

Franconia Park Master Plan Revision Process Update Meeting

Held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 29, 2017 in the Franconia Government Center

Meeting Summary

A Public Meeting was held to update the public on the progress of the Franconia Park Master Plan Revision. Introductions were made by Gayle Hooper, Park Planning Supervisor for Fairfax County Park Authority, followed by opening remarks by Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay.

Gayle Hooper provided a brief background on the Park Authority including the Park Authority mission, fast facts, Park Authority Board structure, the master plan process, and the project timeline. Andy Galusha, project manager for the Franconia Park Master Plan Revision, provided a brief history of the site, current site conditions, surrounding context, an overview of the 1974 master plan and the proposed draft master plan.

Following the presentation, Supervisor McKay moderated an open public discussion for the approximately 28 attendees. The following is a summary of the comments shared regarding the parks existing conditions and the proposed master plan revision:

Notes for Q & A:

- Question #1:
 - Questions were raised regarding crime rate down;
 - Concerned about speeding and no stop at the stop signs;
 - Concerned about safety issues in general.

- Question #2:
 - Concerned about safety issues to be addressed.

- Question #3:
 - Concerned about traffic through;
 - Entrances from Franconia Road bring extra people to the park;

Answer by Supervisor McKay:

 - Traffic congestions are everywhere and Park MP wouldn't resolve the problem;
 - Out dated MP needs update;
 - Suggested going through VDOT programs for traffic concerns;
 - Traffic issues were also address through the school system, to add a new school somewhere else rather than bring in more students to an existing school to add traffic;
 - New MP would bring in new restrooms, parking, landscaping, and is manageable.

- Question #4:
 - Suggested to put on monitoring cams for no-stop at stop sign;

Answers by Supervisor McKay:

- VA only allow red-light cams, but no cams for speeding and stop signs.
- Question #5:
 - Concerned that the park usage by sports leagues;
 - Lights off late and car roaming at late night.Answer by Andy:
 - Problem not related to sports league, and found to be caused by random people.Answer by Dave:
 - Lights has remote control to be turn completely off by 11pm.
- Question #6:
 - Asked for a copy of PPT.
- Question #7:
 - Soccer league play 5-8pm;
 - Other group use the field right after games.
- Question #8
 - Concerned about DC and Maryland cars come into the area and use the park.Answer:
 - Balance revenue by field reservation <-> community use.
- Question #9
 - Suggested field monitor;
 - Suggested to register to use the facilities.
- Question #10
 - Presented full can of beer bottle caps;
 - Handicap space too far;
 - Drug in public;
 - Grass too tall near turf field;
 - Suggest to manage handle what's there nowAnswer:
 - More parking in new MP, including ADA.
- Question #11
 - Concerned about current Safety, Sanitation, Traffic, and Parking;
 - Concerned about further impact by the new MP.Answer
 - Phasing of the MP
 - New MP would provide sufficient parking for activities generated;
 - Infrastructure first;

- Question #12
 - Priorities
 - Answer:
 - Phasing not be too prescriptive
 - Answer:
 - There will be written document included in the MP, with “Design Considerations”.

- Question #13
 - Concerned about the traffic issues.

- Question #14
 - Concerned about targeting the current issues.

- Question #15
 - Complained about things doesn't happen all the time.
 - Answer:
 - Not true, always respond.

- Question #16
 - Suggested to lower speed limit.