

Cameron Run Park Planning Process and Conceptual Design

Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities City Council Update – April 25, 2017



Engagement & Planning Process

GOALS

- Manage participant expectations and inform stakeholders of constraints;
- Provide multiple opportunities for stakeholders to provide input;
- Provide various stakeholders with information on how the input has been incorporated; and
- Present coordinated information regarding the planning findings.



Engagement Strategies

- City Sponsored Public Meetings
- Stakeholder Sponsored Meetings
- Website Updates
- Social Media
- Innovative Public Engagement
- Park Walks
- Information & Displays at City sponsored Events

Community Engagement Schedule



Community Meetings

- Park & Recreation Commission and City Council Public Hearings - TBD
- *City of Alexandria Earth Day* April 29, 2017
- Community Meeting #2 April 27 at 7 p.m.
- *City Council Update* April 25, 2017
- Park & Recreation Commission April 20, 2017
- Easter Egg Hunt / Cameron Run Park April 13, 2017
- WALK & TALK Cameron Run Park Walking Tour April 1, 2017
- Park & Recreation Commission March 16, 2017
- *Beautification Commission* March 9, 2017
- Community Meeting #1 March 2, 2017

Stakeholder Meetings

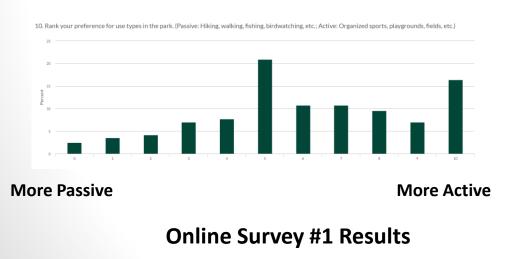
- Youth Sports Advisory April 10, 2017
- Park & Recreation Commission 2x2 March 28 & 29
- *Federation of Civic Associations* March 29, 2017
- Alexandria Tree Stewards March 27, 2017
- Alexandria Soccer Association March 8, 2017
- *Eisenhower Partnership* February 21, 2017
- Radhika Mohan, P & Z, Eisenhower West SAP February 16, 2017
- Jennifer Atkins, Chair, PRC December 9, 2016
- *Paul Gilbert, Executive Director, NOVA Parks* December 8, 2016



- Online Survey
 - \circ $\;$ Distributed at meetings and posted throughout City of Alexandria
 - o 476 responses
- Break-out sessions at public meetings
 - \circ $\,$ Feedback recorded on base maps and easels
 - Dot exercises for active vs passive preferences
- Question & Answer Sessions at meetings
 - \circ $\,$ Offers areas to provide additional focus and research
- Engaged over 600 people in past 70 days, including public meeting attendees and survey respondents



- Of 476 participants, results followed a bell curve with a preference of mixed to active recreation:
- The most respondents (84 people) selected a 50:50 mix between active and passive uses. Second most (66 people) selected active use
- \circ $\;$ Feedback at public meetings generally supported this trend







Passive vs Active Recreation

- Passive Recreation: provide more walking and bicycle trails, preserve woodlands, offer education/classes
- Active Recreation: offer year round use, space for both City organized and pick-up games
- <u>Re-negotiation of Lease Supported in Majority of Public Meetings</u>
 - Provide more financial benefits to City
 - \circ $\,$ Additional programming coordinated with City Programs
 - Improve site maintenance and operations
 - Upgrade aging facilities: waterpark, batting cages, mini-golf



• Hearing lots of need for:

- \circ Open Space
- Swimming/Swim Programs
- Walking Trails

• ...but also:

- o Great Waves is a <u>unique draw</u> for the City
- \circ $\,$ Value of preserving plant biodiversity on site
- Cameron Run Park could connect to local businesses to bring money into the City through programming.

Applying Preliminary Feedback

 Public feedback gives shape to preliminary options based on a spectrum of alternatives

Community Meeting #2, April 27, will provide an opportunity for the public to comment on preliminary options

Key Milestones

- <u>Task One</u> Planning Process Development
 - January 2017 (Received Direction from City Council)
- <u>Task Two</u> Planning Process Implementation
 - Community Meeting #2: April 27
 - Present Preliminary Options for Public Comment
- <u>Task Three</u> Conceptual Plan / Spectrum of Alternatives
 - Develop Concepts / Alternatives
 - Public Hearing with Park & Recreation Commission
 - Public Hearing with City Council



Next Steps

- <u>Proposed Alternative Schedule</u>
 - Park & Recreation Commission
 - June 15, 2017: Public Hearing
 - June 15 July 14, 2017: Public Comment
 - July 20, 2017: Discussion & Recommendation
 - City Council
 - September 12, 2017: Receive
 - September 16, 2017: Public Hearing & Action





Questions

