for the parking lot.
  - o Jesse said that Lee RECenter has more parking spaces for disabled users than any other RECenter by percentages.
  - o During peak use hours staff designates an additional set of spaces as spaces for disabled users.
- How was the Needs Assessment funded and how is it used?
- Why a family recreation area?
  - o Lynn and Jesse answered that the area serves the County as a whole and does not necessarily address a neighborhood need.