

MEETING SUMMARY

To: Edison Park Improvements Project File
From: Shannon Clark Early
Date: 4.20.17
RE: 4.19.17 Scoping Vote with Arlington Forest Civic Association

On Wednesday, April 19, 2017, DPR met with the Arlington Forest Civic Association to vote on whether or not to move the proposed park improvement project forward to the NC funding round. Funding date TBD based on the amount/budgets of projects that get approved.

DPR Staff Attendees:

Shannon Clark Early, Landscape Architect

Community Attendees:

See attendance sheet

1. Presentation

The goal of this meeting is to vote on the final scope, concept plan and project budget for Edison Park so we can move this project forward.

Staff went over the project process, scope, concept plan and cost estimate:

- 1) There have been 2 scoping meetings during which DPR worked with the community to select a project scope through Community consensus.
- 2) This is the final scope as determined through Community consensus:
 - Swings
 - Storm Water Management
 - ADA compliance (accessibility)
 - New Solid Steen Frontage Fence
 - New Site Furnishings including benches, park signs, trash/recycling cans and picnic tables
 - Small sized tot lot
 - Small sized play area for school aged children with priority to climbing features
- 3) I have taken these elements are created a concept plan and cost estimate. This is a bubble diagram and is not a final plan. A final plan will be developed with Community input during the design phase.
- 4) The project cost estimate is \$814,000.00. This includes public engagement, area survey, design, stormwater consultants, drainage, all installed materials (fencing,

play equipment, safety surfacing, park signage, tree protection, planting, etc) permits, construction and construction management.

- 5) Assuming the project is funded then it moves to the back of our project queue until we are ready to begin the design phase. This will go to the Fall 2017 funding round. Once a project is funded, we cannot add additional elements to the project scope.

2. Discussion & Vote

Staff answered questions from the community.

Q-Will the fence only be along the front or be along the sides of the park?

A-The Fence will be along the frontage and will turn the corner but will not continue along the sides of the park.

Q-What is a Resource Protection Area and can we put the stormwater management there?

A-A Resource Protection Area (RPA) is effectively a buffer between a resource, in this case Lubber Run stream, and the built environment. This buffer protects habitat for local wildlife and helps reduce erosion, stormwater runoff and pollutant load of the stream. As stormwater management includes built structures, we can't put it within the RPA.

Q-What goes in the RPA? Are you going to make it a field or re-grade it? There is currently a swing set there. Will that be removed?

A-Everything that is currently in the park will be removed, this includes the existing swing sets. Grading within the RPA will remain as is and all disturbed areas will be either seeded with grass or planted with appropriate native forest plants. The RPA will be a combination of open space and plantings.

Q-What is stormwater management?

A-Stormwater management (swm) is a treatment filter for the water that can't permeate the ground during a storm event. The best way to handle stormwater is to treat it onsite to lessen the amount of water that goes down the drain. There are several different ways of going about this. Raingardens are common, underground options include gravel beds, storm chambers and storage vaults.

Q-Why is the seating in the middle?

A-We're showing seating in the middle on the concept plan as a way of separating the two age groups. This allows parents and caretakers to observe their children from a single vantage point. There will be additional seating elsewhere in the final design.

Q-Are these set play area sizes?

A-In order to accommodate both age groups, both play areas have to be small in size. The concept plan is only a concept and the actual size and shape of the areas will likely be different than what is currently shown.

Q-What is a play area?

A-In the proposed plan, there are 2 separate play areas each for a different age group. These 2 areas together comprise one playground. "Area" is just a way to differentiate between the age groups within the playground.

Q-Can you give us example of similarly sized play areas?

A-The existing Edison Park tot lot is approximately the size of the proposed new 2-5 play area. The 5-12 play are will be similar in size. If you look at the new climbing feature in Woodlawn Park, that is approximately the size and type of feature we are currently considering for the 5-12 play area.

Community members moved to take a vote on whether or not to approve the project. At this point Community member Paul Kovenock read from the neighborhood plan and advocated for keeping the park as it is currently. Following some discussion regarding the extent of the proposed new park amenities the Community proceeded with the vote.

Final vote tally of 24:1 for accepting the park scope, concept plan and cost estimate as presented and moving forward to request funding from the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee and the County Board.

5. Next Steps & Follow Up

County staff will take the approved scope, cost estimate and concept plan to the next NC funding round. After the funding is approved, the project will go to the end of the funded project queue. Park staff will contact the neighborhood when they are ready to begin the design phase.