



# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



## M E M O R A N D U M

**TO:** Chairman and Members  
Park Authority Board

**VIA:** Kirk W. Kincannon, Executive Director

**FROM:** Barbara Nugent, Director  
Resource Management Division

**DATE:** April 4, 2019

### *Agenda*

**Resource Management Committee**  
**Wednesday, April 10, 2019 –5:45 pm**  
**Boardroom – Herrity Building**  
**Chairman: Maggie Godbold**  
**Vice Chair: Linwood Gorham**  
**Members: Kiel Stone, Timothy Hackman, Abena Aidoo**

1. Scope Approval – Laurel Hill Forest Restoration (with presentation)– Action\*

\*Enclosures



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563. TTY (703) 803-3354

Board Agenda Item  
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**ACTION (with presentation)**

Scope Approval – Laurel Hill Forest Restoration (Mount Vernon District)

ISSUE:

Approval of the project scope to plan and implement an ecosystem restoration project at Laurel Hill Park.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval of the project scope to plan and implement an ecosystem restoration project at Laurel Hill to restore the native forest community.

TIMING:

Board approval of the project scope is requested on May 8, 2019.

BACKGROUND:

The goals of the project are to restore a native forest ecosystem on approximately five acres of Laurel Hill Park. The project will remove existing infestations of invasive Kudzu (*Pueraria montana*) and replant with desired community species to restore the Acidic Oak Hickory Forest (CEGL 008475) community type.

The scope complies with the Laurel Hill General Master Plan, Laurel Hill Park Conceptual Development Plan and the Laurel Hill Park Natural Resource Management Plan. It also works toward achieving the following Recommended Actions in the agency-wide Natural Resource Management Plan.

- Recommended Action 16 – Manage natural resources adaptively and holistically on a landscape scale with the ultimate goal of having naturally regenerating native plant systems and healthy native wildlife populations.
- Recommended Action 17 – Control overabundant and invasive species that negatively impact natural resources to include, but not limited to, white-tailed deer, non-native invasive species, resident Canada geese, feral animals, and forest pests.
- Recommended Action 18 – Ensure the health of existing forested areas. Where possible ensure native biodiversity and sustainable regeneration; elsewhere restore to the highest ecosystem function practicable.
- Recommended Action 19 – Enhance connectivity of parkland to provide natural

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corridors that allow for the movement of populations over time and preserve ecosystem function and biodiversity.

The specific area proposed for restoration is identified on the Laurel Hill Restoration Map, enclosed as Attachment 2. Any surplus project funds will be reinvested in Laurel Hill ecosystem restoration work or returned for reallocation to other projects.

The project will be managed by the Natural Resources Branch and start the third quarter of fiscal year 2019 with an approximate five year duration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Based on the scope cost estimate, funding in the amount of \$175,000 is necessary to conduct the project (Attachment 1). Funding is available in the amount of \$2,000,000 in PR-000076, Natural and Cultural Resource Stewardship-2016 in Fund 30400, Park Bond Construction Fund.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Scope Cost Estimate for Laurel Hill Restoration Project

Attachment 2: Laurel Hill Restoration Maps

Attachment 3: Laurel Hill Restoration Project Existing and Desired Conditions

STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Executive Director

Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD

Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO

Barbara Nugent, Director, Resource Management Division

Todd Brown, Director, Park Operations Division

David Bowden, Director, Planning and Development

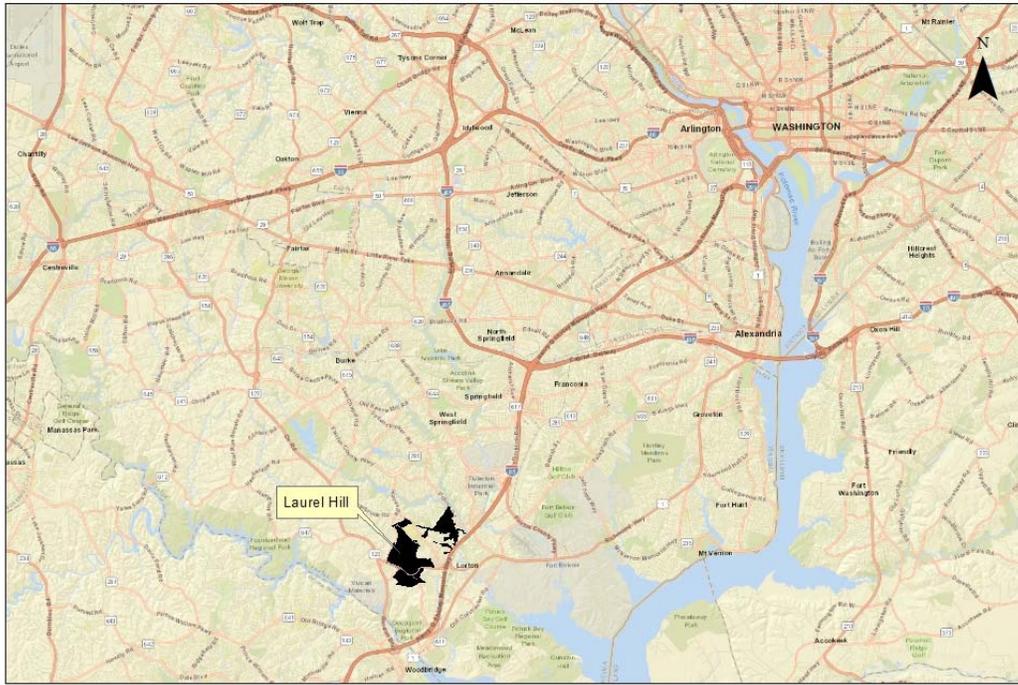
Cindy Walsh, Director, Park Services Division

John Stokely, Manager, Natural Resources Branch

**Laurel Hill Restoration Project Scope  
Cost Estimate**

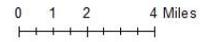
Site Design and Planning	\$20,000
Archaeology	\$10,000
Implementation, Establishment, and Close-out	\$124,000
Project Administration (12.5%)	\$21,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$175,000</b>

### Vicinity Map

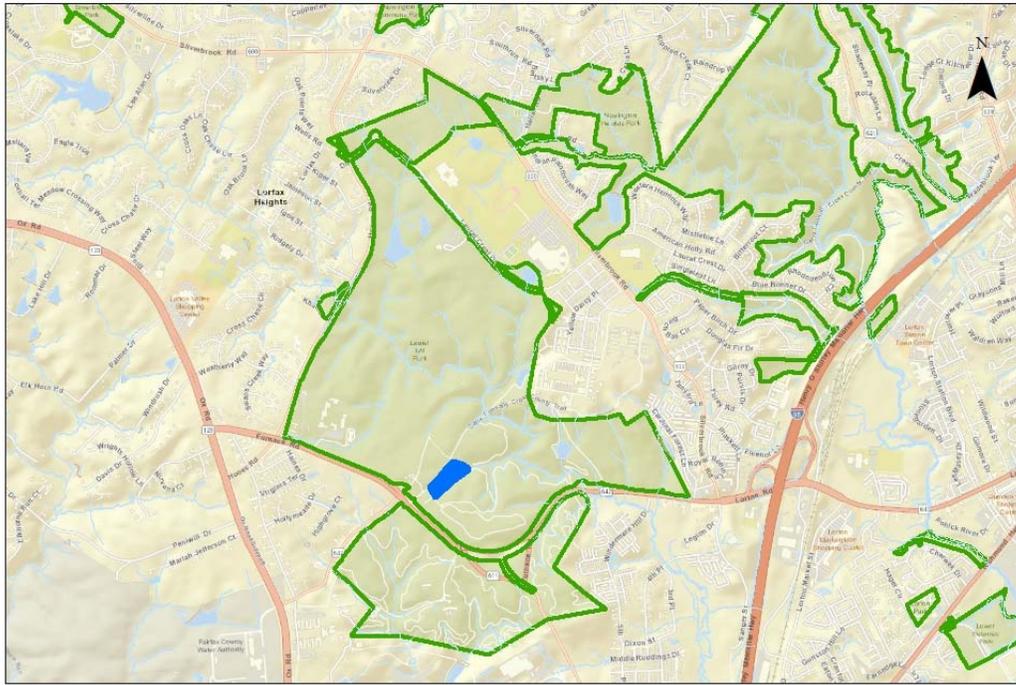


**Legend**  
■ Laurel Hill

### Laurel Hill Park Proposed Ecosystem Restoration



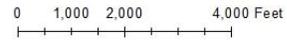
### Park Map



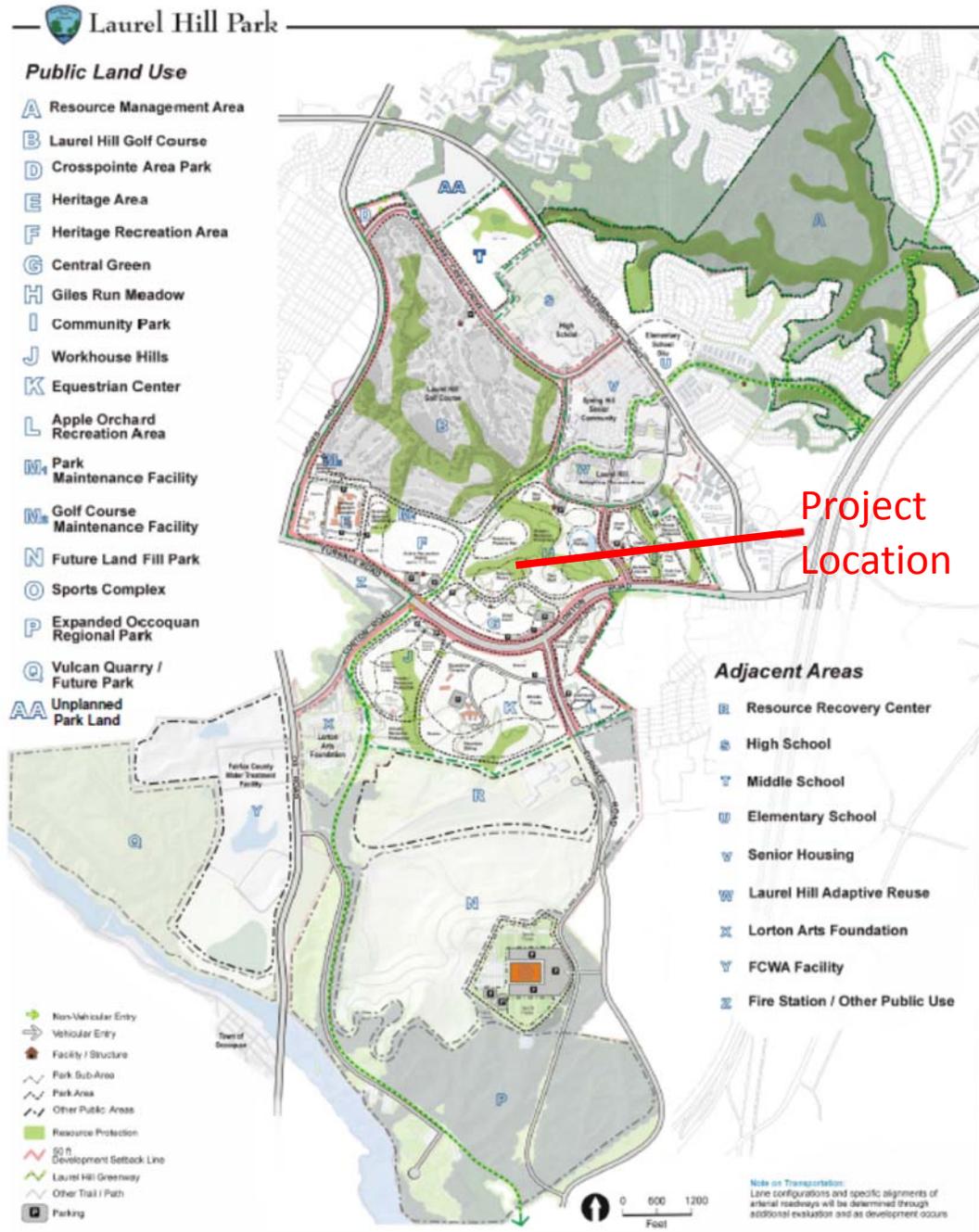
**Legend**

- Restoration Project Area
- FCPA Parks

### Laurel Hill Park Proposed Ecosystem Restoration



# Conceptual Development Plan Map



**Project Location**

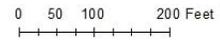
### Project Site Map



**Legend**

-  Restoration Project Area
-  FCPA Trails

### Laurel Hill Park Proposed Ecosystem Restoration



**Laurel Hill Forest Restoration**  
**Existing and Desired Conditions**

Existing Condition – Kudzu preventing growth of trees, advancing into adjacent forest and stream valley



Desired Condition – Piedmont Acidic Oak Hickory Forest (CEGL 008475)





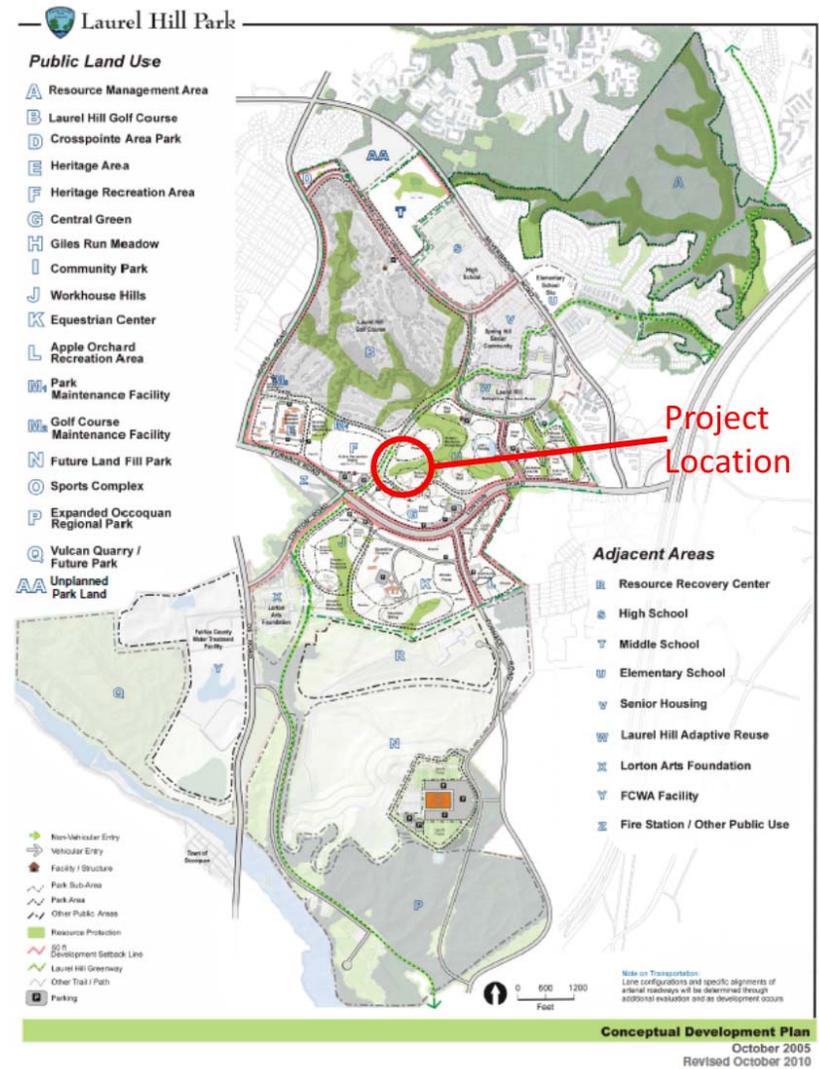
# Forest Restoration Laurel Hill Park

Resource Management Committee Meeting

April 10, 2019

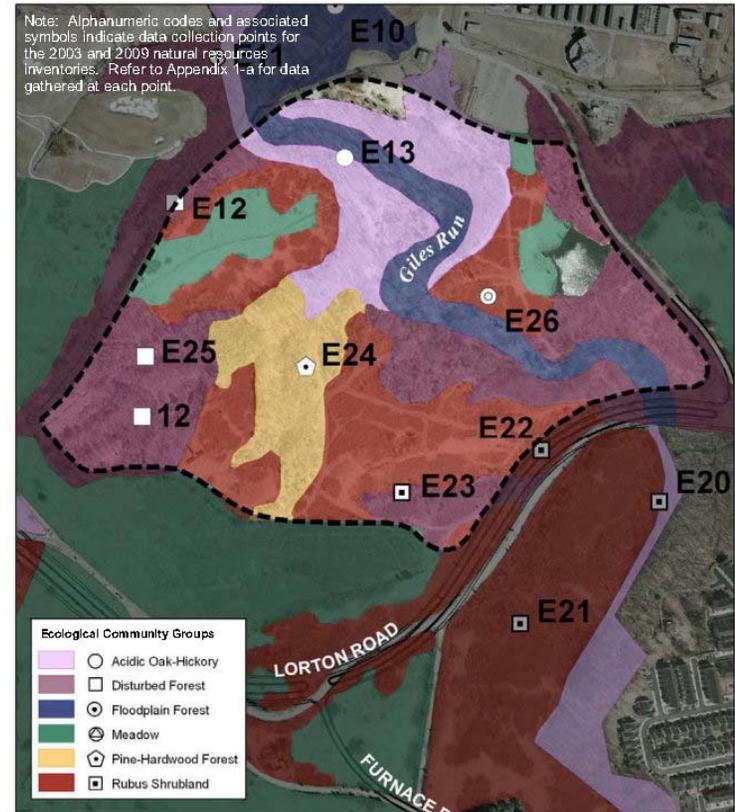
# Background

- Laurel Hill Park Master Plan
  - Woods/Resource Protection Zone



# Background

- Laurel Hill Park Natural Resource Management Plan
  - Management Area H – Disturbed Forest



Management Area H: Ecological Community Groups

Laurel Hill  
Natural Resources Management Plan  
Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, P.C.  
in association with Environmental Systems Analysis, Inc.



Figure 73: Map of ecological community groups found in Management Area H



# Forest Restoration

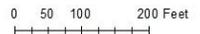
- Laurel Hill Park Natural Resource Management Plan
  - Approximately 5 acres.
  - Works towards 4 Recommended Actions.
  - Complies with applicable planning documents.



**Legend**

- Restoration Project Area
- - - FCPA Trails

**Laurel Hill Park**  
**Proposed Ecosystem Restoration**



# Existing and Desired Conditions

**Existing Condition**



**Desired Condition**



# HOW WE TREAT THE LAND HAS LASTING IMPACTS



Questions ?

