



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

Information Release

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

May 4, 2016
IR-054

Hal Strickland Honored for Professional-Lifetime Achievement

Former Fairfax County Park Authority Board member Harold L. Strickland will be honored by the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) for his career in public service. Strickland served on the Park Board for 23 years, appointed by former County Supervisor Michael Frey and representing the Sully District area.

The organization named Strickland the 2016 NACPRO award recipient in the Professional-Lifetime category. Strickland retired from the Park Board earlier this year after more than two decades of service and six terms as chairman. He left behind a lifetime legacy of advocacy and accomplishment in the areas of both sports and recreation and the preservation of natural and cultural resources.

Strickland is acknowledged as a strong believer in the importance of acquiring parkland while open space was still available, and Park Authority land grew by thousands of acres during his tenure to its current 23,500 acres. He spearheaded efforts to plan and preserve for the newly established 2,300-acre Sully Woodlands area and was also a strong proponent of the synthetic turf program as a solution to rectangular field shortages. Strickland was cited for keeping park issues at the forefront of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisor's agenda, for the successful passage of voter-approved Park Bonds during his tenure and for his leadership skills in helping the agency achieve national accreditation and become a three-time recipient of the Gold Medal Award for parks. He was a great proponent of the use of development proffers and partnerships to expand community facilities at minimal cost to taxpayers. Last year, the Park Authority established an award in his honor to recognize those who demonstrate his ability to use teamwork, collaboration and cooperation to get things done.

An awards ceremony is planned in Long Beach, California, on July 24, 2016, during NACPRO's summer meeting.

NACPRO is a non-profit professional organization that advances official policies that promote county and regional park and recreation issues while providing members with opportunities to network, exchange ideas and best practices, and enhance professional development.

For additional information, please contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

###



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.