



Planned Parks and Recreation in Reston

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Tonight's Objectives

1. Review Comp Plan goals
2. Explain policy guidance
3. Update on progress
4. Discussion



W&OD Bridge, Reston, VA
SOURCE: Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan

Parks Support Quality of Life



Fairfax County Strategic Plan – 9 Priority Areas:

- ✓ **Cultural & Recreational Opportunities**
 - Economic Opportunity
 - Education & Lifelong Learning
 - Effective & Efficient Government
- ✓ **Health & Environment**
- ✓ **Housing & Neighborhood Livability**
- ✓ **Mobility & Transportation**
 - Safety & Security
 - Self-sufficiency for Vulnerable Populations



FCPA file photo

Reston is Rich in Parks & Open Spaces...

- FCPA - 1,000 acres
- NOVA Parks - 52 acres
- RA - 451 acres
- Golf Courses - 328 acres

*acreages are approximate



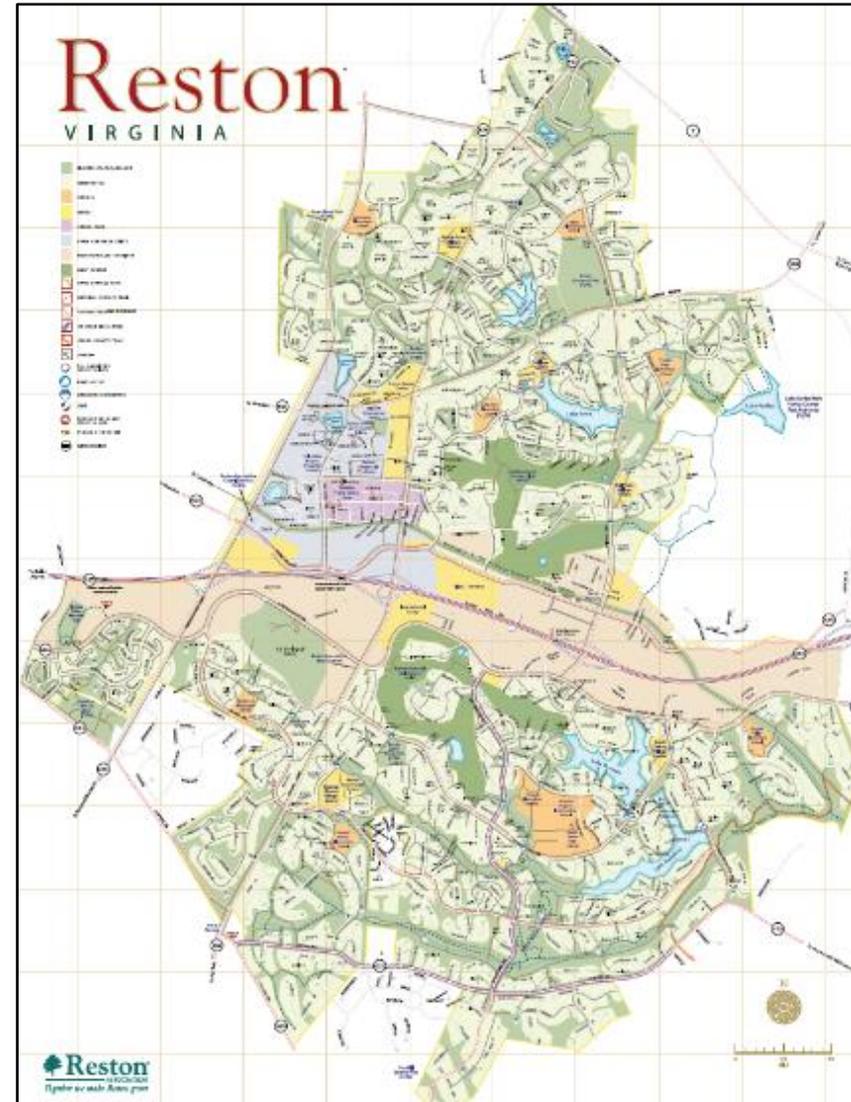
On this page: FCPA file photos

...with a Variety of Park & Recreation Providers

- Reston Association
- Fairfax County Park Authority
- Reston Community Center
- NOVA Parks (W&OD Trail)
- YMCA
- Private Golf Courses
- Private Developers



FCPA file photo



SOURCE: Reston Association

The Plan for parks in Reston was created through extensive community involvement

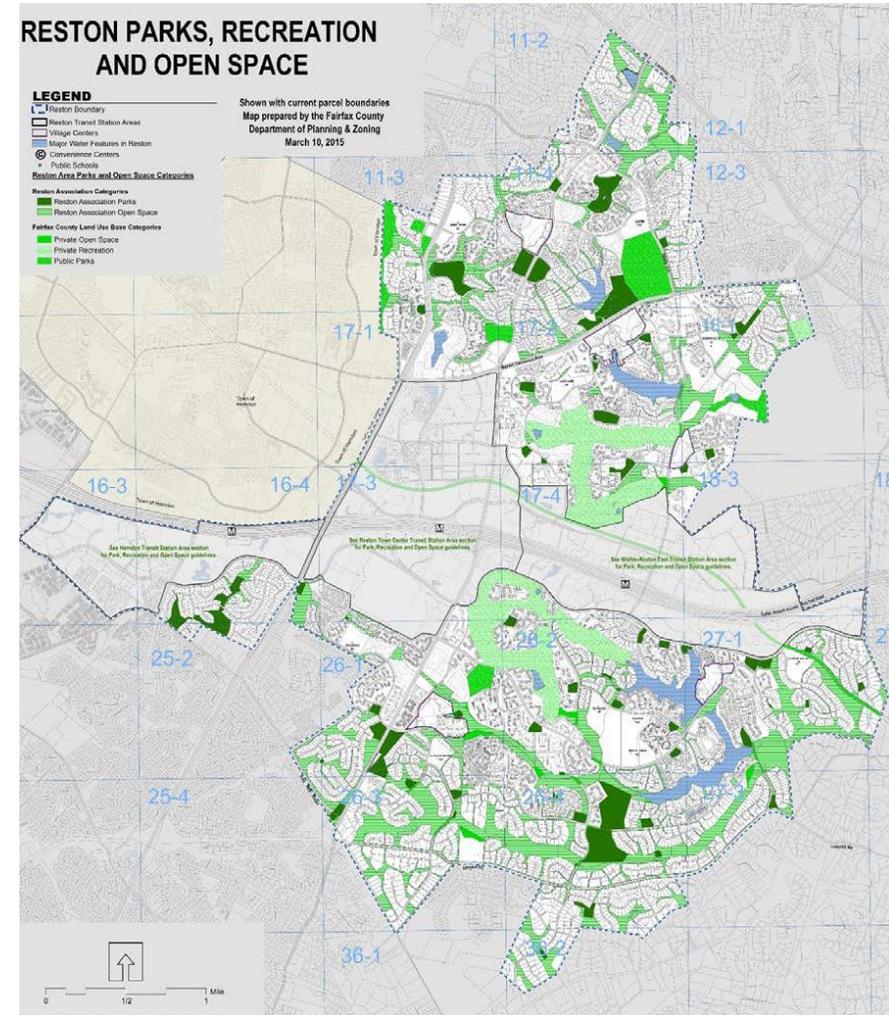
- Phase I (TSA areas) adopted Feb. 2014
- Phase II (remainder) adopted Jun. 2015



SOURCE: Fairfax County Department of Planning & Development

Comp Plan Vision for Reston includes Parks

- TSAs
 - Pocket parks, Civic Plazas, Common Greens, etc.
 - One athletic field per each of the three TSAs
- Village Centers
 - Plazas & gathering spaces
- Suburban Reston
 - Neighborhood parks
 - Recreational facilities
 - Natural areas
 - Golf courses
 - Trails



SOURCE: Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan

Core Needs of Reston's Park System

As identified by the Task Force and included in the Comprehensive Plan

Outdoor recreation:

- Trails
- Local parkland
- Playgrounds
- Sport courts
- Athletic fields
- Dog exercise areas



FCPA file photo

Core Needs* of Reston's Park System, continued...

Indoor facilities:

- Recreation/Aquatics Center
- Indoor Tennis Bubble
- Performing Arts Center



FCPA file photo

Other elements:

- Memorial Garden of Reflection
- Public Art



SOURCE: Wikimedia Commons

*As identified by the Task Force and included in the Comprehensive Plan

Urban Parks Envisioned in the TSA Corridor

Urban park typology includes a variety of space types:

- Pocket parks
- Civic Plazas
- Common Greens
- Recreation-focused
- Linear parks



SOURCE: JBG/EYA – Midline



SOURCE: Wikimedia Commons



SOURCE: Wikimedia Commons

What defines an Urban Park in Fairfax County?

YES

- Publicly accessible
- Visible from the public realm
- Pedestrian-oriented
- Comfortable space to be in
- A place to linger
- A place for socializing
- A place to DO Something
(exercise, play, be entertained)

NO

- For private use only
- Hard to find and access
- Shared space with vehicles
- Uncomfortable
- Feels unsafe
- Sidewalk/streetscape
- Landscaped parking lot island
- Leftover open space



Public-Private Partnerships

Urban parkland standards as a guide:

- 1.5 acres per 1,000 residents
- 1 acre per 10,000 employees

Most new parks in the TSA will be:

- Privately owned
- Privately maintained
- Open w/public access easements



SOURCE: Wikimedia Commons

Athletic Field Guidance for the TSA

- 12 athletic fields needed
- 1 new field per 2.2 m sq. ft. GFA
- 1 new field in each of the 3 TSAs
- Some new field capacity can be accomplished through upgrades* to existing fields outside the TSA:
 - Baron Cameron Park
 - Lake Fairfax Park
 - Other public fields

*additional playing time is gained through upgrades to synthetic turf and lights



Athletic field ribbon cutting
SOURCE: FCPA file photo

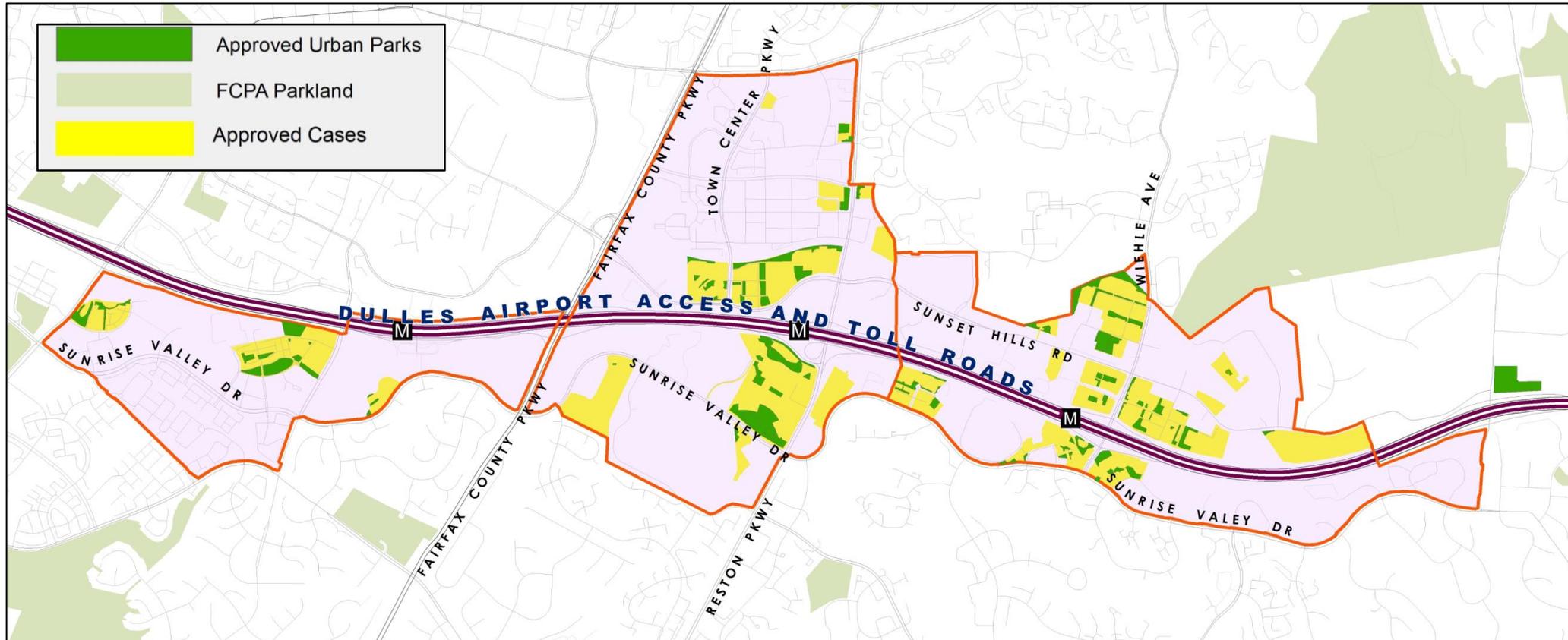
Park Plan Implementation Progress

- 6+ years since Plan adoption
- 30+ rezonings approved
- Proffer commitments:
 - ~50 park acres
 - 1 field & \$25+ million
 - 7-acre land dedication
- 2 new Athletic Fields to be owned by Fairfax County
- Parks completed:
 - Metro Plaza @ Wiehle
 - Several pocket parks



Proffered Parks in the TSA

About 50 acres of new parks proffered since 2014



Reston Approved Urban Parks

July 2020



The background features a sunburst pattern of light gray rays emanating from the top center, set against a white background. At the bottom of the image, there is a horizontal strip of vibrant green grass.

Development Plan Approvals

Reston Crescent (Halley Rise)

- 5 acres of onsite urban parks
 - Plazas, gathering places
 - Dog park, nature playground, outdoor fitness, swings
 - pocket parks
- Land for 1 new full-size field (off-site)



SOURCE: Reston Crescent/Halley Rise



JBG/EYA (Midline)

- 3 acres of onsite urban parks
 - Playground
 - Multi-purpose lawn
 - Sport courts & game tables
 - Water features
 - Seating areas



SOURCE: JBG/EYA – Midline



Isaac Newton Square

- 7 acres of onsite urban parks
 - Trails
 - Dog park
 - Sport courts
 - Playgrounds/tot lots
 - Willow oaks tree preservation
 - Urban plaza
 - Athletic Field

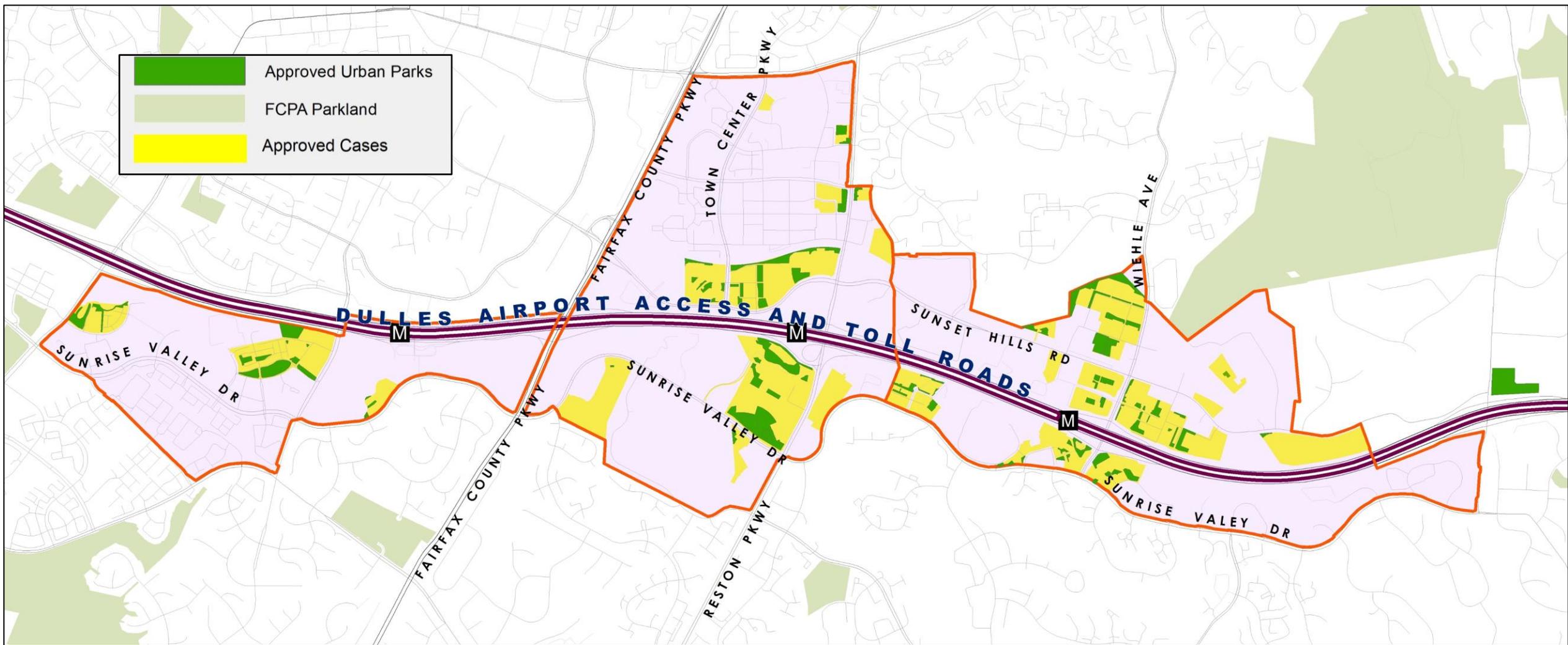


SOURCE: Isaac Newton Square



The background features a white sky with faint, light gray sun rays emanating from the top center. At the bottom, there is a horizontal strip of vibrant green grass.

Discussion



Reston Approved Urban Parks

July 2020



REFERENCES

Reston Comprehensive Plan

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development/sites/planning-development/files/assets/compplan/area3/reston.pdf>

Policy Plan, Parks & Recreation Element (Urban Parks Framework)

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development/sites/planning-development/files/assets/compplan/policy/parksrec.pdf>

