

Fort Ward Park and Museum Area Management Plan Implementation Process

City Council Work Session

May 26, 2015



Work Session Agenda

- Overview
- Stormwater Management Plan Implementation
- Interpretive Plan Development
- Oral History Project
- Grave Location Research
- Implementation Monitoring Group



Overview – City Council Actions

- Adopted the Management Plan on January 24, 2015:
 - https://alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/recreation/parks/102714FortWardFinalDraftManagementPlan_Adopted.pdf
- Requested a Work Session to discuss the Plan implementation process
- Requested the City Manager to propose a new monitoring group for the implementation of the approved Plan
- Approved \$1,395,000 for Plan implementation over the next 10-years as part of the FY2016 –2025 Capital Budget, including \$200,000 in FY2016



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- Stormwater study conducted in June 2014
- Recommended Three Improvements (in order of priority)
 - Stormwater diversion at Oakland Baptist Church Cemetery
 - Stormwater improvements at parking lot off Braddock Road
 - Streambank stabilization
- Recent Meetings
 - January 21, 2015 at Oakland Baptist Church
 - Presented several alternatives
 - April 23, 2015 at Oakland Baptist Church
 - Agreed on next steps
 - Working with Oakland's consultant















- Archaeology
 - Location of work established on April 23, 2015
 - Potential impact to existing trees
 - Archaeological investigation summer of 2015
- Preparation of Construction Documents
 - Late 2015
- Construction
 - Early 2016
 - Approximately \$500,000 (from prior year CIP)
- All work will follow required public notification process





Interpretive Plan Development

- City Council has approved \$150,000 in FY2016 Budget
- The CIP funds will allow for additional archaeological work and development of the Interpretive Plan.
- Fort Ward Interpretive Plan Advisory Committee will be established to:
 - help coordinate the RFP process;
 - select historical themes and stories;
 - identify appropriate interpretive tools and programs;
 - best connect the history of Fort Ward to broader aspects of city, regional and national heritage.



Oral History Project

- Coordination with Fort Ward descendants to continue oral history interviews by:
 - Identifying interview subjects
 - Creating a process for conducting and transcribing the interviews
 - Archiving and curating the interview collection
 - Identifying possible funding sources to supplement efforts



Grave Location Research

Coordination with the Fort Ward descendant community to discuss current and future archeological activities:

- Process for archaeological investigation associated with the stormwater management
- State of our current knowledge about grave and cemetery locations
- Prioritization of locations for future archaeological work to identify burials or cultural resources



Proposed Ad Hoc Implementation Monitoring Group

Charge

Meet quarterly with staff from RPCA, OHA and T&ES to:

- Provide recommendations for the implementation of the approved Plan
- Review and monitor implementation projects for consistency with approved Plan
- Provide recommendations on park uses/operations for consistency with approved Plan
- Participate in the development of an annual update on Plan implementation





<u>Membership</u>

- 10 member group of stakeholders
- One Council member appointed by the Mayor
- 9 members appointed by the City Manager
 - Three members representing the Park and Recreation Commission
 - Three members representing the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission
 - One member representing the descendant community
 - One member representing the Oakland Baptist Church
 - One member representing the Ft. Ward neighborhood