



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

M E M O R A N D U M



Kings Park Park Master Plan Revision Public Workshop Summary July 17, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. Lake Braddock Secondary School

- I. **Introductions** – Andi Dorlester, Manager of the Kings Park Park Master Plan Revision project introduced John Cook, President of the Kings Park Civic Association, who made a few community announcements. Next, she introduced the following Park Authority staff members: John Dargle, Park Authority Director; Sandy Stallman, Park Planning Manager; Mark Rogers, Area 4 Operations Manager; Meghan Fellows, Naturalist; Michael Johnson, Archaeologist; and Park Planners Diane Probus, Andy Galusha, Pat Rosend, and Scott Sizer.
- II. **Welcoming Remarks** – Winnie Shapiro, Park Authority Board Representative for the Braddock District welcomed everyone and explained the workshop's purpose. About 35 members of the community were in attendance.
- III. **Staff Presentation** – Diane Probus presented a Power Point presentation that included information about the workshop format, a description of the park's existing conditions, a summary of community input received so far, a discussion of site opportunities and constraints, and discussion of possible park improvements. [Link to Power Point Presentation and Speaking Notes.](#)
- IV. **Small Group Workshops** – Following the presentation, attendees participated in facilitated group discussions in six small groups at round tables. Groups discussed the pros and cons of each of three development opportunity sites and several types of park facilities and improvements. Park staff provided participants with a small map showing the park's existing conditions, a larger map of the three development opportunity sites, to-scale cutouts of various types of park facilities, and a worksheet including information about site limitations and assets and choices for park facilities and improvements. [Link to Handouts](#)
- V. **Workshop Reports** – A citizen member of each of the six small groups reported their group's ideas and concerns and displayed their group's proposed park concept to the larger gathering. [Link to the summary matrices.](#)

In general, workshop attendees were supportive of adding new playground equipment for a wide range of ages, adding a medium-size picnic pavilion, adding a practice wall to the tennis courts, and improving and expanding the current trail loop. Five of the six groups preferred to leave the former pool site open for use as

a small rectangular athletic field. Some participants supported the idea of an off-leash dog park, while others were opposed to the idea.

Other popular suggestions included the following: 1) Clear out some of the understory vegetation to give better sight lines for parents watching their children; 2) Add interpretive signs that teach the history of the site as a Native American stone quarry and tool workshop; 3) Leave as much of the existing parking in place as possible; and 4) Plant more trees in the park, especially along the western property line.

VI. Wrap-up and Closing Remarks – Andi Dorlester closed the meeting by thanking community members for attending and actively participating in the park planning process. As the Master Plan is developed over the next few months, the public input received at the meeting will be considered along with existing site conditions; natural and cultural resource considerations; and site management, park operation and design issues. Winnie Shapiro announced that \$100,000 has been identified in the upcoming November Park Bond Referendum for improvements to Kings Park Park. While this amount of money will not cover all of the community's desires, it will enable the Park Authority to make some improvements in the short-term.

VII. Next steps were summarized and include:

- Staff will develop a draft Master Plan to present to the Park Authority Board in November 2008;
- Park Authority Board will hold a Public Comment Meeting in January 2009 followed by a 30-day open comment period; and
- Park Authority Board Approval will occur in Spring 2009.

Kings Park Park Planning Matrix

GROUP # 1

Facilitator: Andi Dorlester

	Former Pool Site SITE 1	Former Pool Driveway and Part of South Parking Lot SITE 2	Playground Area SITE 3
Site Limitations	Former pool site “as is” cannot support structures due to the type of fill. Needed site work will add to project costs.	Existing asphalt must be removed prior to site development. Some large trees may need to be removed.	Archaeology studies needed prior to any development will add to project costs. If significant resources are found, development may not be possible. Trees in the area reduce visibility to/from rest of park.
Site Assets	The area is open and sunny.	With the closing of the pool, there may be more parking spaces than needed at the park.	Area is shaded and cool in summer.
<p>For each site, check (✓) the box(es) below for your preferred facility. You may suggest other types of facilities by writing them in the last row. A Park Master Plan is a long-term guide to development, but let us know what you would like to see built in the near future, if funding becomes available, by circling your most preferred facility. Also—don’t forget to fill out the reverse side of this sheet.</p>			
Leave Site As Is			
Tot Lot (up to age 5)			
Playground (ages 5-12)			✓
36' x 36' Picnic Pavilion (6 tables)			✓
30'x 44' Picnic Pavilion (8 tables)			
Off-Leash Dog Park (10,000 sq. ft. fenced area)		✓	
Small Rectangle Athletic Field (75' x 120')	✓		
Other Uses/Facilities to Consider			

GROUP # 1 OTHER SUGGESTIONS

- Add additional paved trail sections to lengthen the loop trail and add mileage markers
- Add a formal trail connection between existing playground and ball field
- Remove two damaged trail sections near the tennis courts and restore vegetation in those areas
- Add a practice tennis wall in the tennis courts
- Move existing picnic tables to playground area and add more picnic tables
- Add interpretive signs that teach the history of the site as a Native American stone quarry and tool workshop
- Improve sight lines in the park by “raising the tree canopy” (i.e. trim lower tree limbs) and remove underbrush
- Consider adding two small pavilions (w/ 4 tables each) rather than one larger pavilion
- Leave parking lots as they are (do not remove any parking spaces)
- Add vegetation to buffer the homes bordering the park, especially near a dog park area

Kings Park Park Planning Matrix

GROUP # 2

Facilitator: Diane Probus

	Former Pool Site SITE 1	Former Pool Driveway and Part of South Parking Lot SITE 2	Playground Area SITE 3
Site Limitations	Former pool site “as is” cannot support structures due to the type of fill. Needed site work will add to project costs.	Existing asphalt must be removed prior to site development. Some large trees may need to be removed.	Archaeology studies needed prior to any development will add to project costs. If significant resources are found, development may not be possible. Trees in the area reduce visibility to/from rest of park.
Site Assets	The area is open and sunny.	With the closing of the pool, there may be more parking spaces than needed at the park.	Area is shaded and cool in summer.
<p>For each site, check (✓) the box(es) below for your preferred facility. You may suggest other types of facilities by writing them in the last row. A Park Master Plan is a long-term guide to development, but let us know what you would like to see built in the near future, if funding becomes available, by circling your most preferred facility. Also—don’t forget to fill out the reverse side of this sheet.</p>			
Leave Site As Is			
Tot Lot (up to age 5)			
Playground (ages 5-12)			✓ (Climbing Boulders)
36' x 36' Picnic Pavilion (6 tables)		✓	
30'x 44' Picnic Pavilion (8 tables)			
Off-Leash Dog Park (10,000 sq. ft. fenced area)			
Small Rectangle Athletic Field	✓ (Micro Soccer)		
Other Uses/Facilities to Consider			

GROUP # 2 OTHER SUGGESTIONS

- Add additional trail sections to lengthen the loop trail
- Add a formal trail connection between existing playground and ball field
- Remove two damaged trail sections near the tennis courts and restore vegetation in those areas
- Add a practice tennis wall in the tennis courts
- Add interpretive signs that teach the history of the site as a Native American stone quarry and tool workshop
- Add trees to buffer the homes bordering the park along Kings Park Drive/west side of park
- Clear out lower tree growth between sites and ball field

Kings Park Park Planning Matrix

GROUP # 3

Facilitator: Mark Rogers

	Former Pool Site SITE 1	Former Pool Driveway and Part of South Parking Lot SITE 2	Playground Area SITE 3
Site Limitations	Former pool site “as is” cannot support structures due to the type of fill. Needed site work will add to project costs.	Existing asphalt must be removed prior to site development. Some large trees may need to be removed.	Archaeology studies needed prior to any development will add to project costs. If significant resources are found, development may not be possible. Trees in the area reduce visibility to/from rest of park.
Site Assets	The area is open and sunny.	With the closing of the pool, there may be more parking spaces than needed at the park.	Area is shaded and cool in summer.
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Leave Site As Is			
Tot Lot (up to age 5)			✓
Playground (ages 5-12)		✓ (Climbing Boulders)	✓
36' x 36' Picnic Pavilion (6 tables)			
30'x 44' Picnic Pavilion (8 tables)		✓	
Off-Leash Dog Park (10,000 sq. ft. fenced area)			
Small Rectangle Athletic Field (75' x 120')	✓		
Other Uses/Facilities to Consider			

GROUP # 3 OTHER SUGGESTIONS

- Add a practice tennis wall in the tennis courts
- Add climbing boulders between the former pool site and the south parking lot
- Clear out the understory vegetation between Site #1 and the ball field, and between Site #3 and the ball field, to give better sight lines for parents watching their children.
- Opposed to an off-leash dog area

Kings Park Park Planning Matrix

GROUP # 4

Facilitator: Andy Galusha

	Former Pool Site SITE 1	Former Pool Driveway and Part of South Parking Lot SITE 2	Playground Area SITE 3
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Leave Site As Is			
Tot Lot (up to age 5)			✓
Playground (ages 5-12)			✓
36' x 36' Picnic Pavilion (6 tables)		✓	
30'x 44' Picnic Pavilion (8 tables)			
Off-Leash Dog Park (10,000 sq. ft. fenced area)			
Small Rectangle Athletic Field	✓		
Other Uses/Facilities to Consider			

GROUP # 2 OTHER SUGGESTIONS

- Add additional trail sections to lengthen the loop trail
- Remove two damaged trail sections near the tennis courts and restore vegetation in those areas
- Add a practice tennis wall in the tennis courts
- Improve lighting at tennis courts
- Add interpretive signs that teach the history of the site as a Native American stone quarry and tool workshop
- Add trees to buffer the homes bordering the park along Kings Park Drive/west side of park
- Prune/remove excess vegetation in play area
- One group member wished to leave Sites 1 & 2 “as is”

Kings Park Park Planning Matrix

GROUP # 5

Facilitator: Meghan Fellows

	Former Pool Site SITE 1	Former Pool Driveway and Part of South Parking Lot SITE 2	Playground Area SITE 3
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Site Assets	The area is open and sunny.	With the closing of the pool, there may be more parking spaces than needed at the park.	Area is shaded and cool in summer.
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Leave Site As Is			
Tot Lot (up to age 5)	✓		
Playground (ages 5-12)	✓		
36' x 36' Picnic Pavilion (6 tables)			
30'x 44' Picnic Pavilion (8 tables)		✓	
Off-Leash Dog Park (10,000 sq. ft. fenced area)			✓
Small Rectangle Athletic Field			
Other Uses/Facilities to Consider			

GROUP # 5 OTHER SUGGESTIONS

- Add a new (and/or repaired) meandering, paved, fitness trail of at least one mile in length (with the mileage marked)
- Position picnic pavilion within Site #2 to maintain sight lines to proposed new tot lot and playground at the former pool site and existing athletic field
- Add benches and a source of water to Site #3 to enhance the proposed dog park
- Add a few trees to Site #1 to create some more shade
- One person suggested adding a 6-hole disc golf course to the park

Kings Park Park Planning Matrix

GROUP # 6

Facilitator: Sandy Stallman

	Former Pool Site SITE 1	Former Pool Driveway and Part of South Parking Lot SITE 2	Playground Area SITE 3
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Leave Site As Is			
Tot Lot (up to age 5)		✓	
Playground (ages 5-12)		✓	
36' x 36' Picnic Pavilion (6 tables)			
30'x 44' Picnic Pavilion (8 tables)		✓	
Off-Leash Dog Park (10,000 sq. ft. fenced area)			✓
Small Rectangle Athletic Field	✓ (Micro Soccer)		
Other Uses/Facilities to Consider	Putting Green		

GROUP # 6 OTHER SUGGESTIONS

- Improve existing trails and add signs and fitness equipment
- Add a practice wall in the tennis courts that is designed for multi-purpose use (including tennis, lacrosse and other sports)
- Provide a wide range of play equipment
- Leave as much parking as possible
- Add trash cans, water fountains
- The current playground area is too dark and damp; this area should be returned to a natural, forested condition

Kings Park Park Planning Matrix

GROUP # _____

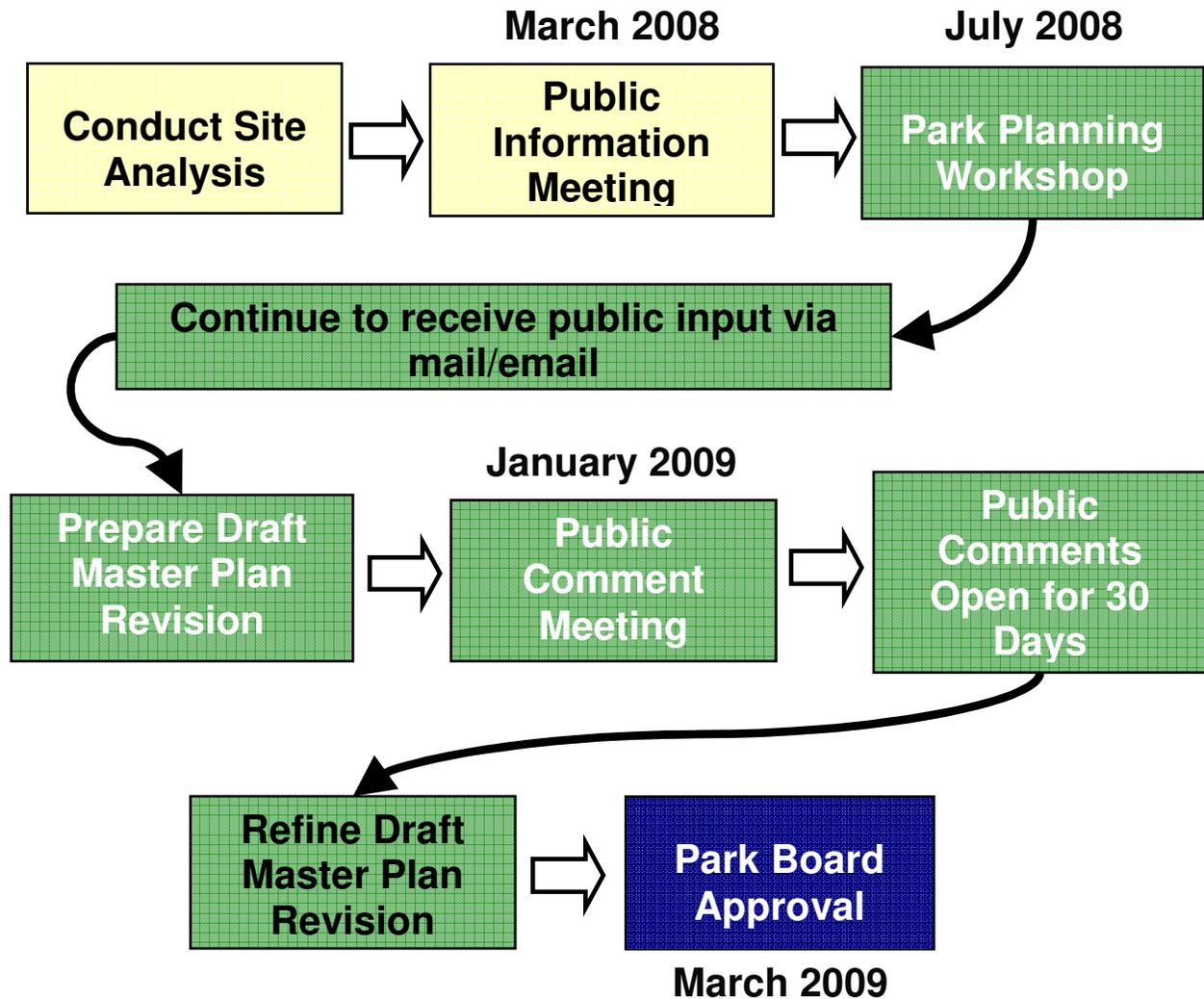
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Small Rectangle Athletic Field (75' x 120')			
Other Uses/Facilities to Consider			

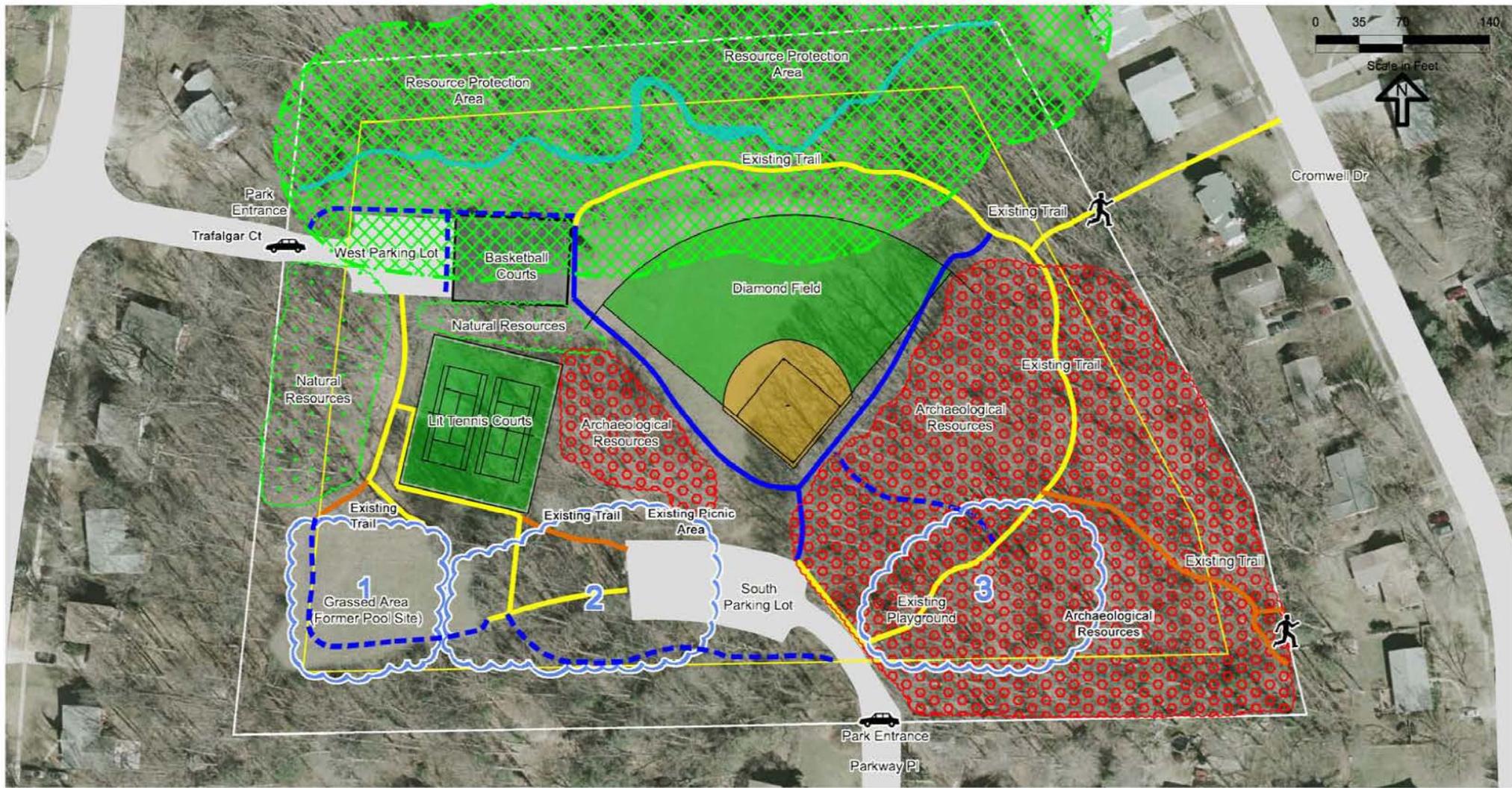
Other Possible Park Improvements (please check those you prefer):

- Add additional trail sections to lengthen the loop trail
- Add a formal trail connection between existing playground and ball field
- Add a practice tennis wall in the tennis courts
- Remove two damaged trail sections near the tennis courts and restore vegetation in those areas
- Move existing picnic tables to playground area
- Add interpretive sign(s) that teaches the history of the site as a Native American stone quarry
- Other _____
- Other _____
- Other _____

PLANNING PROCESS

KINGS PARK PARK MASTER PLAN REVISION





FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY
 12055 Government Center Parkway
 Suite 406
 Fairfax, VA 22035-1118

Existing Conditions

Kings Park Park Master Plan Revision

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

- Planning Sites**
- 1 Former Pool Site
 - 2 Area Between Pool & Parking Area
 - 3 Existing Playground Area

- Existing Trail Paved
 - Existing Trail Natural Surface
 - Existing Other Circulation
 - - - Proposed Trail Connection
- Entrances Vehicular Pedestrian

Project No. _____
 Scale 1"=70'
 Date 7-15-08