



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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MEETING SUMMARY

BARON CAMERON PARK MASTER PLAN REVISION

Public Comment Meeting
March 27, 2014, 7:00 P.M.
Buzz Aldrin Elementary School, Reston, Virginia

Welcome and Introductions	Supervisor Hudgins, Hunter Mill District Bill Bouie, Hunter Mill Representative, Park Authority Board
Background Information	Matthew Kaiser, Deputy Public Information Officer
Presentation of Draft Master Plan	Jay Rauschenbach, Project Manager, Park Planning Branch, PDD
Moderated Public Input	Matthew Kaiser, Deputy Public Information Officer

Park Authority Board members in attendance:

Mary Cortina, At-Large Representative
Ken Quincy, Providence District Representative

Staff in attendance:

Kirk Kincannon, Director
Cindy Messinger, Deputy Director/CFO
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
David Bowden, Director, Planning and Development Division
Todd Johnson, Director, Park Operations Division
Leila Gordon, Executive Director, Reston Community Center
Tom Ward, Deputy Director, Reston Community Center
Judy Pedersen, Public Information Officer
Sandy Stallman, Park Planning Branch Manager, PDD
Wayne Brissey, Area 6 Manager, POD
Patty Paczan, Aquatics Section Manager, POD
Justin Roberson, Natural Resource Specialist, Resource Management Division
Diana Fuentes, Public Information Office
Casey Hanes, Legislative Aide, Supervisor Hudgins Office



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.

Staff presentations (available on the project website) included an overview of the Park Authority and the park master plan process, information about the site's history and existing conditions, and highlights of the elements in the draft Baron Cameron Park Master Plan Revision.

Following staff presentations, Matthew Kaiser **moderated the public input** session to permit those in attendance to share their thoughts and suggestions for the master plan revision process. A summary of the public input regarding the draft master plan is provided below.

The meeting **adjourned** after 24 speakers.

Speaker #1 (Initiative for Public Art-Reston)

- Proposes that the park master plan include a Memorial Garden of Reflection to serve as a universal and inclusive quiet place for personal contemplation, meditation, and reflection.

Speaker #2

- The existing off-leash dog area should remain in its current location, although it is overcrowded and too small. If relocated, it should be placed along the Wiehle Avenue frontage to provide a linear design. Further, recommends a few design improvements.

Speaker #3 (Alliance of Reston Clusters and Homeowners)

- Highlights issues raised about the draft master plan in recent Reston Association candidate forums, including: the desire to preserve open space, whether Baron Cameron Park is the correct location for an indoor recreation center, the decision by Public Schools to declare Baron Cameron Park as surplus, funding sources for an indoor recreation center, and the lack of major infrastructure improvements to accommodate traffic related to the future Metrorail Silver Line.

Speaker #4 (Initiative for Public Art-Reston, Memorial Garden committee)

- Proposes that the park master plan include a Memorial Garden of Reflection to serve as a universal and inclusive quiet place for personal contemplation, meditation, and reflection.

Speaker #5 (www.restonpaths.com)

- Proposes that the park master plan include a pedestrian connection to the westerly adjacent residential neighborhoods, as a trail already exists starting at Waterfront Road but stops at the park boundary.
- Notes that an indoor recreation center could be located underground in order to preserve open space.

Speaker #6 (Reston YMCA)

- Supports the park master plan inclusion of a proposed indoor recreation center with a 50m competition pool.



Speaker #7 (Reston Masters Swim Team)

- Supports the park master plan, in particular the inclusion of a proposed indoor recreation center with a 50m competition pool.

Speaker #8 (Save Baron Cameron Park Coalition)

- Small Tax District #5 is not a general county funding source, and should not be used toward an indoor recreation center in Baron Cameron Park as it would be a county facility. In example of using this funding source for the needs of Reston, suggests locating the proposed Memorial Garden of Reflection at RA's Brown's Chapel Park.

Speaker #9 (Reston Masters Swim Team)

- Reston needs a new indoor recreation center with a swimming pool, although it should not be funded by Small Tax District #5.

Speaker #10 (Reston Masters Swim Team)

- Supports the park master plan, in particular the inclusion of a proposed indoor recreation center with a 50m competition pool and upgraded athletic fields.

Speaker #11

- An indoor recreation center is more suitable at Reston Town Center due to better pedestrian access and potential traffic impacts if located in Baron Cameron Park. Although, it should not be funded by Small Tax District #5.
- Supports the park master plan, in particular the retention of the existing off-leash dog area, though proposes that a pedestrian connection to the westerly adjacent residential neighborhoods be included.

Speaker #12 (Reston Dogs)

- Supports the park master plan retention of the existing off-leash dog area, though it could be larger in size and could incorporate some addition design improvements.
- An indoor recreation center is more suitable at Reston Town Center in order to preserve open space and be located in a more accessible area than Baron Cameron Park.
- Highlights the results of a survey taken by 1,500 off-leash dog users, which revealed that 99% of participants preferred the off-leash dog park to remain in Baron Cameron Park, and that 82% of participants opposed the indoor recreation center in Baron Cameron Park.

Speaker #13

- Supports the park master plan retention of the existing off-leash dog area, though suggests it could be larger in size.

Speaker #14

- Supports the park master plan inclusion of a proposed indoor recreation center with a 50m swimming pool.



Speaker #15 (Reston 2020)

- An indoor recreation center is more suitable at Reston Town Center due to better pedestrian access and proximity to a larger number of residents than Baron Cameron Park.

Speaker #16

- Supports the park master plan inclusion of a proposed indoor recreation center with a 50m swimming pool.

Speaker #17 (Reston Dogs)

- Highlights the advantages and benefits of off-leash dog areas from the perspective of a professionally certified dog trainer and canine behaviorist.

Speaker #18

- Supports the park master plan retention of the existing off-leash dog area, though does not support the relocation option due to topography and drainage issues.

Speaker #19

- Supports the park master plan inclusion of a proposed indoor recreation center with a 50m swimming pool.

Speaker #20 (Reston Soccer Association)

- Supports the park master plan inclusion of upgrading the existing athletic fields with synthetic turf and lights.

Speaker #21 (Reston 2020, Reston Citizens Association, Fair Lakes Cluster)

- Small Tax District #5 is not a general county funding source, and should not be used toward any development in Baron Cameron Park as it is a district park that serves more than just Reston residents. Notes that Hunter Mill District is the only district without a county-funded indoor recreation center.
- Proposes that the existing off-leash dog area be relocated to Lake Fairfax Park as it has a planned, but unbuilt, off-leash dog area in an isolated area of the park with adequate parking.
- Need to conduct cost analysis on building and maintaining synthetic turf fields.

Speaker #22 (Reston Masters Swim Team)

- Supports the park master plan inclusion of a proposed indoor recreation center with a 50m swimming pool, notes that Reston has currently 15 outdoor pools and only 2 indoor pools, and retention of the existing off-leash dog area.

Speaker #23

- Supports the idea of a proposed indoor recreation center with a 50m swimming pool, and encourages a fair and balanced decision-making process about where it should be located.

Speaker #24

- Supports the park master plan inclusion of recreational facilities oriented toward runners.

