



Resolution
McLean Central Park Proposed Master Plan Revision
(Concept Development Plan)
May 1, 2013

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) has acquired 7 additional parcels totaling 2.36 acres on the Ingleside Avenue frontage of McLean Central Park (MCP), for a total park acreage of 27.9 acres, and,

WHEREAS, in 2012, the FCPA initiated a McLean Central Park Master Plan Revision (Plan Revision) with two major goals: 1) how best to incorporate the new property into the overall Park plan, and, 2) how to strengthen the connections between the Park, Dolley Madison Library, and the McLean Community Center “campus,” and,

WHEREAS, the Plan Revision proposes construction of an all-season amphitheater on the recently acquired land as well as an extension of Elm Street to the corner of the Library parking lot and a “drop-off pick-up” turnaround with trail access to the amphitheater, expansion of the “Disc Golf “Course, and other improvements, and,

WHEREAS, MCP already provides a variety of passive and active recreation activities and special event space as well as a recently constructed Gazebo that provides additional outdoor performing space, a second Tot Lot, trail improvements, and trail lighting (2000 Park Master Plan Amendment), and,

WHEREAS, in 2007, the MCA played a major role in the award-winning renovation of the adjacent Dolley Madison Library by advancing MCP tree protection, stream bank renovation, invasive vegetation removal, trail reconstruction, stormwater management improvements, and expansion of the parking lot for MCP users and events, and,

WHEREAS, the McLean Community Center (MCC) has a plan to expand their building and parking in the near future that would increase meeting, performing, rehearsal, and parking space,

WHEREAS, much of the land below MCP, the Library, and the MCC lies in flood plain and stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces such as roofs, parking lots, and paved surfaces contribute to erosion in the park, and,

WHEREAS, Park documents state that the Revenue Fund continues to be fragile as a result of FY 2008-2010 Budget cuts and any facility development requires capital funding, and,

WHEREAS, once facilities are constructed they become permanent and require maintenance, and

WHEREAS, the Elm Street extension and “drop-off-pick up” turnaround as portrayed in the Proposed Plan would be unnecessarily expensive requiring utility relocation and extensive regrading and damage the Park because a large number of healthy, mature trees would have to be removed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the MCA supports language in the Plan Revision that would permit inclusion of a low impact* multi-use amphitheater on or adjacent to the recently acquired parcels provided that: 1) the Elm Street extension into parkland and the proposed “drop-off pick-up” turnaround from the southwest corner of the Library parking lot be eliminated, and, 2) the turnaround be located further south as a turn-in lane parallel to Ingleside Avenue, and,

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT, Plan Revision language eliminate the circular parking area planned northwest of the library and adjacent to Oak Ridge Avenue since more parking for MCP was provided for in the recent expansion of the Library parking lot and additional parking is planned as well for the Community Center, and,

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Plan Revision language designates areas in the newly acquired properties where trees, grade, and vegetation “shall be” preserved and protected, and,

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, proposed Plan Revision language specify that if additional paved paths and amenities such the disc golf course are constructed they not be expanded into existing woodlands and the Resource Protection Area (RPA) adjacent to the stream, and,

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, the Park Authority staff provides an estimate for long-term maintenance costs for any new facility constructed in the Park.

*2012 Wikipedia - Low Impact Development (LID) includes: locally adapted, diverse and unique, based on renewable resources, of an appropriate scale, visually unobtrusive, enhances biodiversity, increases public access to open space, generates little traffic, linked to sustainable livelihoods coordinated by a management plan.

Approved by the MCA Board of Directors May 1, 2013

CC:

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