



50 & FORWARD

VAN DYCK PARK MASTER PLAN



City Council Update October 24, 2017

LKLA



50 & FORWARD
VAN DYCK PARK MASTER PLAN

Master Planning Project Team

City of Fairfax

- Cathy Salgado, Director of Parks and Recreation
- Brianne Baglini, Facilities Operation Manager
- Joanna Ormesher, Cultural Arts and Marketing Manager

Advisory Group – 4 Meetings Held

- Kirk Holley
- Brian Knapp
- Bob Reinsel, Sr.
- Sarah Ross
- Tom Ross
- Armistice Turtora

Master Planning Project Team

Consultant Team

Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, P.C.

- Elisabeth Lardner, Project Director
- Cara Smith, Landscape Architect

Dominion Surveyors, Inc.

- Karl Schwartz, Engineering
- George O'Quinn, Surveying

RIB U.S. COST

- Steve Curran

Master Planning Charge

- “...provide the City with a “**road map**” as to how best incorporate and implement **necessary infrastructure improvements** and to allow the City **accommodate** better the **current and future use** by the public at the park.”

Recap from April 6 Public Workshop #1

- Reviewed Existing Conditions
- Issues and Opportunities
- Broke into Table Discussions



Recap from May 18 Public Workshop #2

- Reviewed 2 Concepts
- 2 Concepts Similar in Programming
- Differed in Physical Layout

Concept 1 Alternative Diagram



Figure 29. Master Plan Concept 1



Figure 40. May 18th Workshop- gathering feedback on concepts



Figure 41. May 18th Workshop- gathering feedback using qualitative photo boards



Figure 42. May 18th Workshop- gathering feedback using qualitative photo boards

On-line Survey Findings - 879 surveys completed

Top 10 responses from 2014 Strategic Master Plan Survey.

- Water spray/fountain play area (56 points)
- Better bathroom facilities (45)
- Add real bike paths to the park (37)
- Improve the skate park (31)
- Make forested areas accessible nature areas (30)
- Bike riding area for kids (29)
- Master Plan for an Urban Park (23)
- Dog Park
- Balance between active use and natural areas (18)
- Trees and benches (18)

Top responses from 2017 Van Dyck Master Plan Survey (over 100 votes)

- Permanent Restrooms (added) (513 votes)
- Playground (443)
- Walking Trails (443)
- Open Play Areas (380)
- Shade Structures (added) (278)
- Water Feature (added) (276)
- Picnics/Picnic Pavilions (264)
- Woodlands (237)
- Dog Park (added) (237)
- Fitness Playground for Adults (added) (225)
- Amphitheater (added) (203)
- Sledding Hill (183)
- Public Art (added) (152)
- Stream (128)



Van Dyck Park Master Plan Vision

DRAFT Vision Statement: Key Words

Vision | *“Amazing Experiences”*

Guiding Principles from the 2014 to 2024 Strategic Plan

Sense of Place	Health & Wellness	Economic Vitality	Conservation & Stewardship	Strategic Partnerships
Natural Resources	Natural Resources		Natural Resources	
	Accessible Spaces			
Stream Restoration			Stream Restoration	Stream Restoration
Branding Identity		Branding Identity		Branding Identity
	Trail Connections	Trail Connections	Trail Connections	Trail Connections
Art in the Parks		Art in the Parks		Art in the Parks
Active Recreation	Active Recreation			Active Recreation
Events and Programs		Events and Programs		Events and Programs
Socializing Places	Socializing Places			
Family Fun	Family Fun		Family Fun	

Preliminary: Van Dyck Park Should Support

- **Sense of Place.** The heart of the community, the Crown Jewel of the park system and premier park within a ten-mile radius, beyond a great place, this is a fantastic place that is recognizable city-wide.
- **Community Connections.** Park facilities, activities, trails and scheduled events that regularly draw the community together. Views of the park draw the passerby in visually.
- **Personal Health and Fitness.** Trails for running and walking, fitness and health programming, adult fitness and children's activities incorporated in accessible equipment and recreational opportunities.
- **Multi-generational Use.** The park hosts activities and equipment that embraces the full array of City of Fairfax residents.
- **Woodlands Management and Stream Restoration.** The park is a showcase and provides an educational laboratory of good natural management and stream restoration techniques and Best Practices.



The Crown Jewel in the City of Fairfax

Park Character Areas

Three Primary Park Areas

1. The Front Door
2. The Bowl and Woodlands
3. The Stream Valley

Excluding the RPA and Floodplain, 43% of the park is undeveloped

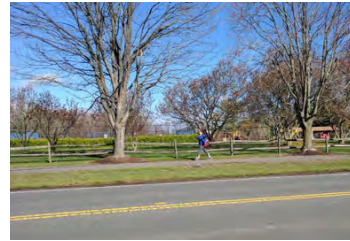


Figure 36. The "Front Door"



Figure 37. The Bowl & Woodlands



Figure 38. The Stream Valley

Park Character Areas

Looking at the park lands as a whole and related to the 40% open space strategy, there are three apparent character areas.

① Front Door of the Park

The grand welcoming experience begins for most at the top of the park along Old Lee Highway where views of and into the park are available to the passerby and the park user. This area is the most developed portion of the site and is the active core area of the park. It includes park features such as the playground, multiple court sports, gathering areas, picnic shelters and parking.

② The Bowl and Woodlands

The central "band" of park land consists of open, unstructured play areas, grassy lawns such as the base of the bowl, sledding hills, and extensive woodlands. Activities include informal recreation, pick-up athletic games in the bowl and areas for contemplative sitting and strolling.

③ The Stream Valley

Characterized by the Accotink Creek corridor and associated natural features, this area is prime for restoration, educational programs and activities, community demonstration projects and nature trails or boardwalks. Opportunities for hands-on learning, nature play and environmental education exist in tandem with proposed stream restoration work.

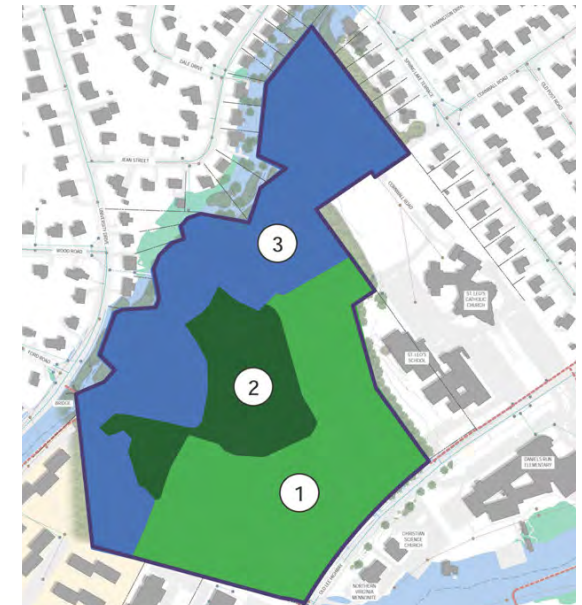


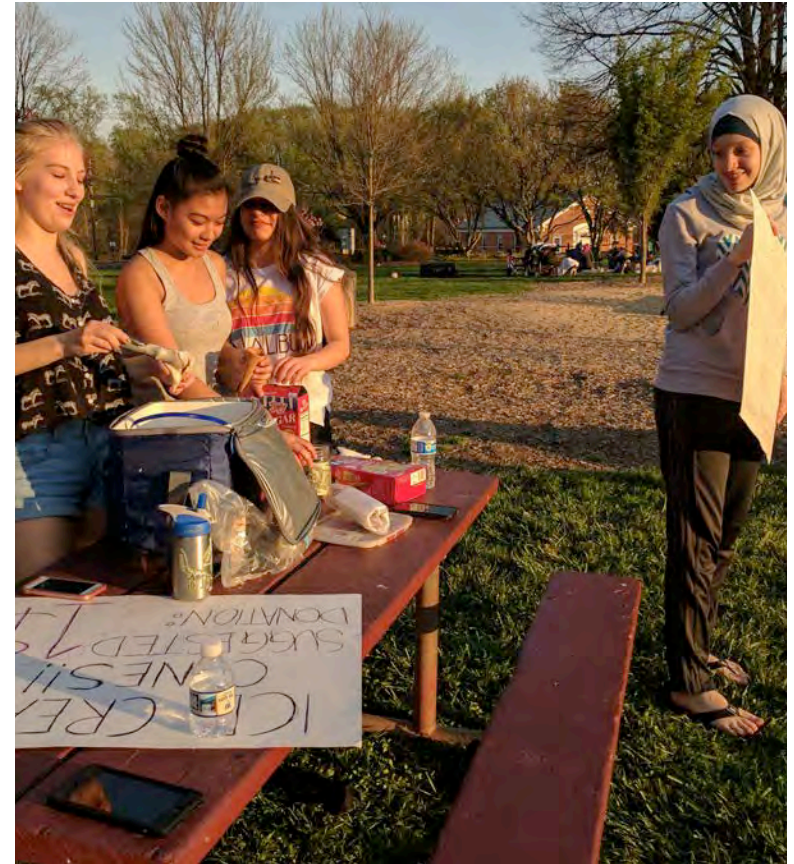
Figure 27. Park Character Areas



The Front Door

Active Heart of the Park

- Multi-age relocated **playground**
- Upgrade and relocate **skate park**
- Replace and add new **picnic shelters** and **permanent restroom**
- Retain **court sports**
- Create street **front plaza** as entry
- Establish **comfortable gathering spaces**
- Retain **open lawn** area for **informal play**
- Consolidate vehicle entry to **one driveway at Sherwood Center**
- Add **pedestrian entries** – Cornwall Road and **expanded trail network** within park and regionally
- Relocate and add **additional parking spaces**



The Bowl and Woodlands

Open, Shady and Unstructured Play Areas

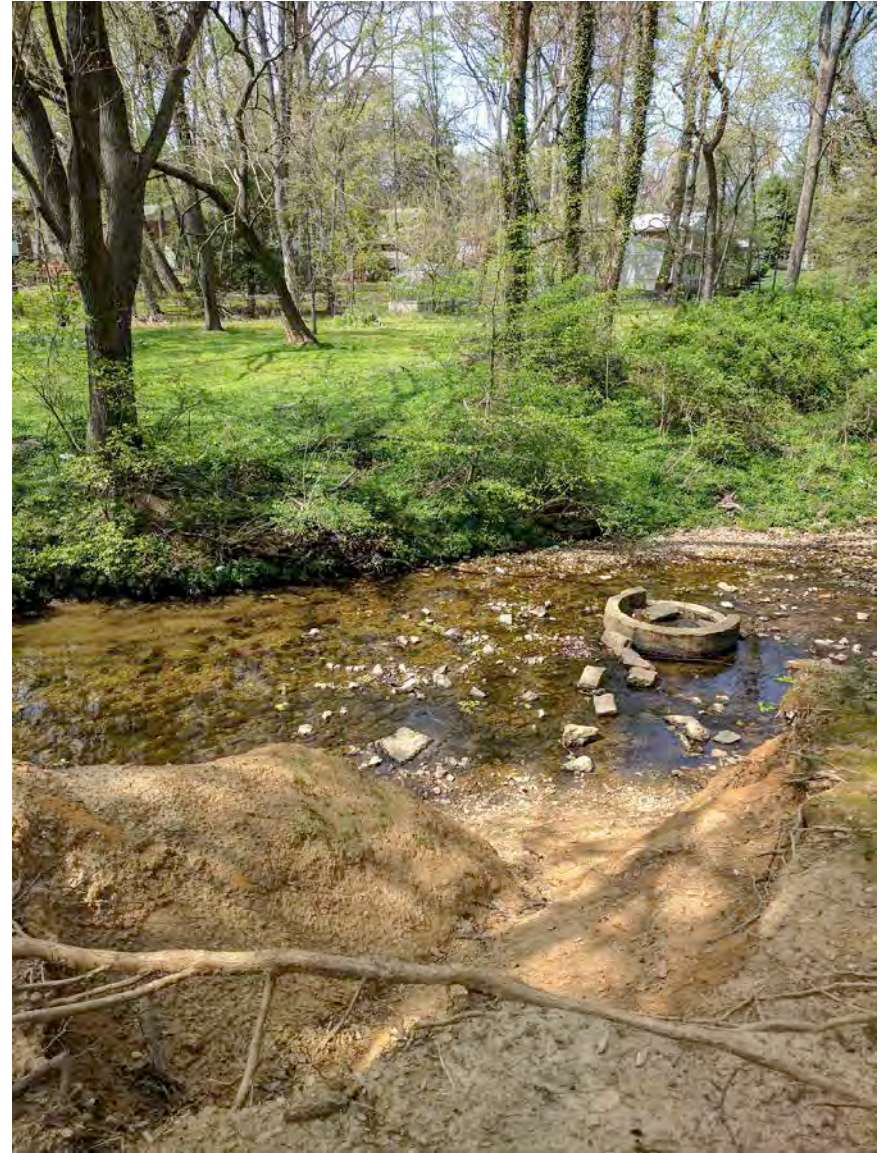
- Retain **sledding hill, open bowl, small pavilion**
- Adjust alignment, surfacing and create **ADA accessible path to connect top and bottom of park, display garden** along switch backs
- Address erosion issues



The Stream Valley

Living Learning Lab

- **Incorporate stream into park**
- **Expand pedestrian entry** on University Drive
- **Restore Accotink Creek**
- **Create Living/Learning Lab** to demonstrate stream restoration techniques and involve community and school children
- **Enhance and preserve woodlands**
- **Improve trail network**, add boardwalk
- **Improve accessibility** between lower and upper park sections



Proposed Van Dyck Park Master Plan



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DRAFT - OCTOBER 2017 | WORKING DOCUMENT

50 & FORWARD VAN DYCK PARK MASTER PLAN

Recommended Van Dyck Park Master Plan

MASTER PLAN COST ESTIMATE

OWNER:



CITY OF FAIRFAX
CITY OF FAIRFAX, VA

DESIGNER:



Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects, P.C.
815 North Royal Street, Suite 200
Alexandria, VA 22314

PREPARED BY:



RIB U.S. COST
241 Garrisonville Rd., Suite 202,
Stafford, Virginia 22554

OCTOBER 16, 2017



Figure 45. Van Dyck Park Master Plan

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Proposed Van Dyck Park Master Plan

