

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Citywide Park Improvement Plans Hensley Park



November 19, 2012



Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Activities
Park Planning, Design & Capital Development Division

Citywide Park Planning Goals & Criteria



Goal

Create plans that identify the priorities for future park enhancements and uses in Alexandria's large, multi-use, municipally-owned parks, balancing the City's recreational, cultural, environmental, and passive use needs.

What is a Citywide Park?

Over 20 acres

Multi-use

Municipally-owned



Citywide Park Planning Framework Timeline



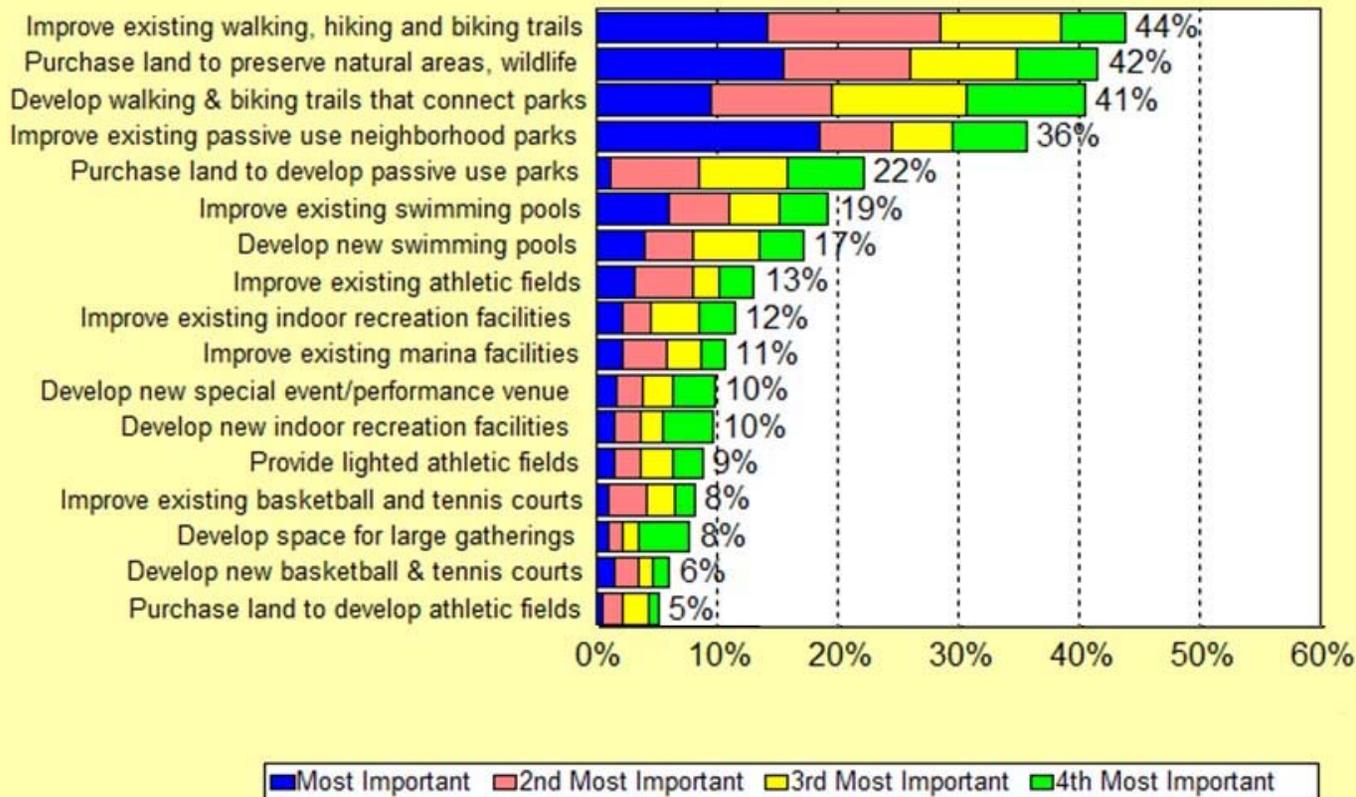
	Spring 2012	Summer 2012	Fall/Winter 2012	Spring 2013	Summer 2013
Conduct Site Inventory	Dark Gray	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
Review Existing Plans & Documents	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
Collect Qualitative Data from City Staff	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
Conduct Site Observations	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Light Blue	Light Blue
Review National Benchmarks & Standards	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray
Obtain Feedback from Public	Light Blue	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray
Hold Public Workshops	Light Blue	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Light Blue
Develop Recommendations & Report	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Dark Gray

Park Planning Needs Assessment



Q15. Actions That Households Are Most Willing to Support with Their Tax Dollars

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



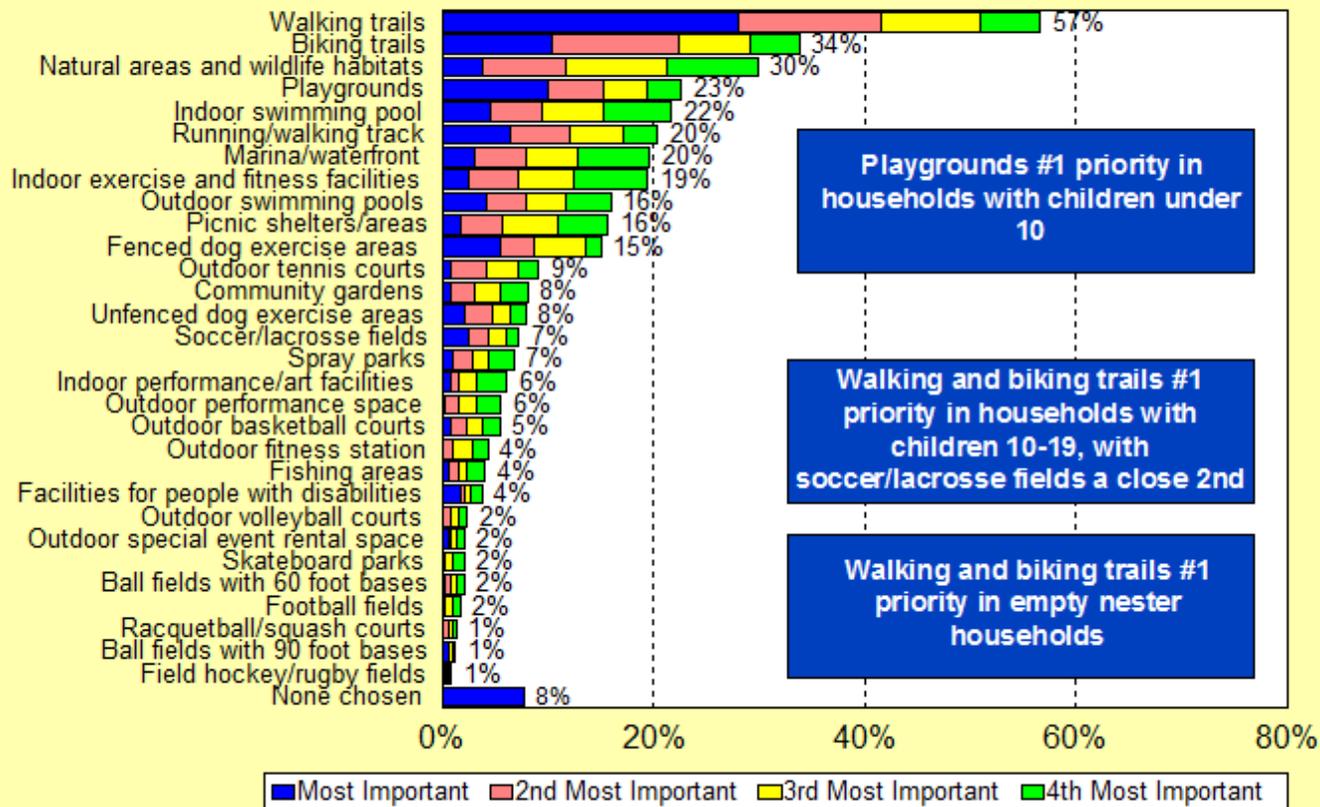
Source: Leisure Vision/ETC Institute (July 2011)

Park Planning Needs Assessment



Q7. Parks, Recreation, or Cultural Amenities That Are Most Important to Households

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



Playgrounds #1 priority in households with children under 10

Walking and biking trails #1 priority in households with children 10-19, with soccer/lacrosse fields a close 2nd

Walking and biking trails #1 priority in empty nester households

Consistent Findings in all Citywide Parks

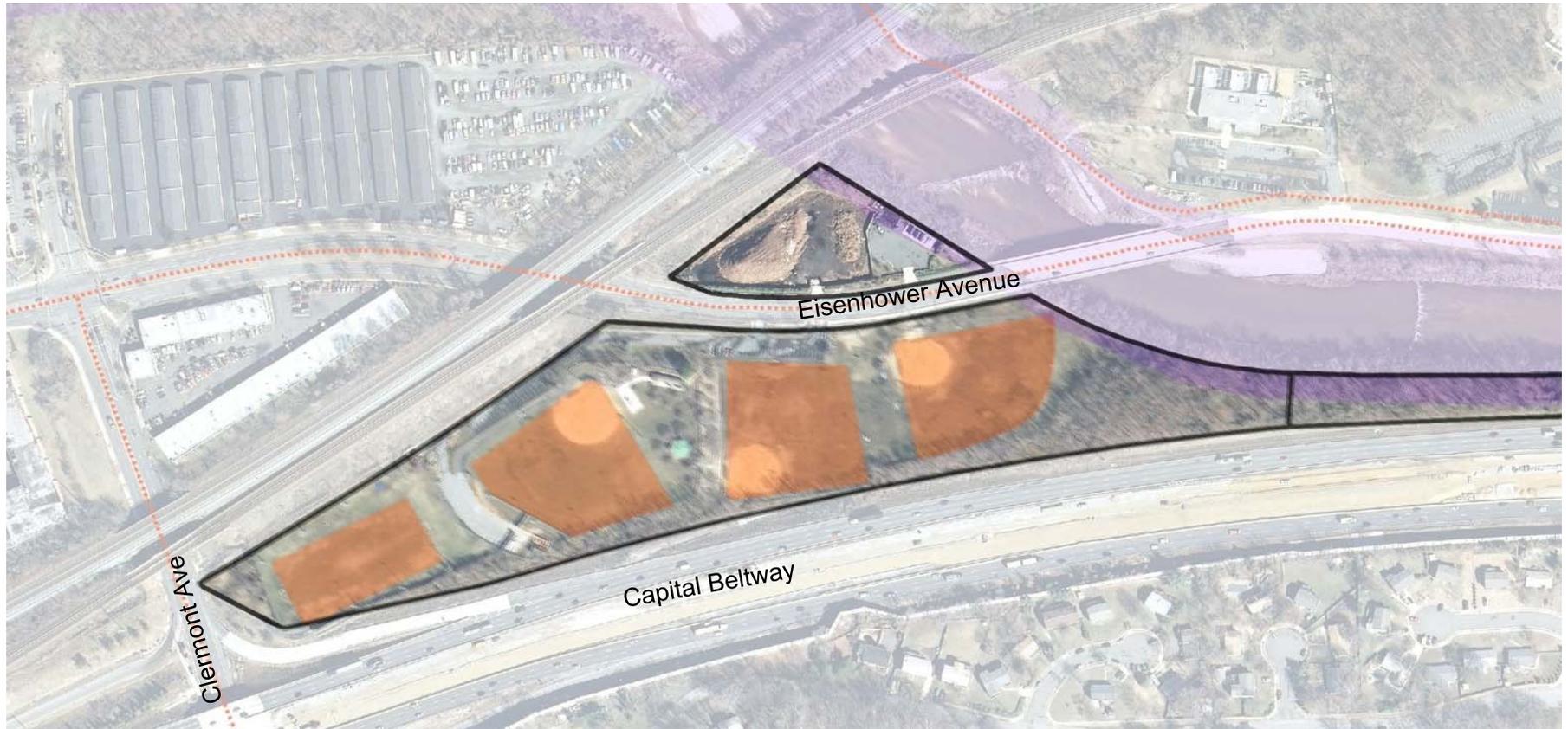


Develop strategy or implementation for:

1. Natural and Historic resource protection
2. Universal ADA accessibility
3. Multi-use paths to reflect user patterns
4. Parking management strategies
5. Upgrade and maintain sports fields
6. Trash receptacle locations and recycling program
7. Standardized way-finding and park regulation signage
8. Locations for public art, in collaboration with the Office of the Arts
9. Infrastructure for event spaces (hard surfaces, electrical outlets, restroom access, water)



Hensley Park Existing Conditions



Hensley Park Existing Conditions



Hensley Park Anticipated Projects



**New backstop scheduled
FY14**

**Parking lot re-paving
scheduled for FY15**

Funding for festival area

**Netting scheduled for
FY14**

Hensley Park

Group Exercise



1. Complete individual surveys
(for those who have not filled out the online survey)

2. As a group, Identify:
 - a) The top five park assets
 - b) Where pathways should be for optimal park circulation
 - c) Existing conditions that need improvement
 - d) Programs/facilities that are not in the park, but should be

3. Review both the list of improvements and program needs, prioritize the top five.

Next Steps



1. Tell your friends and neighbors to take the survey before the end of November:
www.alexva.us/aw6
2. Synthesis and Analysis
3. Spring Workshops