



# NOVA P A R K S

Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority

5400 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039 | 703-352-5900 | Fax: 703-273-0905 | [www.novaparks.com](http://www.novaparks.com)

October 3, 2018

The Honorable Mayor Silberberg  
and members of the City Council  
301 King Street, Room 2300  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**RE: Lease Extension on Cameron Run**

Dear Mayor Silberberg and honorable Council members,

It is very gratifying that the path you initiated 10 months ago to find a good outcome for Cameron Run Regional Park has been successful. We particularly thank City Manager Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager Debra Collins, and Park Planning Division Chief Jack Browand for helping to achieve this goal. From our side, I am very appreciative of the productive contributions of our two appointees from the City, Sean Kumar and Scott Price.

In December 2017, Council instructed staff to work on a lease extension with a number of goals. Those goals have been achieved in the termsheet and lease extension that you will have before you next week. This is also a plan that has now been endorsed by the City's Park & Recreation Commission.

Both the Michael Baker Report on the future of Cameron Run and the Park & Recreation Commission had stated last year that a lease extension through 2028 was desirable (the current lease expires in 2021). This focused our current efforts on the 7.5-year lease extension that would make the park a year-round operation.

Cameron Run is already one of the most popular recreational facilities in the City, with 55% of City households reporting that they had used the park in the last 2 years. With the new plan, we will keep all the features that make Cameron popular today and add additional ones to make it even more vital.

City of Alexandria

Sean Kumar  
Scott Price

Arlington County

Paul Ferguson  
Michael A. Nardolilli

Fairfax County

Patricia Harrison  
Stella Koch

City of Fairfax

Brian D. Knapp  
Arthur F. Little

City of Falls Church

Paul Baldino  
Jeffrey Tarbert

Loudoun County

Cate Magennis Wyatt  
Daniel Kaseman

- Outside of the pool season, the parking lot will be used for a fenced artificial turf soccer field. NOVA Parks will renovate the parking lot so it can be used for this. The City will be able to generate revenue from this use.
- During the pool season, NOVA Parks will create rope lanes in the wave pool and provide lifeguards during early morning practice of an Alexandria swim club. The City will schedule this and be able to generate revenue from this use as well.
- Swim lessons for young children will be conducted by NOVA Parks.
- From November through February, NOVA Parks will create a 'Winter Village,' featuring an ice skating rink, light displays, games and activities. This will add a second peak season to the activities at Cameron Run.
- Other potential activities like farmer's markets, food truck rodeos, and other community events in the parking lot are opportunities for community use and City revenue generation.
- A smaller lease area puts the forested area next to the batting cage and area around Lake Cook into City management.

The lease extension is a win-win for all parties, the residents, the City and NOVA Parks. Beyond 2028, larger plans are envisioned. By that time we will all know better how the Eisenhower Corridor has developed. The City's Capital abilities will likely be in a stronger position, as will NOVA Parks'. Between now and 2028, we look forward to working with the City to think longer term about how this property can best be used for the decades ahead.

Our partnership with the City goes back to 1969 when we bought and restored the Carlyle House. Between this historic jewel and the popularity of Cameron Run, we have jointly created some wonderful destination parks that enhance the City and the region. We look forward to working with the City for years to come to serve the public in interesting and exciting ways.

Sincerely,



Michael Nardolilli  
NOVA Parks Chairman