

Document Supporting POPS Civic Federation Resolution – January 8, 2019

Summary

Arlington’s Public Spaces Master Plan (“PSMP”) or Plan Our Public Spaces (“POPS plan”) will be used as the basis for making investments and planning decisions for the next twenty years regarding parks and recreation. The POPS plan contains specific quantitative recommendations that will be used to make such decisions, including:

- dedicating acres of public parkland (e.g. providing more or different sports fields or more casual use space)
- installing multi-million-dollar CIP improvements (e.g. more synthetic turf and/or lights)
- maintaining existing assets (e.g. spending enough money to keep existing grass and turf fields in maximum playable condition before spending money on new fields or new field infrastructure)

Correctly estimating these quantitative recommendations is critically important to prioritizing limited financial resources to meet the diversity of park and recreational needs.

Arlington’s Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has failed to apply the recommended industry standard Level of Service (LOS) methodology by excluding the abundance of supply and demand field data and analyses which DPR had in its files and has been working on since at least 2015 from the public POPS process. These data are necessary to determine the quantitative recommendations relating to the proposed LOS for sports fields in the current final draft of the POPS plan. The industry standard LOS methodology was provided to DPR and that industry standard methodology requires the use of these data: “Each community determine its own LOS standard based on current supply and demand and future supply/demand projections¹” ([POPS LOS Methodology 171220](#)).

Because DPR failed to follow the industry standard methodology, the quantitative LOS recommendations are abstract notions with no rationale explaining how the recommendations were established. As such, the POPS plan must be adjusted both to remove the unfounded quantitative recommendations and to include the industry standard LOS methodology.

Defining Level of Service (LOS)

LOS is a number which, if properly calculated, can be used as a quantitative measurement to determine the number of recreational facilities (by type).

For example, if LOS is determined to be 1 diamond field per 6,000 people, then a population of 230,000 people ought to have 38 diamond fields. If LOS is determined to be 1 diamond field per 7,000 people, then the same population ought to have 33 diamond fields. And so on.

What’s the difference between the POPS plan’s definition of LOS and the DPR consultants’ recommended industry standard definition of LOS? As illustrated in the table below, the POPS plan’s definition does not take into account current supply and demand:

¹ Appendix 1: METHODOLOGY STATEMENT POPS_LOS Methodology_171220

	POPS Definition of LOS	Industry standard definition of LOS
Current population	X	X MUST
Projected population	X	x MUST
Current Supply (hours available)		X MUST
Current Demand (hours needed)		x MUST
Projected Supply (hours available)		X MUST
Projected Demand (hours needed)		X MUST
Once supply/demand analyses are complete, a range of variables are used to cross check the estimates		
Peer Cities Comparison	X (no explanation how its measured or weighted)	x OPTIONAL
National Averages	X (no explanation how its measured or weighted)	x OPTIONAL
Community Input	X (no explanation how its measured or weighted)	X OPTIONAL
Observations	X (no explanation how its measured or weighted)	x OPTIONAL
Participation rates (registration numbers)	X(no explanation how its measured or weighted)	X OPTIONAL
Resident priority	X (no explanation how its measured or weighted)	X OPTIONAL
Quality of Experience		X OPTIONAL
Availability of Programs		X OPTIONAL
Market Trends		X OPTIONAL
Parkland totals (compare similar park system sizes for feasibility of adding facilities)		x OPTIONAL
The results =	Targeted ratio of facility per capita (i.e. 1 court per 2,500 people)	

- Other categories of fields and facilities besides diamond fields should also be analyzed for their accuracy using the referenced DPR data compared to the POPS plan’s recommendations
- [In 2015 an external consultant](#)² and [DPR’s reports and analyses](#)³ showed that DPR has not been scheduling fields well.

Other LOS variables

The other LOS variables used in the POPS plan’s recommendations included (1) peer cities, (2) national averages and (3) resident priorities. However, DPR has not disclosed how they calculated these variables individually nor how they weighted these three variables against each other. **Most importantly, the public POPS plan never mentions that supply and demand data were used in any of the final recommendations, nor in the internal FOIA’d documents, even though using such data is the standard industry practice.** More information about the serious methodological flaws can be seen [here](#)⁴.

Based on the flawed and improper way in which DPR calculated LOS, the POPS plan connects the LOS to financial and land use decisions by saying:

“Level of service [LOS] standards show that Arlington will need an additional 11 rectangular fields and 2 diamond fields by 2035... Increasing the number of synthetic fields, adding lights, and/or the combination of synthetic fields with lighting provides the best opportunity for the County to meet the demand...”⁵ [Page 195 PSMP]

² <https://parks.arlingtonva.us/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2016/02/Athletic-Facilities-Allocation-Study-February-Work-Session.pdf>

³ Appendix 2a: UTILIZATION DATA and <http://parks4everyone.org/utilization-data/>

⁴ Appendices 2b-2e: LOS and <http://parks4everyone.org/population-based-level-of-service/>

⁵ <http://arlingtonparks.us/pops/PSMP-web.pdf>

How LOS will impact Arlington

LOS will:

- impact Arlington’s allocation of resources: land and dollars
- justify the modification of space to change from one use to another, *e.g.* from baseball to soccer or basketball to tennis, and how that space is configured, *e.g.* with turf and lights
- establish a prioritization regarding how projects and acquisitions move forward
- determine maintenance funding and use allocation
- be used as a benchmark for any future reviews of POPS in the next 20 years and for all community park planning projects in the next 5 years
- have a direct impact on other County plans, including the *Urban Forest Master Plan* and the *Natural Resources Management Plan*

How Arlington residents uncovered the facts

A group of Arlington residents have been actively involved all during the POPS process. They found that their experience on the ground did not match what the POPS plan was and is saying about LOS. These residents were walking by parks and observing that the fields were open and available on a regular basis, even at the height of the season on weekends and evenings, in good weather. These residents also wondered how the methodology regarding LOS standards in the PSMP was determined, as well as, how peer cities and national averages were determined. This resident group asked DPR to voluntarily provide the data explaining this information in 2017. However, DPR did not respond to their repeated requests.

Planning commissioners and sports commissioners also asked DPR for more details throughout the POPS process, including an explanation of the methodology and the data backing up the POPS plan for 11 more rectangular fields and 2 more diamond fields by 2035. DPR also never responded to their requests for more information.

DPR’s failure to voluntarily provide the information led a group of Arlington residents to initiate a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Arlington County in December 2017 asking for

- information on the methodology DPR used regarding LOS & the LOS variables (i.e. peer cities)
- insight into actual supply and demand data for sports fields

Given time constraints, these residents analyzed *primarily* the information relating to diamond fields because the observations of actual usage on the ground were so greatly disconnected from the POPS plan’s recommendations.

Analysis of DPR information produced under FOIA

By August 2018, this resident group had identified that the POPS plan’s claim that it is necessary to add two new diamond fields by 2035 is NOT supported by the actual supply and demand data produced involuntarily by DPR under FOIA. In fact, [DPR’s analyses showed](#)⁶ that there is a **considerable excess of diamond fields** and that there will still be an excess of diamond fields beyond 2035. Nor, was there any evidence or indication in all the FOIA’d documents (our FOIA request specifically asked for documentation regarding how the LOS was calculated) that showed that supply/demand data were used. And, the June 2017 POPS public draft makes no mention that supply/demand data were considered in the LOS.

In addition, this resident group concluded:

- The POPS plan’s LOS methodology did not follow industry standards
- DPR didn’t follow their own expert consultants’ methodology statement about needing to use supply and demand data in current and future LOS projections
- County staff had not shared their data and analyses, nor provided any rationale regarding their POPS recommendations to the public as part of the POPS process. However, FOIA’d documents revealed email correspondence among staff, *e.g.*: “*Rectangular fields: If possible, could we try 3 options for standards*”

⁶ Appendix 2e UTILIZATION DATA and <http://parks4everyone.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/field-demand-2.jpg>

(4000,4,500, 5,000 - to see if the number of fields needed is changing significantly?) - If this is not possible by tomorrow, let's change the rec. standard to 4,500).⁷" ([DPR tweaks the LOS](#))

- This statement calls into question whether the field numbers were the result of the LOS recommendations, as claimed by DPR during the public POPS process, or instead whether the field numbers were determined **prior** to the LOS recommendations
- DPR has not shared with the public any of the referenced data or analyses they have completed in the last three years, even analyses labeled specifically for the POPS process, e.g.: "POPS Field Est v3" ([Diamond fields⁸, Utilization Data⁹](#))
- The County Board was also misinformed by omission of critical information [when the County Board prepared a statement supporting the current Population Based Level of Service¹⁰](#). Unfortunately, DPR failed to also provide the County Board with the full Population Based LOS methodology statement which states the need for supply/demand data. [This response to Katie's letter explains¹¹](#) how the County Board when they wrote that statement were not given all the information and the negative implications of this.

Final POPS Plan fails to follow Arlington's community preferences

The POPS plan's methodology is inconsistent with the results of the County's statistically valid survey of our community's priorities for our parks. This survey of critical data regarding residents' needs, while part of the June 2017 POPS plan draft, is no longer in the October 2018 final draft. In this statistically valid survey of the community, residents indicated their greatest needs are for trails (both hiking and biking) and natural areas. [See Page iv: 2016 Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment Survey](#).¹² They further expressed the greatest [desire for natural areas¹³](#).

Nowhere in the current POPS plan's final draft is it shown that these community survey priorities were even considered. The need for open space recommendations were left blank, and there was no indication that this public need was prioritized against the specific recommendations for increasing the number of fields.

Improve the Scheduling of Fields

DPR has been unable to properly and efficiently manage and maintain Arlington's sports fields for years. According to the Chair of the Sports Commission, DPR has delegated nearly all scheduling of diamond fields to a single resident volunteer, instead of staff, with little to no oversight or accountability. The manner in which DPR has improperly managed its scheduling has resulted in a **false perception of unavailable or too few fields.**

Example: DPR gives bulk reserved hours to leagues, way more than is ever needed. So, fields are over-reserved, as much as double what teams use or need. This means that a field could be blocked off for 8 hours and only 4 hours are actually used and needed. [This is confirmed by outside consultants' reports, DPR's staff "rover" reports on field usage, and DPR's own internal analyses¹⁴](#) about the over-scheduling and management issues.

Spend more to maintain existing fields

Arlington needs to maximize the utility of its existing field infrastructure by spending enough more money to keep existing grass and turf fields in maximum playable condition before spending money on new fields or new field infrastructure.

Regrettably, and incorrectly, DPR has chosen to rely heavily on borrowed/bond funds for maintenance capital. Since bond funds are scarce (we need them to meet larger and longer-term capital needs for school construction, among

⁷ Appendix 3 DPR TWEAKING THE LOS NUMBERS <http://parks4everyone.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/tweaking-the-LOS-numbers.jpg>

⁸ Appendix 2d <http://parks4everyone.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/field-demand-2.jpg>

⁹ Appendix 2e <http://parks4everyone.org/utilization-data/>

¹⁰ Appendix 6

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/vi2uv0qo71rmtfg/Level%20of%20Service%20in%20the%20Public%20Spaces%20Master%20Plan%20Update.pdf?dl=0>

¹¹ Appendix 7 <https://www.dropbox.com/s/cufn1715cgf8je0/Response%20to%20Katie%20Cristol%27s%20letter.pdf?dl=0>

¹² <https://arlingtonva.s3.dualstack.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2016/01/Arlington-County-Parks-Rec-Survey-Findings-Report-May-9-2016.pdf>

¹³ Appendix 5 <https://www.arlnow.com/2018/11/29/peters-take-latest-pops-plans-other-serious-flaws/>

¹⁴ Appendix 2b-2e <http://parks4everyone.org/utilization-data/>

other things), this funding source isn't sufficient to meet DPR's ongoing maintenance/operating needs. This explains why we continually hear complaints from users about unplayable fields.

Shifting DPR's funding focus from expansion to better maintenance and more efficient operations of existing facilities will stretch the useful life of existing facilities and increase capacity. This is a more cost-effective solution than permitting existing infrastructure to fall into ruin from neglect, and then facing a huge total replacement cost, or adding new facilities without first repairing existing ones that have deteriorated enough to make them unusable

LISTED BELOW ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT DPR SPREADSHEETS AND THEIR TABS

Follow this link <https://foia.arlingtonva.us/responses/entry/938/> and then look for the spreadsheet name in the FOIA documents list followed by the important tab name in that spreadsheet.

[POPS Field Est v3](#)

Tab "Diamond Field" projections through 2045 of actual need for diamond fields. A spreadsheet error, using Spring 2045 estimate of # of teams was used for Fall 2016 # of teams, grossly inflating the Fall 2045 estimates for Adult softball. The corrected spreadsheet error and analysis can be viewed [here](#)

[Rover Reports](#) (3). Include in person visits to reserved fields for confirmation of usage. Spreadsheets: (1) Fall 2017 Rover Data, (2) Field Usage [Rover Reports Fall 2016](#), (3) Field Usage Rover Reports Spring 2017.

[Field Usage Analysis FY 2017:](#)

Tab "All Data For Comparison"

Columns:

H-M = DPR calculated prime hours & capacity based on turf/grass type, lights or no lights, and sunset hours

BF = Total prime hours available/ field.

D = Operating hours

BK = total maintenance capacity hours/ field...

Tab "Measures" shows percentage of fields under capacity

Tabs "Cool Season Sunset, Bermuda Sunset, Synthetic Sunset (no lights)" sunset hours for 2016

Tab: "FY 2017 reservations" any reservation information

[Fall Pilot Summary](#) *Tab "Summary"* shows allocated time vs. team need. This section shows over-allocation by DPR in their scheduling

[Sport Allocation Draft v3](#) (used in part for "Fall Pilot Summary" spreadsheet)

Tab "League Input" Number of teams per league, practices, games and hours needed.

[Sport Allocation Draft Springv2](#)

Tab "League Input" Shows over-scheduling percentages

[2017 Field Hours 7.31.2017](#)

Tab "DPR Facility Reservation Report"

[Rained Out through Fall 2017](#)– information about grass field closures

[LOS 6-22-2017](#)– One of the iterations of the Level of Service from the consultants.

[Green Play Consultant Reports](#) Outlined issues of over-scheduling, field allocation, prioritization of league types, etc...starting in 2015.

APPENDIX:

Appendix 1 CONSULTANT'S METHODOLOGY STATEMENT

"POPS_LOS Methodology_171220" <https://foia.arlingtonva.us/responses/entry/938/>



1.1 LOS OVERVIEW

Level of Service (LOS) standards are guidelines that define service areas based on population that support investment decisions related to parks, facilities, and amenities. LOS standards can and will change over time as industry trends change and demographics of a community change.

The consulting team evaluated park facility standards using a combination of resources. These resources included market trends, demographic data, recreation activity participation rates, community and stakeholder input, HIRPA data, the statistically-valid community survey, and general observations. This information allowed standards to be *customized* to Arlington County instead of taking a "one size fits all approach."

It is important to note that these LOS standards should be viewed as a guide. The standards are to be coupled with conventional wisdom and judgment related to the particular situation and needs of the community. By applying these standards to the population of Arlington County, gaps or surpluses in park and facility types are revealed.

1.2 LOS DEVELOPMENT

Standards have been discussed at length since the 1970s. In 1983, Roger Lancaster published recommended service standards for facilities and park acreage. Commonly referenced LOS standards today include:

- Baseball fields: 1 per 5,000 population
- Softball fields: 1 per 5,000 population
- Soccer fields: 1 per 10,000 population
- Total land acreage: 10 acres per 1,000 population

Additionally, the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) 2017 NRPA Agency Performance Review report indicated the following metrics were the *median* number of residents per facility:

- Baseball fields: 1 per 6,453 population
- Softball fields: 1 per 8,500 population
- Soccer fields: 1 per 6,200 population
- Rectangular Multi-use: 1 per 12,468 population
- Total land acreage: 9.6 acres per 1,000 population

Understanding that no one standard should be directly applied to every community, no formal adopted standards exist for LOS analyses. **Instead, guidelines are provided that help each community determine its own LOS standard based on current supply/demand and future supply/demand projections.**

1.3 CALCULATING ARLINGTON'S LOS

The project team took a multi-faceted approach to calculate LOS. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) provided peer community benchmark data which allowed the planning team to evaluate Arlington's existing LOS with that of similar communities. This data was used in tandem with the additional data sources outlined in Section 1.1 above to develop the final recommended LOS standards.

Additionally, the "typical" LOS calculation was derived from the project team's experience working with park and recreation agencies over the last 23 years and what represents a "best practice" figure. It should be noted, however, that some park agencies have single-focus facilities (e.g., soccer,

Appendix 2a

UTILIZATION DATA

2a. STAFF SPREADSHEET SHOWING OVER-SCHEDULING ACROSS MOST ALL TEAMS AND SPORTS

DPR's spreadsheets titled, "Fall Pilot Summary. Tab: Summary"

<https://foia.arlingtonva.us/responses/entry/938/>

	Rec Track*		Initial Model		Model Extrapolated			
27	Youth Baseball	Season	Sample Wk	Needs	Allocated	10 weeks	Delta	%
29	Games and Practices	4,036	423	199	301	1,985	2,051	103%
30	Weekday	1,987	207	155	141	1,548	439	28%
31	Weekend	2,050	217	44	161	438	1,612	368%

November 2016: DPR spreadsheet titled "Fall Pilot Summary", Tab "Summary"

DPR's spreadsheets titled Spring Allocation Draft Spring v2 and Fall Pilot Summary "Tab"

Summary. <https://foia.arlingtonva.us/responses/entry/938/>

	League	Weekday Needs	Weekday Allocation	Difference	Weekend Needs	Weekend Allocation	Difference	Total Needs	Total Allocation	Difference	Percent Above
2	All/ABR/ATB	458.0	473.0	15.0	154.6	725.5	570.9	612.6	1198.5	585.9	49%
3	ASA	1129.0	1594.0	465	596.8	494.0	-103	1725.8	2088.0	362.3	17%
5	ASBR	55.0	67.5	12.5	25.0	80.5	55.5	80.0	148.0	68.0	46%
6	YULA	66.0	59.0	-7.0	6.5	3.0	-3.5	72.5	62.0	-10.5	-17%
8	AGSA	73.5	114.0	40.5	49.0	168.5	119.5	122.5	282.5	160.0	57%
9	Lax	61.0	90.0	29.0	12.5	14.0	1.5	73.5	104.0	30.5	29%
10	BVSL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.5	6.5	0.0	6.5	6.5	100%
11	DPR Softball	0.0	106.5	106.5	0.0	18.0	18.0	0.0	124.5	124.5	100%
12	ACK	0.0	17.0	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.0	17.0	100%

July 2017 (last modified date) DPR's internal spreadsheet titled Sport Allocation Draft Spring v2

2b. CONSULTANTS' REPORTS (hired by DPR) <https://parks.arlingtonva.us/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2016/02/Athletic-Facilities-Allocation-Study-February-Work-Session.pdf> (page 12)

June 2015- Feb. 2016: Green Play's Phase I; Findings (June 2015 Engagement)

- “Leagues hold on to space they do not need or use because there is no process to return space and they may need it for reschedules,
- Current allocation process is inconsistent in defining user groups,
- Current priority system assumes some groups are affiliates and others are rentals, etc...”

June 2016: Green Play/ DPR Recommendations Follow up,

- “Focus on allocation,
- Allocation will be based on the number of teams from the previous fall season,
- Allocation will be based on the number of teams that DPR recommends can practice/play games per field,
- Ideally, leagues were given a “cushion” to accommodate their teams and weather (not always possible during week), etc...”

2c. DPR STAFF IN-PERSON SITE VISITS “ROVER REPORTS” DOCUMENTING RESERVED FIELDS NOT IN USE (RECTANGULAR AND DIAMOND FIELDS)

DPR documents titled “Rover Reports” <https://foia.arlingtonva.us/responses/entry/938/>

41	Thursday					Thursday						Thursday							
42	10.6.16	Time	Diamond	Rectangle		10.13.16	Time	Diamond	Rectangle			10.20.16	Time	Diamond	Rectangle				
43	Patrick Henry	5:36	n/a	2	5	ASA Practices, 5-8	Patrick Henry	6:30	0	10	Youth Baseball Practices;	Patrick Henry	6:15	0	8	Youth Baseball Pract			
44	Drew	5:50	n/a	too early	*	ASA Practices, 6:15-8	Drew	6:00	n/a	15	* ASA Practices 6:15-8	Drew	5:30	event	event	NO RESV			
45	Idean 1	7:45	game	n/a		DPR INTERNAL, 6:30-8:30	Idean 1	8:00	15	n/a	DPR INTERNAL, 6:30-8:30	Idean 1	8:30	20	n/a	DPR INTERNAL, 6:30			
46	Idean 2	7:45	0	n/a		Youth Baseball Practices, 5-	Idean 2	8:00	8	n/a	Youth Baseball Practices;	Idean 2	8:30	0	n/a	Youth Baseball Pract			
47	Wake 90	8:00	practice	n/a		WHS Frisbee, 5:30-8:30	Wake 90	8:30	0	n/a	NO RESV	Wake 90	8:10	18	n/a	ASBR game, 7-10			
48	Wake Soft	8:00	0	n/a		AGSA Practice, 7-10	Wake Soft	8:30	11	n/a	AGSA Practice, 7-10	Wake Soft	8:10	11	n/a	AGSA Practice, 7-10			
49	LongBranch	6:00	14	n/a		Youth Baseball Practices, 5-	LongBranch	6:30	8	n/a	Youth Baseball Practices;	LongBranch				Youth Baseball Pract			
50	Taylor	5:30	n/a		15	ASA Practices, 5:30-8	Taylor	5:45	n/a		35	ASA Practices, 5:30-8	Taylor				ASA Practices, 5:30-8		
51	Powhatan	6:15	n/a		15	ASA Practices, 4-8	Powhatan				ASA Practices, 4-8	Powhatan	7:00	n/a		3	ASA Practices, 4-8		
52	Kenmore	6:30	n/a		50	ASA Practices 5-9:45	Kenmore	6:40	10		60	ASA Practices, 5-9:45	Kenmore	5:40	n/a		65	ASA Practices, 5-9:45	
53							Idean (1/2)	8:30	0/0	n/a		Idean (1/2)	8:30	0/0	n/a				

2d. DPR'S RESERVATIONS SHOW PREFERENCE FOR FEW DAYS AND TIMES:

The image below was created directly from DPR's reservation information
A typical Spring calendar week for Adult Softball Fields:

- Reservations shown in dark blue.
- Red are the prime hours during the weekend and evening hours un-reserved
- Pink are the other hours non- prime hours, but hours still available for users which the field could be reserved. But DPR only calculates the 5pm+ hours as the field supply calling them "Hours Available" or "Prime Hours"



** The dark blue are reservations and some of these blue reservations actually may in fact be empty fields because of excess reservations due to DPR's inefficient management of its field inventory.

2e. Supply and Demand

https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vQxV-T9350-DdfsTRXHHUzfsUeO1QnaMEMLn5P40HhFG3ayMnZS6kj2Zlavs9JcdY2c_vsyKP2F1e-p/pub

CONFIRMED NUMBER OF TEAMS—COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF LEAGUES AND # OF TEAMS

Seasonal Weeks 13				Seasonal Weeks 13			
Spring Ideal Scenario Assumptions		Game Time	Practice	Fall Ideal Scenario Assumptions		Game Hrs	Practice Hrs
Est. Avg. Diamd Youth Team needs 5.5 hours p		2	1.5	Est. Avg. Diamd Youth Team needs 3		1	1.5
Est. Avg. Rect Youth Team needs 2.75 hours p		0.625	0.75	Est. Avg. Rect Youth Team needs 4.2		0.625	1.5
Est. DPR Teams Diam. Social Diamd (e.g.; soft		1	0	Est. DPR Teams Diam. Social Diamd (1	0
Est. Affiliate Rec & DPR Rec.: (1.5 hr game)		0.75	0	Est. Affiliate Rec & DPR Rec.: (1.5 hr		0.75	0
Est. Social Teams Rec. Divide in half for 4 team		0.25	0	Est. Social Teams Rec. Divide in half		0.25	0
League	Age	Breakdown	Teams	League	Age	Breakdown	Teams
ALL/ABR/ATB	4-5	Blast/ Jr Tball	21	ALL/ABR/ATB	4	Blast/ Jr Tball	0
ALL/ABR/ATB	5-6	Tball	36	ALL/ABR/ATB	5	Tball	13
ALL/ABR/ATB	6-7	A/Rookies	33	ALL/ABR/ATB	6-7	A/Rookies	21
ALL/ABR/ATB	N/A	Challengers	2	ALL/ABR/ATB	N/A	Challengers	2
ALL/ABR/ATB	7-8	AA/A	30	ALL/ABR/ATB	7-8	AA/A	0
ALL/ABR/ATB	8-9	AAA 1st/AA	26	ALL/ABR/ATB	8-9	AAA 1st/AA	15
ALL/ABR/ATB	9-10	AAA 2nd/AAA	31	ALL/ABR/ATB	9-10	AAA 2nd/AAA	13
ALL/ABR/ATB	10-12	Majors 60/Majors	25	ALL/ABR/ATB	10-12	Majors 60/Majors	9
ALL/ABR/ATB	8-12	Majors 70/(50/70)	16	ALL/ABR/ATB	8-12	Majors 70/(50/70)	6
ASBR	13+	Prep/Alliance	16	ASBR	13+	Prep/Alliance	6
ALL/ABR/ATB	13+	Travel	0	ALL/ABR/ATB	13+	Travel	15
ALL/ABR/ATB	8-12	travel	8	ATB	8-12	travel	0
AGSA	7-10	Pixie/Pigtail	19	AGSA	7-10	Pixie/Pigtail	17
AGSA	12-13	Pony/Diamond	17	AGSA	12-13	Pony/Diamond	18
AGSA	10-12	Summer All stars	3	AGSA	10-12	Diamond	7
AGSA	10+	Travel (sage)	5	AGSA	10+	Travel (sage)	7

A Field - 46/60
B Field - 50/70
C Field - 90

DETAILED ANALYSES OF HOW MUCH TIME EACH TYPE OF TEAM WILL NEED FOR GAMES AND PRACTICES – INCLUDES BUFFER. For example many social league teams only play for 6-10 weeks. But DPR cited each teams' need for 13 weeks, more than double what some teams actually need.

Hours Needed

- Confirmed # of teams by field type
- Over-estimated hours the needed per team for many teams for their games & practice each week
- 13 week seasons per season (over-estimated weeks needed for most teams)

*** Team demand for spring season is ~60% higher than for fall season***

Seasonal Weeks 13					Seasonal Weeks 13				
Spring Ideal Scenario Assumptions		Game Time	Practice		Fall Ideal Scenario Assumptions		Game Hrs	Practice Hrs	
Est. Avg. Diamd Youth Team needs 5.5 hours p		2	1.5		Est. Avg. Diamd Youth Team needs 3		1	1.5	
Est. Avg. Rect Youth Team needs 2.75 hours p		0.625	0.75		Est. Avg. Rect Youth Team needs 4.2		0.625	1.5	
Est. DPR Teams Diam. Social Diamd (e.g.; soft		1	0		Est. DPR Teams Diam. Social Diamd (1	0	
Est. Affiliate Rec & DPR Rec.: (1.5 hr game)		0.75	0		Est. Affiliate Rec & DPR Rec.: (1.5 hr		0.75	0	
Est. Social Teams Rec. Divide in half for 4 team		0.25	0		Est. Social Teams Rec. Divide in half		0.25	0	
2016	Spring				Fall				
Field Size	Teams	Hours Needed	Hours Available	Delta	Field Size	Teams	Hours Needed	Hours Available	Delta
A	254	11,557	13,333.13	1,776.13	A	128	4,160	8,277.25	4,117.25
B	16	728	1,835.73	1,107.73	B	6	195	786.27	591.27
C	16	728	998.25	270.25	C	6	195	1,663.88	1,468.88
Adult	150	1,954	3,150.00	1,195.60	Adult	145	1,888	3,150.00	1,261.65
Total	436	14,967	19,317	4,349.71	Total	285	6,438	13,877	7,439.04

Supply Calculated by DPR:

DPR's spreadsheet, *Sport Allocation Draft v3 Tab "All Data"* every field's Prime Hours (weekend and evening hours) during the 13 week Fall and Spring seasons.

Location	Primary or Secondary	Community v. Scheduled	M-F Open	M-F Prime Time Start	M-F Close	Weekday Hours	Weekday Prime Time Pr	Saturday Open	Saturday Close	Saturday Hours	Sunday Open	Sunday Close	Sunday Hours
Jamestown School Back	Secondary	Scheduled	17:30	17:30	20:30	3.00	243	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Jamestown School Front	Secondary	Scheduled	17:30	17:30	20:30	3.00	320.25	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Jennie Dean #1	Secondary	Scheduled	8:30	18:00	22:45	14.25	433.5	8:30	22:45	14.25	12:00	22:45	10.75
Jennie Dean #2	Secondary	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	22:45	14.25	582	8:30	22:45	14.25	9:00	22:45	13.75
Jennie Dean Aux	Aux	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	20:30	12.00	399	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Kenmore #1n (included aux)	Secondary	Scheduled	17:00	17:00	22:45	5.75	536.75	8:30	22:45	14.25	12:15	22:45	10.50
Kenmore #2	Primary	Scheduled	17:00	17:00	22:45	5.75	517	8:30	22:45	14.25	12:15	22:45	10.50
Kenmore #3 (listed as rec)	Secondary	Scheduled	17:00	17:00	20:30	3.50	180	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:00	20:30	8.50
Kenmore Aux (Ken 4 front)	Aux	Scheduled	17:00	17:00	20:30	3.50	0	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Key School	Secondary	Scheduled	17:45	17:45	20:30	2.75	241.75	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Lacey Woods Playfield	Secondary	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	20:30	12.00	345	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Lee Community Center and Park	Secondary	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	20:30	12.00	216	8:30	20:30	12.00	9:00	20:30	11.50
Long Branch	Secondary	Scheduled	17:00	17:00	20:30	3.50	325	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:00	20:30	8.50
Long Bridge Park Synthetic Field #1	Synthetic	Scheduled	12:00	17:00	22:45	10.75	781.75	8:30	22:45	14.25	9:00	22:45	13.75
Long Bridge Park Synthetic Field #3	Synthetic	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	22:45	14.25	841.83	8:30	22:45	14.25	9:00	22:45	13.75
Long Bridge Park Synthetic Field #4	Synthetic	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	22:45	14.25	817.75	8:30	22:45	14.25	9:00	22:45	13.75
Madison Manor Park	Secondary	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	20:30	12.00	345.25	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Nottingham School #1	Secondary	Scheduled	17:45	17:45	20:30	2.75	316.75	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Nottingham School #2	Secondary	Scheduled	17:45	17:45	20:30	2.75	198.75	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Oakgrove Park (oakgr)	Primary	Construction	8:30	17:00	20:30	12.00	147	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Oakridge School (oak)	Secondary	Scheduled	17:45	17:45	20:30	2.75	397.5	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Parkhurst Park	Secondary	Scheduled	17:00	17:00	20:30	3.50	345	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Patrick Henry School	Secondary	Scheduled	17:00	17:00	20:30	3.50	307.5	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:00	20:30	8.50
Powhatan Springs	Primary	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	20:30	12.00	345	8:30	20:30	12.00	9:00	20:30	11.50
Quincy #1 (diamd & rect not aux)	Primary	Scheduled	17:00	17:00	22:45	5.75	600.5	13:00	22:45	9.75	9:00	22:45	13.75
Quincy #3	Primary	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	22:45	14.25	210.5	8:30	22:45	14.25	9:00	22:45	13.75
Quincy Park #2	Secondary	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	22:45	14.25	154	8:30	22:45	14.25	9:00	22:45	13.75
Quincy Park Aux	Aux	Scheduled	8:30	17:00	20:30	12.00	378.75	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Reed	Secondary	Scheduled	17:45	17:45	20:30	20.50	313.75	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:00	20:30	8.50
Reed Lower (Reed Westover Building)	Secondary	Scheduled	17:00	17:00	20:30	3.50	342	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25
Reed Upper (Reed Westover Building)	Secondary	Scheduled	17:00	17:00	20:30	3.50	342	8:30	20:30	12.00	12:15	20:30	8.25

DPR's spreadsheet, *Sport Allocation Draft v3 Tab "All Data"* documenting every field's details (lights, type of turf, community/programmed, primary or secondary and so on)

Location	Primary or Secondary	Community v. Scheduled	Type of Field	Lights	Irrigation	Grass or Synth	Type of Field	School Used In	Practice Teams	Game Teams/	Game/Practice	Diamond Desig	Field Sport Ssz	Age (oldest po	Oldest Age Grc
Quincy #1 (diamd & rect not aux)	Primary	Scheduled	Combination	yes	YES	Grass	Bermuda	APS	3	2	both	11v11, 90 ft diamd/ comb	Adult	rect: 2nd grade games; 8th grad	
Quincy #3	Primary	Scheduled	Diamond	yes	YES	Grass	Bermuda	DPR	1	2	both	50/70' baseball, softball	Adult	up to 12 years old	
Quincy Park #2	Secondary	Scheduled	Diamond	yes	YES	Grass	Bermuda	DPR	1	2	both	tee ball	46/60 baseball	MS	up to 12 years old
Quincy Park Aux	Aux	Scheduled	Open Grass	yes	NO	Grass	Cool Season	DPR	2	0	practice		Adult		
Reed	Secondary	Scheduled	Diamond	no	no	Grass	Cool Season	APS	1	2	both	46/60	46/60 baseball	MS	up to 12 years old
Reed Lower (Reed Westover Building)	Secondary	Scheduled	Open Grass	no	no	Grass	Cool Season	APS	1	2	both			ES	
Reed Upper (Reed Westover Building)	Secondary	Scheduled	Open Grass	no	no	Grass	Cool Season	APS	1	2	both			ES	
Rocky Run	Synthetic	Community	Rectangle	yes		Synthetic	Synthetic	DPR	2	0	practice	practices		MS	ES and MS practices
Stratford Park	Secondary	Scheduled	Rectangle	no	NO	Grass	Cool Season	APS	2	0	practice	46/60	46/60 baseball	MS	up to 12 years old
Swanson School	Primary	Scheduled	Rectangle	no	YES	Grass	Bermuda	APS	3	2	both	11 v 11 games, 8v8		HS	12th grade
TJ Aux	Aux	Scheduled	Open Grass	no	YES	Grass	Cool Season	DPR	1	0	practice	practices		HS	12th grade
TJ Diamond #1	Primary	Scheduled	Diamond	no	YES	Grass	Cool Season	DPR	1	2	both	46/60	46/60 baseball	MS	up to 12 years old
TJ Lower	Synthetic	Community	Rectangle	yes		Synthetic	Synthetic	APS	3	0	practice			Adult	adults
TJ Upper	Primary	Construction	Rectangle	yes	YES	Grass	Bermuda	APS	3	2	both	11 v 11 games		Adult	adults
Tuckahoe Park #1	Primary	Construction	Combination	no	YES	Grass	Cool Season	BOHS	3	4	both	4v4, practices softball		Adult	rect: 8th grade diamond; adu
Tuckahoe Park #2	Primary	Construction	Combination	no	YES	Grass	Cool Season	BOHS	3	4	both	4 v 4 games 50/70 baseb		Adult	rect: 2nd grade games; 8th grad
Utah Field	Primary	Scheduled	Diamond	yes	YES	Grass	Cool Season	DPR	1	2	both	softball	50/70' baseball, softball	Adult	adults
Utah Park - Aux. Field	Aux	Scheduled	Open Grass	yes	NO	Grass	Cool Season	DPR	1	0	practice	practices		HS	8th grade
Va. Highlands #2	Primary	Community	Rectangle	no	YES	Grass	Bermuda	DPR	3	2	both	8 v 8 games		Adult	6th grade games; 8th grade pract
Va. Highlands #3	Secondary	Scheduled	Diamond	yes	NO	Grass	Cool Season	DPR	1	2	both	softball	50/70' baseball, softball	MS	adults
Va. Highlands #4	Secondary	Scheduled	Diamond	yes	NO	Grass	Cool Season	DPR	1	2	both	softball	50/70' baseball, softball	MS	adults
Virginia Highlands Park #1	Synthetic	Scheduled	Rectangle	yes		Synthetic	Synthetic	DPR	3	2	both	11 v 11 games, 8v8		Adult	adults

The Results:

The results are that even with DPR's over-estimated demand and a reduced estimates of supply during the weekend and evening hours **there are more than 11 Arlington diamond fields in excess taking into account the extra hours the Gunston Synthetic turf conversion will add.**

						When Gunston's synthetic turf is included in the calculation				
# Fields		Excess hours that can be applied to Diamond-		Avg Spring Diamond Field	Excess Spring Diamond fields	Avg Fall			Excess Diamond fields	
Spring	#combo	#diamond	only fields	Hours	fields	#Fields	Field Hours	Fall Fields	Excess Diamond fields	
36	14	22	2,810	425.45	6.6	22	376	8.2	6	
5	3	2	1,031	515.34	2.5	2	393	1.0	1	
4	1	3	332	299.00	1.1	3	555	2.5	1	
7	0	7	1,494	492.68	3.0	7	478	3.1	3	
52	18	34	5,667	1,732.47	13.3	34	1,802	14.8	11	

(only diamond)

Residents' calculations on feasibility to remove fields based on the excess hours per field

Excess of 11+ fields.
3 EXCESS ADULT DIAMOND FIELDS

EXCESS OF AT LEAST 11 DIAMOND FIELDS IN ARLINGTON.

Projections:

2035 Diamond Field Surplus

Arlington will still have a surplus of 4 diamond fields in 2035
without adding a single field, lights, or approval of new synthetic turf

# Fields		Excess hours that can be applied to Diamond-		Avg Spring Diamond Field	Excess Spring Diamond fields	Avg Fall			Excess Diamond fields
Spring	#combo	#diamond	only fields	Hours	fields	#Fields	Field Hours	Fall Fields	Excess Diamond fields
36	14	22	2,810	425.45	1.2	22	376	8.7	1
5	3	2	1,031	515.34	2.2	2	393	1.4	1
4	1	3	332	299.00	0.6	3	555	2.6	0
7	0	7	1,494	492.68	2.2	7	478	2.3	2
52	18	34	5,667	1,732.47	6.3	34	1,802	15.0	4

2 EXCESS ADULT SOFTBALL FIELDS IN 2035
2 EXCESS YOUTH FIELDS IN 2035.

Appendix 3:

STAFF CORRESPONDANCE "TWEAKING" LOS NUMBERS

<https://foia.arlingtonva.us/responses/entry/938/>

From: Irena Lazic
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 1:02 PM
To: Andrew Dobshinsky
Subject: POPS Presentation

Andrew,

I met with DPR leadership, and we have to make some tweaks in our LOS & recommendations. Is it possible to do this tomorrow?:

- Lower the recommended standard for playgrounds: 3,000
- Diamond fields- include all permit only fields except the following:
- Tennis courts-revise the recommended standard to 3,000
- Picnic areas- revise standard to 5,000
- Rectangular fields:
 - include all permit only fields
 - If possible, could we try 3 options for standards (4,000, 4,500, 5,000- to see if the number of fields needed is changing significantly?)- if this is not possible by tomorrow, let's change the rec. standard to 4,500.
- Volleyball courts- revise the rec. standard to 20,000
- Tracks- include only outdoor tracks- 1 County-owned, 1 APS owned
- Community Centers- total number is 14- (9 County-owned & 5 Aps owned)
- Nature centers- change standard to 75,000
- Skate park- 75,000

Please call me when you can so we can discuss the presentation.

Thanks,
Irena

Appendix 4:

Below are a comparison of methodology statements in their entirety for Arlington and for Durango, Colorado.

Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation Master Plan

CHAPTER EIGHT - STANDARDS, EQUITY MAPPING & GREENPRINTING

8.1 FACILITY STANDARDS

Facility Standards are guidelines that define service areas based on population that support investment decisions related to parks, facilities and amenities. Facility Standards can and will change over time as the program lifecycles change and demographics of a community change.

PROS evaluated park facility standards using a combination of resources. These resources included: National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) guidelines, recreation activity participation rates reported by American Sports Data as it applies to activities that occur in the United States and the Durango area, community and stakeholder input, findings from the prioritized needs assessment report and general observations by PROS. This information allowed standards to be customized to the City of Durango (Figure 15).

Based on 168.7 acres of current park land and a population of 15,632, the standard for park acres is 15.5 acres per 1,000 persons. The recommended 2009 standard is 15.5 acres per 1,000, which means that the City currently needs 74 acres of park land. Also, in light of the City's population growth over the next 10 years there is an anticipated need for 110 total acres of park land.

These facility standards should be viewed as a guide. The standards are to be coupled with conventional wisdom and judgment related to the particular situation and needs of the community. By applying these facility standards to the population of Durango, gaps and surpluses in park and facility/amenity types are revealed.

The purpose of establishing level of service standards for parks and recreation facilities is to ensure adequate provision of facilities and equal opportunity for residents. Although measuring equal opportunity will never be an exact science, five measures can help provide a reasonable assessment: (1) Amount of park land in acreage; (2) Distance or travel time to access; (3) Capacity of facilities; (4) Quality of experience; (5) Availability of programs and activities.

The standards used for the Master Plan are based upon the amount of acreage of park land, miles of trails or number of recreational amenities. The distance or travel time is an important measure of service. The City of Durango standards for distance are as follows:

Park Type	Size	Service Area
Mini	Less than 1 acre	¼ mile radius
Neighborhood	1 to 10 acres	½ mile radius
Community	10 to 100 acres	2 mile radius
District	More than 100 acres	5 mile radius

The Facility/Amenity Standards Matrix is a graphical representation of the data presented in

Parks & Recreation Department

Level of Service (LOS)

1.1 LOS OVERVIEW

Level of Service (LOS) standards are guidelines that define service areas based on population that support investment decisions related to parks, facilities, and amenities. LOS standards can and will change over time as industry trends change and demographics of a community change.

The consulting team evaluated park facility standards using a combination of resources. These resources included market trends, demographic data, recreation activity participation rates, community and stakeholder input, NRPA data, the statistically-valid community survey, and general observations. This information allowed standards to be *customized* to Arlington County instead of taking a "one size fits all approach."

It is important to note that these LOS standards should be viewed as a guide. The standards are to be coupled with conventional wisdom and judgment related to the particular situation and needs of the community. By applying these standards to the population of Arlington County, gaps or surpluses in park and facility types are revealed.

1.2 LOS DEVELOPMENT

Standards have been discussed at length since the 1970s. In 1983, Roger Lancaster published recommended service standards for facilities and park acreage. Commonly referenced LOS standards today include:

- Baseball fields: 1 per 5,000 population
- Softball fields: 1 per 5,000 population
- Soccer fields: 1 per 10,000 population
- Total land acreage: 10 acres per 1,000 population

Additionally, the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) 2017 NRPA Agency Performance Review report indicated the following metrics were the *median* number of residents per facility:

- Baseball fields: 1 per 6,453 population
- Softball fields: 1 per 8,500 population
- Soccer fields: 1 per 6,200 population
- Rectangular Multi-use: 1 per 12,468 population
- Total land acreage: 9.6 acres per 1,000 population

Understanding that no one standard should be directly applied to every community, no formal adopted standards exist for LOS analyses. Instead, guidelines are provided that help each community determine its own LOS standard based on current supply/demand and future supply/demand projections.

1.3 CALCULATING ARLINGTON'S LOS

The project team took a multi-faceted approach to calculate LOS. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) provided peer community benchmark data which allowed the planning team to evaluate Arlington's existing LOS with that of similar communities. This data was used in tandem with the additional data sources outlined in Section 1.1 above to develop the final recommended LOS standards.

Additionally, the "typical" LOS calculation was derived from the project team's experience working with park and recreation agencies over the last 23 years and what represents a "best practice" figure. It should be noted, however, that some park agencies have single-focus facilities (e.g., soccer,

Appendix 5:

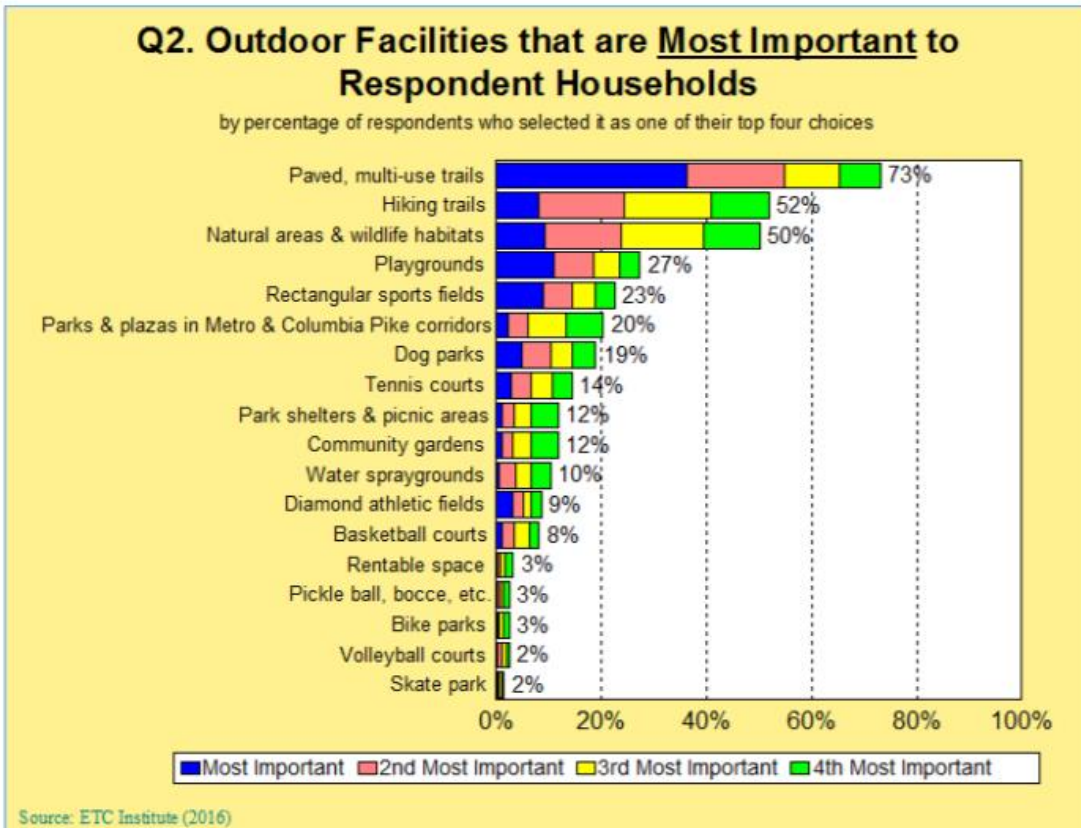
STATISTICALLY VALID SURVEY OUTDOOR FACILITIES' RESULTS FOR ARLINGTON



Arlington County 2016 Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Survey

Most Important Outdoor Facilities

Paved multi-use trails were the most important outdoor facility to households. Based on the sum the top four choices, 73% indicated paved, multi-use trails were the most important outdoor facility to their household. Other most important outdoor facilities include: hiking trails (52%) and natural areas & wildlife habitats (50%).



When taking into consideration only those households who indicated the item as their first choice as the most important facility, paved multi-use trails was indicated as a first choice more than any other 1st or 2nd choice combined.

Appendix 6: County Board letter

From: Katie Cristol
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 4:21 PM
To: peter.rousselet@gmail.com; keklaus@aol.com
Subject: Level of Service in the Public Spaces Master Plan Update

Dear Peter and Kari,

On behalf of the County Board majority, I am writing in response to your request to pull the Diamond and Rectangular Fields Level of Service components out of the draft Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP) update and to conduct a separate working group, post-PSMP adoption, that would study field utilization and make recommendations on levels of service and identify fields for possible removal.

First, thank you again for your patience. As I wrote last week, I hope to underscore that the delay reflected how seriously we considered your requests, and the number of conversations and analysis that each Board member wished to conduct about your proposals before arriving at our conclusions.

Now that we have been able to complete our own review, I'm writing to communicate that a four member majority of the County Board has decided not to pursue these proposals for an alternative process for the Public Spaces Master Plan Update. Board Member John Vihstadt feels differently, preferring to remove the Level of Service component from the remainder of the PSMP update process, and initiate an additional community engagement process, focused solely on the methodology of determining field utilization, to determine which methodology, or blend of the two methodologies, is most appropriate.

The other three Board members and I would like to share our thoughts about why we came to a different conclusion on the best way forward, and provide some next steps and context for how some of the broader concerns you've raised are being addressed or can be addressed in the future.

Level of Service Methodology

The population-based level of service (LOS) model used by the staff and confirmed by the Board earlier this year in a work session provides an industry-accepted and broadly-used planning tool.

We appreciated the chance to engage with an alternative methodology, a utilization-based approach, that you brought to our attention. This indeed is a valid way of looking at County resources. However, the Board majority saw two challenges with changing to a utilization-based approach. One challenge is that the number of assumptions that must be agreed upon by different stakeholders to generate a usable model; assumptions about not only the current but future popularity of different recreational activities, and about extrapolating future demand from current and past trends. The other challenge is that the population-based LOS model already has been socialized with the PSMP's many affected stakeholders, and has provided the basis for community engagement over the past two years.

For these reasons, four Board members have agreed that the approach of the population-based Level of Service is the more appropriate one for our community, where different stakeholders have widely divergent assumptions about future utilization. We will not be pursuing the recommendation to create a working group to further assess a utilization-based methodology.

My colleagues and I want to emphasize, however, that the Level of Service estimates are 1) subject to ongoing review and 2) not determinative but rather one of many factors that will guide future public spaces decisions.

First, the first draft of the PSMP, posted in summer 2017, included a recommendation to review and update the Level of Service estimates periodically after the plan's adoption. Board members remain committed to this premise and when reviewing the final draft, we will ensure that this recommendation clearly lays out our expectation as to how the five-year review of the Level of Service estimates will occur and factor in five-year look-back data at utilization. Secondly, the LOS numbers in the PSMP are not "destiny," but rather one measure of many that we – and future County Boards – will draw on regarding public space investments during site plan reviews, parks maintenance capital projects and master plans, operating budgets and Capital Improvement Plan updates. Other factors we will consider include other recommendations in the PSMP; guidance from adopted sector plans; guidance from other Comprehensive Plan elements, and outcomes from public engagement. *Improving Field Management*

Practices

During our briefings with you, you brought to Board members' attention some excellent questions and points regarding management of the County's field resources and whether they are being appropriately utilized. We brought raised these to staff and wanted to in turn share some of the recent steps taken to improve problems with effectively managing diamond fields in particular:

While the PSMP update has been occurring, DPR also has been taking steps to better manage the opportunity for use of fields by the broadest possible cross-section of the community. As you noted in your presentation, in 2015, staff retained the consulting firm GreenPlay to help create a Field Allocation Policy for affiliated youth and adult sports leagues. In this iterative process, DPR and the leagues have been piloting the approach over several seasons. As you noted, the GreenPlay study showed that some fields that had been assigned to teams were not being used. The allocation policy currently being implemented is designed to end that practice and ensure that the leagues are using the full amount of field time they have been allocated, weather or emergency permitting.

Also, in Spring 2018, DPR completed an overhaul of the field classifications and converted 21 fields from “Permit Only” to “Permit Takes Priority.” This change means that when fields are unscheduled, members of the community who are not participating in organized leagues will have access for casual use. With this change the County now has 77 Permit Takes Priority Fields and 13 Permit Only Fields.

Finally, consistent with the recommendations you shared with us, the final draft PSMP will recommend converting fields to synthetic turf and adding lights to increase usage of existing fields and require fewer new fields to be built.

Next Steps

The final draft of the PSMP is expected to be available for public comment by the end of September. We encourage you to continue to participate in the POPS public processes, as you have to date.

Thank you for your thoughtful analysis and engagement with us, and again, for your patience with our response.

Best regards,

Katie

Appendix 7: County Board letter response

Subject:Response: County Board's Statement on the PSMP "POPS" LOS Methodology
Date:Thu, 1 Nov 2018 12:26:45 -0400
From:Kari Klaus <keklaus@aol.com>
To:keklaus@aol.com, Libby Garvey <lgarvey@arlingtonva.us>, Christian Dorsey <cdorsey@arlingtonva.us>, Katie Cristol <kcristol@arlingtonva.us>, John Vihstadt <Jvihstadt@arlingtonva.us>, Erik Gutshall <egutshall@arlingtonva.us>, Caroline Haynes <chaynesarmn@gmail.com>, Jane Rudolph <Jrudolph@arlingtonva.us>, Jane Siegel <janesiegel@icloud.com>, Jim Feaster <jimfeaster1@gmail.com>, lsarli@mac.com, Elizabeth Gearin <egearin@egearin.com>, dean.amel@verizon.net, justin.wilt@gmail.com, Claire O'Dea <clairebodea@gmail.com>, John Seymour <juliaseymour@att.net>, Lisa Grandle <Lgrand@arlingtonva.us>, Tobin Smith <toby_smith@aa.u.edu>, wmgarl@gillen.org, Irena Lazic <ilazic@arlingtonva.us>
CC:Peter Rousselot <peter.rousselot@outlook.com>, Bheim@arlingtonva.us, Erik Beach <Ebeach@arlingtonva.us>

Dear County Board Members & Members of the POPS Committee:

This is in response to County Board Chair Katie Cristol's October 10th email (attached) which explained the majority decision of the Board to support the continued use of the population-based Level of Service approach in the POPS update. It appears that in delving into the complexities of the population-based and the supply-demand analysis, we have not been clear about the problem with the approach used in the update thus far.

I agree that a population-based Level of Service approach can be an acceptable approach. However, DPR did not fully implement the population-based Level of Service approach as per Arlington's own expert consultants. PROS Consulting's methodology statement attached to this email titled "POPS LOS Methodology 171220" for Arlington's POPS LOS Methodology says explicitly that;

"each community determine its own LOS standard based on current supply/demand and future supply/demand projections."

This methodology statement given to Arlington about how to conduct LOS standards for our County requires supply & demand data, which DPR has, but has not been made part of the POPS process or any public process. Not only is this a critical part of the methodology, the data itself shows that there is a very large discrepancy between what POPS currently recommends as facility "needs" versus the actual need based on the usage of these facilities.

PROS Consulting and other experts include these capacity (supply/demand) adjustments in their population-based Level of Service methodology statements not just for Arlington but other localities and as a general rule of siting park facilities. Examples and links are provided below.

I want to be very clear in saying that this is not an issue of one methodology over another:

- The POPS analyses have only partially implemented necessary data to complete the LOS methodology.
- The exclusion of DPR's data on field utilization has resulted in POPS recommendations which are likely miscalculated.

Therefore, the portions with the POPS recommendations relying on the LOS methodology, must be revised to include the supply – demand analyses as prescribed and used elsewhere by the consultants and experts. A transparent and independent review and subsequent revisions would also reconcile the apparent discrepancy between DPR's internal facility utilization data and the current public POPS recommendations.

We all want the POPS document and community planning processes to be as successful as they can be. The tremendous staff, community, and volunteer input and effort thus far for POPS should not be compromised by incomplete recommendations. Instead, the supply-demand analysis recommended by PROS Consulting to adjust and temper the findings should be completed to ensure that Arlington is making appropriate investments, land use decisions and community planning with the most accurate data available and with a complete and sound methodology.

I, and others, are more than happy to discuss any and all of your questions. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kari Klaus

keklaus@aol.com

LOS & PROS Methodology Statements:

- Arlington's Level of Service methodology statement by PROS Consulting "[POPS LOS Methodology 171220](#)" [PDF also attached to this email].
 - PROS Consulting LOS Methodology statements "[PROS LOS Methodology Comparisons](#)"
 - LOS methodology statement by PROS Consulting "[Durango CO PROS Consulting Report](#)"
 - [Alexandria, VA Athletic Fields Master Plan by PROS Consulting](#)
 - [Expert statements on Population Based LOS](#)
- Additional links below are provided:**
- DPR's staff reports, called "rover reports," show numerous in-person staff visits to reserved fields were in fact often empty or utilized only by a few people. [[Field Usage Rover Reports Fall 2016](#)]