

-----Original Message-----

From: Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks [<mailto:info@friendsofahparks.org>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 9:31 AM

Subject: Community Outreach: Virginia Highlands Park, Aurora Highlands
Dept of Parks and Recreation,

This is Kari Klaus on behalf of the Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks

(FoAHP) group. Please find the attached cover letter and questionnaire for Virginia Highlands Park in advance of the Dept. of Parks and Recreation's community outreach effort.

The County's recent indication and statements for improved transparency, processes and community engagement is very welcomed and we hope that the FoAHP questionnaire is viewed as a means to assist with that effort.

Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions and possibly some times in late February to schedule a meeting with some FoAHP and community members to go over any outstanding items in the questionnaire.

Sincerely,

On behalf of Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks

Kari Klaus. Co-chair.

www.FriendsofAHParks.org

Copied:

Civic Assoc: Aurora Highlands, Crystal City, Arlington Ridge

Commissions: Parks and Rec, E2C2, Planning.

County: Katie Cristol and Bryna Helfer

FoAHP co-chair.

On 2/3/2017 12:29 PM, Lisa Grandle wrote:

Kari

Thanks for sharing the information from Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks. We look forward to engaging the community throughout the upcoming process for the Parks Maintenance Capital project at Virginia Highlands. I have forwarded your suggestions on to our project manager, Scott McPartlin. He will be back in touch next week.

Best,

Lisa D. Grandle

Park Development Division Chief

Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation

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From: Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks [<mailto:info@friendsofahparks.org>]

Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 2:04 PM

Subject: Re: Community Outreach: Virginia Highlands Park, Aurora Highlands

Hi Lisa,

Thank you for your reply on February 3rd to the email sent on January 31st on behalf of the Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks.

I have two quick items and clarifications.

We have not received an email from Scott McPartlin. The Friends group sent the email on January 31st.

And in case there is a misunderstanding with the intention of the email from the Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks group, I'd like to clarify. The email sent was not input nor a list of suggestions. This is a public request for information about a community process that the community has not received any information on, but we believe is set to begin soon. The questions include broadly; requests for data about budget and public space uses, environmental impact, the process including outreach and community engagement plan, and the time frame.

To expedite DPR's responses, the original email contained 4 general questions up front that I have copied again below. We'd greatly appreciate a timely response to the 4 general questions below and any detailed information in the questionnaire that is currently available.

“Some of the detailed questions, we anticipate will be answered in their relevant time-frame, the most pressing responses needed in advance of community outreach are:

When will the outreach process and anticipated design phases begin

What is staff outreach plan/strategy

Are there any constraints

And how will public input be weighted given other county priorities if any.”

Thank you,

Kari Klaus, Co-chair, on behalf of Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks

Attachments: Original cover letter and questionnaire

On 2/21/2017 4:01 PM, Scott McPartlin wrote:

Hi Ms. Klaus,

My name is Scott McPartlin. I look forward to working with the community as the Virginia Highlands Park Framework Plan project manager. We have been asked by the Aurora Highlands Civic Association President, Natasha Atkins, to attend the April 12th AHCA meeting to discuss the upcoming project. We would also be happy to meet with you and others from the Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks.

We are currently developing an outreach plan/strategy that is both positive and transparent. We anticipate beginning the community engagement this May. As part of the Framework Plan we will identify any constraints and share these with the community at the beginning of the process. We will also discuss what a Framework Plan is, how the community can be involved throughout the process and how their input will be considered. The resulting Framework Plan will be used to guide Parks Maintenance Capital and other types of projects that may be programmed into future Capital Improvement Programs.

I look forward to working with the Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks on this exciting opportunity!

Scott McPartlin

Scott McPartlin, AICP

Comprehensive Projects Team Supervisor

Park Development Division

2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 414

Arlington, VA 22201

703-228-0929

smcpartlin@arlingtonva.us

From: Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks [mailto:info@friendsofahparks.org]

Sent: Thursday, March 09, 2017 10:14 AM

Subject: Re: Community Outreach: Virginia Highlands Park, Aurora Highlands

Hi Scott,

Thank you for the offer to meet with the Friends group, which we may take you up on further in the process if needed. There will be an announcement for members to come to the April 12th meeting to hear the DPR presentation. Thank you for this update about the County's plan as well. Although I do not know what is actually meant by a "Framework Plan" this sounds positive! Can you please tell me who is developing the plan; DPR, the County or consultants?

However, I need to circle back to my original request from January 31st. Questions were put forth based on careful thought and consideration about the background information that is required to make informed decisions about this project. Those answers are still outstanding.

I'd like to press upon you and the department that this is essential information to have transparent and informative community discussions about any improvements moving forward, and it would be appropriate to have the data at the start of this project where it can be most useful.

I would like to restate the request with a time-frame for some of the information. Can you please either help to answer or point us in the right direction for the questions pertaining to **"Data about VHP and existing facilities" and "Fiscal Stewardship?"**

For at least these 2 sections of the questionnaire, we would like to publish this information for the community prior to the April meeting with DPR. Your assistance in helping us gather this portion of the information as soon as possible, would be appreciated.

Thank you again and I look forward to seeing you in April.

Best,

Kari Klaus

on behalf of Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks

Attached: Questions for DPR_VHP Outreach