Ewald Park

History and Character

Ewald Park is a 3.88 acres park acquired in 1965. There are no known or documented historical sites within the park though there is a good possibility Native Americans used the area for seasonal settlements and/or hunting camps given its proximity to Holmes Run.



Today the park features a playground,

basketball court, swimming pool (closed), and open field. It previously held tennis courts, though they were removed in the early 2000's. The former tennis area, pool and playground sit high on a hill and are not well seen from the Duke Street. The topography and hidden areas of the park have contributed to on-going safety concerns in the park, as frequently noted by the Alexandria Police Department.





Ewald Pool (image left) opened in 1969 and closed in 2012 due to low cost recovery and financial constraints. Prior to its closure the pool was lightly used and lacked good accessibility and visibility, despite it being the only pool on the west side of the City.

The playground (image left) is hidden behind the pool house and has very infrequent use by children. The equipment is outdated and is inaccessible to people with disabilities.



The field is heavily used for pick-up soccer. The City and its affiliates do not program the field, rather it is a site that players know to go to for unscheduled recreation. The field (image left) is in poor condition due to its heavy use and lack of proper irrigation

and drainage.

As reported in the Alexandria Times on January 24, 2014, Ewald's basketball court is one of the best known in the Washington D.C. area for street ball. Throughout the year, players both young and old show up to play, watch and learn. As the article states:

"The best-known place for street ball in the D.C. area is the Barry Farms neighborhood in southeast Washington, which has an organized summer league and often attracts NBA and college talent. But street ball takes place on courts in neighborhoods across the United States. The Ewald Park court, where the city installed new lights last year, can hold its own against most places, players say. 'We get guys from colleges coming here, players come from Maryland all the time,' said Tavon Singletary, 21, who along with Walton graduated from T.C. Williams in 2011. "Barry Farms is big, but we get some recognition out here." (McElhatton, "Playing Outside the Lines" Alexandria Times, January 24, 2014).



The Alexandria West Rotary (AWR) recently adopted the Park and in Spring 2015 they held a volunteer day to shovel mulch, paint fences, and plant shrubs (shown below). In the past year, the Wakefield-Tarleton Neighborhood Association has also held clean-up days, in collaboration with the Alexandria Police Department. Over the years many other individuals and community groups have donated time and resources to spruce up the park, particularly around the park entrance.

Existing Conditions



Community Feedback

In Fall 2014, staff collected community feedback to understand how the Park is used and how it could be improved in the future. The following information summarizes what we heard through an online survey, community workshop, and "graffiti board" in the park. Over 270 people responded to the survey in total, seventeen of which were specific to Ewald Park. Staff used the collected information to develop draft park plans.

In 10 years I would like this Park to...

(Top 3 rankings shown; based on a weighted score)

What would you like done with the basketball court?

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	8	53%
Enhance it	5	33%
Transform it	2	13%
Explain		

Add multi-sport component to the basketball court for futsal, hockey, and other sports

Appreciate the energy efficient night lighting

FUTSAL COURT !! Would be used 24/7by the community.

I see the courts being used quite often.

This comment applies to all park elements: The big issue is safety and lack of "nice" things. There's lots of people hanging (read: "cat calls", up to no good, etc...)around as a result of the local apartment complex The Fields and the 7-11. I do believe keeping the basketball court is a good thing because it will keep the kids from the area engaged and lower potential crime. Also, kids routinely walk across Duke without using the cross walk, making it unsafe and it disrupts traffic. The 7-11 is also a problem. The Alexandria PD always has a police car there, which tells you that crime in that area is a problem. The Park and surrounding area needs a revamp.

What would you like done with the former tennis

court

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	0	0%
Enhance it	4	29%
Transform it	10	71%
Explain		

A public pool would be great for the neighborhood.

Bring back the tennis courts! Maintain them

FUTSAL Court!

Give us back our tennis courts!

Please do SOMETHING with this. There is so much wasted/unused space in this park!

What would you like done with the parking lot?

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	8	61%
Enhance it	4	31%
Transform it	1	8%
Evolain		

Explain Add bike parking

Needs white stripes to mark parking spaces.

How do you get to this Park?

Value	Count	Percent	
Walk	14	82%	
Bike (personal)	0	0%	
Bike (Capital Bikeshare)	0	0%	
Drive	3	18%	
Public Transit	0	0%	
Carpool	0	0%	

How far do you typically travel to visit this park?

Value	Count	Percent
Less than 1/2 mile	15	88%
Between 1/2 mile to 1 mile	0	0%
Between 1-2 miles	1	6%
Over 2 miles	1	6%

1. Be a safe place for children to explore

- 2. Be a place to create social connections with neighbors
- 3. Have lots of activity

What would you like done with the open lawn?

		•			
Value	Count	Percent			
Preserve it as is	1	8%			
Enhance it	5	38%			
Transform it	7	54%			
Explain					

Maybe expand the playground or build a gazebo or something of interest

No one's played baseball here for years. Anything will improve!

Turf this. May be the most used open space in small park in the city.

All dirt and rocks totally unusable and unsafe Put it to good use

Add small turf soccer fields/futsal courts. Many people play soccer in the open area, so enhancing this area would be attractive

What would you like done with the playground?

Value	Count	Percent	
Preserve it as is	0	0%	
Enhance it	9	69%	
Transform it	4	31%	

Explain Need to make this area more family friendly

The playground is basic, old and needs enhancement or transformation.

We could use a playground suitable for younger children.

What would you like done with the pool and bath house? (Currently closed)

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	0	0%
Enhance it	4	31%
Transform it	9	69%
Explain		

A public pool would be great for the neighborhood.

Either fix it up and use it or replace it with something else. If it's not to be used as a pool, then transform to be useful!

Open it for use.

Spray grounds would be awesome

Keep closed fill it in and turn it into open space! Maybe a picnic shelter! It would be great to actually have the pool and bathhouse open again, but I understand that it was closed due to funding and the perceived abundance of private pools in the immediate West End area. In the absence of re-opening that facility, transforming it into something useable would certainly be a welcomed change.

Market the facility, no one knew it was there. Lack of hours hurt pool use. Needed weekend hours so parents could take their kids.

How often do you visit this park?

Value	Count	Percent
Daily	0	0%
Weekly	5	36%
Monthly	3	21%
Yearly	6	43%

What is currently NOT in the Park that you would like to see there?

Response

First Topic: In the distant past I had observed seniors gathering for breakfast at the McD's on South Van Dorn Street. Then the building was refurbished and the chairs and tables were anchored so that the furniture could no longer be gathered together for people to sit in groups. Next the seniors from the West End gathered at the McD's on North Paxton Street and Duke Street. This building was also refurbished and the chairs and tables anchored so that they could no longer be moved together for a gathering of customers. The seniors stopped gathering there. A "senior room" at Ewald Park should have moveable furniture so that seniors could carry in breakfast and converse. The City has been stalling for a number of years on having a Senior Center out here in the West End. An extensive survey was conducted as to the needs, and the results were included in the Chinquapin Recreation Center. Just a reminder: In the "planned" communities of either Columbia, Maryland or Reston, Virginia the seniors gathered in a Laundromat because there were chairs there! Perhaps a request should be submitted for a Laundromat in Ewald Park so the seniors would have a place to gather. Another topic: The Central Library has a large number of students using the Internet Terminal from about 3:00 PM to about 5:00 PM during the school year. Perhaps some Internet Terminals should be installed in Ewald Park for the children to use in the afternoon when school has let out. During the morning and during the evening the terminals would be available for adults. Parking: The space available for vehicle parking is about 16 or 18 spaces. White lines on the asphalt would be helpful. Would one handicap parking space be the correct amount?

A larger playground or area for my child to play Good tennis courts that are in a safe park Improved soccer fields, futsal courts Quality playing surface Restrooms! Benches

I can't really say, but it's really tragic. Inner city parks in major metropolitan cities are more enjoyable. There's a huge field in the back that has potential...but I'm not sure what should go there. Maybe a jungle gym for kids?

A family friendly vibe. If the tennis courts were repaired a children's tennis program could be scheduled there.

A beautiful, relaxing spot for neighbors to gather. It's currently a spot for kids to loiter and smoke pot. It needs to be turned into a much better spot for all neighbors not just bored kids.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the Park?

Response

The state of the pool/bathhouse makes the entire park downright unappealing. The park has an appearance that is haggard, neglected, and completely unwelcoming. There is just too much wasted, unused, and/or decrepit looking space! People do not feel comfortable using the space for anything outside of basketball and soccer games. There are safety concerns at night due to the substandard lighting in the area, making it a draw to kids who want to smoke, drink, have sex and hang out. It's absolutely appalling that the city has let this park decay to this level! More organized and supervised activities for children, teaching about litter prevention

It needs a complete overhaul and a cross walk across the street. People cross the street and don't care that cars have to stop. It's all the young kids from the surrounding area. Someone will get hit at some point. Also, the 7-11 creates huge problems. Doesn't really make anyone feel safe that there's a constant police presence there and often times at the park.

Park is not safe to use. Basketball court is only real usable area currently. Pick-up semi-organized soccer fills the grass area and has left the area dirt and rocks only! Bring back nice tennis courts

People frequently cross Duke Street to get to the park, and do not use the crosswalk at the intersection with Jordan Street. Since cars coming west are coming down a hill and have limited visibility, crossers are at greater risk of being struck. This needs to be addressed somehow.

The park is well used for basketball and soccer - perhaps an actual soccer field should be put in for these pickup games. The hidden portion of the playground makes it dangerous and under utilized. Lighting should be put in and the pool expanded for actual use.

There is a major issue with this park and that is accessibility. There is a lack of a crosswalk across Duke Street from The Fields apartments to the park. This intersection is so very dangerous because the kids from this apartment complex do not walk down to the crosswalk at Jordan and Duke Streets. They cross Duke in the middle of the street either stopping traffic or getting close to being hit by a car. It's an incredibly dangerous area for adults and children.

Have any of the following circumstances prevented you from visiting this Park? (check all that apply)

Value	Count	Percent
I am physically limited from walking	0	0%
There is no pedestrian/bike friendly		
access to the park from where I live	3	25%
I have concerns about crime or	10	83%
personal safety	10	
There is not enough parking	1	8%
There is nothing in the Park that		
interests me	6	67%

Graffiti Sign

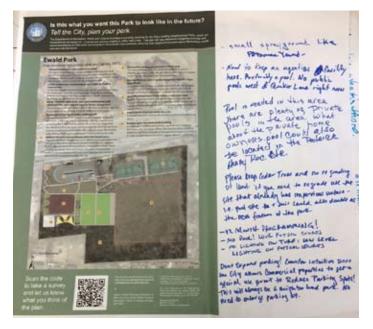
A "graffiti sign" in the Park had a marker attached and asked park users to write down what they would like their park to look like in the future. Park users recorded the following

comments between September to November 2014



Draft Plan Feedback

In Spring 2015, the community provided feedback on the draft park plan through online surveys (see appendix for full results), park signs and public meetings (comments on the plan shown below). Based on information from the Spring input phase, staff updated the plans to best represent current and future community needs.



Improvement Recommendations

- Create a turnaround and landscaped median in the parking lot The current parking lot is, unstriped and does not allow for turnaround space or landscaped medians. This plan proposes installing a landscaped median and trees to provide a turnaround. It would also include parking spaces for disabled park users. The lot would be designed to not impact healthy existing trees. Create pedestrian entrance near Duke St./Jordon intersection A new formalized entrance to the park would create a small space for a park sign, benches, and bike racks. It would also provide park access close to the Duke Street and S. Jordan intersection, encouraging safer pedestrian access. Install a second basketball court and maintenance path The existing basketball court is one of the most popular in the City. The addition of lights will require a special use permit and may be added at a later stage of implementation due to cost. Renovate the turf and install a walking path The park holds one of the largest and most popular unfenced turf areas in the City. This plan proposes adding irrigation and re-turfing the field to better sustain the active use. Steps from the multi-use courts to the open turf area may also serve as spectator seating. A path around the field will create a location for running and walking. Walking the path seven times would equal a mile. As requested by the Park and Recreation Commission on October 17, 2015, 10 staff will investigate the use of synthetic turf and lights prior to implementation. Replace the pool and poolhouse with two multi-use courts The pool has been closed since 2011. When it was open there was low use as the site is not conducive to a high capacity aquatics facility. The current poolhouse blocks visibility from Duke Street creating an unsafe setting behind it. This plan recommends replacing the pool and poolhouse with sport courts to meet the increasing demand in the city. One of the courts will be a multi-use court and include a movable net for tennis and pickleball. The other court would be used for futsal (court soccer).
 - **Restore the existing playground to forest area** This area is hidden from the street and difficult to access. Planting new trees in this site will help increase the tree canopy in the City, per the Urban Forestry Master Plan.
 - Work with Alexandria Police Department (APD) to improve park safety, particularly in areas not visible from Duke St. This plan recommends on-going community group involvement and cooperation to keep "eyes on the park." This can occur through regularly scheduled events in the park, communication with APD and increased park use. Over time, these strategies and crime reports will be measured to ensure safety and determine if other Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design tactics should be pursued while not impacting healthy existing trees.
 - 8 Move the playground to the former tennis court area Moving the playground to the former tennis court area will increase its visibility from Duke St and encourage greater use. It will also include new and modern equipment and may integrate water features.
 - 9 Install shade structure and picnic area

A shaded area with seating will provide a community gathering space. The shade structures will be integrated within the existing trees to provide year round shade.

0 Reserve space for community building

A community building can provide space for civic meetings, restrooms, and recreation offices. The location of the building allows for sightlines throughout the park to increase surveillance. It is also located next to the picnic area to allow for joint uses.



2015 Neighborhood Parks Improvement Plan: Ewald Park

Implementation Strategy

This plan uses citizen input and considers other external considerations to determine how to address park improvements incrementally over time. Most of the recommendations in the plan can be implemented independent of other projects as funding is available, whether through city or non-city funds. The cost estimates (in 2015 dollars) do not include operating costs. Prior to the implementation of any recommendation, operating costs, if any, must be considered.

The priority for each recommendation is shown as "low," "medium," or "high." RPCA determined these rankings based upon (1) park user safety, (2) community prioritization feedback and the results of the 2011 and 2013 Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment, (3) life span of the existing conditions, (4)potential for non-city funding sources, (5) level of user impact, (6) relationship to other projects.

Ewa	ld Park				
ŧ	Recommendation	Priority	Estimated Cost	Associated Recommendations	Dept Lead
				This recommendation will be	
				considered if there is increased need	
				for drop-off/pick up space after the	
	Create a turnaround and landscaped median in the			multi-use courts are installed	
1	parking lot	Low	450,000-550,000	(recommendation #5)	RPCA
	Create pedestrian entrance near Duke St./Jordon				
2	intersection	High	50,000-75,000		RPCA
3	Install a second basketball court and maintenance path	Medium	150,000-250,000		RPCA
	Renovate the turf and install a walking path	High	500,000-650,000		RPCA
4b	Option with synthetic turf and lights, per PRC		800,000 - 1,000,000		RPCA
				Removal of the poolhouse should	
				ideally precede the playground	
				construction (recommendation #8) to	
	Replace the pool and poolhouse with two multi-use			provide visibility to the site from Duke	
5	courts	Medium	550,000-650,000	Street.	RPCA
				Will follow the construction of the	
6	Restore the existing playground to forest area	High	35,000-50,000	new playground (recommendation #8)	RPCA
	Work with Alexandria Police Department to improve				
	park safety, particularly in areas not visible from Duke				
7	St.	High	N/A at this time		APD/RPCA
8	Move the playground to the former tennis court area	High	350,000-500,000	FY19 CIP is design \$\$ only	RPCA
	Install shade structure and picnic area	Medium	25,000-35,000		RPCA
	Reserve space for community building	Low	N/A at this time		RPCA



The image (left) from a San Francisco park shows an example of stairs serving as spectator seating as proposed between the sport courts and open field space.

2015 Neighborhood Parks Improvement Plan: Appendix



Neighborhood Parks Plan **Ewald Park**

Community Feedback, Fall 2014

The Division of Park Planning, Design, and Capital Development is currently planning for the City's existing Neighborhood Parks, which we characterize as being 0.5 - 10 acres with a service area of up to 0.5 miles. The results of this plan will help determine budgeting priorities and recommendations for both short and long-term incremental improvements, ensuring that neighborhood parks serve Alexandria's needs now and into the future.



In Fall 2014, Staff collected community feedback to understand how the Park is used and how it could be improved in the future. The following information summarizes what we heard through an online survey, community workshop, and "graffiti board"

in the park. Over 270 people responded to the survey in total, seventeen of which were specific to Ewald Park.

In 10 years I would like this Park to...

(top 3 rankings shown; based on a weighted score)

- 1. Be a safe place for children to explore
- 2. Be a place to create social connections with neighbors
- Have lots of activity

What would you like done with the basketball court?

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	8	53%
Enhance it	5	33%
Transform it	2	13%

Explain

Add multi-sport component to the basketball court for futsal, hockey, and other sports

Appreciate the energy efficient night lighting

FUTSAL COURT !! Would be used 24/7by the community.

I see the courts being used guite often.

This comment applies to all park elements: The big issue is safety and lack of "nice" things. There's lots of people hanging (read: "cat calls", up to no good, etc...)around as a result of the local apartment complex The Fields and the 7-11. I do believe keeping the basketball court is a good thing because it will keep the kids from the area engaged and lower potential crime. Also, kids routinely walk across Duke without using the cross walk, making it unsafe and it disrupts traffic. The 7-11 is also a problem. The Alexandria PD always has a police car there, which tells you that crime in that area is a problem. The Park and surrounding area needs a revamp.

What would you like done with the former tennis

court

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	0	0%
Enhance it	4	29%
Transform it	10	71%
Explain		
A public pool would be great for	r the neighborhood.	

Bring back the tennis courts! Maintain them

FUTSAL Court!

Give us back our tennis courts!

Please do SOMETHING with this. There is so much wasted/unused space in this park!

What would you like done with the parking lot?

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	8	61%
Enhance it	4	31%
Transform it	1	8%
Explain		

Add bike parking

Needs white stripes to mark parking spaces.

What would you like done with the open lawn?

, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i		
Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	1	8%
Enhance it	5	38%
Transform it	7	54%
Explain		

Maybe expand the playaround or build a gazebo or something of interest No one's played baseball here for years. Anything will improve!

Turf this. May be the most used open space in small park in the city. All dirt and rocks totally unusable and unsafe

Put it to good use

Add small turf soccer fields/futsal courts. Many people play soccer in the open area, so enhancing this area would be attractive

What would you like done with the playground?

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	0	0%
Enhance it	9	69%
Transform it	4	31%
Evalata		

Explain

Need to make this area more family friendly

The playground is basic, old and needs enhancement or transformation. We could use a playground suitable for younger children.

What would you like done with the pool and bath house? (Currently closed)

Value	Count	Percent
Preserve it as is	0	0%
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Explain		

A public pool would be great for the neighborhood.

Either fix it up and use it or replace it with something else.

If it's not to be used as a pool, then transform to be useful! Open it for use.

Spray grounds would be awesome

Keep closed fill it in and turn it into open space! Maybe a picnic shelter!

It would be great to actually have the pool and bathhouse open again, but I understand that it was closed due to funding and the perceived abundance of private pools in the immediate West End area. In the absence of re-opening that facility, transforming it into something useable would certainly be a welcomed change.

Market the facility, no one knew it was there. Lack of hours hurt pool use. Needed weekend hours so parents could take their kids

What is currently NOT in the Park that you would like to see there?

Response

First Topic: In the distant past I had observed seniors gathering for breakfast at the McD's on South Van Dorn Street. Then the building was refurbished and the chairs and tables were anchored so that the furniture could no longer be gathered together for people to sit in groups. Next the seniors from the West End gathered at the McD's on North Paxton Street and Duke Street. This building was also refurbished and the chairs and tables anchored so that they could no longer be moved together for a gathering of customers. The seniors stopped gathering there. A "senior room" at Ewald Park should have moveable furniture so that seniors could carry in breakfast and converse. The City has been stalling for a number of years on having a Senior Center out here in the West End. An extensive survey was conducted as to the needs, and the results were included in the Chinquapin Recreation Center. Just a reminder: In the "planned" communities of either Columbia, Maryland or Reston, Virginia the seniors gathered in a Laundromat because there were chairs there! Perhaps a request should be submitted for a Laundromat in Ewald Park so the seniors would have a place to gather. Another topic: The Central Library has a large number of students using the Internet Terminal from about 3:00 PM to about 5:00 PM during the school year. Perhaps some Internet Terminals should be installed in Ewald Park for the children to use in the afternoon when school has let out. During the morning and during the evening the terminals would be available for adults. Parking: The space available for vehicle parking is about 16 or 18 spaces. White lines on the asphalt would be helpful. Would one handicap parking space be the correct amount?

A larger playground or area for my child to play Good tennis courts that are in a safe park Improved soccer fields, futsal courts Quality playing surface

Restrooms! Benches

I can't really say, but it's really tragic. Inner city parks in major metropolitan cities are more enjoyable. There's a huge field in the back that has potential...but I'm not sure what should go there. Maybe a jungle gym for kids?

A family friendly vibe. If the tennis courts were repaired a children's tennis program could be scheduled there.

A beautiful, relaxing spot for neighbors to gather. It's currently a spot for kids to loiter and smoke pot. It needs to be turned into a much better spot for all neighbors not just bored kids.

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Park is not safe to use. Basketball court is only real usable area currently. Pick-up semi-organized soccer fills the grass area and has left the area dirt and rocks only! Bring back nice tennis courts

People frequently cross Duke Street to get to the park, and do not use the crosswalk at the intersection with Jordan Street. Since cars coming west are coming down a hill and have limited visibility, crossers are at greater risk of being struck. This needs to be addressed somehow.

The park is well used for basketball and soccer - perhaps an actual soccer field should be put in for these pickup games. The hidden portion of the playground makes it dangerous and under utilized. Lighting should be put in and the pool expanded for actual use.

There is a major issue with this park and that is accessibility. There is a lack of a crosswalk across Duke Street from The Fields apartments to the park. This intersection is so very dangerous because the kids from this apartment complex do not walk down to the crosswalk at Jordan and Duke Streets. They cross Duke in the middle of the street either stopping traffic or getting close to being hit by a car. It's an incredibly dangerous area for adults and children.

How do you get to this Park?

Value	Count	Percent
Walk	14	82%
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Bike (Capital Bikeshare)	0	0%
Drive	3	18%
Public Transit	0	0%
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How far do you typically travel to visit this park?

Value	Count	Percent
Less than 1/2 mile	15	88%
Between 1/2 mile to 1 mile	0	0%
Between 1-2 miles	1	6%
Over 2 miles	1	6%

Have any of the following circumstances prevented you from visiting this Park? (check all that apply)

Value	Count	Percent
I am physically limited from walking	0	0%
There is no pedestrian/bike friendly		
access to the park from where I live	3	25%
I have concerns about crime or		
personal safety	10	83%
There is not enough parking	1	8%
There is nothing in the Park that		
interests me	6	67%

How often do you visit this park?

Value	Count	Percent
Daily	0	0%
Weekly	5	36%
Monthly	3	21%
Yearly	6	43%

Graffiti Sign

A "graffiti sign" in the Park had a marker attached and asked park users to write down what they would like their park to look like in the future. Park users recorded the following comments between September to November 2014 (image shown above from October 27).

- Basketball (10x) including indoor basketball
- Football field (13x)
- Youth basketball tournaments
- Indoor pool
- New soccer field
- New playground (2x)
- Exercise area (2x)
- change colors of basketball court (2x)





Ewald Park

Improvement Recommendations (Spring 2015)

Expand parking lot and create turnaround The current parking lot is small, unstriped and does not allow for turnaround space. This plan proposes expanding the lot and including a landscaped median to provide a turnaround. It would also include parking spaces for disabled park users.

2 Create pedestrian entrance plaza near Duke St./Jordon intersection

A new formalized entrance to the park would create a small space for a park sign, benches, and bike racks. It would also provide park access close to the Duke Street and S. Jordan intersection, encouraging safer pedestrian access.

- 3 Install a second basketball court and maintenance path (alternatively, court may be area for fitness equipment) The existing basketball court is one of the most popular in the City. A second court would help meet the demand at this park.
- **Renovate the turf and install a walking path** The park holds one of the largest and most popular unfenced turf areas in the City. This plan proposes adding irrigation and re-turfing the field to better sustain the active use. Steps from the futsal courts to the open turf area may also serve as spectator seating. A path around the field will create a location for running and walking. Walking the path seven times would equal a mile.
- 5 **Replace the pool and poolhouse with two futsal courts** The pool has been closed since 2011. When it was open there was low use as the site is not condusive to a high capacity aquatics facility. The current poolhouse blocks visibility from Duke Street creating an unsafe setting behind it. This plan recommends replacing the pool and poolhouse with futsal (soccer) courts to meet the increasing demand in the city.

18

5

5

7

8

Restore the existing playground to forest area This area is hidden from the street and difficult to access.

Planting new trees in this site will help increase the tree canopy in the city, per the Urban Forestry Master Plan.

Remove the trees and re-grade to improve visability from Duke Street

The existing row of trees, in combination with the topography, cause a visual barrier from Duke St and make it seem unsafe. Removing the trees will increase visibility into the playground.

Move the playground to the former tennis court area Moving the playground to the former tennis court area will increase its visibility from Duke St and encourage greater use. It will also include new and modern equipment and may integrate water features.

Install shade structure and picnic area

A shaded area with seating will provide a community gathering space.

10 Reserve space for community building

4

100

50

7 Feet

200

A community building can provide space for civic meetings, restrooms, and recreation offices. The location of the building allows for sightlines throughout the park to increase surveilance. It is also located next to the picnic area to allow for joint uses.

Park Boundary

0

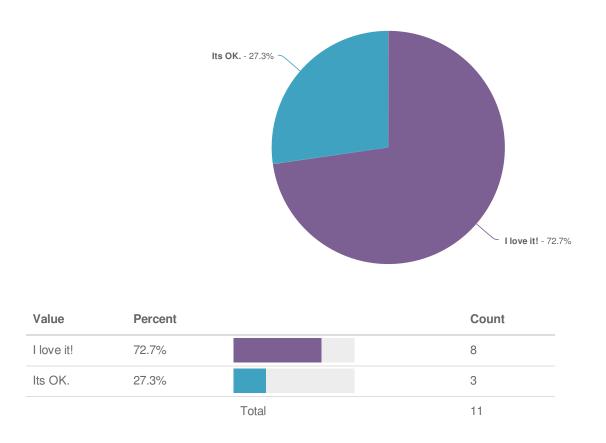
N

uke Street



Ewald Park Draft Improvement Plan Survey Results, July 2015

What do you think of the following recommendations?-Create pedestrian entrance plaza near Duke St./Jordon intersection

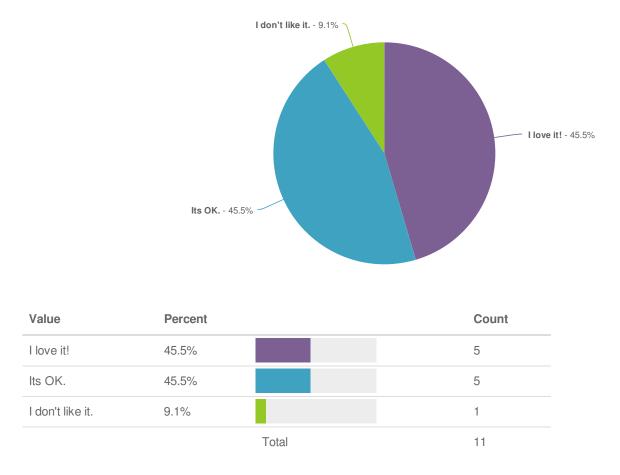


Explain-Create pedestrian entrance plaza near Duke St./Jordon intersection

Count Response

1 This encourages people to enter here instead of trying to cross Duke Street near the basketball courts which so many people do and it's so dangerous!

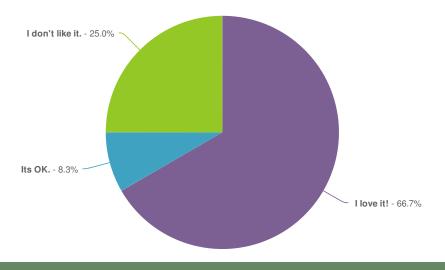
What do you think of the following recommendations?-Expand parking lot and create turnaround



Explain-Expand parking lot and create turnaround

Count	Response
1	Another idea is creating a separate entrance and making the existing entrance an exit only.
1	If the parking lot expansion removes trees I cannot support it because we don't need to encourage more people to drive to this neighborhood park anyway.

What do you think of the following recommendations?-Install a second basketball court and maintenance path (alternatively, court may be area for fitness equipment)



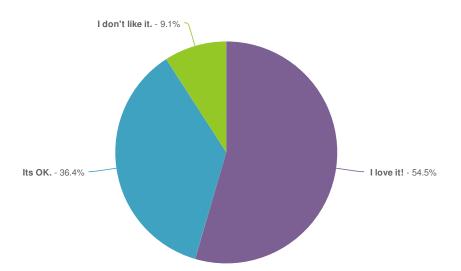
²⁰¹⁵ Neighborhood Parks Improvement Plan: Ewald Park Appendix

Value	Percent		Count
I love it!	66.7%		8
Its OK.	8.3%		1
I don't like it.	25.0%		3
		Total	12

Explain-Install a second basketball court and maintenance path (alternatively, court may be area for fitness equipment)

Count	Response
1	The basketball courts attracts lots of people at night that go back and forth from the 7-11 and leave 7-11 food trash in the park and along Duke Street
1	Given the usage of the existing basketball court, a second one would be most welcome. There are frequently players or groups waiting to take the court while a game is going one. Having a second court would greatly improve usage and provide a continuing source of outdoor recreation for our residents. I would also encourage the second court to have lights like the existing court. there are limited basketball courts in that area of the City. The second court would help address that issue.
1	Build a water play/water park for the West end. If entrances and parking are updated build a covered 25 yard pool
1	I'd rather see tennis courts added to give the park variety. I don't want it to be solely focused on basketball and turf sports (primarily soccer).

What do you think of the following recommendations?-Install shade structure and picnic area



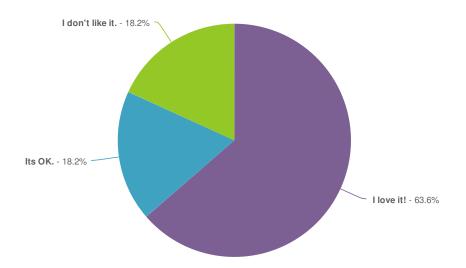
Value	Percent		Count
I love it!	54.6%		6
Its OK.	36.4%		4
I don't like it.	9.1%		1
		Total	11

Explain-Install shade structure and picnic area

Count	Response
1	I doubt it will be used.
1	This would be a great feature.
1	Don't install any such expensive ugly shade structure - leave the mature trees visible from Duke Street that you folks want to cut down - they provide SHADE!!!!!!!

1 Build a water play/water park for the West end. If entrances and parking are updated build a covered 25 yard pool

What do you think of the following recommendations?-Move the playground to the former tennis court area



Value	Percent		Count
I love it!	63.6%		7
Its OK.	18.2%		2
I don't like it.	18.2%		2
		Total	11

Explain-Move the playground to the former tennis court area

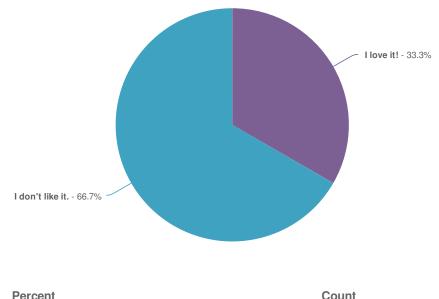
Count	Response
1	I like it although concerned it's too close to the soccer fields.
1	Unnecessary
1	Would REALLY support spray grounds park! That would be awesome
1	Restore the tennis courts and light them. The closest courts to this neighborhood, on Taney Ave., are cracked and poorly maintained.

Count Response

Value

- How many playgrounds do we need? There are at least four already within easy walking distance. Is everything going to be for kids and young families? I pay taxes and get just about nothing from Parks and Rec for it. With this move there will be no hope of ever seeing the tennis courts again. Is Alexandria going to provide nothing for adults in Ewald Park? And, no, the "walking path" does'n;t count. It is a joke.
- 1 I like the idea of some type of small splash/spray pad at the playground. Arlington has had success with them over the years and the one at the Potomac Yards playground is very popular. It would provide a better variety of activities for the kids at the playground at a relatively low expense to the City.
- 1 Build a water play/water park for the West end. If entrances and parking are updated build a covered 25 yard pool

What do you think of the following recommendations?-Remove the trees and re-grade to improve visibility from Duke Street



Value	T CI CCITI		oount
I love it!	33.3%		3
l don't like it.	66.7%		6
		Total	9

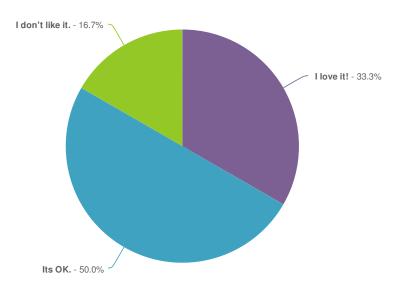
Explain-Remove the trees and re-grade to improve visibility from Duke Street

Count	Response
1	Great!
1	Not sure the gain is worth removing such old, established trees
1	This is a real waste of many mature trees. Visibility from Duke St. is not a benefit to the park. Public safety related comments are often based on a misperception that either does not reflect today's reality or is actually based on the concerns relating to the nearby 7-11. Removing those trees will not help the 7-11.
1	Cutting down 60+-year-old trees is absurd. They don't impede the line of sight and their removal would be a tremendous loss for the people and wildlife in my neighborhood. At 46, I won't live long enough to see anything planted elsewhere mature into a broad, multi-story canopy.

Count Response

- I hate this and will fight this with every thing I have In one breath your plan talks about creating a forest in the tucked away back area of this dead-end park but then you say that the few limbed up and well-spaced trees visible from the street need to be removed due to crime? This is incongruent baloney the London Plane Trees, maples, and other trees visible from the street help our property values and, as needed beautification, reduce crime!! Please please please do not remove these trees Duke Street needs all the beauty it can get!
- 1 Build a water play/water park for the West end. If entrances and parking are updated build a covered 25 yard pool

What do you think of the following recommendations?-Renovate the turf and install a walking path



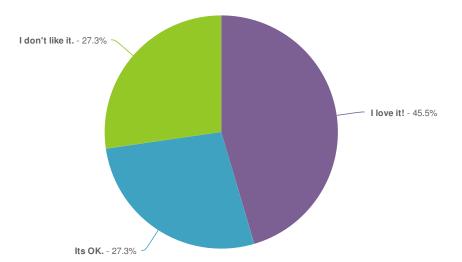
Value	Percent		Count
I love it!	33.3%		4
Its OK.	50.0%		6
l don't like it.	16.7%		2
		Total	12

Explain-Renovate the turf and install a walking path

Count Response

1	I like the path but think the turf should be artificial.
1	If there is one thing our neighborhood has is places to walk. What a waste of recreational space
1	This is so unnecessary - people can walk just as easily on the grass turf
1	Not sure what the turf will be used for. I tend to think the soccer courts would be a better fit here.
1	I would recommend installing artificial turf on the playing field and leave it open to the public to use. The existing field is used mainly for soccer games, but having a nice playing surface would encourage even more usage. It would potentially help draw area residents to use the field with their children. I like the idea of the walking trail - putting low level lights along the trail like were planned at Hammond would allow more usage during the winter months.

1 Build a water play/water park for the West end. If entrances and parking are updated build a covered 25 yard pool



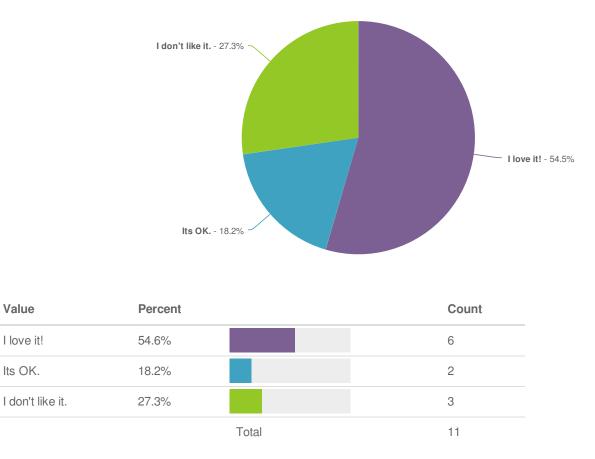
What do you think of the following recommendations?-Replace the pool and poolhouse with two futsal courts

Value	Percent		Count
I love it!	45.5%		5
Its OK.	27.3%		3
l don't like it.	27.3%		3
		Total	11

Explain-Replace the pool and poolhouse with two futsal courts

Count	Response
1	I would prefer to see s splash park or other "cool down" activity space.
1	When will the other closed pools be replaced?
1	The Parks and Recreation Dept. decided long ago to get rid of that pool. They have made no effort to increase its usage and even had someone come to our neighborhood time to meet with the consultantsto disparage it. Maybe a change of leadership is needed.
1	I love the idea of replacing the pool and poolhouse but like I said above I think the soccer courts would be better placed in the open turf area. They would be too close to the playground - what if a ball was kicked out of bounds into the playground?
1	Build a water play/water park for the West end. If entrances and parking are updated build a covered 25 yard pool

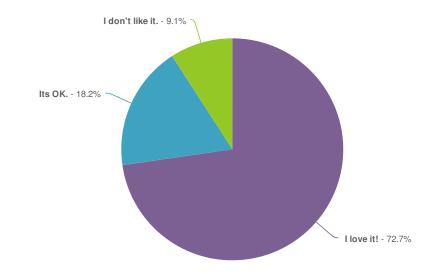
What do you think of the following recommendations?-Reserve space for community building



Explain-Reserve space for community building

Count	Response
1	The city has enough trouble maintaining current buildings. Adding another seems imprudent.
1	When would this be built? NEVER
1	Do not reserve the space for any such community building - we desperately need trees and green space - especially since the council and Planning and Zoning are shoving luxury condos into every square centimeter of spare space we have - no more concrete, no more buildings!!! Oh, and we do have a stormwater mandate that we have not been meeting, remember??? You do know that impervious surfaces and trees help reduce stormwater run off and improve water quality, right?
1	Build a water play/water park for the West end. If entrances and parking are updated build a covered 25 yard pool

What do you think of the following recommendations?-Restore the existing playground to forest area



Value	Percent		Count
I love it!	72.7%		8
Its OK.	18.2%		2
l don't like it.	9.1%		1
		Total	11

Explain-Restore the existing playground to forest area

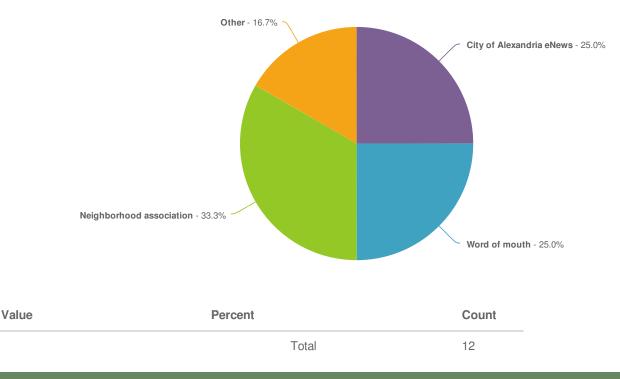
Count	Response
1	A great idea!!
1	Build a water play/water park for the West end. If entrances and parking are updated build a covered 25 yard pool

Do you feel all of the comments were heard and addressed in the draft Ewald Park plan? If not, what is missing and how can we make the plan better?

Count	Response
1	I was unable to attend the meetings so I don't know what was recommended by residents.
1	Most were addressed but the lack of crosswalks on Duke St was not addressed. I understand this is outside the park but this really needs to be considered. Most of the people that use the basketball courts come from The Fields and Foxchase across the street. They do not walk down to Jordan St to cross Duke St. Instead they dart across Duke St hoping they don't get hit or expect vehicles to yield to pedestrians in the middle of the street. It is extremely dangerous.
1	I completed surveys before however I do not remember them providing an opportunity to comment that what I like about this park is the fact that I see beautiful trees, grass, and open space when I walk or drive by it!!!! Stop "paving the planet!" Don't chop down mature, limbed up and well-spaced trees near the street and then fill up the farthest, darkest portions of this dead end park with trees! The trees visible from Duke Street enhance our property values and LOWER crime -remember the housing projects visible from Route One in Old Town don't have many trees but they darn sure have their share of crime.

Count Response

- 1 I have participated in the planning process for the city pools from the beginning. It was a big farce. The city had already decided to do away with Ewald pool before the first public meeting. That land was donated to the city for the use of our neighborhood and what is going to be provided for adults? Nothing. I will never vote for a bond for the Parks and Rec Department if one comes up.
- 1 Good afternoon, ladies, I just thought of something the other day that I would like to toss out for consideration, and am copying some of my neighbors who have been following the Ewald Park Plan issue. To be clear, I am not insistently wedded to the idea, it is just a thought - What about including a sand volleyball court? I don't know what if any demand there is for something like that, but was thinking that would broaden up the park use some to different user groups. In addition, I think it would be fun! But others might not see it that way. I won't pester you incessantly on this idea, as the trees and unpaved surfaces are much more important to me (and some of my neighbors). Some of these neighbors may their own thoughts for or against the volleyball court idea. I will say there are more young couples moving in the neighborhood, and they might find a volleyball court a fun, social feature. In addition, I have noticed that the sand volleyball court next to the picnic pavillion in Ben Brenman park seems to get some use from immigrant familes... Have a terrific weekend, and thanks for running honestly transparent and participative planning processes!
- 1 I love the idea of a volleyball court. I'm short, but good at it. might bring a new mix of folks to the park and who knows - maybe everyone will find it fun!
- 1 These improvements look fantastic! That park is so under utilized, except for the basketball courts. I am looking forward to being able to actually use it once the improvements are made! I'm not sure if this can be part of the plan, but it's very difficult to access this park from the opposite side of Duke St where I live. The kids constantly have to cross against traffic to get over there, and it's very dangerous. Adding a pedestrian crosswalk closer to the Fields and Ingle place would be so helpful!
- Build a water play/water park for the West end. If entrances and parking are updated build a covered 25 yard pool. Near the pool you can have a basketball court, tennis court, etc. A pool is desperately needed somewhere on the West end (might have space at P Henry). Keep PH K-5 and put in a POOL that has a cover for year round-use.
- 1 You can protect the trees! However, I was not able to attend the November 1st meeting, I am happy, however, with how much notice citizens are being given to respond to the plan. While the responses might be different than the initial concerns, I hope they will be weighed equally.



How did you learn about the Neighborhood Park Plan survey?

Value	Percent	Count
City of Alexandria eNews	25.0%	3
Word of mouth	25.0%	3
Neighborhood association	33.3%	4
Other	16.7%	2
	Total	12

Responses "Other"

Count

Left Blank	12
Recreation Dept. contacts	1
city email alerts	1

How many members of your household are in the following age groups?

	# in household	Responses
Under 5	3 100.0%	3
6-12	1 100.0%	1
13-18	1 100.0%	1
19-29	3 100.0%	3
30-49	8 100.0%	8
50-69	5 100.0%	5
70 or above	1 100.0%	1

What is your zip code?

