

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 20, 2013
TO: CHAIR & MEMBERS OF THE PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION
FROM: LAURA D. DURHAM, OPEN SPACE COORDINATOR
SUBJECT: OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN 2003-2013 IMPLEMENTATION STATUS
REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE ACTION

ISSUE:

In May 2003 the City Council adopted the Open Space Plan chapter of the City's Master Plan. At the time, the Open Space Plan provided a framework for moving ahead both to preserve and enhance the City's existing open space and to obtain the additional land area Alexandria needed to sustain quality of life for future generations. The City has had significant success implementing this plan over the past ten years, increasing public open space by nearly 100 acres and making "open space" one of the City's top priorities in Alexandria's 2004-2015 Strategic Plan. In order to continue this success, and in response to evolving demands on existing open spaces in the City, new approaches and updated goals should be considered an essential component of Alexandria's ongoing quality of life.

BACKGROUND:

The Open Space Plan established a framework for addressing Alexandria's short and long term open space needs. It defined an approach that maximized the City's limited open space opportunities by creating a system to build upon the City's dense, urban condition. The Plan identified a critical need to add another 100 acres of public open space in ten years (by 2013) in order to maintain a ratio of open space (7.3 acres/1,000 residents) at the time of its approval. In addition, the Plan framed the initiative for Alexandria with a list of 15 simple and direct goal statements:

- Goal 1. Protect and enrich existing parks
- Goal 2. Develop innovative opportunities for creating additional open space
- Goal 3. Complete implementation of the Potomac River Waterfront Plan
- Goal 4. Protect and expand the stream valleys and other environmentally sensitive areas
- Goal 5. Create an open space network in new development areas

- Goal 6. Protect and preserve institutional open space
- Goal 7. Maximize use of public school open space areas
- Goal 8. Preserve and protect cemeteries
- Goal 9. Create public open space from vacant land
- Goal 10. Link and expand pedestrian, bicycle and trail system
- Goal 11. Enhance streetscapes and gateways
- Goal 12. Expand citywide street tree program and protect existing trees and woodland areas
- Goal 13. Encourage the creation of Civic Parks at and adjacent to Metro stations
- Goal 14. Beautify interchanges and highways corridors
- Goal 15. Protect privately owned open space

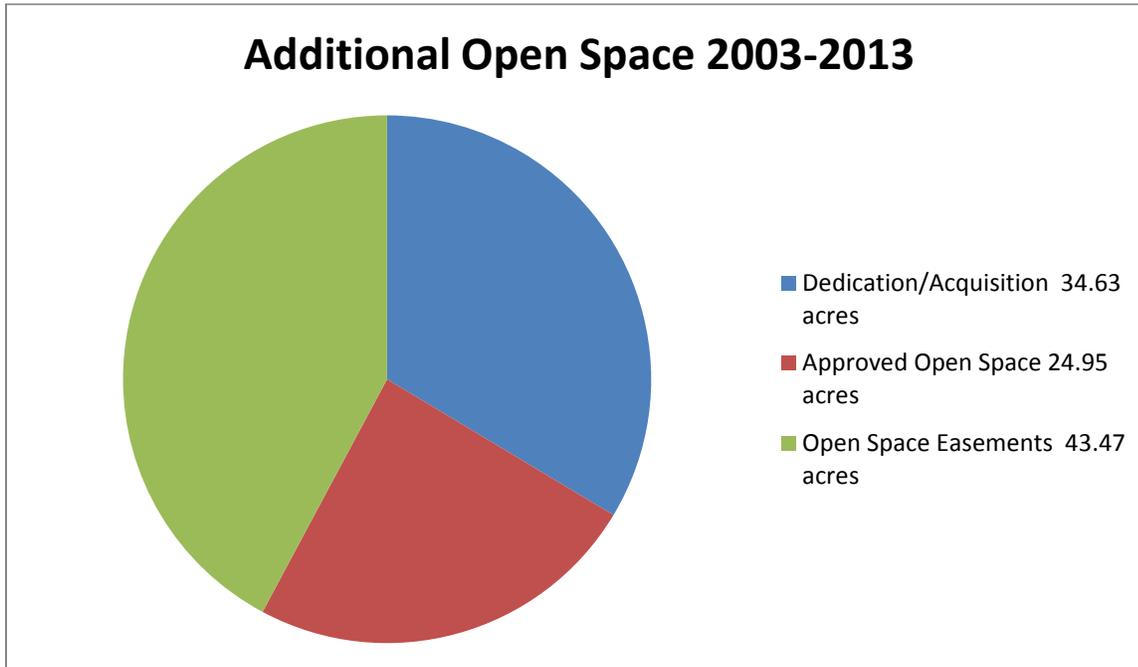
Finally, the Plan listed Priority Actions, and discussed funding and implementation measures for each of the 15 goals, many of which have been completed between the time of the Plan's approval in 2003 and this update in 2013.

Current Status of Implementation of the Open Space Master Plan:

Since the inception of the Open Space Master Plan in 2003, the City has set forth and achieved many of the goals outlined in the plan (Attachment 2). Staff has worked with property owners to protect a number of the significant open space sites identified in the Plan as well as additional open space sites throughout the city. Important sites that have been protected include:

- The acquisition of three of the Waterfront/Strand parcels;
- The acquisition of and improvements to four parcels along Mount Vernon Avenue and adjacent to Four Mile Run;
- Acquisition and development of new park at 2600 Business Center Drive (Witter Fields);
- Acquisition of the parcels at Freedmen's Cemetery;
- Acquisition of Ivor Lane (Seminary Forest) property;
- Acquisition of and improvements to two pocket parks, 48 South Early Street and 1&7 East Del Ray Avenue;
- Acquisition of land to expand Holmes Run Park;
- Acquisition of an abandoned power substation and conversion to neighborhood park;
- Acquisition of key parcel for Braddock area community park;
- Acquisition of woodland area for a park on Polk Avenue;
- Conservation easements on five properties through partnership with the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust;
- Historic Preservation Open Space Easements through Alexandria's Historic Preservation Easement Program;
- Significant open space acreage created and/or protected with public access easements through the City's development process; and
- A number of properties dedicated to the City by private property owners for use as parks/open space.

As of January 2013, the City has achieved the addition of 103 acres of open space – just over the 100 acre goal (Attachment 1). With this achievement of the 100 acre goal set forth in the plan, the City has maintained the ratio of 7.3 acres per 1,000 residents. The graphic below depicts the total additional open space acreage the City has attained since 2003 through acquisition and dedication; public open space easements through private development (and redevelopment) and conservation easements; and public open space approved in yet to be built development plans.



Along with the additional open space depicted above, a number of other objectives within the Plan have been met, including:

- The creation of public open space networks through the City’s Small Area Plans (Eisenhower East, Arlandria, Landmark/Van Dorn, Braddock, Waterfront and Beauregard);
- The adoption of the Urban Forestry and Eco-City Plans, as well as the Four Mile Run Remediation Master Plan, all of which call for preservation and enhancement of City open space;
- An ongoing partnership with the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust to provide educational opportunities for landowners, provide outreach to institutional landholders, and to protect open space with conservation easements; and
- The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities has developed a staff of landscape architects, architect and planners within the Division of Park Planning and Capital Development with a goal of creating and improving the quality of the City’s public parks and open spaces.

Moving Forward, 2013-2023:

As discussed above, the City has made significant progress towards the goals set forth in the Open Space Master Plan. In particular, the ten-year goal of maintaining a 7.3 acre per 1,000 residents has been achieved. The Open Space Master Plan was not, however, a ten-year plan, and the City of Alexandria must continue to strive to meet some of the unfulfilled goals outlined in the plan. We also must look at future projected population growth and the open space needs of those new Alexandrians. For instance, if we are to maintain the ratio above, the City will need to add another **183 acres** of open space by the year 2023 (based on recent census estimates for population growth).

Of these 183 acres, the City has made headway with planned public open space within recently approved Small Area Plans that has not been accounted for in current open space figures (Landmark/Van Dorn, Waterfront, Braddock and Beauregard Small Area Plans). With implementation of these plans, an additional 58 acres of public open space will be provided. In order to attain the remaining 125 acres (183 needed minus the 58 provided through future implementation of Small Area Plans), the City will need to continue its current efforts as well as explore more innovative approaches to increasing public open space.

RECOMMENDATION:

As discussed above, over the past ten years, the City has achieved significant success toward meeting the goals set forth in the 2003 Open Space Master Plan. Hitting the ten year mark, however, is an important opportunity to review and revise the implementation measures also set forth in the Plan. Attached to this memo is a document depicting achievements to date for each goal of the Open Space Plan, as well as recommendations for future implementation strategies for the Plan (Attachment 2). Some of those recommendations are readily achievable and already underway, while others require thoughtful consideration, analysis and collaboration between City departments, the public, and the development community.

Upon receipt of this memorandum, this additional work should be initiated, with refined recommendations brought forward to involved City boards and commissions, as well as City Council in the fall of 2013. In particular, the following items should be initiated over the next three months:

- Establish an interdepartmental working group to discuss and analyze the feasibility of specific changes (Attachment 2) to the City's Zoning Ordinance, including participants from Planning and Zoning; Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; Transportation and Environmental Services and the City Attorney's Office.
- Utilizing GIS, determine and map underserved areas of the City, currently not served with public open space within a ¼ mile radius.
- Utilizing GIS, determine and map vulnerable natural resource areas as candidates for additional protection.

- Finalize and implement a work plan for the completion of a Natural Resource Management Plan for Alexandria.
- Working with the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, the RPCA Division of Natural Resources, the Alexandria City Public Schools and the Office of Environmental Quality, develop a collaborative outreach and education program, strongly emphasizing the protection of open space in the City.
- Utilizing the RPCA Division of Park Planning's internship program, research and document best practices in the creation of public open space in urban areas across the region and the country and produce a feasibility analysis of each for Alexandria.
- Finalize and implement a policy (or set of policies) to guide successful fulfillment of new stormwater requirements, while protecting and preserving public open space.

With the above tasks completed or underway, including collaboration between involved boards and commissions, staff can provide City Council with an actionable plan for the creation and protection of open space in the next ten years.

Attachment 1: Open Space Preserved Since Open Space Master Plan 2003 Approval (100 Acre Goal)

Open Space Dedications and Acquisitions

| Location | Year Approved | Preservation Method | Held By | Acreage |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Oak Grove - 1400 Janney's Lane | 2004 | Dedication | City | 1.16 acres |
| Seminary Forest - 2200 Ivor Lane | 2004 | Dedication/Acquisition | City | 5.00 acres |
| 1301 Powhatan Street | 2004 | Dedication | City | .15 acres |
| Cameron Station Phase VII | 2004 | Dedication | City | 0.75 acres |
| 210 Strand Street | 2006 | Acquisition | City | 0.102 acres |
| 0 Prince Street and 200 Srand Street | 2006 | Acquisition | City | 0.443 acres |
| 4630 Raleigh Avenue | 2006 | Acquisition | City | .14 acres |
| 3759 Jefferson Davis Highway | 2006 | Dedication | City | 3.98 acres |
| 1201 North Beauregard Street | 2007 | Dedication | City | 2.86 acres |
| 4109-4125 Mount Vernon Avenue | 2007 | Acquisition | City | 1.46 acres |
| 48 South Early Street | 2007 | Acquisition | City | .4 acres |
| 1&7 East Del Ray Avenue | 2008 | Acquisition | City | .37 acres |
| | | | | |

| Location | Year Approved | Preservation Method | Held By | Acreage |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 3550 Commonwealth Avenue | 2009 | Acquisition | City | .53 acres |
| 600 North Henry Street | 2010 | Acquisition | City | .48 acres |
| 2600 Business Center Drive | 2007 | Settlement Dedication | City | 13.9 acres |
| 1001 S. Washington & 714 Church St | 2007 | Settlement Dedication | City | 1.01 acres |
| 840 N. Alfred Street (James Bland | 2012 | Acquisition/Dedication | City | .3 acres |
| 5325 Polk Avenue | 2012 | Acquisition | City | 2.34 acres |
| Total Open Space Acquisitions and Dedications | | | | 35.38 acres |

Future Approved Open Space Dedications

| Location | Year Approval Expected | Preservation Method | Held By | Acreage |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| ATA 2203 Mill Road | 2006-2007 | Dedication | City | 1.01 acres |
| Eisenhower East Underway/Completed | Future - no later than 2015 | Dedication | City | .26 acres |
| Proposed/Approved | | Dedication | City | 2.38 acres |
| Proposed/Approved | | Dedication | City | 20.70 acres |
| Eisenhower East Total Open Space | | | | 23.34 acres |
| Total Future Dedications and Acquisitions | | | | 24.95 acres |

Several areas previously captured within the Open Space Master Plan prior to the 10 year goal include: Cameron Station Linear Park, and some portions of Potomac Yard. In areas where open space is already accounted for, staff is working to incorporate additional improvements to the quality of open space. The totals above *do not* reflect most recently approved small area plans (Landmark/Van Dorn, Braddock, Waterfront and Beauregard).

Public Access or Open Space Conservation Easements

| Location | Year Approved | Preservation Method | Held by | Acreage |
|--|----------------------|---|------------------|----------------|
| Cooper Dawson - 206 N. Quaker Lane | 2004 | Conservation easement | Private | 0.41 acres |
| Pickett's Ridge - 1101 Finley Lane | 2004 | Public Access Easement Conservation Easement | Private | 0.01 acres |
| Quaker Ridge - 3511 Duke Street | 2004 | Conservation Easement | Private | 0.52 acres |
| 1900 Russell Road | 2004 | Conservation Easement | NVCT/ Private | 0.36 acres |
| 1500 King Street | 2005 | Public Access Easement | Private | 0.11 acres |
| Hennage - 500 Henry Street | 2005 | Public Access Easement | Private | 0.52 acres |
| Old Club - 555 South Washington Street | 2005 | Public Access Easement | Private | 0.09 acres |
| Postmasters - 329 First Street | 2005 | Public Access Easement | Private | 0.02 acres |
| 403 West Masonic View | 2006 | Conservation Easement | NVCT/Private | 1.91 acres |
| 3401 Russell Road | 2006 | Conservation Easement | NVCT/ Private | 2.83 acres |
| INOVA Alexandria 1200 Howard Street | 2006 | Public Access Easement | Private | 7.95 acres |
| 3015 Mount Vernon Avenue (MV Commons) | 2006 | Public Access Easement | Private | .06 acres |

| Location | Year Approved | Preservation Method | Held by | Acreage |
|---|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1219 First Street (Braddock Gateway) | 2011 | Public Access Easement | Private | .63 acres |
| 2312 Mount Vernon Avenue | 2006 | Public Access Easement | Private | .08 acres |
| 621 North Payne Street (Payne St. Condos) | 2008 | Public Access Easement | Private | .34 acres |
| Potomac Yard (planned) | 2010 Update | Public Access Easement/Dedication | Public/Private | |
| Landbay K Extension | | Dedication | Public | 4 acres |
| Crescent Park | | Dedication | Public | 3 acres |
| Metro Square Park | | Public Access Easement | Private | .7 acres |
| Market Green | | Public Access Easement | Private | 1 acre |
| Four Mile Run and Route 1 (adjacent) | | Public Access Easement | Private | 3.5 acres |
| Minimum Ground level open space required | | Public Access Easement | Private | 10.44 acres |
| Battery Heights | 2005 | Conservation Easement | NVCT | 2.87 |
| 214 West Alexandria | 2009 | Conservation Easement | NVCT | 1.37 |
| Total Public Access or Open Space Conservation Easements | | | | 42.72 |

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Total Open Space Approved and/or Planned for Protection | 103.05 acres |
|--|---------------------|

Historic Preservation Easements in Alexandria

Not included in the open space acreage totals, but very important to note, are a number of historic preservation easements that also include open space. Staff received a list, most recently updated in July, 2006 of such easements from the Office of Historic Alexandria.. Properties with Historic Preservation Easements that include open space/scenic preservation on this list are:

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 118 N. Alfred Street | 506 Queen Street |
| 216 N. Alfred Street | 508 Queen Street |
| 115 & 117 S. Alfred Street | 518 Queen Street |
| 219 S. Alfred Street | 520 & 522 Queen Street |
| Battery Heights (near Trinity and N. Quaker Lane) | 908 Queen Street |
| 211 Cameron Street | 910 Queen Street |
| 514 Cameron Street | 912 Queen Street |
| 607 Cameron Street | 13 Russell Road |
| 202 Duke Street | 208 S. Saint Asaph Street |
| 514-516 Duke Street | 209 S. Saint Asaph Street |
| 215 N. Fairfax Street | 223 S. Saint Asaph Street |
| (601 Duke Street) | |
| 209 S. Fairfax Street | 312 S. Saint Asaph Street |
| 508 S. Fairfax Street | 220 N. Washington Street |
| 311 E. Howell Street | |
| 1007 King Street | |
| 2413 King Street | |
| 216, 218, 220 N. Lee Street | |
| 218 S. Lee Street | |
| 310 S. Lee Street | |
| 401 S. Lee Street | |
| 418 S. Lee Street | |
| 420 S. Lee Street | |
| 428 S. Lee Street | |
| 619 S. Lee Street (207 Franklin Street) | |
| 735 S. Lee Street | |
| 205 North View Terrace | |
| 601 Oronoco Street | |
| 609 Oronoco Street | |

614 Oronoco Street & 429 N. Washington Street
206 N. Pitt Street
201 Prince Street
805-807 Prince Street
808 Prince Street
1020 Prince Street
1122 Prince Street

Attachment 2: Open Space Master Plan – Status of Implementation and Recommendations for Future Action

| Open Space Plan Goal | Success to Date | Recommended Actions |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Goal 1: Protect and enrich existing parks</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of and improvements to open space properties adjacent to existing parks to provide additional protection and to improve the usability (Four Mile Run Park, Holmes Run Park Expansion, Waterfront Park). • Completed site/furnishings/amenities inventory of all existing parks, identifying and prioritizing park needs for additional investment. • Established responsive ten year Capital Improvement Program to enrich existing parks. • Expanded public/private partnership opportunities (Adopt-a-Park, Adopt-a-Garden and additional private maintenance agreements) improve appearance and maintenance of existing parks. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete master planning of City parks by typology, identifying heavily used areas and determining methods to minimize overuse (initiated Spring 2012). • Complete inventory of cultural and natural resources within City parks and develop management plans for these resources. • Further expand the City’s volunteer and public/private partnership programs to help with ongoing maintenance of open space. • Develop and implement stormwater management strategies that minimize the impact of recent stormwater regulations on City parks/open space. • Amend City Zoning Ordinance to include additional overlay zone for additional protection of sensitive natural areas/parkland. • Establish standardized contribution formula for private developments that are not able to meet open space requirements on site for the improvement and maintenance of nearby parks. • Establish standardized open space acreage requirements for active and passive recreation (i.e., ration of acreage needed to meet public needs |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Goal 2: Develop innovative opportunities for creating additional open space</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of open space properties with existing buildings/structures – creating open space from a built environment. • Creation of significant public open space acreage through the development process. • New artificial turf field on top of Alexandria Renew facility. • Partnership with the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, providing educational and legal resources for property owners interested in conserving and/or donating open space. | <p>for fields, trails, playgrounds, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create parkland and recreational amenities on top or in coordination with other city infrastructure (including new underground and aboveground parking structures, stormwater facilities and buildings). • Amend the Zoning Ordinance to require open space for office and commercial uses. • Establish standard open space requirements for development (i.e., ratios of public open space acreage required per new residents/office space/commercial use, new trails for reduced parking requirements, etc.). • Formalize public/private partnership guidelines for public use opportunities of private and institutional open space. • Formalize guidelines and agreements for roof top open space available/usable by the public. • Create and establish outreach program, alerting the public to the availability of privately owned, but publically accessible open spaces throughout the City. • Continue annual outreach to private and institutional landowners regarding benefits of conservation easements. • Consider, and if appropriate implement, a density bonus provision |
|---|--|---|

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | for the creation of public open space on private development projects. |
| Goal 3: Complete implementation of the Potomac River Waterfront Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquired three parcels of Waterfront open space. • City Council adoption of the Waterfront Small Area Plan. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire remaining two Strand parcels identified in the Open Space Plan. • Identify opportunities for public open space with future redevelopment of the Mirant Plant. • Complete Waterfront Park/Open Space Design. |
| Goal 4: Protect and expand stream valleys and other environmentally sensitive areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the Four Mile Run Remediation Master Plan. • Office of Environmental Quality provides outreach and education on Watershed Management. • Compliance with State regulations provides 100 foot buffer and prohibits new encroachments into RPA's. • Acquisition of open space properties along RPA's (Four Mile Run, South Early Street). • Acquisition of wooded, steeply sloped open space property on Polk Avenue. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to curtail encroachments into stream valleys and other RPA's. • Do not allow variances to RPA buffers. • Complete Natural Resources Management Plan, identifying areas for additional protection and significant restoration and/or reforestation. • Implement urban stream restoration techniques in areas where naturalization is feasible. |
| Goal 5: Create an open space network in new development areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Small Area Plans adopted in the past 10 years include a network of public open space and connections with existing City parks (Eisenhower East, Landmark/Van Dorn, Braddock, Waterfront and Beauregard). • Improvements to existing parks and trails increase connectivity between open spaces. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to ensure that all new redevelopment areas and updates to Small Area Plans include connected open space areas. • Amend Zoning Ordinance to require open space for commercial development. • Coordinate with Arlington and Fairfax Counties to provide open space linkages in new development areas. |
| Goal 6: Protect and preserve institutional open space | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current limited protection through the zoning process if/when significant | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue outreach through the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| | <p>institutional properties propose additional site development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing outreach through NVCT regarding opportunities for conservation easements on these sites (GW Memorial, VTC, Episcopal High School, etc.) | <p>to promote conservation easements on institutional land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore right of first refusal options with large land holders in advance of any such land becoming available on the market. • Formalize process for public partnerships that maintain and enhance natural areas on institutional land. |
| Goal 7: Maximize use of public school open space | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements of athletic facilities with artificial turf to provide broader public use of school fields (Minnie Howard, Jefferson Houston, Francis Hammond). • Exploration of school/community garden opportunities at schools (GW, Cora Kelly, T. C.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that all (existing and new) public school sites meet or exceed State Dept. of Education Guidelines for Outdoor Play Space. • Co-locate community and school indoor/outdoor recreation facilities where feasible, including athletics, playgrounds, and community gardens. • Continue to develop educational programs related to open and natural spaces. |
| Goal 8: Preserve and protect cemeteries | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RPCA staff maintenance of cemeteries (Ivy Hill and Lebanon) • Completion of Freedmen’s Memorial Cemetery underway. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase public awareness that public behavior in cemeteries should be different than that which is appropriate in other public open spaces. • Reduce/control effects of stormwater run-off in and adjacent to cemeteries. • Map cemeteries and create a guide to their resources. • Explore historic and scenic easements for sites with environmental and cultural resources. |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Goal 9: Create public open space from vacant land</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of vacant/unused land for open space (VEPCO substation, South Early, East Del Ray, Polk Avenue). • Dedication of privately held land to the City for use as public open space (Jack Taylor, Winkler). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain open space funding stream in the annual CIP to provide the ability to acquire priority open space sites if/when they become available. • Identify and map vacant land for open space acquisition (or other mechanisms) in areas currently underserved by parks/open space (1/4 mile radius). • Convert under/unutilized paved areas to public gathering spaces. |
| <p>Goal 10: Link and expand pedestrian, bicycle and trail system</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following Open Space Plan approval, a new position in TES was created to improve and expand the trail system (Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator). • Transportation Master Plan approved, including significant trail network and referencing the approved Open Space Master Plan. • Recent Small Area Plans adopted include new/extended trails. • Safe Routes to School program initiated. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure ongoing RPCA and TES collaboration to oversee implementation and maintenance of approved trail network. • Further evaluate the City’s network of public alleys and define those most appropriate for use as trail and open space connectors. • Continue and expand the City’s Safe Routes to School program. • Consider the use of development TMP funds for appropriate and nearby trails and bicycle facilities. |
| <p>Goal 11: Enhance streetways and gateways</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of updated (2007) City Landscape Guidelines for private and public projects addresses requirements for street trees and plantings. • Recently adopted Small Area Plans call for enhanced streetscapes. • Recent and planned improvements to Mount Vernon Ave., Commonwealth Ave., Eisenhower Avenue, Washington | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete and begin implementation of Public Art Master Plan. • Complete implementation of the recently approved City Wayfinding Program. • Complete and implement comprehensive gateway enhancement program at sites listed in the Open Space Master Plan. |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| | Street and other significant roadways. | |
| Goal 12: Expand citywide street tree program and protect existing trees and woodland areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Forestry Master Plan approved in 2009. • Annual City tree sale promotes tree planning on private properties. • Updated Landscape Guidelines provide better/enhanced tree protection requirements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue implementation of Urban Forestry Master Plan, including enhanced street tree program. • Complete Natural Resource Management Plan, identifying tree receiving areas for larger stands of urban canopy and a standardized preventative tree care program for existing canopy. • Explore and promote forest conservation easements on large tracts of urban forest on private and institutional lands. |
| Goal 13: Encourage the creation of civic parks at and adjacent to Metro stations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Eisenhower and King Street Stations have approved improvement/development plans that include significant improvements to the civic space. • The Braddock Small Area Plan calls for enhanced civic space at the Braddock Metro with any future redevelopment/improvements to the site. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide bike/pedestrian trail linkages to City Metro Stations. • Partner with WMATA to provide enhanced planting and seating/gathering areas at Metro station – consider private sponsorship. |
| Goal 14: Beautify interchanges and highway corridors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Eisenhower East, Potomac Yard, Landmark/Van Dorn and Beauregard Small Area Plans call for beautification and greening measures for highways, some of which are presently underway. • Streetscape improvements to the George Washington Parkway in Alexandria are underway. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to monitor all highway expansion programs by VDOT to ensure protection of existing landscape plans and to identify areas for forestation and reforestation. |
| Goal 15 Protect privately owned open space | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through its partnership with the | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policy and programs to |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | <p>Northern Virginia Conservation Trust (NVCT), the City actively encourages and educates landowners on private conservation easements and other preservation tools for private property.</p> | <p>provide additional public open space on privately held property, especially in congested, underserved areas and areas with significant natural resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue partnership with the NVCT with a focus on education and on achieving conservation easements or other measures of protection on large institutional open space tracts and properties adjacent to existing parks.• Continue to provide annual or biannual seminars on open space easements that area available to residents and property owners in the City. |
|--|---|---|