



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927 • Fairfax, VA 22035-5500
703-324-8700 • Fax: 703-324-3974 • www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks

For Immediate Release

Judy Pedersen, PIO
E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov
Press Inquiries: 703-324-8662

April 16, 2014
PR-022

Draft Tysons Park System Concept Plan Published; Public Comment Phase Begins

The Fairfax County Park Authority has published the Draft Tysons Park System Concept Plan, putting in motion the opportunity for public review and comment on this planning document. The Tysons Park System Concept Plan will guide future park development by the public, private and non-profit sectors that will serve Tyson's residents, workforce and visitors well into the future. The plan is available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/tysons-park-planning.htm. Publication of this draft document opens a 60-day comment period which closes on June 16, 2014.

Creating an urban park system as Tysons transforms to the county's downtown will require vision, collaboration and a plan. A connected network of urban parks will help to distinguish Tysons from other urban areas and bring benefits to the local economy as well as improving the quality of life. To help ensure that happens, the Park Authority embarked upon an effort to develop a comprehensive park system concept plan that will complement and refine the existing Tysons Urban Center Plan.

Most residents of Tysons will live in high-rise buildings and may have different recreational needs than those who live in traditional suburban neighborhoods. Without yards, these residents will have a greater need for common open spaces that meet their needs for socializing, exercising, dog walking, gardening and outdoor leisure. In addition, Tyson employees and visitors will benefit from urban parks that serve social, recreation and leisure needs in close proximity to work and other attractions.

Currently, there are 89 acres of public parkland within Tysons, mostly within stream valleys at the western and eastern edges of the area. With no existing urban park spaces in the transit-oriented core of Tysons, it is vital that redevelopment projects add accessible urban park spaces.

The plan is the result of collaborative efforts between multiple county agencies and an advisory group of citizens, park planners and design professionals who guided the development of the Conceptual Park System Map. The Concept Plan is organized according to several key elements of the park system, including park placement and typology, connectivity, athletic fields and other recreational facilities, civic spaces and community building features, and cultural/natural resource preservation.

Over the next few months there will be several opportunities for the public to comment on the draft plan. Comments may be forwarded to Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov. On May 19, 2014 a Tysons Open House will take place at 7 p.m. at Spring Hill Elementary School located at 8201 Lewinsville Road in McLean. An additional day-time meeting will be scheduled between now and the close of the public comment period.

For more information about the plan call Andi Dorlester at 703-324-8692 or visit online.



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.