

# BARON CAMERON PARK

Master Plan Revision  
Public Information Meeting  
May 7, 2013



# Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Overview of the Park Authority and Master Plan Process
- Overview of Existing Site Conditions and Master Plan
- Master Plan Revision Process specific to Baron Cameron Park
- Next Steps
- Public Input

# Park Authority Mission

Enhance Citizen's Quality  
of Life Through:

- Natural & Cultural Resource Stewardship
- Quality Facilities & Services
- Recreational Opportunities



# Fast Facts about FCPA



- 12-member Board
- 23,000+ acres of parkland
- 420 parks

# Master Plan Purpose

- Site-specific long range vision
- General guide for appropriate park uses
- General location of facilities
- Identifies resource protection areas
- Captures site conditions or community concerns



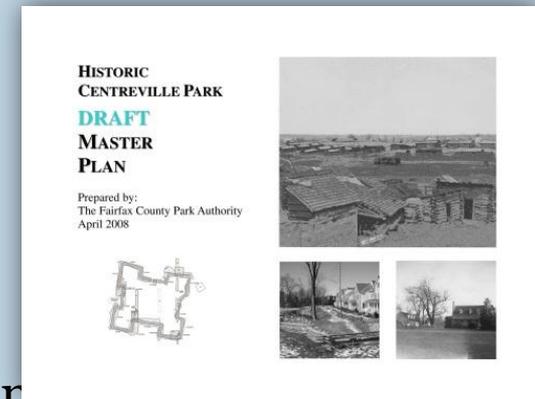
# Master Plan Components

## Written Report

- Establishes park purpose and classification
- Describes existing conditions and constraints
- Describes the desired visitor experience
- Describes the park features
- Identifies design concerns to be addressed at development stage

## Conceptual Development Plan (CDP)

- Graphically shows general location of recommended facilities & use areas
- Conceptual, not engineered site plan



# Master Plan Process

**Research and Basic Site Analysis**

**Public Information Meeting**

• May 7, 2013

**RCC Program Determination**

• June 17, 2013

**Develop Draft Plan, including land use and impact analysis**

**Public Comment Meeting**

• Fall 2013

**Public Comment Period**

• 30 days

**Revisions to Draft Plan**

**Board Action**

• 2014

# Community Input

- Questions or Suggestions
- Email
- Mail
- Phone
- Public Input Meeting



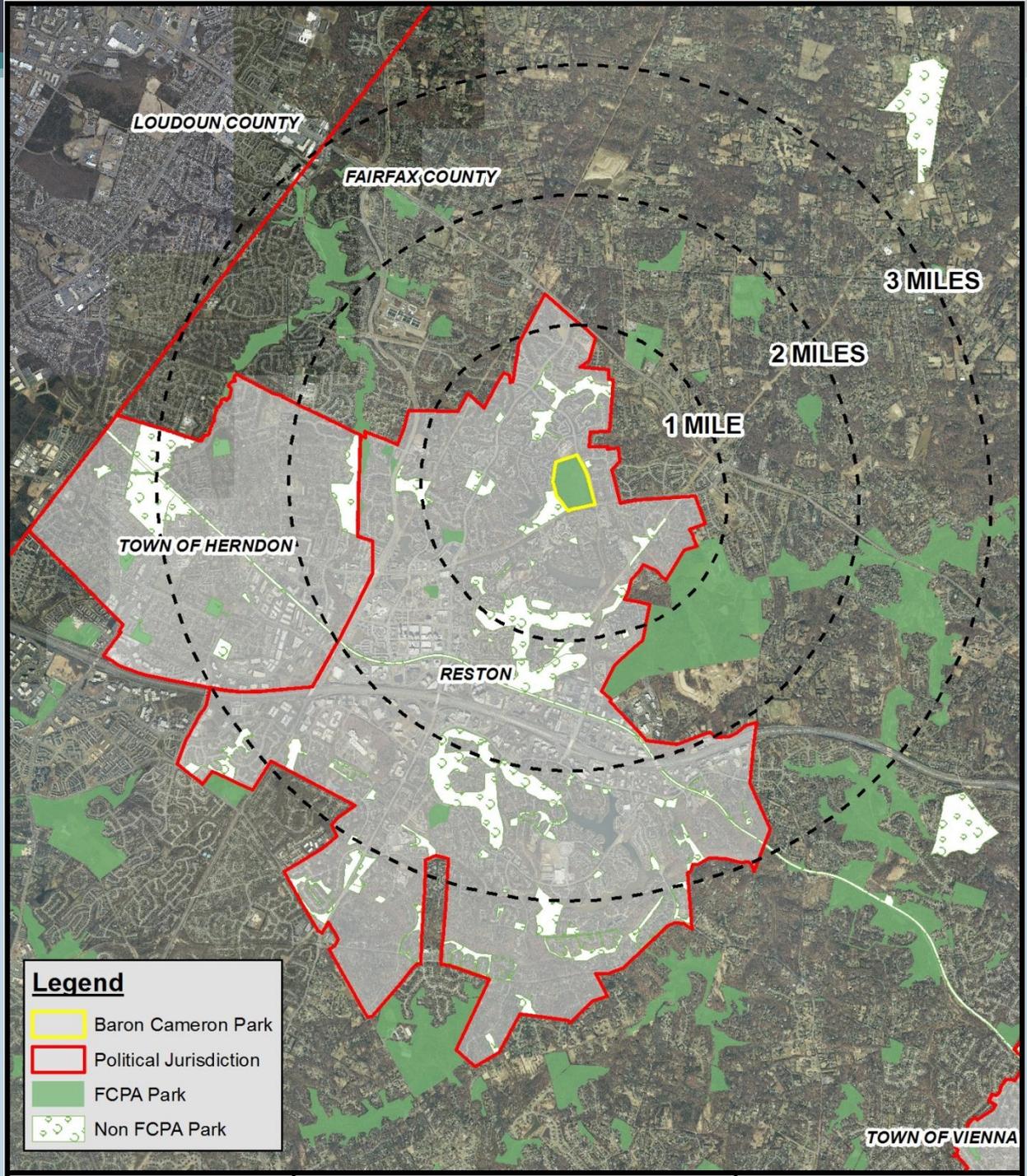
# Staff Resources

- Archaeologists
- Landscape Architects
- Planners
- Natural Resource Specialists
- Operational Specialists
- Recreation Specialists
- Park Development Specialists



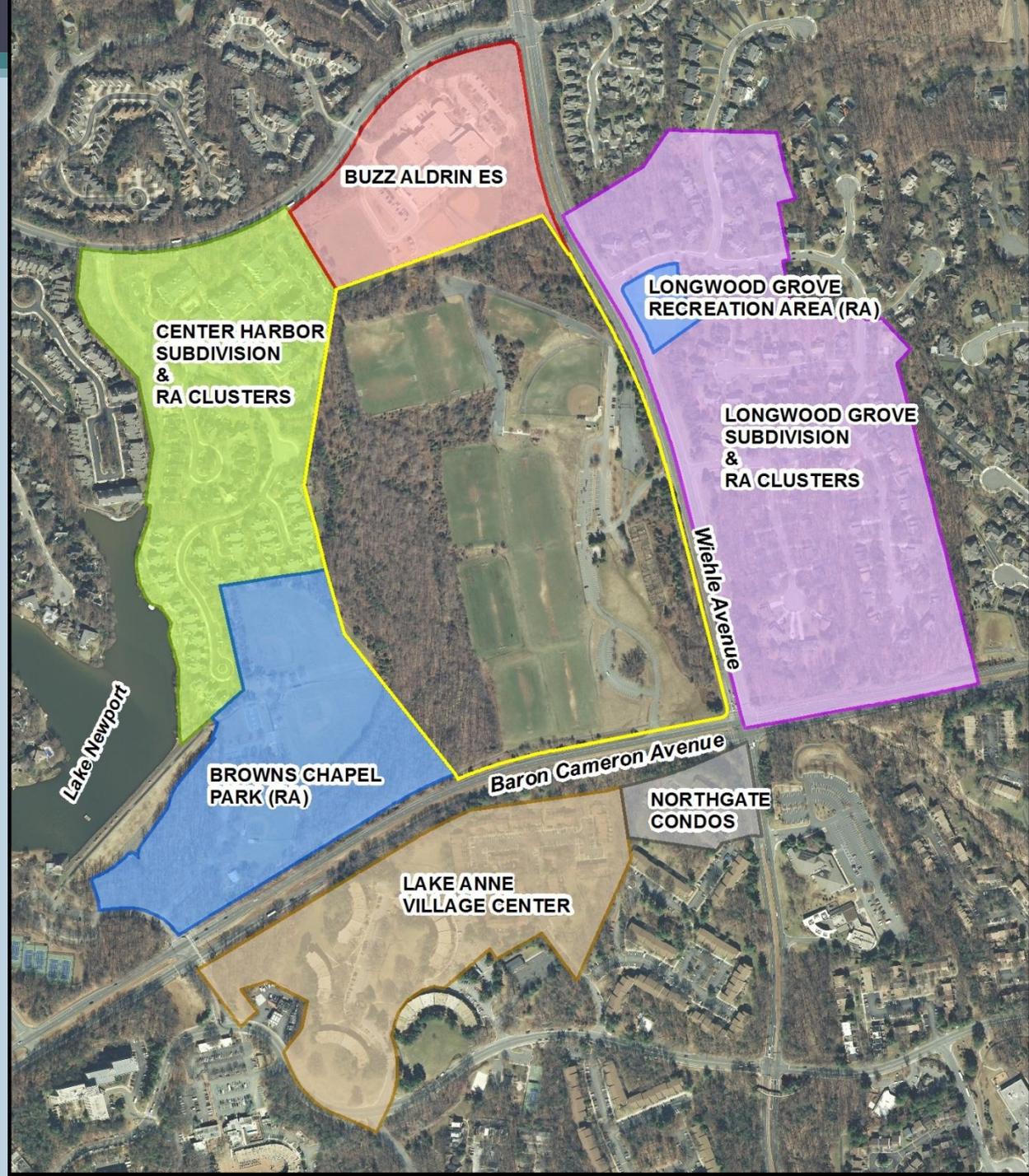
# Location of Site

- 11300 Baron Cameron Avenue, Reston
- Hunter Mill Supervisory District
- Reston Association
- Subject to Phase II of the Dulles Corridor Land Use Study conducted by Department of Planning and Zoning

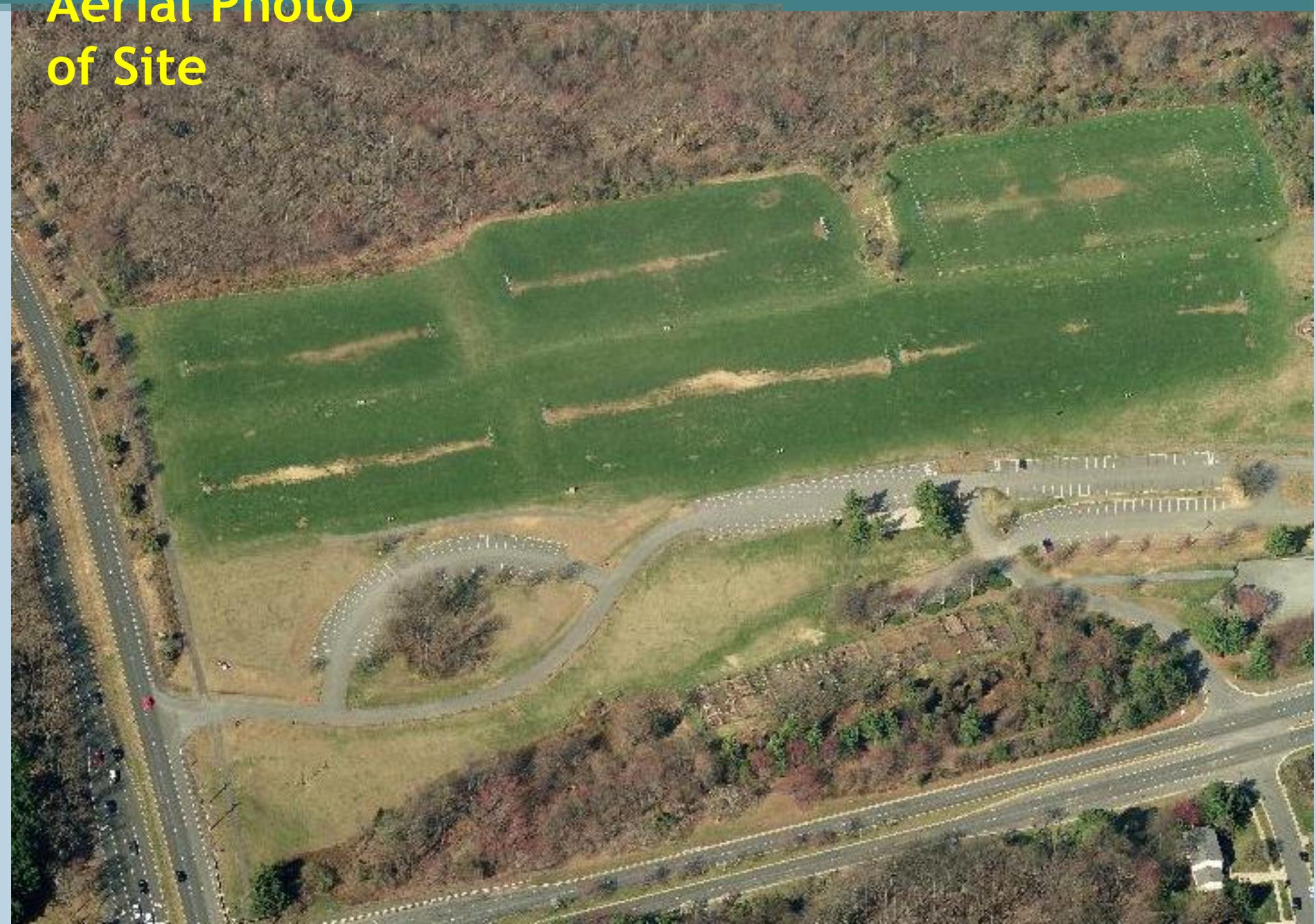


# Vicinity of Site

- Single-family detached homes
- Single-family townhomes
- Multi-family condominiums
- Reston Association public parks
- Elementary school



# Aerial Photo of Site



# Aerial Photo of Site



# Park Classification System

- The Park Classification System is a general framework intended to guide open space and public facilities planning, and also to assist in the development of public and private land management plans, by grouping parks according to certain common typical characteristics.
- The Park Classification System specifically supports Countywide Objective 1, Policy a. by outlining the primary purpose, location and access, character and extent of development for the following park classifications:
  - A. Local Parks
  - B. District Parks
  - C. Countywide Parks
  - D. Resource-Based Parks
- Provides a framework for Park Master Plan process

# “District Park” Defined

*According to the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan:*

- The District Park classification includes larger parks that serve larger geographic areas of the County and provide a variety of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and park experiences.
- These parks offer diverse experiences and activities that typically involve an individual or group for a time period of up to a half day and may attract spectators or participants.

# Typical District Park Facilities

Typical District Park Facility Type	District Need	Parking
Golf – range or course	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RECenter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Athletic fields	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Natural areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Open play areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Comm. garden plots	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Off-leash dog area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



- Also includes Local Park facility types, such as playgrounds, multi-use courts, picnic areas, and trails

# Great Parks, Great Communities



- Long-range plan for the place-based, physical aspects of the park system, its land, its natural and cultural resources, and its facilities.
- Reflects input from a wide-ranging community of park users and supporters who contributed to its completion and continually hold us to the highest standards.
- 2010-2020 plan was adopted by the Park Authority Board on June 22, 2011

*Available online at:*

*<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/greatparks>*

# Great Parks, Great Communities (continued)



- Based on adopted service level standards, there is a projected 2020 deficit of numerous recreational facilities in the Upper Potomac Planning Area, which includes Baron Carmon Park, including:
  - Rectangle fields – adult and youth size
  - Diamond fields – adult and youth size
  - Multi-use courts
  - Playgrounds
  - Off-leash dog areas
  - Skate parks
  
- Standards are population-based

# Great Parks, Great Communities (continued)



- The plan recommends several strategies to meet these needs, such as:
  - Partner with other park providers to leverage facility capacity and use through shared allocations
  - Where appropriate, convert athletic fields to synthetic turf and add lights to increase playing capacity
  - Undertake athletic field improvements at Baron Cameron Park

# Great Parks, Great Communities (continued)



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## Did you know?

- Converting a grass field to synthetic turf increases playing capacity by about **58%**
- Adding lights to a grass field increases playing capacity by about **45%**
- Converting a grass field to synthetic turf *and* adding lights increases playing capacity by about **128% - over 2x the amount of a grass field**

# History of the Site/Master Plan

## Prior to 1971

- Fairfax County Public Schools obtain ownership of the vacant site

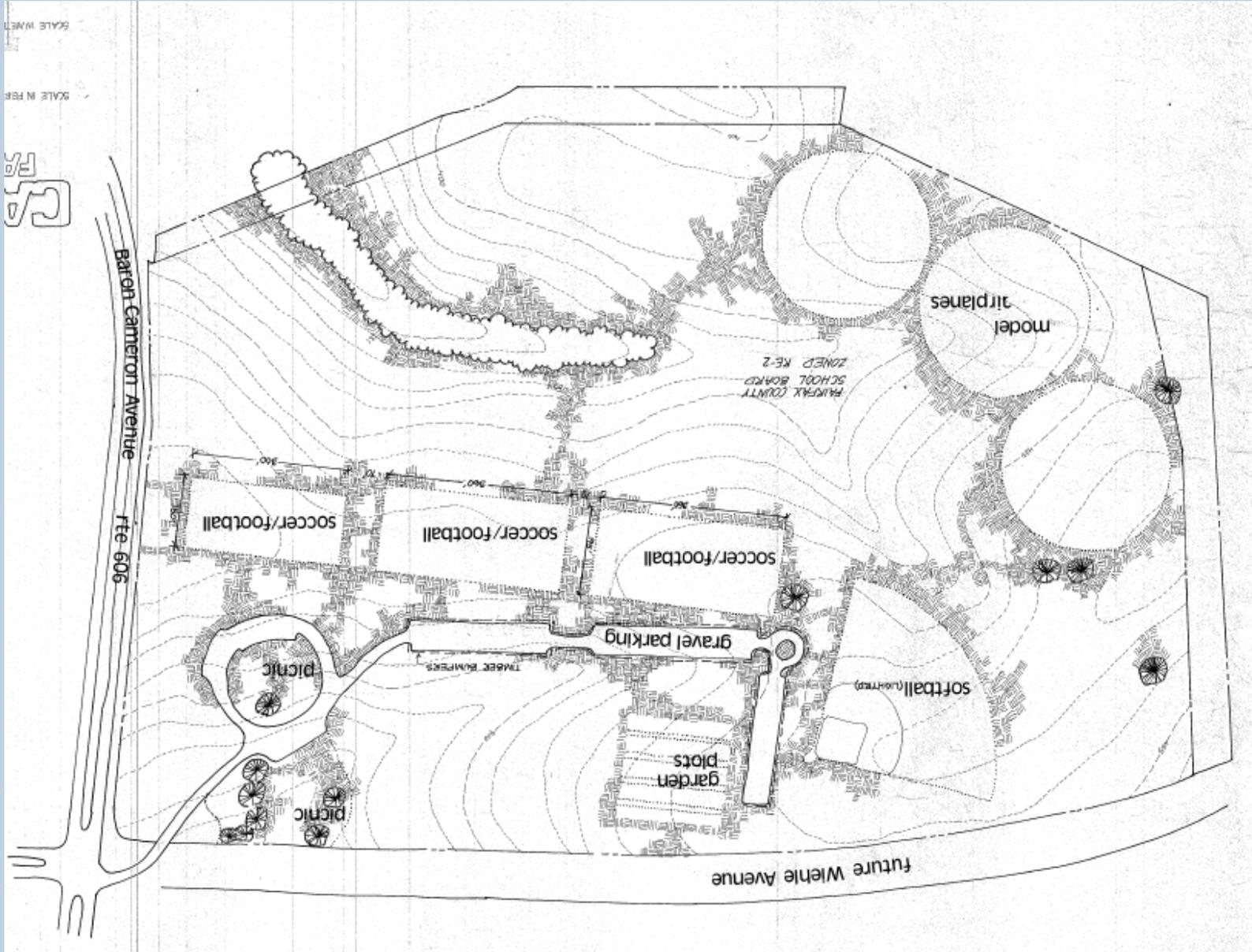
## 1974

- Park Authority coordinates with Public Schools to allow interim recreational uses on the vacant site pending the completion of an approved Master Plan

## 1975

- Park Authority Board approves Master Plan for Baron Cameron Park

# 1975 Master Plan



# History of the Site/Master Plan (continued)

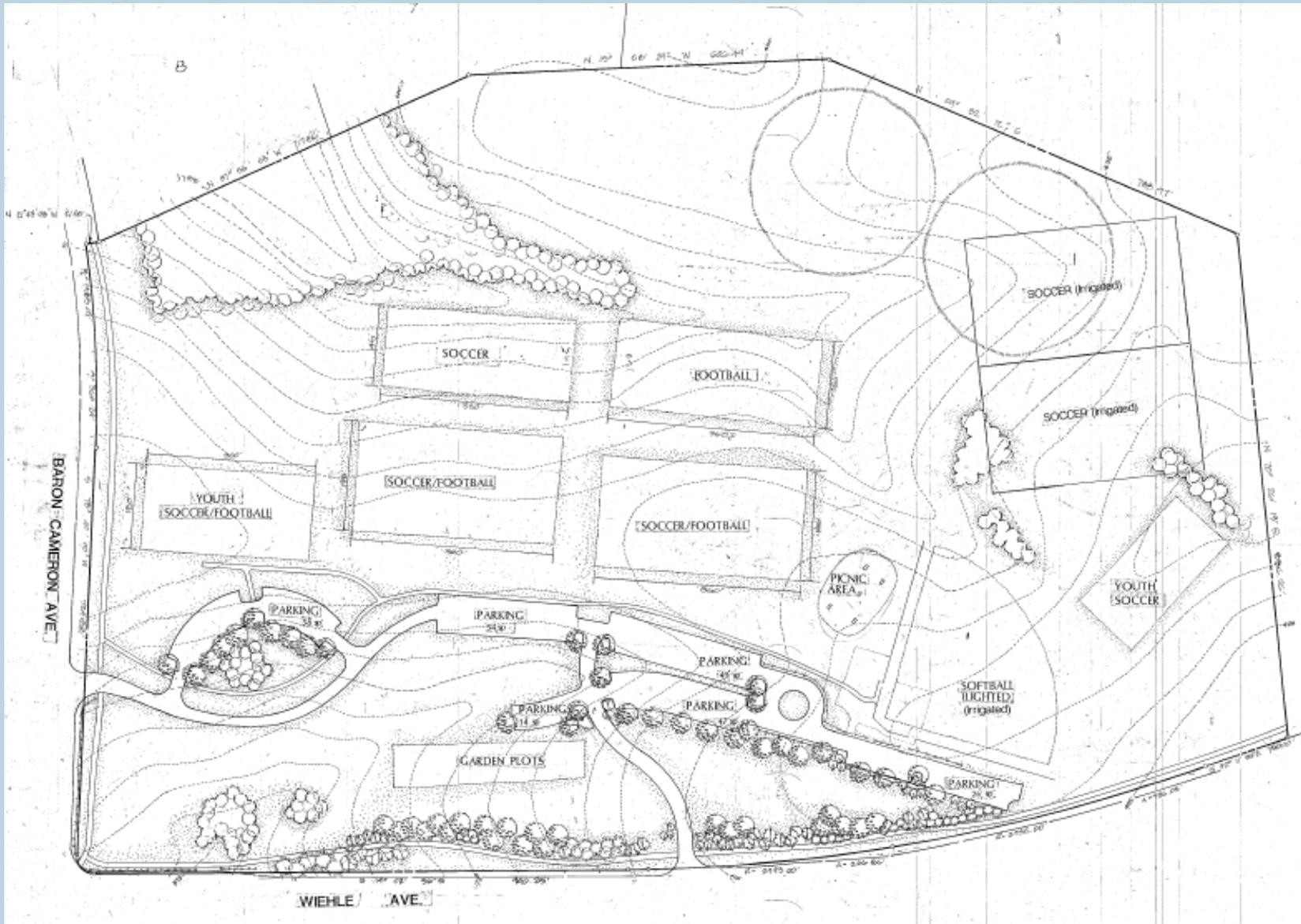
## 1975 – 1990

- The site is developed with recreational uses in substantial accordance with the approved Master Plan

## 1990

- Master Plan is revised to reflect the as-built conditions

# 1990 Master Plan



# History of the Site/Master Plan (continued)

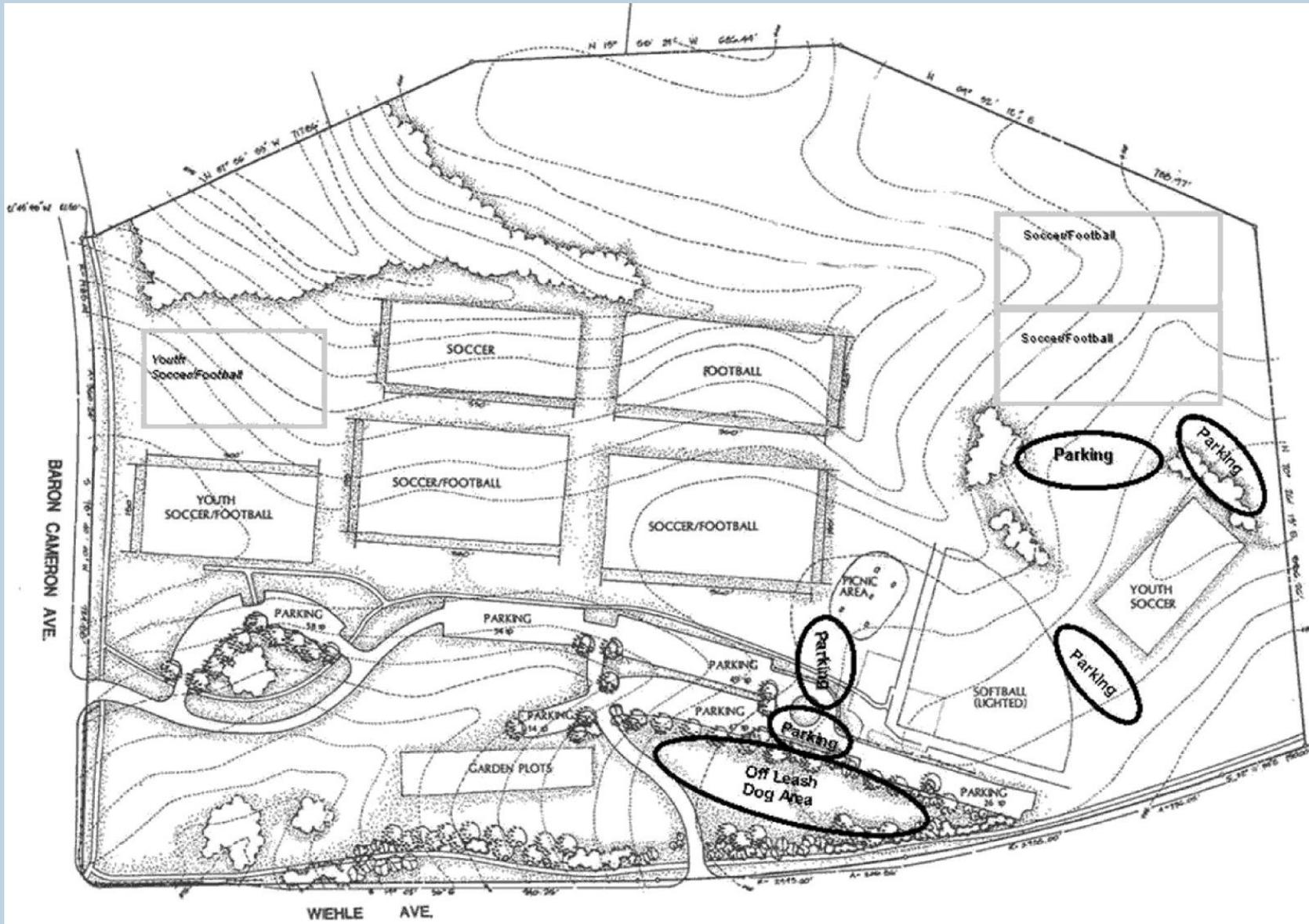
## 2000

- Park Authority receives a request from the Reston Dog Park Coalition (Reston Dogs) to consider an off-leash dog area in Baron Cameron Park

## 2001

- Park Authority Board approves the request for an off-leash dog area
- Master Plan is amended to add the off-leash dog area use and to reflect as-built additional parking

# 2001 Master Plan



# History of the Site/Master Plan (continued)

## 2006

- Public Schools deem the site as surplus and subsequently transfer ownership to the Board of Supervisors

## 2011

- The Board of Supervisors transfer ownership to the Park Authority

## 2012-2013

- Park Authority begins the park planning process to revise the Master Plan

# Existing Land Cover

- Developed = 46%
- Managed = 13%
- Forested = 35%
- Treed = 6%



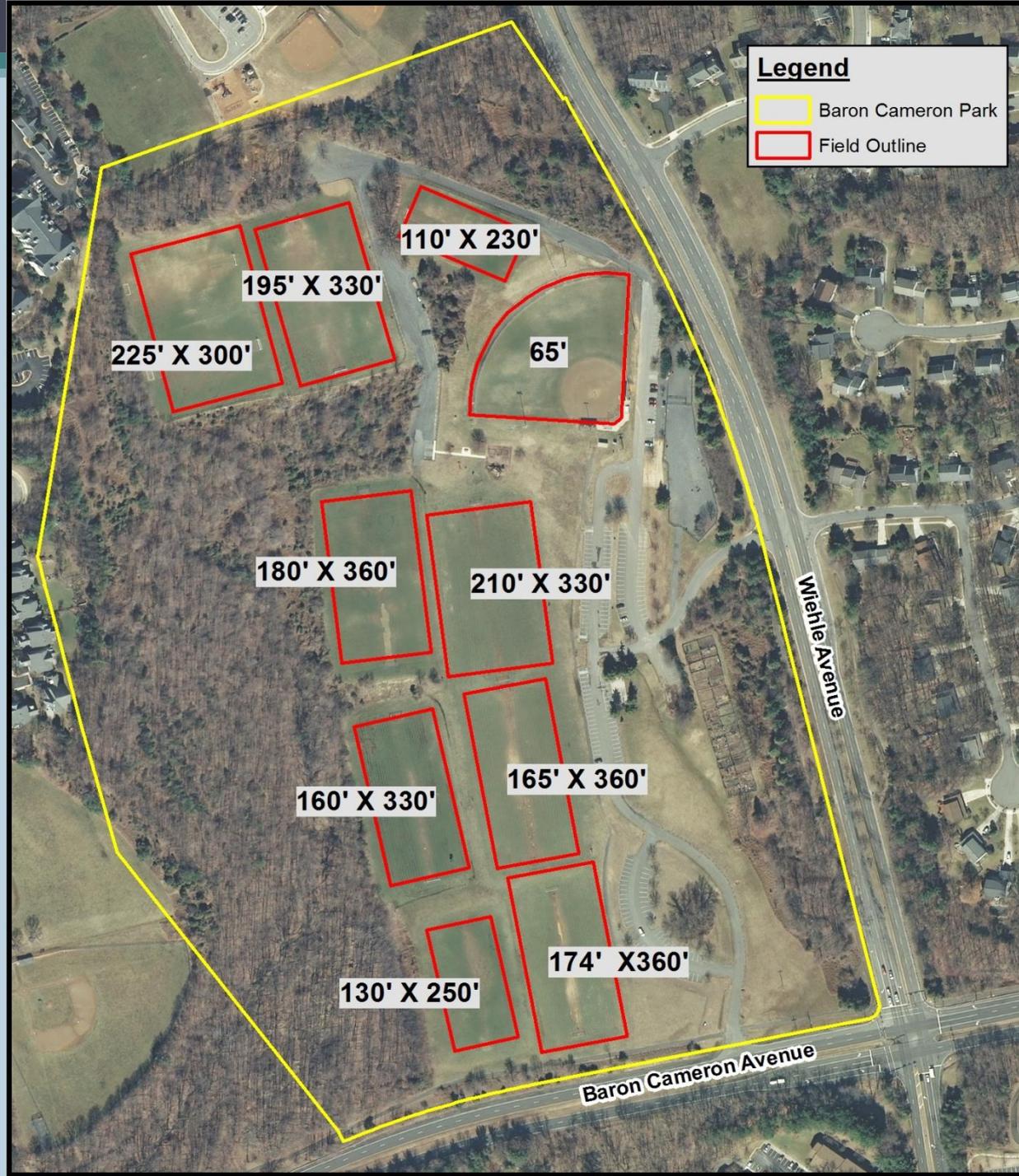
# Existing Facilities

- 9 rectangle fields
- 1 lighted diamond field
- Picnic area
- Playground
- Off-Leash Dog Area
- 32 community garden plots
- Approximately 430 parking spaces



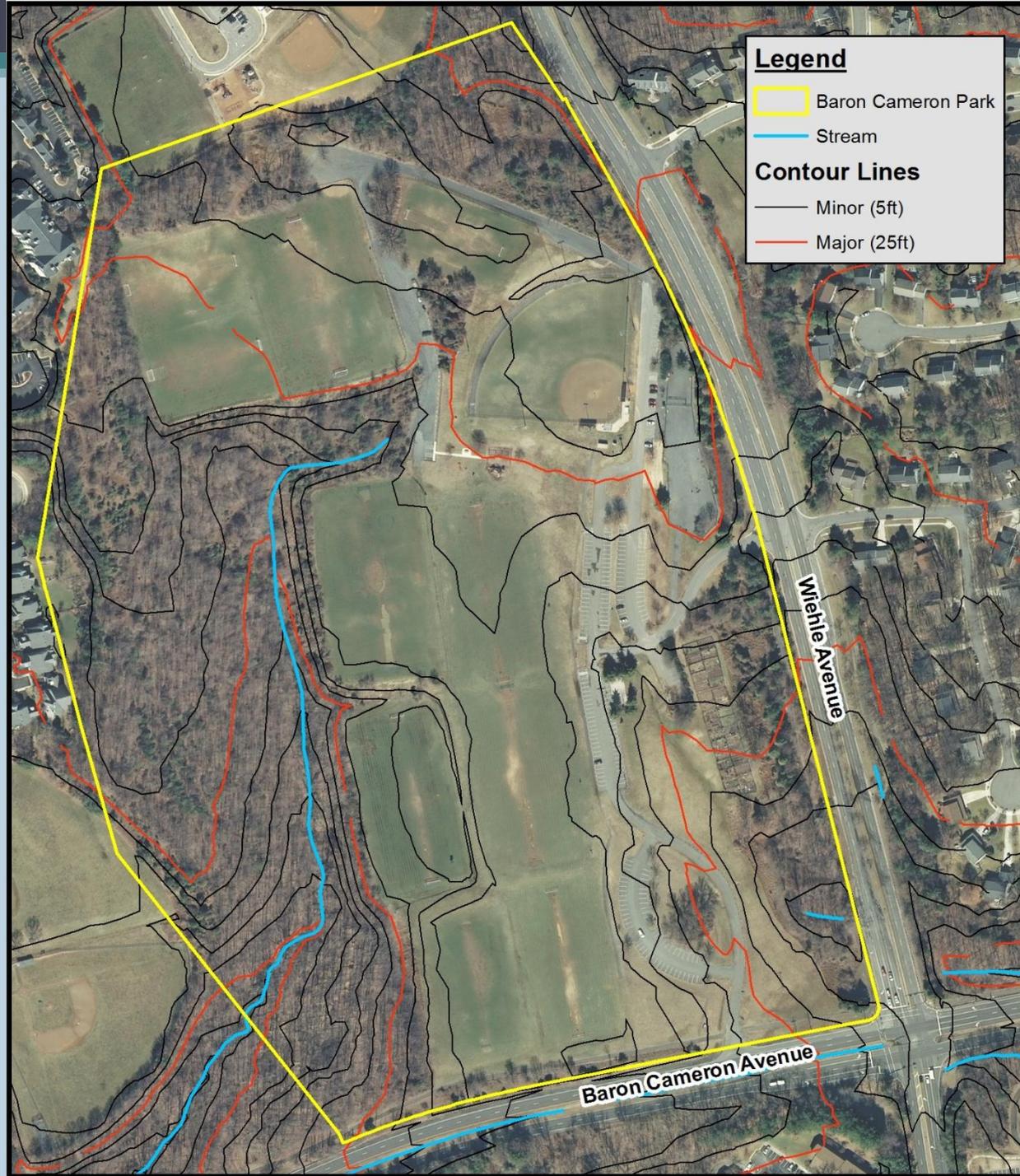
# Existing Athletic Fields

- 9 rectangle fields
  - No standard size
  - On average, each field is scheduled for about 1,000 hours annually
  - Conditions vary
- 1 lighted diamond field
  - Scheduled for about 1,600 hours annually
  - Softball



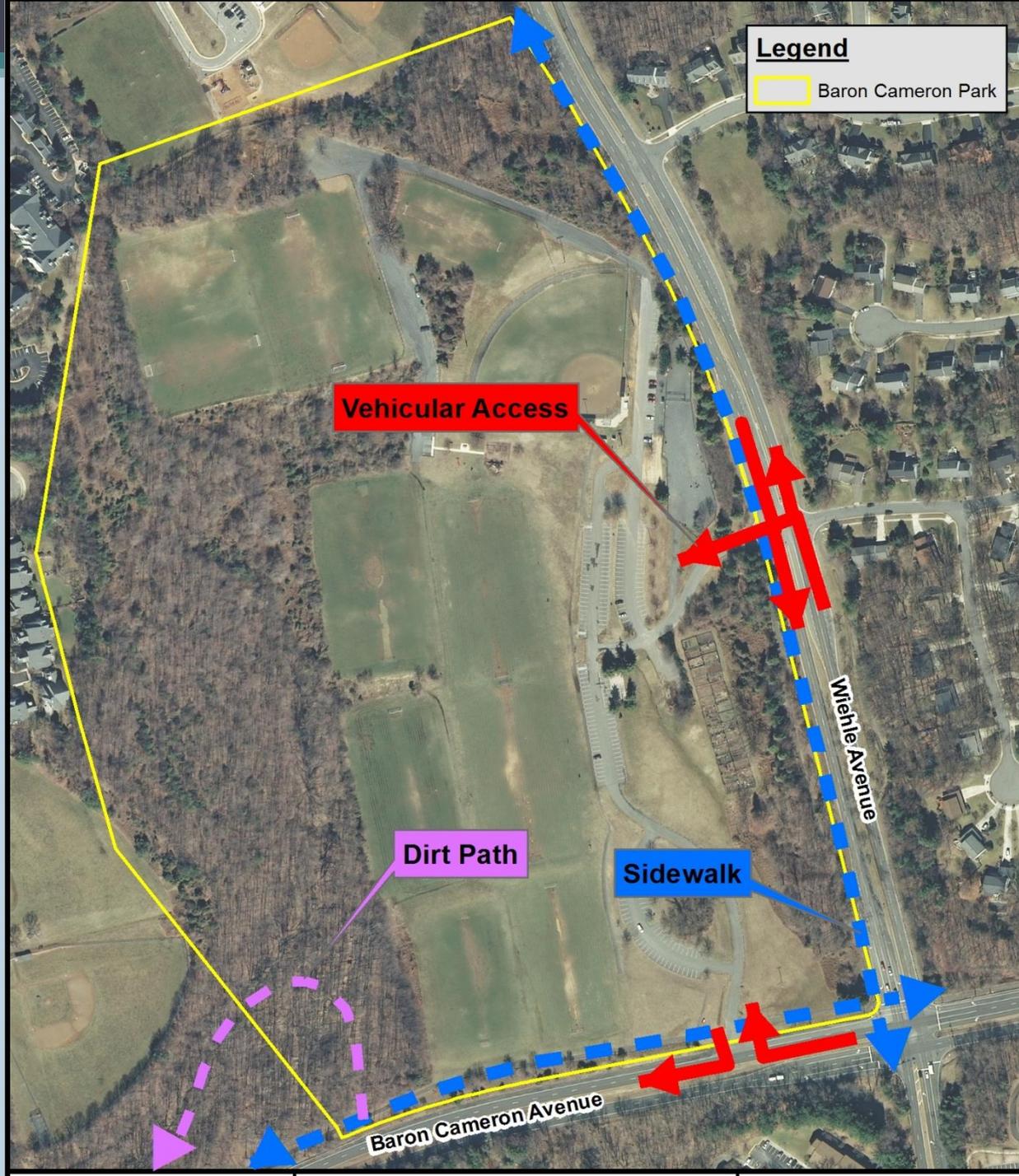
# Existing Site Conditions

- Generally flat topography
- Wooded valley between Baron Cameron and Browns Chapel Parks
- Natural drainage creates stream channel in valley
- No rare, threatened or endangered natural resources
- No cultural resources



# Existing Site Conditions

- Vehicular access from Baron Cameron and Wiehle Avenues
- Sidewalks and a dirt path provide pedestrian access



# Field #1



# Fields #2 and #3



# Field #4



# Fields #5 and #6



# Field #7



**Field #8**



# Fields #9 and #10



# Picnic Area & Playground



# Community Garden Plots



# Off-Leash Dog Area

## Sponsor: RestonDogs

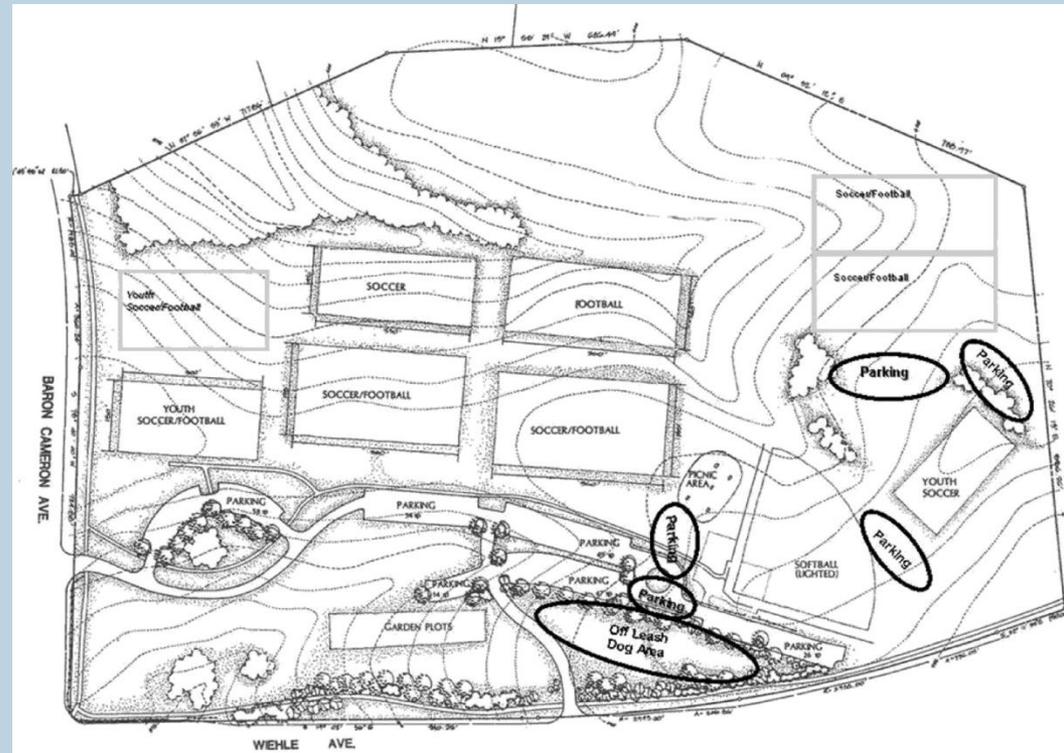


**Valley between  
Baron Cameron  
and Browns  
Chapel Parks  
(~17 acres)**



# Master Plan Revision Process

- **Starting point is the existing Master Plan** and will examine:
  - Issues raised by the public
  - Increase field capacities
  - Enhancements and/or improvements to non-field park facilities
  - Increase and/or improve service delivery to meet community needs



# Revision Process (continued)

- Examine **new opportunities to improve or enhance** Baron Cameron Park and user experience:
  - Uses or facilities suggested by the public
  - RCC interest to build an indoor recreational facility in the park



# Revision Process (continued)

- Revision process will **consider and examine**:
  - Transportation network
    - ❖ Baron Cameron Avenue: 25,000 cars daily
    - ❖ Wiehle Avenue: 16,000 cars daily
  - Environmental features
    - ❖ Stormwater and natural resources
  - Park users needs
  - Noise, traffic, and visual changes
  - Parking requirements
    - ❖ Approximately 430 existing parking spaces
  - Other issues that arise or identified by the public



# Reston Community Center

- RCC Process
- Why Now?
- Why Baron Cameron Park?
- Updated report on *Feasibility and Market Analysis for Indoor Recreation* conducted by Brailsford & Dunlavey
  - Current demands and priorities
  - Recommendations on square feet for program options
- June 17, 2013 – RCC Annual Public Hearing for Programs and Budget



***Enriching Lives.  
Building Community.®***

# Public Input

## Key Questions

- **Park Use Preferences**
- **Park Improvements**
- **Issues and Concerns**

# Public Input

## Guidelines

- All participants have an equal voice and status. Everyone has a chance to participate.
- Be concise and considerate.
- Practice active listening.
- Speak one at a time in a clear voice and avoid side conversations.
- No one person dominates.
- Respect each others views. It is ok to disagree.
- Stay on topic.

# Comments and Feedback

Master Plan Project Website:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/baroncameron.htm>

Email: [Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Written comments:

Jay Rauschenbach, Project Manager

FCPA Planning & Development Division, Suite 406

12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035

Or leave comment slip on agenda with us tonight!

