



WESTGROVE PARK

Master Plan
Public Information Meeting
July 30, 2012

Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions
- FCPA and Master Plan process overview
- History of the site
- Existing site conditions
- Potential park uses
- Next steps



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
- 417 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



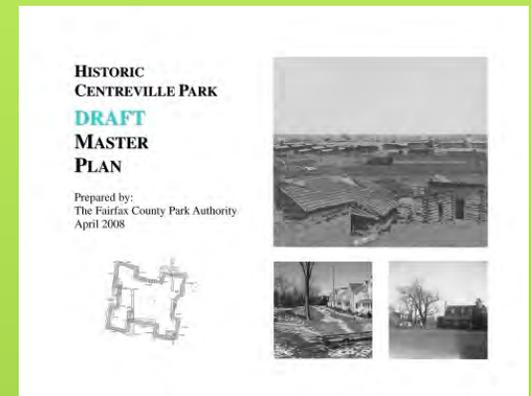
Master Plan Process



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



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



History of the Site

Between 1953 and 1985 – Sewage treatment and pump house

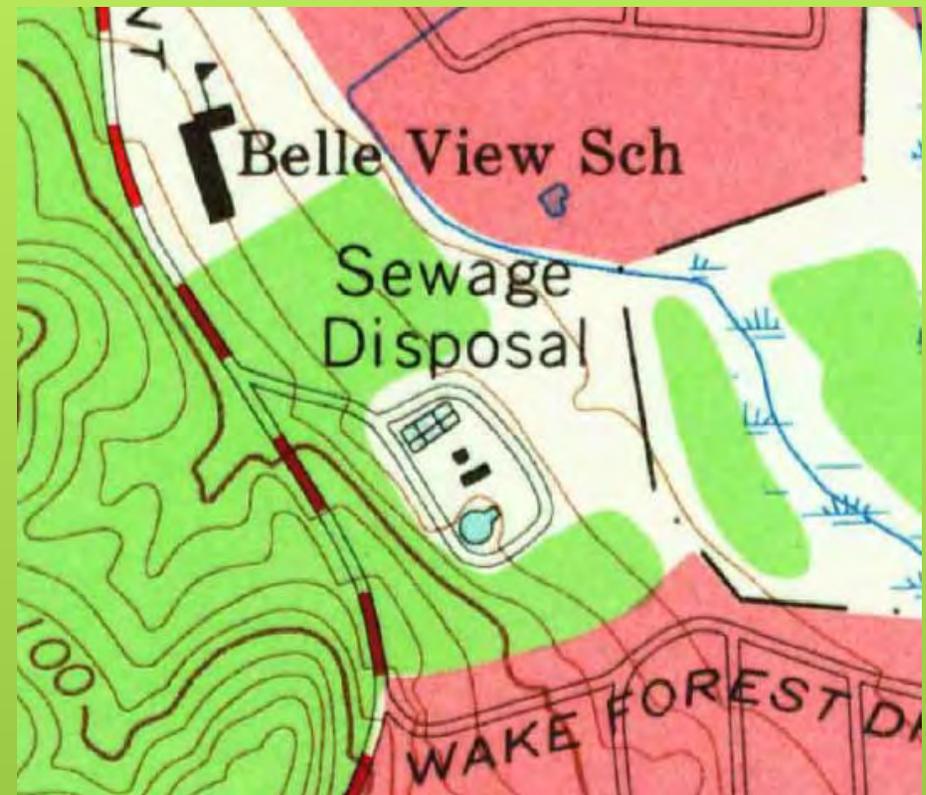
Late 1980's – Sewage treatment operations are closed

- Related facilities removed or buried on-site

1986 – Leased to the Park Authority for future park site

2001 – Transferred to the Park Authority

- Pump house remains in operation



Source: 1965 USGS Topo

History of the Site (continued)

2004/2005

- Park Master Plan process begins and is indefinitely deferred

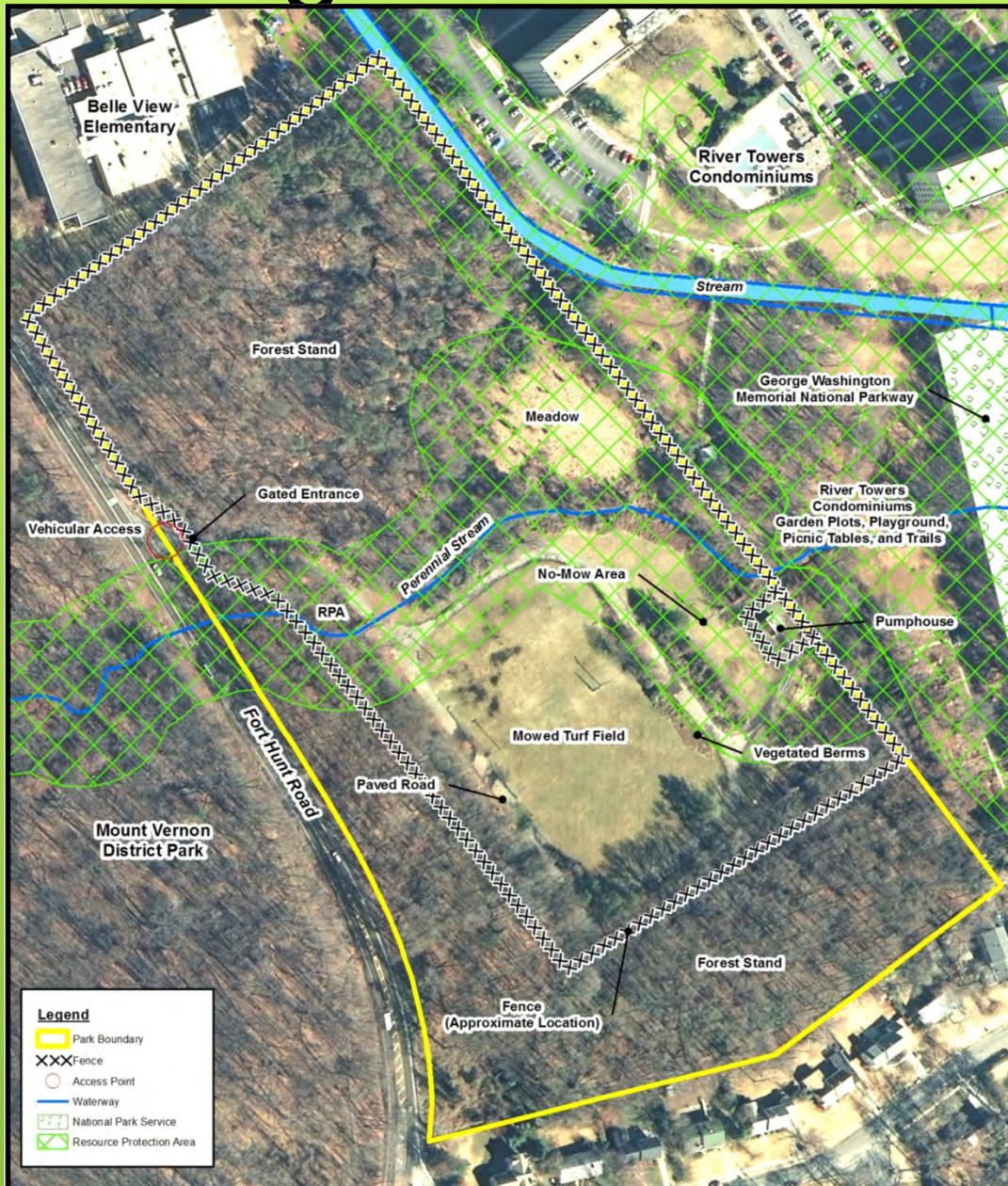
2010-2012

- Park Authority explores request for an off-leash dog area use

July 11, 2012 – Park Authority Board approves interim off-leash dog area use for two years

July 19, 2012 – Planning Commission determines interim off-leash dog area use is in substantial conformance with the County Comprehensive Plan

Existing Site Conditions



- 21.3 acres
- Relatively flat
- Belle Haven Watershed

- Gated entrance
- Paved loop road
- Fence
- In-operation pump house
- Mowed turf field
- No-mow area
- Perennial stream
- Vegetated berms
- Forest stands
- Meadow
- Resource Protection Area (6.5 acres or ~30%)

Existing Site Conditions



Managed

- 4 acres or about 20%

No-mow

- 0.2 acres or about 1%

Vegetated berms

- 0.4 acres or about 2%

Forest stands

- 15 acres or about 74%

Meadow

- 0.5 acres or about 3%

Gated Entrance



Gated Entrance



Paved Loop Road



Paved Loop Road



- Legend**
- Park Boundary
 - Park Land Use
 - Download
 - Forest
 - Mowed
 - No Mow
 - Meadow
 - Vegetated Berms
 - XXXX Fence
 - XXXXXX Fence Post
 - Stream
 - Waterway
 - XXXXXX National Park Service
 - XXXXXX Resource Protection Area

Paved Loop Road



Paved Loop Road (vegetated berms)



Paved Loop Road



Fence



Fence



In-operation pump house



Mowed turf field



No-mowed area



Legend

Park Boundary	XXXX	XXXX
Park Land Use	XXXX	XXXX
Download	XXXX	XXXX
Forest	XXXX	XXXX
Mowed	XXXX	XXXX
No-Mow	XXXX	XXXX
Meadow	XXXX	XXXX
Vegetated Berms	XXXX	XXXX

No-mowed area



Perennial stream



Perennial stream



Perennial stream



Forest stands



Forest stands



Meadow



Meadow



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

Local Park Classification



- Serve surrounding neighborhoods and communities, typically up to a 3-mile radius
- Offer a variety of local-serving recreational opportunities
- 2 – 50 acres in size
- Park visits typically last less than 2 hours

Typical Local Park Facilities

Typical Local Park Facility Type	Local Need	Parking
Open play area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Picnic area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Courts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Trails	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Playgrounds – all ages	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Athletic fields	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Natural areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	



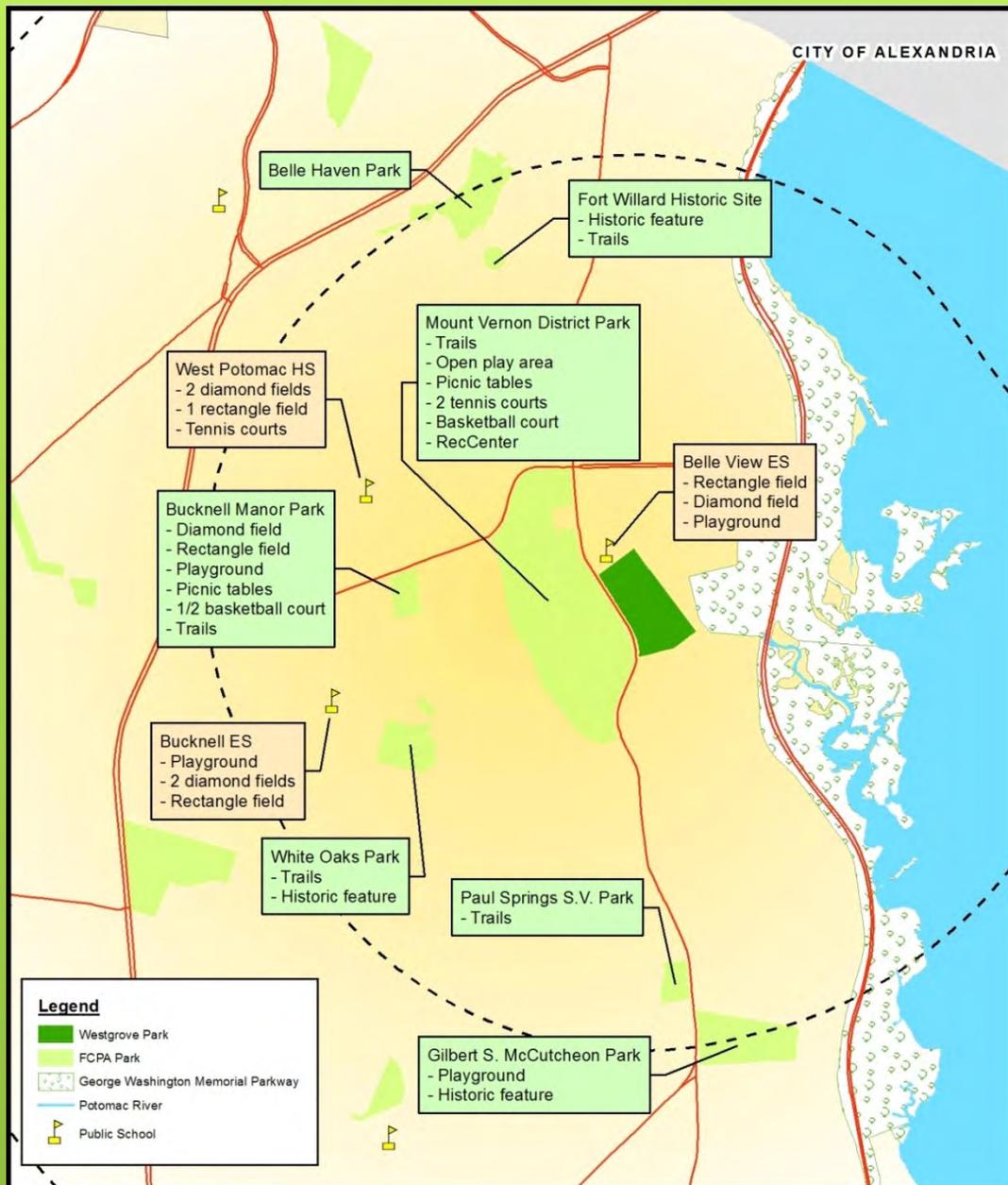
Specialty Facility Types

Specialty uses may also be appropriate, but may need sponsorship or adoption

Facility Type	Parking
Off-leash dog area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Neighborhood skate park	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community gardens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other uses	<input type="checkbox"/>



Nearby Parks and Recreation – 1mi



Local Parks

- Belle Haven
- Bucknell Manor
- White Oaks

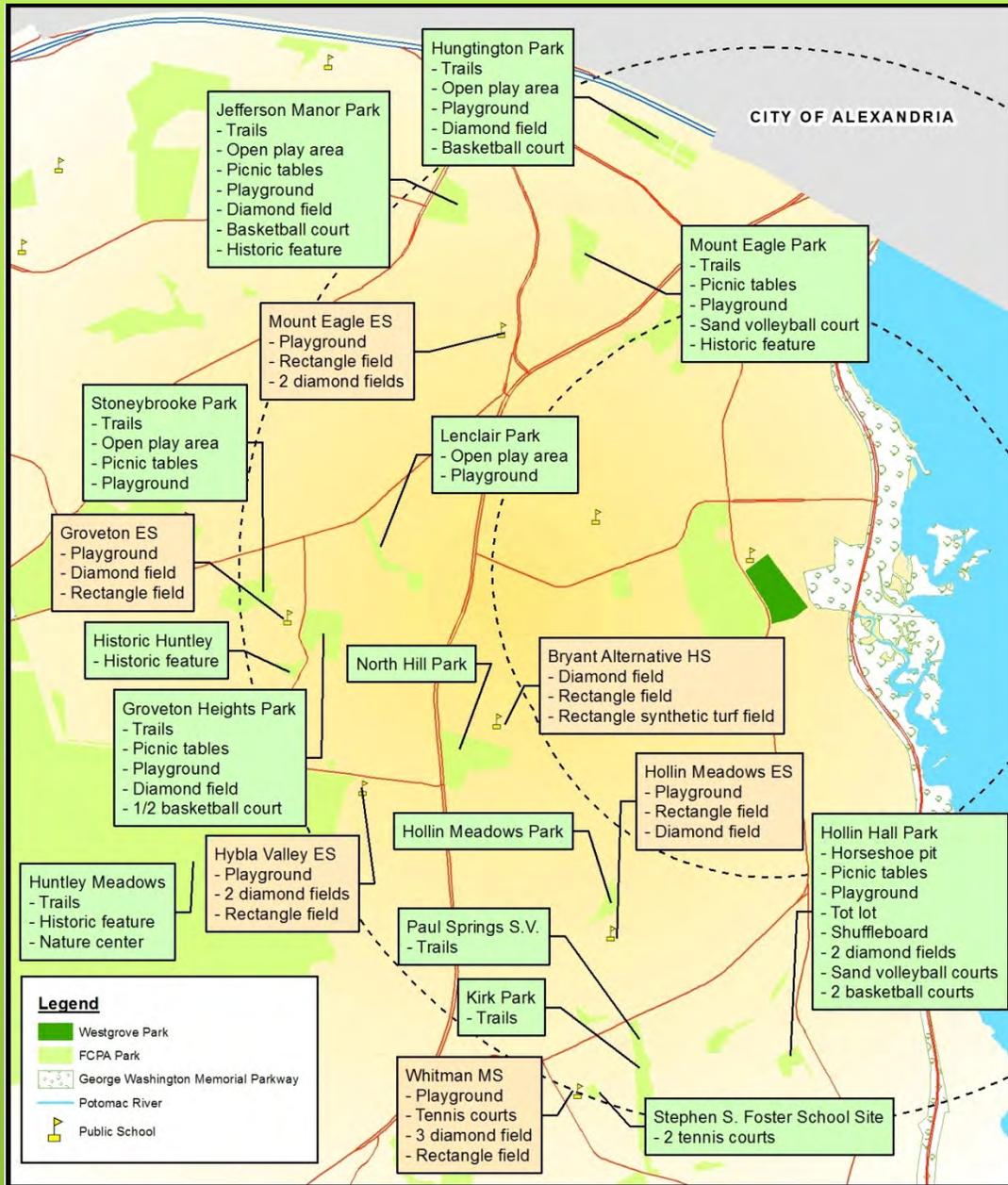
Resource-Based Parks

- Fort Willard Historic Site
- Mount Vernon District
- Paul Springs Stream Valley
- Gilbert S. McCutcheon

Public Schools

- Belle View ES
- Bucknell ES
- West Potomac HS

Nearby Parks and Recreation – 2mi



Local Parks

- Groveton Heights
- Hollin Hall
- Hollin Meadow
- Huntington
- Kirk
- Lenclair
- Mount Eagle
- North Hill
- Jefferson Manor
- Stephen S. Foster School Site
- Stoneybrooke

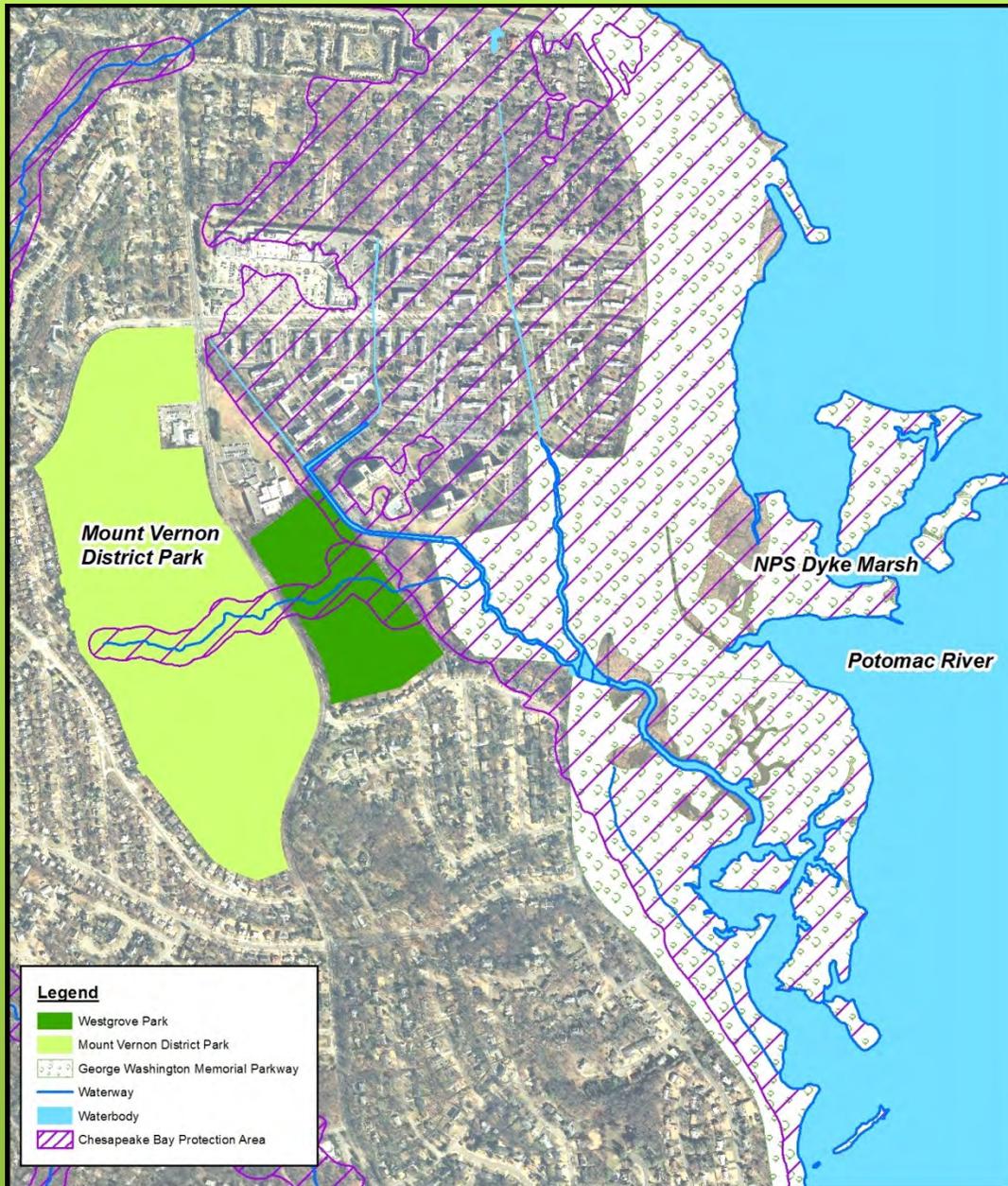
Resource-Based Parks

- Historic Huntley
- Huntley Meadows
- Paul Springs Stream Valley

Public Schools

- Bryant Alternative HS
- Hollin Meadows ES
- Hybla Valley ES
- Mount Eagle ES
- Whitman MS

Natural Resource Context



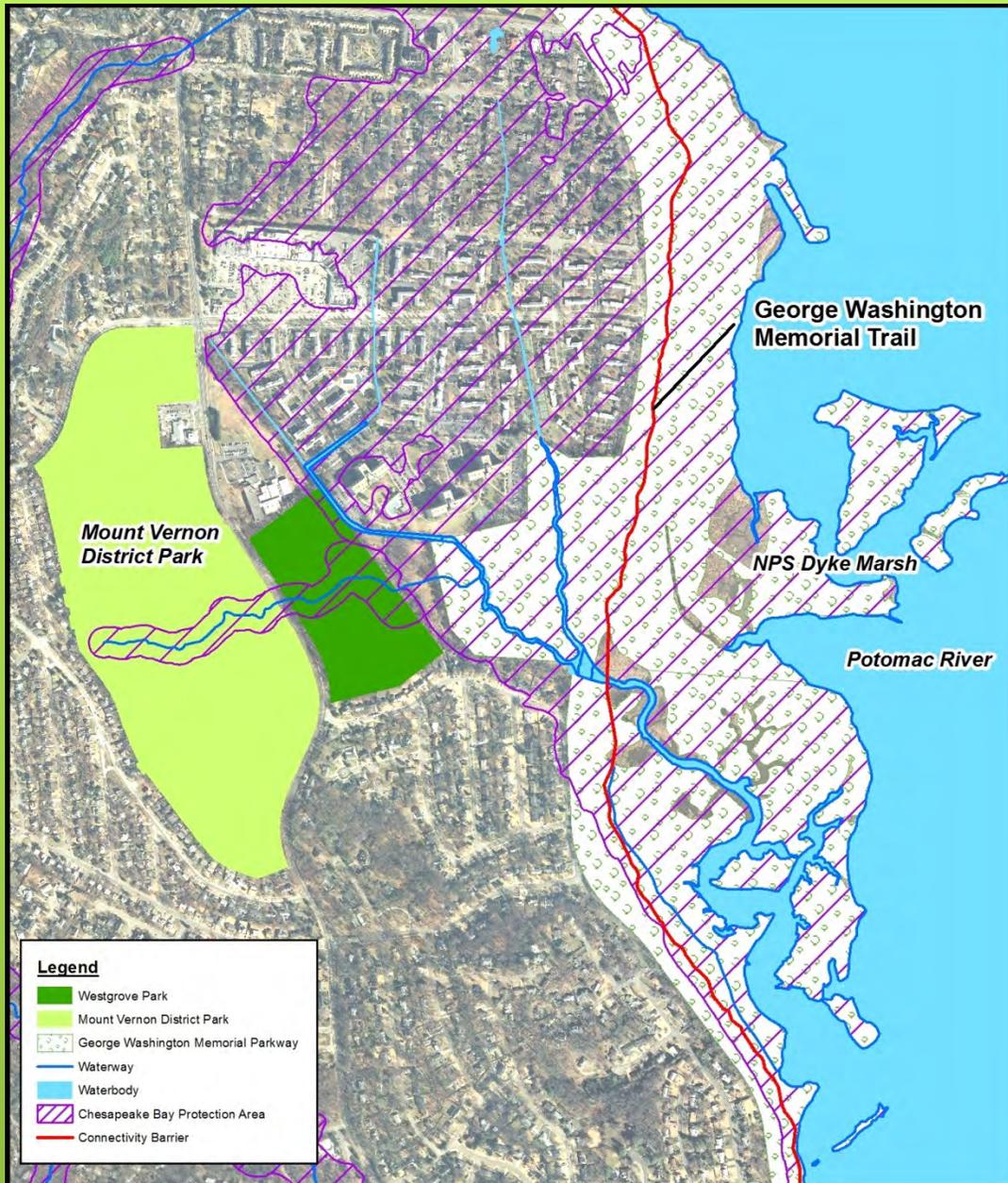
NPS Dyke Marsh and Potomac River to the east

- 485 acres of tidal marsh, floodplain, and swamp forest
- One of the largest freshwater tidal wetlands in the Washington metro area
- Part of the larger George Washington Memorial Parkway National Park

Mount Vernon District Park to the west

- Upland forest
- Planned for resource protection

Natural Resource Context



NPS Dyke Marsh and Potomac River to the east

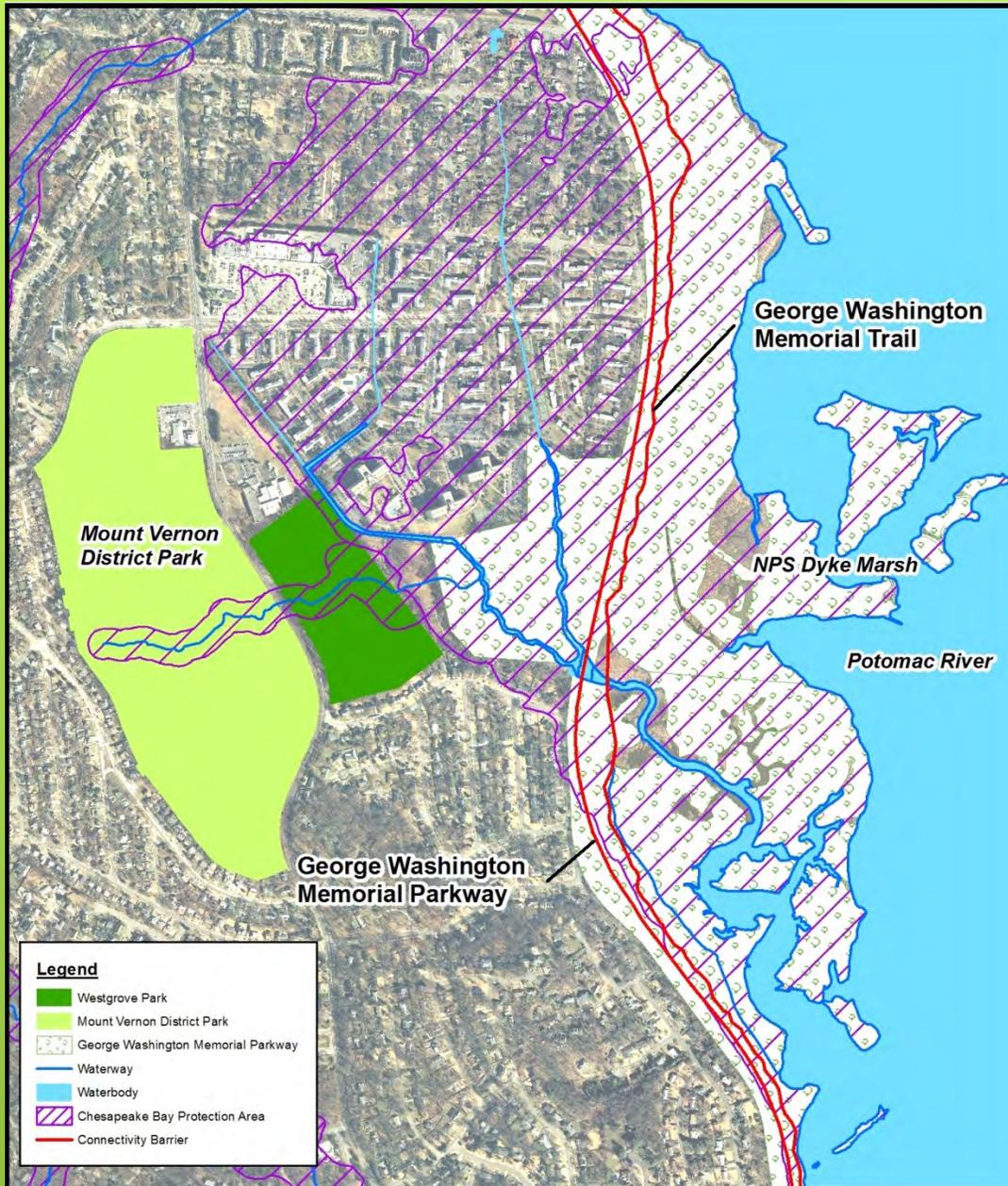
Mount Vernon District Park to the west

Connectivity Gaps

- George Washington Memorial Trail



Natural Resource Context



NPS Dyke Marsh and Potomac River to the east

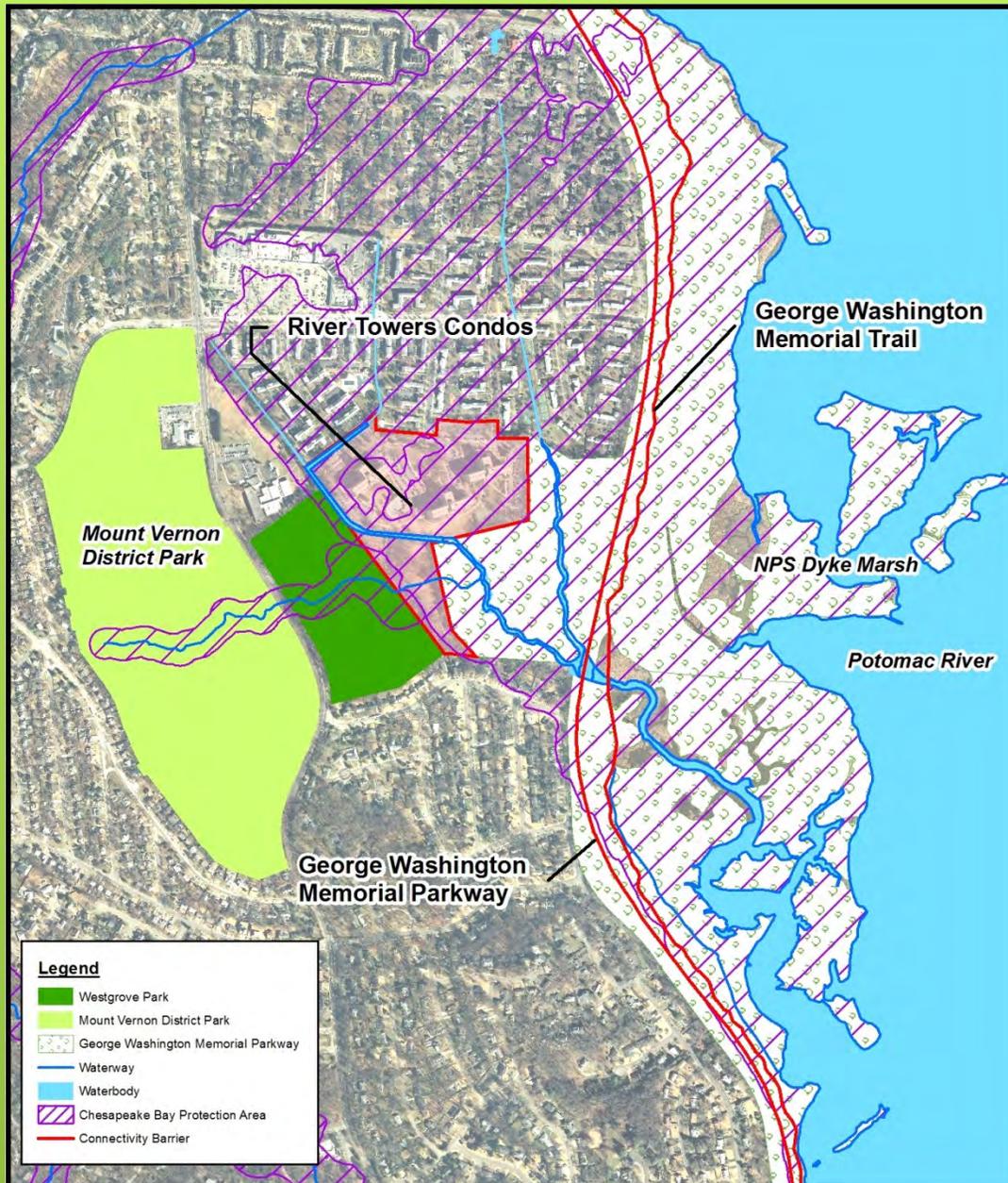
Mount Vernon District Park to the west

Connectivity Gaps

- George Washington Memorial Trail
- George Washington Memorial parkway



Natural Resource Context



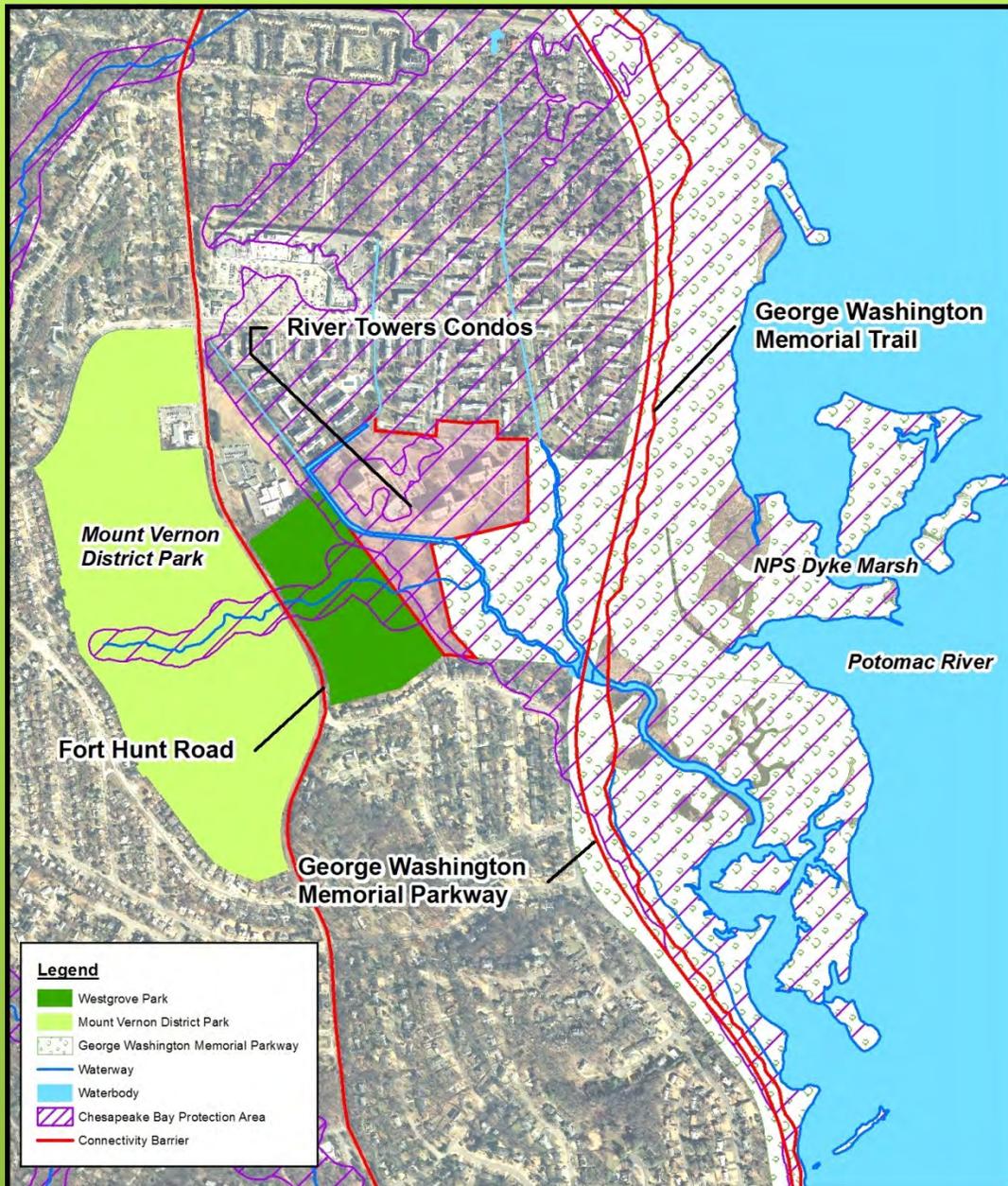
NPS Dyke Marsh and Potomac River to the east

Mount Vernon District Park to the west

Connectivity Gaps

- George Washington Memorial Trail
- George Washington Memorial Parkway
- River Towers Condominiums

Natural Resource Context



NPS Dyke Marsh and Potomac River to the east

Mount Vernon District Park to the west

Connectivity Gaps

- George Washington Memorial Trail
- George Washington Memorial Parkway
- River Towers Condominiums
- Fort Hunt Road

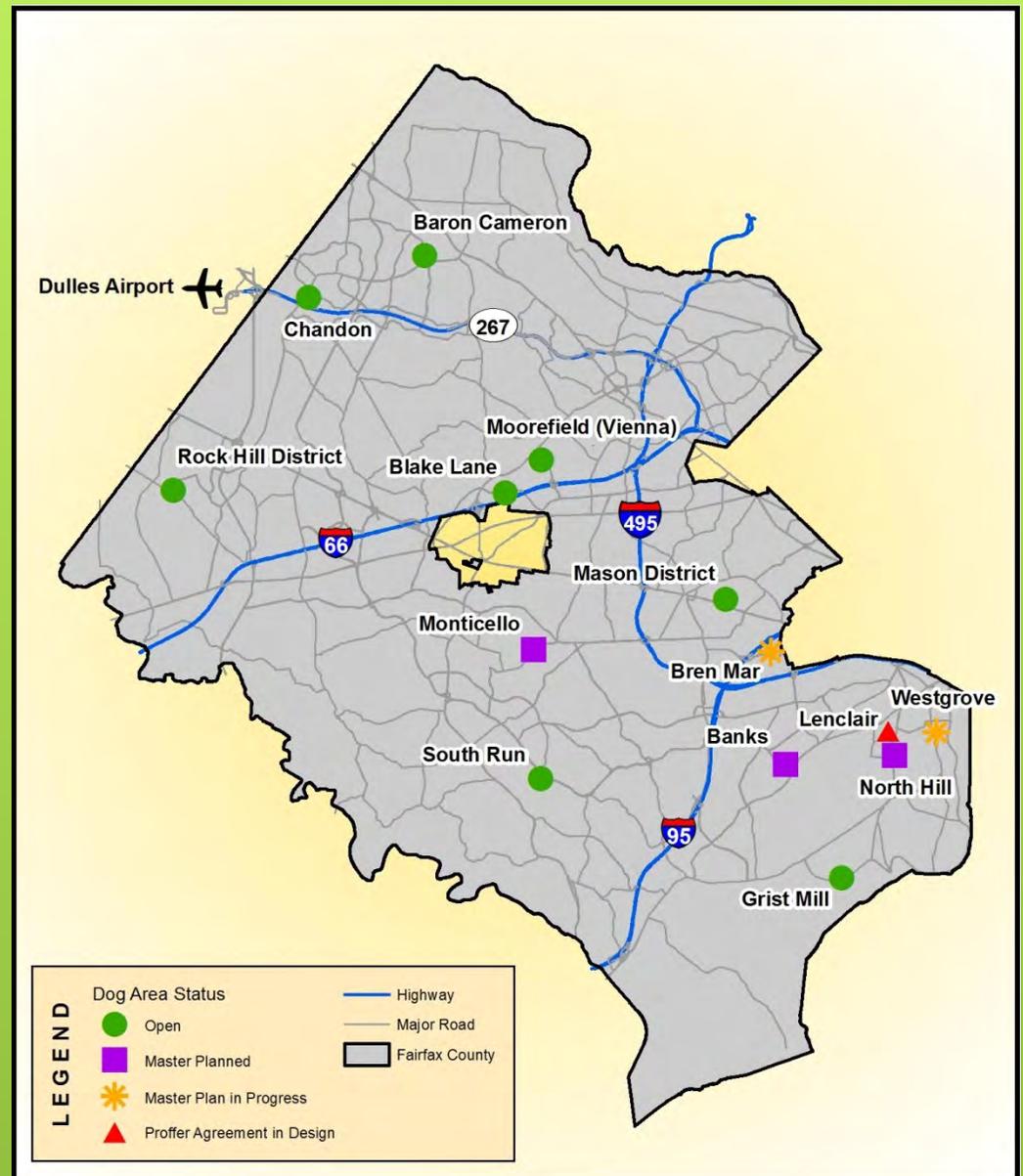
Interim Off-Leash Dog Area Use

- Sponsor: Pumphouse Association for Canine Kindness (PACK)
- Location: Area within the existing loop road

- Interim use period is for two years
- Interim dog park will be installed this summer
- Excess pavement on loop road will be used for parallel parking

Off-Leash Dog Areas in Fairfax County

- 8 – Currently open to the public, including 1 operated by the Town of Vienna
- 3 – Master planned but not yet installed
- 2 – Under consideration in ongoing master plan process
- 1 – Under design through proffer agreement



Other Considerations

- From previous Master Plan process and community discussions:
 - Outdoor classroom
 - Stewardship education
 - Resource protection and interpretation
 - Active recreation

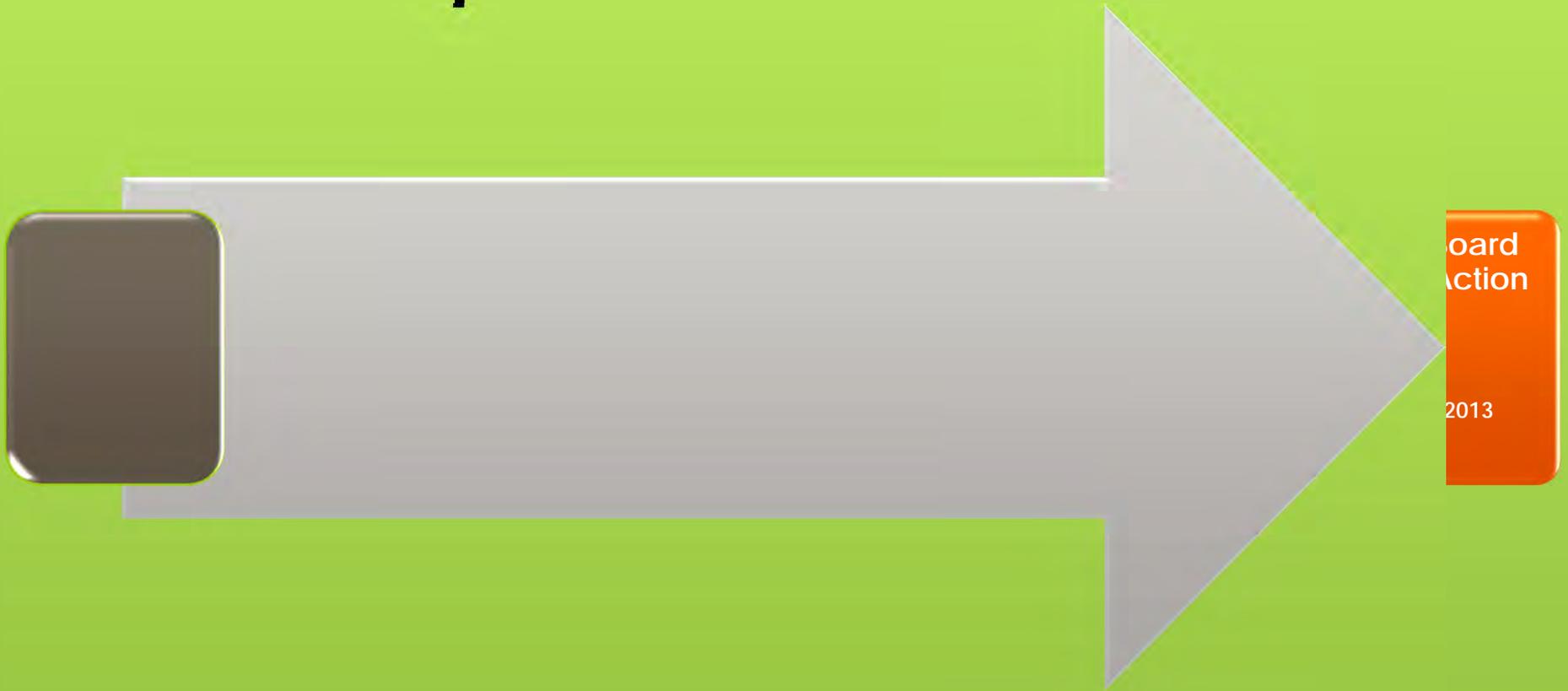
Other Considerations

- Trail along western side of Fort Hunt Road between Martha Washington Library and Bucknell Manor
 - Trail improvements are slated but timing and extent are unknown

- Quander Road stormwater outfall into Mount Vernon District Park and subsequently Westgrove
 - Improvements are in the DPWES 25-year implementation plan, but timing is unknown



Next Steps



Open Discussion

Key Questions

- What park uses or facilities would you like to see at Westgrove Park?
- What should the visitor experience be?
- What issues or concerns should we consider in the master plan?

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/westgrove.htm>

Email: Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov

Written comments:

Jay Rauschenbach, Project Manager

FCCA Planning & Development Division, Suite 406

12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035

Or leave comment slip on agenda with us tonight