

Draft Policy Plan Amendment Text—Natural Landscaping—Public Facilities
Possible Revisions for Internal Staff Consideration
(Edits reflect changes to the November 20, 2018 BOS authorization handout draft)

ADD: Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, 2017 Edition, Policy Plan, Public Facilities, as amended through July 25, 2017, page 4:

Objective 6: Design, retrofit and maintain public facilities and sites in an environmentally-sensitive manner.

Policy a. Apply, within the design of public facilities and their associated sites, and in consideration of ~~the factors including costs, health, safety/security, and the~~ broader context of facility and site needs (e.g., recreational uses), low impact development (LID) practices and natural landscaping methods where feasible to minimize resource consumption, reduce stormwater runoff, ~~—and—~~ decrease life-cycle maintenance requirements, ~~increase the habitat value of each site, and increase soil and plant health.~~

Policy b. ~~Where opportunities arise in consideration of the factors identified in Policy a above, Consider~~ retrofitting and maintaining existing facilities and sites with natural landscaping and LID methods/practices.

Policy c. Ensure that natural landscaping and LID practices are monitored and maintained such that they will remain viable over time.

Policy d. Apply green building practices within the design of public facilities.

ADD: Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, 2017 Edition, Policy Plan, Glossary, as amended through March 20, 2018, page 11:

NATURAL LANDSCAPING: A landscaping approach through which the aesthetic and ecological functions of landscapes installed in the built environment ~~can be are~~ improved, and through which natural areas ~~can be are~~ restored; by preserving and recreating land and water features and native plant communities. Sustainable landscapes are formed ~~which by~~ protecting and restoring natural ecosystem components; ~~maximizeing~~ the use of native plants; ~~removeing~~ invasive plant species; ~~reducing areas of unnecessary turf grass; reduceing or eliminatunge and chemical synthetic inputs; improveprotecting, createing, and maintaining healthy soils; and retaining rainstorm~~water on-site. In natural areas, only locally native plant species are used to provide the greatest possible ecological benefits. In built landscapes, most of the plant cover ~~should is be~~ composed of native plant species that support wildlife and improve environmental conditions, although non-invasive non-native ~~exotic~~ plants may be ~~selectively~~ used where appropriate.