Park and Open Spaces for the White Flint 2 Sector Plan

Rachel Newhouse
Montgomery County Department of Parks
Community Meeting
December 9, 2015
M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks Mission:

“Protect and interpret our valuable natural and cultural resources; balance the demand for recreation with the need for conservation; offer a variety of enjoyable recreational activities that encourage healthy lifestyles; and provide clean, safe, and accessible places for leisure-time activities.”

“Manage the county park system so it best meets the needs of current and future generations”

“Offer a range of leisure activities that strengthen the body, sharpen the mind, and renew the spirit”
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Methodology

Vision 2030 Strategic Plan
- Shows where in the County we need more park and recreation facilities and services
- Sets priorities for programs, park operations, marketing, management, and park planning and development

Park Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan
- Estimates how many and what type of recreation facilities are needed for the next 10 years
- Recommends how to deliver the facilities to meet the needs
- Provides basis for recommendations in each master plan area
- Recommends land acquisition priorities
- Recommends priorities for preserving natural and historic/cultural resources, and agricultural lands

Together, these two documents
- Will help us to set clear priorities for acquisition and development
- Guide input to park and area master plans, and the CIP
How does the PROS Plan guide our other plans?

Service Delivery Strategies for Countywide Plans

- Countywide Park Trails Plan
- Site Selection Studies for Needed Facilities

Park Recommendations in Community Master/Sector Plans

- Urban Park Plans, Guidelines, and Standards
- Master Plans for Individual Parks and Trail Corridors
- Regulatory Review – Developer provided Parks and Public Use Space
- Repurposing and Renovation Studies
- Programs of Requirement to guide Facility Plans
- CIP Prioritization
- Recreation Facility Development Plan, 2010-2030
Needs Estimated by Geographic Areas

**Countywide Needs**
- Recreation / Aquatic Centers
- Trails
- Natural Areas
- Dog Parks
- Picnic Shelters / Group Picnic Areas
- Cultural Resources
- Ice Rinks
- Skate Parks
- Volleyball Courts
- Cricket Fields
- Civic Greens
- Community Open Space
- Urban Wooded Areas

**Athletic Field Area Needs**
- Adult Rectangular Fields
- Youth Rectangular Fields
- Baseball Fields
- Adult Softball Diamonds
- Youth Softball Diamonds

**Planning Area Needs**
- Playgrounds
- Basketball Courts
- Tennis Courts
Long Range Park Planning Considerations

- What are the existing conditions?
- What do residents like to do outdoors?
- What do residents want to do outdoors now that they can’t (not enough land, need more facilities, etc.)?
- Where is the civic center of a community? Is there more than one?
- What opportunities will be available as part of future land redevelopment?
- What should be the ultimate overall pattern of parkland and open space?
Urban Park Pattern and Role (Hierarchy)

Each area master plan should include a system & hierarchy of open spaces based on the roles of each type of open space

- **For Sector Plan Areas:**
  - **Active recreation destinations** located within or near the plan area, including courts, playgrounds, and lawn areas large enough for pick up soccer, festivals or events, etc.
  - a **central “civic green”** urban park (see Chapter 3), ranging in size from ½ to 2 acres, depending on projected densities, located in close proximity to a public transit hub, next to activating uses, with a mixture of hard and soft surfaces including a central lawn area for events
  - an **interconnected system** of sidewalks and trails to connect parks and open spaces
  - **wooded areas** that will provide a sense of contact with nature

- **For each Urban Neighborhood:** a neighborhood green, urban buffer park, or community use recreational park
- **For each Block:** an urban square, plaza, or green area
- **For each Building:** outdoor recreation space
- **For each Residence:** private outdoor space
Public and Private Sector Roles in Open Space Systems

- **Area Master Plan**
  - **Public Ownership: Parks**
  - **Private Ownership: Public Use Space**

**PROS**
- Urban Park Guidelines:
  - Pattern & Role
  - Ownership
  - Design elements
  - Programming
  - Operations

**Facility Plan**

**Site Plan**
- **Zoning Requirements**:
  - Public Use Space
  - Public Amenities
- **Recreation Guidelines**

**Open Space System**
## White Flint Open Space Hierarchy

### PUBLICLY OWNED

- **For Everyone**
  - **Wall Park**
    - swimming sports, recreation, and fitness activities
  - **White Flint Neighborhood Park Expansion**
    - rectangular field space for multiple sports

- **For the Sector Plan Area**
  - A central civic green
    - gathering, ceremonies, and celebrations

### PRIVATELY OWNED

- **For Each Neighborhood**
  - A neighborhood green
    - meeting place and landmark

- **For Each Block**
  - An urban plaza
    - at each cluster of offices, residences, and shops provide plazas, pocket parks, green streets

- **For Each Building**
  - Private recreation space
    - public use space, community garden, green roof
Preliminary park planning issues in White Flint 2
New Open Spaces in the White Flint Area

Village Green at LCOR
New Open Spaces in the White Flint Area

Pike and Rose
New Open Spaces in the White Flint Area

NoBe
New Open Spaces in the White Flint Area

Public Use Space - Rose Park
What we have heard about parks and open spaces you want:

- Increase amenities, including retail and restaurants.
- Central node along Executive Boulevard to enliven.
- Green space next to Rocking Horse Road Center could be a park.
- Redevelop Randolph Hills Shopping Center
- MCPS property transition to parkland, which is adjacent to Rocking Horse Road.
- Need more amenities for corporate employees
- Connections to Luxmanor Park – PROS and CONS
- Parkland is desirable on Executive Blvd.
- Montrose Crossing needs a community center/ park space
- Montrose school is an urban desert. Community park? Center?
- Randolph Hills Shopping Center needs more green space.
- R.H. Shopping Center is good for indoor recreational uses.
- Area needs more community facilities, most notably parks.
- Plan for parks and green space. “Grass and trees, not bricks and benches.”
- 55+ active adult communities (suggestion for new development)
- Open Space: More open spaces that include softer areas and trees.
Park and Green Space Opportunities
Park and Green Space Opportunities

Possible Central Civic Green at Montrose Crossing
**Urban Park Classification**

**Category: Countywide Urban Park**

- **Civic Green**
  - Located in the center of high density development, providing a green outdoor “living room” for residents, employees and visitors
  - Serves people from other parts of the county and capital region
  - Formally planned, flexible, programmable open spaces for informal gathering, quiet contemplation, or large special event gatherings
  - May support open air markets, concerts, festivals, and special events
  - Not often used for programmed recreational purposes
  - A central lawn is often the main focus with adjacent spaces providing complementary uses
  - May include gardens, water features and shade structures.
  - Minimum size: ½ acre
  - Examples in Adopted Plans: White Flint, Wheaton, Great Seneca Science Corridor, Takoma Langley
Park and Green Space Opportunities

Possible Urban Greenway Park along Montrose Bikeway
Urban Park Classification

Category: Countywide Urban Park

- Urban Greenway
  - Linear parks that provide trails or wide landscaped walkways and bikeways and may include other recreational and natural amenities
  - May occur along road rights of way or “paper” streets
  - Include space for vegetative ground cover and trees
  - Link other green spaces, trails and natural systems
  - Examples: Existing - Glenmont
Park and Green Space Opportunities

Possible Neighborhood Green Urban Park
Urban Park Classification

Category: Community Use Urban Park

- Neighborhood Green
  - Serves residents and workers from the surrounding neighborhood or district, but may be designed for more activity than an urban buffer park
  - Formally planned, flexible open spaces for informal gathering, lunchtime relaxation, or small special event gatherings
  - Typically contain lawn area, shaded seating and may include a play area, a skate spot, a community garden, or similar neighborhood facilities
  - Minimum size is ¼ acre
  - Examples: Existing – Royce Hanson, Wheaton Veterans. Adopted – White Flint, Takoma Langley, Great Seneca, etc.
Park and Green Space Opportunities

Possible green pockets along an Urban Greenway
Park and Green Space Opportunities

Possible Neighborhood Green Urban Park at the Loehmann's Plaza
Park and Green Space Opportunities

Possible Urban Recreational Park at Rocking Horse
Urban Park Classification

Category: Countywide Urban Park

- Urban Recreational Park
  - Oriented to the recreational needs of a densely populated neighborhood and business district
  - Space for many activities and may include athletic fields, playing courts, picnicking, dog parks, sitting areas and flexible grassy open space
  - Programming can include farmer’s markets, outdoor exercise classes, and community yard sales
  - Safe drop-off area and nearby accessible parking
  - Master/Sector Plan Examples: Adopted - White Flint, Proposed – White Oak Science Gateway
Park and Green Space Opportunities

Possible Urban Recreational Park at Randolph Hills Shopping Center
What we have heard about connections you want..
What we have heard about connections you want..
Trail Linkage Opportunities
Open flexible lawns for different types of play....
Parks and Open Space Opportunities

Shaded gathering areas for lunch time seating and picnicking
Parks and Open Space Opportunities

Shaded areas for play near retail centers
Recreational amenities along linear open spaces for active aging adults....
Parks and Open Space Opportunities

Unique play amenities.....
Wall Park Today

- 11.9 acres
- 261 parking spaces
- Existing Swim Center is 44,000 + square feet
- Existing forest along Old Georgetown Road to remain
Interim Park

Future Mixed-use Residential/Retail Development

Future White Flint Community Recreation and Aquatics Center

Existing Kennedy Shriver Aquatics Center

Future Open Space
Surface parking to be removed and relocated to the new garage behind the swim center
Future Concept

- New streets and realignments with better block configuration
- New shared garage allows for +/- 990 total spaces. 400 spaces allocated to Wall Park and KSAC
- New community Open Spaces
- Location of new recreation center and expansion to KSAC
- New shared access via internal lanes increases links and walkability
Visions for future Wall Park
Visions for future Wall Park
Activity for Tonight

Think about the types of green spaces and parks you would like to see in White Flint 2

- Vote for your top 4 features
- Add some suggestions to the list

What do you want to see outdoors in White Flint 2?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A place with <strong>grass</strong> and <strong>trees</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A place for my <strong>dog</strong> to run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A place to <strong>meditate</strong> and connect with <strong>nature</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A place to <strong>skateboard</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A place to <strong>run</strong> or <strong>bike</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A place to bounce, kick or throw a <strong>ball</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A place for friends to <strong>gather</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A place for big <strong>events</strong> like concerts or movies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other ideas</strong> - please list</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you

Rachel Newhouse, Park Planner and Landscape Architect
Rachel.Newhouse@montgomeryparks.org | 301.650.4368

ParkPlanning.org