



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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For Immediate Release

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Parks Count Study Revealed

Needs Assessment Study Findings Are In, Public Open House Planned For April 14th

Parks Count, the Fairfax County Park Authority’s Needs Assessment Study, is nearing a close and study findings are in. Since the public launch in August 2014, staff has been working with the consultant team led by PROS Consulting LLC to collect information, analyze trends, and draft recommendations. Public input in the form of comments provided, surveys completed, and meetings attended have informed the work and staff would now like to share study findings. Thousands of county residents shared their opinions about our award-winning park system.

A Parks Count Open House will be held on Thursday, April 14, 2016 from 6:30 until 9 p.m., in the Herrity Building located at 12055 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax VA. The Open House will include a brief presentation at 7 p.m. that will be repeated at 8 p.m. The presentation will cover key findings and outcomes. The remainder of the open house will provide an opportunity to visit the various information stations to learn more about the community’s needs for parks and facilities and the capital improvement plan for meeting these needs over the next ten years.

The Needs Assessment Study is a process of considering park and recreation needs, trends, and preferences. It relies on research, information gathering, surveys, and data analysis. The results of the study help the Park Authority better understand customer needs from a park and recreation system and how to best balance and prioritize those needs across the County.

As part of the study, a statistically valid survey was conducted, natural and cultural cost assessment reports were completed, and facility assessments were prepared. Using information gathered, service level standards were reviewed and confirmed, and a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan for park and recreation facilities has been drafted. Information on all these elements will be available at the Open House.

More information on the Needs Assessment study and process is available on the project website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parkscount/>. For more information, contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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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.