



Planned Parks and Recreation in Reston

September 30, 2020

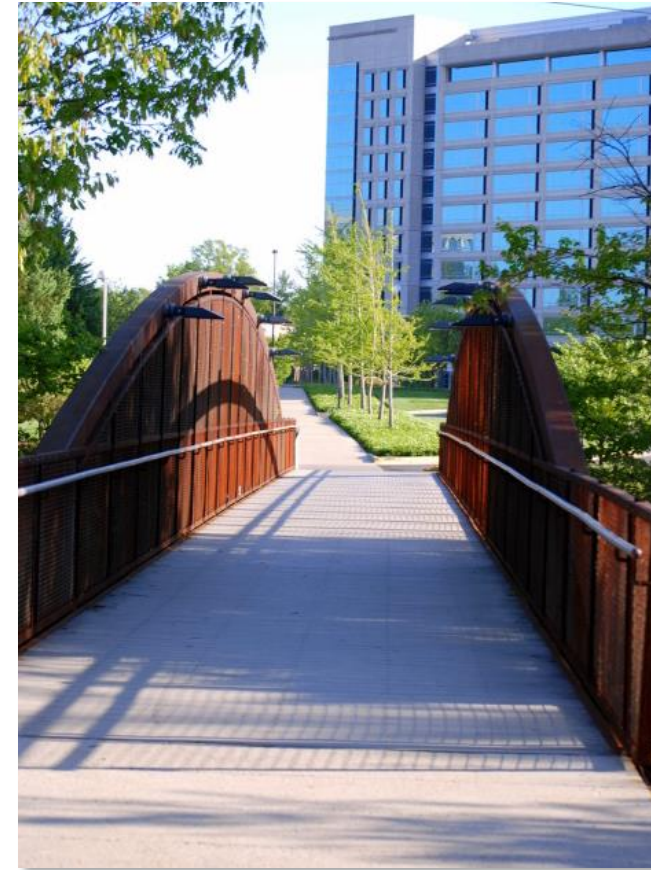


Fairfax County Park Authority
Andrea Dorlester, Development Review Section Chief
Anna Bentley, Park Planning Manager



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



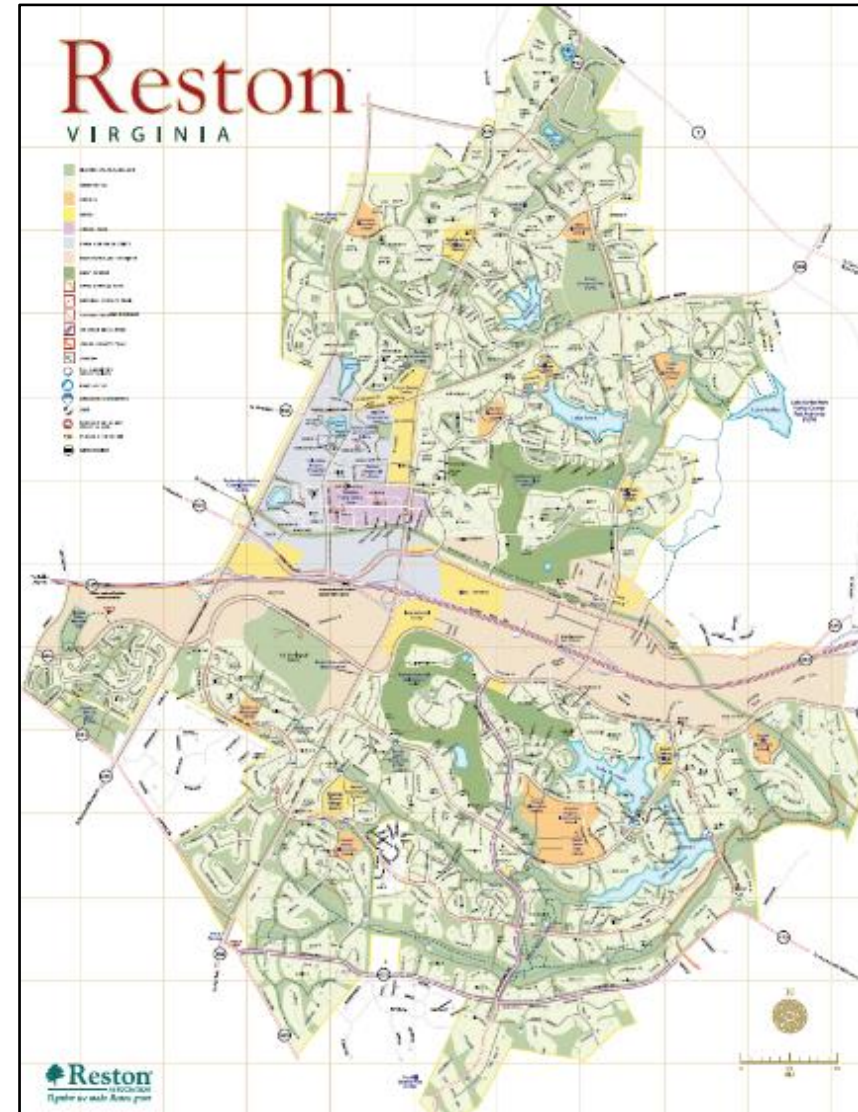
On this page: FCPA file photos

...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

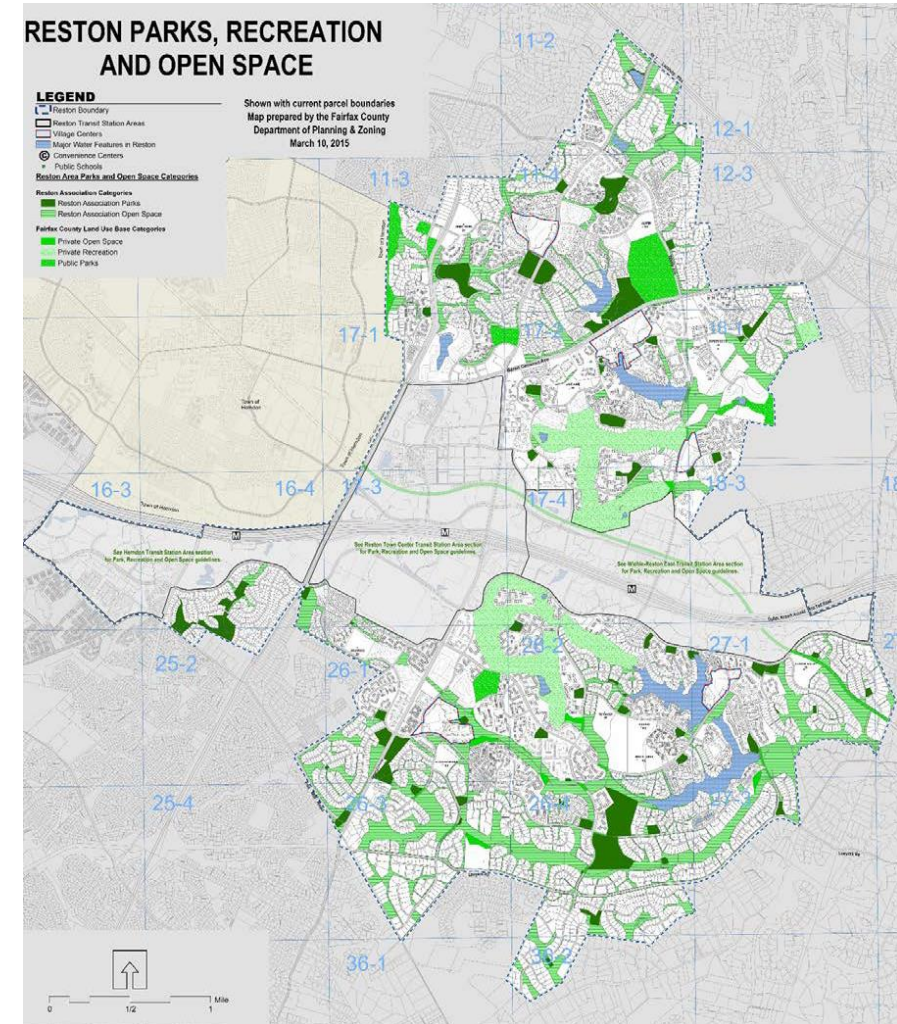
- Phase I (TSA areas) adopted Feb. 2014
- Phase II (remainder) adopted Jun. 2015



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

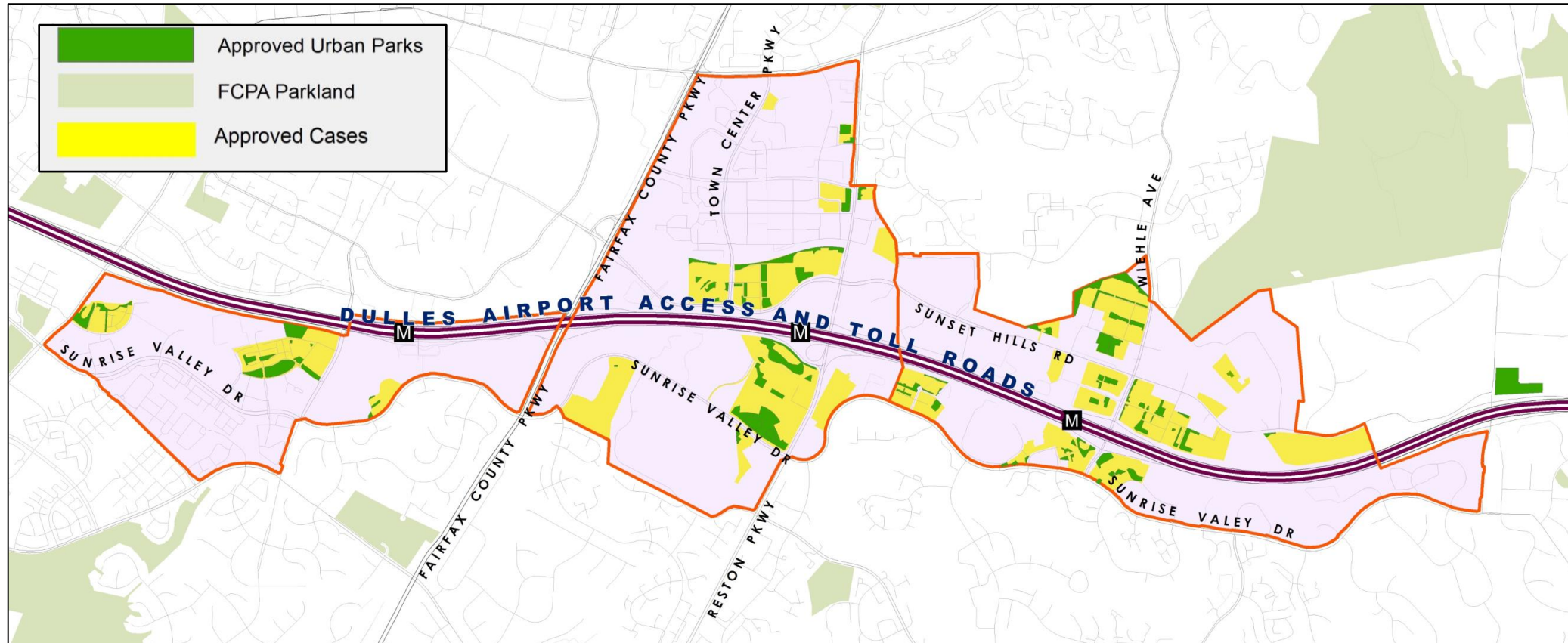
Park Plan Implementation Progress

- 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

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

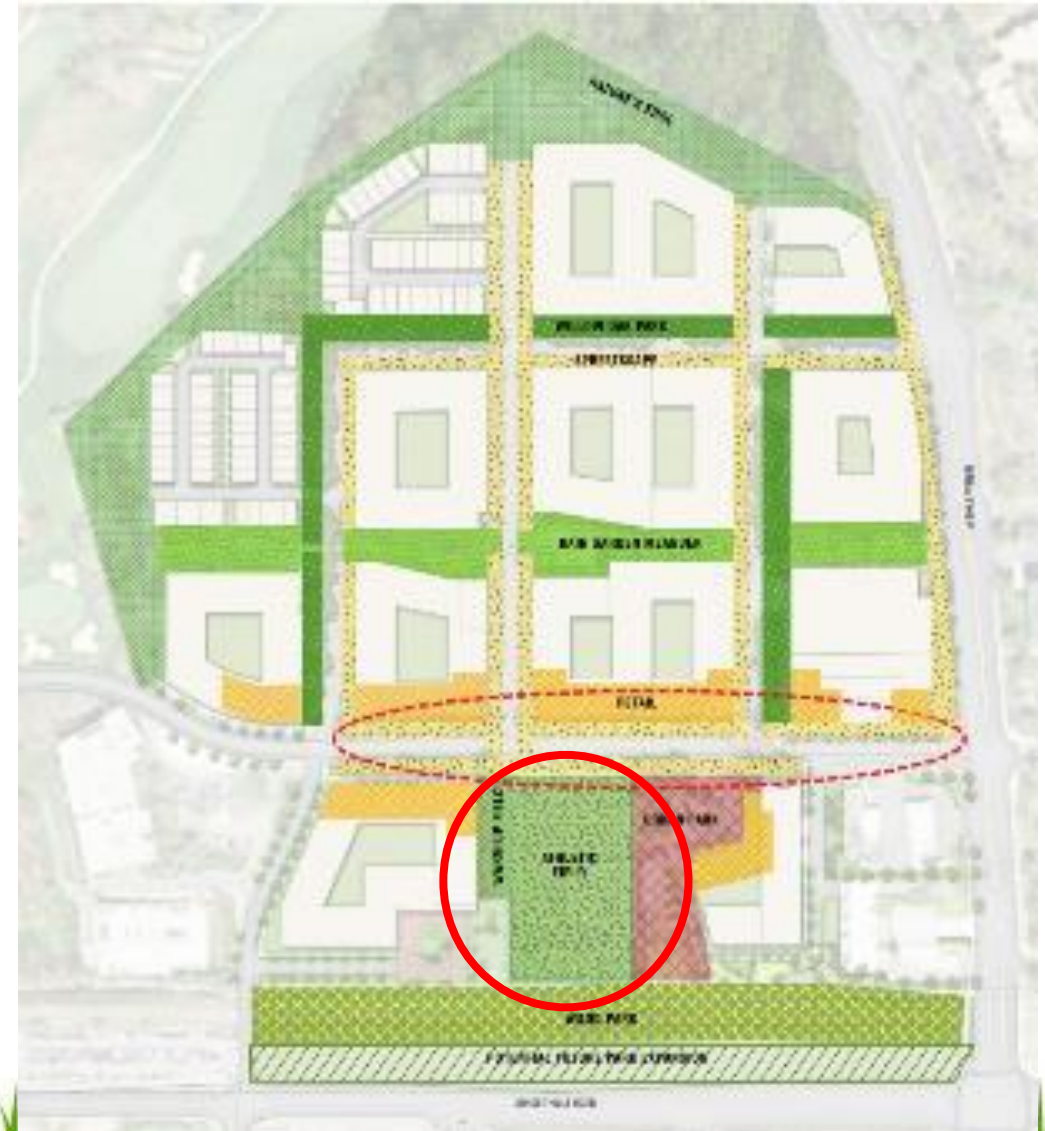


Isaac Newton Square

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



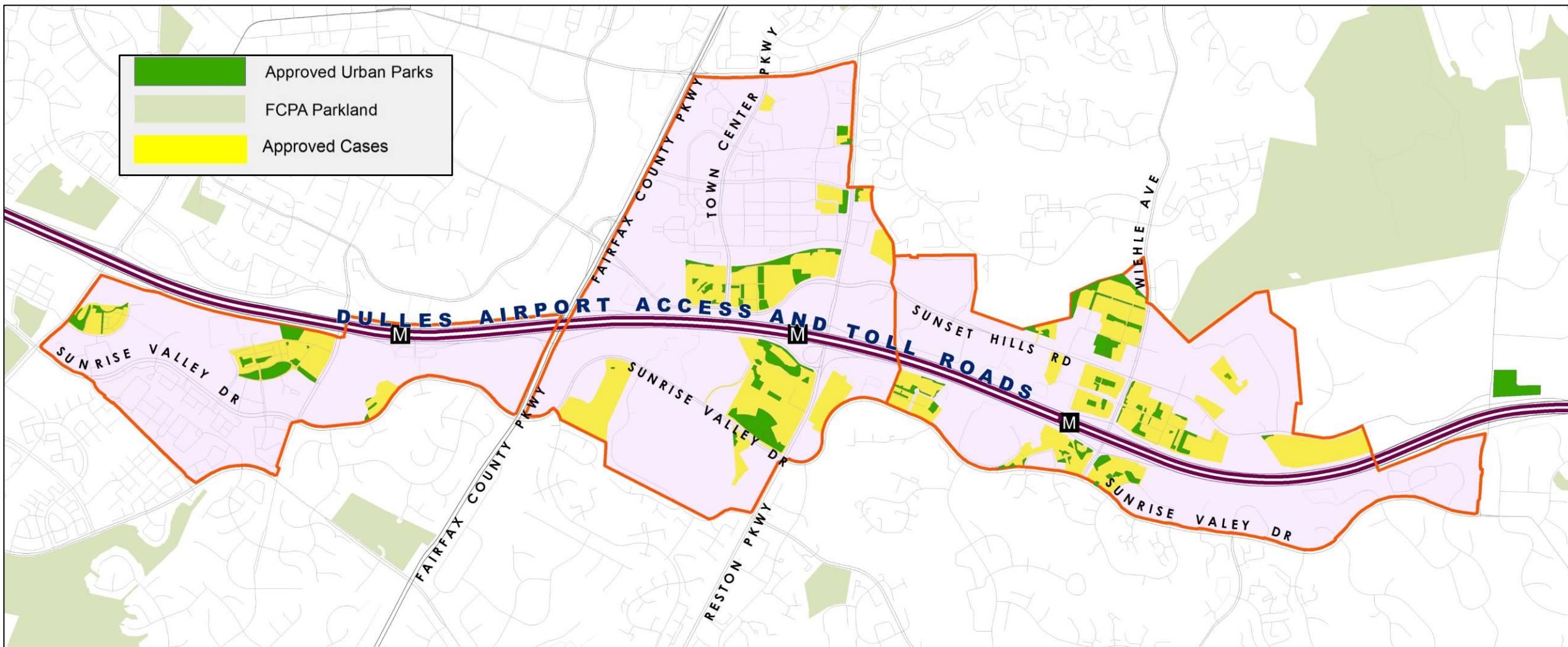
SOURCE: Isaac Newton Square



A series of light gray, semi-transparent rays emanate from the top center of the slide, fanning out towards the edges. The rays are of varying lengths and thicknesses, creating a subtle sunburst effect.

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>

