



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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For Immediate Release

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Ribbon Cutting Set for Sully Highlands Park

Western Fairfax County now offers state-of-the-art athletic facilities with the official opening of Sully Highlands Park located at 13808 Wall Road in Herndon, Va. This park was established through a partnership between government, the athletic community and local developers. Ribbon cutting ceremonies are set for Saturday, September 6, 2014, at 10 a.m. The public is invited to join in the celebration as these amenities open for play.

Sully Highlands Park, a 17-acre sports complex, was recently constructed through development proffers with Timber Ridge at Discovery Square, Inc. Developers provided a turn-key park at a cost of nearly \$6 million dollars. These athletic fields were developed in part to replace multiple diamond and rectangular fields that Chantilly Youth Association (CYA) had developed and maintained for several years on private property just down the road from the park. The park was developed with two side-by-side lighted synthetic rectangular fields with a cricket pitch between them, two lighted and irrigated 60-foot baseball diamonds, one lighted and irrigated 90-foot ball diamond, a trail system, and a 270-space parking lot.

Harold Strickland, Sully District representative on the Park Authority Board, noted that there are many people to thank for making this project work. He said, "To begin with, Supervisor Michael Frey insisted that proffers be used to ensure replacement of the fields that development took away. The folks at Timber Ridge, especially Manager Stan Settle and partner Rick Dibella, really worked closely with us." Strickland added, "I also want to thank Ralph Wills, the president of CYA who made certain that this park is family-friendly and has all the required amenities in place we need for an outstanding experience. CYA dedicated significant funding, then we all got creative and that made a tremendous difference."

While Sully Highlands Park includes many outstanding facilities, there are several additional improvements that will further enhance the park for the community. CYA is partnering with the Park Authority to add two batting cages for the 60-foot diamonds, a fenced pitcher's warm up area for the 90-foot diamond, a playground, and picnic tables with concrete pads. To help fund these improvements, CYA provided a \$120,000 contribution. The Park Authority Board also approved a \$20,000 Mastenbrook matching grant and approximately \$35,000 in park proffers to complete these additional amenities. The total project budget for these additions is \$174,490.65.

The complex includes several unique features including the second synthetic turf cricket pitch in Fairfax County. Cricket is a growing sport, and this field complex will add to the number of cricket pitches in the area. Another unique feature is the automated irrigation system. It utilizes local weather stations to calculate conditions and optimally irrigate the three baseball diamonds.

Sully Highlands Park is located at 13808 Wall Road in Herndon, Va. For more information, call the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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