

# Virginia Highlands Park

*Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?*

All On Forum Positions grouped by position

As of May 4, 2017, 9:29 AM



*Open Arlington is not a certified voting system or ballot box. As with any public comment process, participation in Open Arlington is voluntary. The positions in this record are not necessarily representative of the whole population, nor do they reflect the opinions of any government agency or elected officials.*

# Virginia Highlands Park

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## Introduction

Arlington County's Parks Maintenance Capital Program has funds to renovate the athletic courts, lights and adjacent community field at Virginia Highlands Park (the park is located at 1600 South Hayes Str., about one block south of the Pentagon Row metro stop) .

The plan is to completely renovate the courts and field so they are in compliance with current Department of Parks and Recreation design standards, County and State stormwater regulations and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). New lighting will comply with 'Dark Sky' standards. This means light fixtures will focus downward, reduce light pollution and save energy. We will also install accessible paths, site furnishings, new sod and irrigation to the adjacent field and landscaping.

Some community members asked the County to look into creating a new area for (just being consistent) youth to play basketball. In August 2013, the Department of Parks and Recreation conducted a survey (view survey and results) and based on the feedback received, prepared two design options for the park.

Both options will include the following features:

Six full-size double tennis courts, two full-size single practice courts and two basketball courts. Court surfacing and dimensions will meet current United States Tennis Association and National Collegiate Athletic Association design standards. However, each option proposes a different location for the youth basketball area. Let us know which option you prefer.

# Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

As of May 4, 2017, 9:29 AM, this forum had:

Attendees: 760  
On Forum Positions: 62  
All Positions: 64  
Hours of Public Comment: 3.2

This topic started on October 16, 2013, 7:15 PM.

This topic ended on November 22, 2013, 12:34 PM.



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# Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

## All Participants who selected 'Option B'

gary logue ¼ to ½ mile

November 5, 2013, 10:32 AM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

Since u r incorporating the ADA into the park redesign, capture a safe and accessible route from the soccer field to the restroom/core area, that benefits ALL users and keeps most foot traffic out of the parking lot (as was the issue in the library parking lot prior to the spray park construction). Since the hoop courts are generally not open to neighborhood users, reduce to 1 court, thus leaving more open space for community usage.

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Name not shown within ¼ mile

November 1, 2013, 10:59 AM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

Youth need a place to play that will not be overrun with these alleged "foul-mouthed" adults. If we just add a hoop to the practice area, people wanting to use the practice area will force them out. How do you keep adults from using the youth area? a lower hoop?

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Name not shown ¼ to ½ mile

October 28, 2013, 8:48 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

Good reuse of tennis practice wall

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Name not shown within ¼ mile

October 24, 2013, 4:03 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

I would really prefer getting rid of the adult basketball courts completely. The players frequently leave un-attended children at the playground, use foul language and are usually from outside our community. We walk down that center walkway every day to get to the playground, so moving the basketball court there doesn't fix the problem. What is the point of putting in a stellar basketball court that our community rarely uses? Put in family friendly amenities instead. Let's have a poll on that: Would you favor removing the basketball courts entirely - leaving just a kid's basketball court? Failing that: how about requiring players to be Arlington County residents? Running some youth programs in the evening?

One other note: there is no way to connect from the far bike path next to the soccer field to the playground. If you are on a bike or scooter or if you have a stroller, you either have to go out into the parking lot (dangerous)

# Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

or cut through the field to get to the playground. This should be a simple fix.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles October 24, 2013, 8:32 AM  
Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile October 23, 2013, 9:37 AM  
Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown within  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile October 22, 2013, 10:38 PM  
Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile October 22, 2013, 6:19 PM  
Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

I would like the youth basketball hoop to be located in a separate area from the tennis practice courts.

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Name not shown  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 mile October 22, 2013, 4:07 PM  
Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

I don't think it will be conducive to tennis practice to have a b'ball hoop inside the court.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles October 21, 2013, 8:26 PM  
Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile October 21, 2013, 3:08 PM  
Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

Option B will allow more options for the already very crowded tennis court area, but not making young adult basketball players compete for space with tennis players.

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Name not shown  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 mile October 21, 2013, 2:44 PM

## Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

The tennis courts and hitting wall are very popular; please have separate area for kids basketball. THX.

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Name not shown ¼ to ½ mile

October 21, 2013, 10:42 AM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 21, 2013, 8:51 AM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 20, 2013, 4:21 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown ¼ to ½ mile

October 20, 2013, 2:36 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

Keep 2 practice areas for tennis at all times and give kids their own ball area. I couldn't read the wording on either schemes. Please do not take away any other green space!

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 19, 2013, 8:38 AM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

I don't have strong feelings, but this seems like it could be a more space-efficient option.

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Name not shown ½ to 1 mile

October 18, 2013, 6:11 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

Convert into a half-court

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Name not shown ¼ to ½ mile

October 18, 2013, 5:35 PM

## Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 11:36 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 8:07 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown ¼ to ½ mile

October 17, 2013, 7:38 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

It would be nice to have a fenced dog park in this area north of the tennic courts for the many dogs in the neighborhood. Plenty of space and enough topography to block any barking concerns. Food for thought...

---

Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 4:46 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

B reduces conflicts between youth bball and tennis players, plus puts some distance between the "adult" bball players and the youth.

---

Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 4:30 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

Gives a dedicated space for young basketball players.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 3:45 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 3:37 PM

## Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 3:02 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 2:50 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

I like that the youth players would have their own dedicated space. I worry that they would not be welcomed by tennis players even if the shared area were clearly marked as being shared space.

Additionally, dealing with constantly passing each other balls that have missed the mark or gone astray may disrupt both tennis and basketball players' activities.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 2:47 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 2:43 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 2:38 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 2:19 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

Option B reduces potential conflict between tennis and basketball court users.

Wouldn't it be nice if appropriate language were used in parks, whether or not children are present?

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 2:09 PM



# Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

The more options for teens, the better!

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 1:46 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

This option appears to give equal access to young basketball players--hopefully guidelines for civility will be monitored!

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Joshua White more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 1:45 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

I feel that the dedicated youth basketball court will be the better option. I also like that the youth court isn't confined in a tennis court.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 1:42 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 1:31 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 1:30 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 1:27 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

This seems to be preferable to me though both are good solutions.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 12:59 PM

## Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 12:54 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown ½ to 1 mile

October 17, 2013, 12:36 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

B is better design for basketball court - also, eliminates conflict between tennis and b'ball players.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 12:24 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 12:21 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

The existing practice courts already provide the surface, so reuse is easy, cheap and most beneficial-- seems to be the best option. It's too bad though that the youth basketball courts will not be adjacent to the adult courts. It seems that would be beneficial.

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Name not shown ½ to 1 mile

October 17, 2013, 12:16 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 12:09 PM

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

I like the design of the youth basketball area. Losing one tennis area won't hurt anything and give kids a place to play.

---

Name not shown ½ to 1 mile

October 16, 2013, 8:30 PM

## Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

Existing tennis practice courts to be converted into a youth basketball half-court.

Option B provides two practice courts for tennis while still accommodating the need for youth basketball, and is the clear winner. I also really appreciate that in the new design, both practice courts will be larger, meeting US Tennis Assn guidelines - thank you! A sign by the basketball courts urging clean language given nearby children might also be helpful in achieving the community's objectives. Thanks much for holding the Oct 16 forum and being so accessible to the community - great job, DPR!

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# Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

## All Participants who selected 'Option A'

Name not shown within ¼ mile

November 1, 2013, 8:48 PM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

The space behind the tennis courts looks like a great area for a dog park. I'd much rather see it saved for that use than turned into a basketball court. I find it unbelievable that so much space in the park is dedicated to athletic activities that only a minority of residents participate in, yet there is no dog park even though a great number of residents own dogs. The park's offerings aren't really balanced towards the needs of the community as a whole.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 31, 2013, 9:53 AM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

I think I prefer Option A. However, the drawings are not clear enough to show whether the hoop in Option A would interfere with tennis practice use. Space for practice is popular and should be kept. Also, it may be that a third option would be best, but the study also doesn't report usage of all the courts (tennis as well as basketball) so it's impossible to determine the most reasonable overall allocation of space.

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Name not shown ½ to 1 mile

October 29, 2013, 11:31 AM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

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Name not shown within ¼ mile

October 23, 2013, 1:54 PM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

I would prefer more green space. The park is overrun with sports fields and courts already.

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Name not shown within ¼ mile

October 22, 2013, 9:31 AM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

The park needs more trees, not fewer. Option A at least allows for preserving some green space, whereas Option B does not.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 19, 2013, 4:37 PM

# Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

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Name not shown within ¼ mile

October 19, 2013, 8:18 AM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

Both options are terrible, and effectively a Hobson's choice. Both options remove vital greenspace. This is supposed to be a park. It is not supposed to be a collection of athletic fields. Yet Arlington continues to remove more and more greenspace from the park and add pavement. Most recently with a spraypark that is only open for 1/4 of the year -- what a waste. And now another field/tennis court and/or youth court. This park needs more greenspace and more trees, not less.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 18, 2013, 8:02 PM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 18, 2013, 8:46 AM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 2:29 PM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

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Name not shown ¼ to ½ mile

October 17, 2013, 1:40 PM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 1:29 PM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

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Name not shown more than 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 1:28 PM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

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Name not shown 1 to 2 miles

October 17, 2013, 12:09 PM

# Virginia Highlands Park

Virginia Highlands Park: Which option do you prefer?

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

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Name not shown within ¼ mile

October 16, 2013, 7:15 PM

1 basketball hoop for youth only to be located within one of the tennis practice courts.

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