



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
George Washington Memorial Parkway  
c/o Turkey Run Park  
McLean, Virginia 22101

IN REPLY REFER TO:

June 27, 2007

Dear Friends of Jones Point Park:

The National Park Service (NPS) proposes to improve and enhance Jones Point Park (JPP). The project includes recreational features, an interpretive plan related to cultural resources, and proposed modifications to parking and access within the park. The NPS and the City of Alexandria's goal for the redevelopment of JPP is a carefully balanced program of active recreation, passive recreation, and interpretation of archeological, historic, cultural, and natural park features.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) presents a new preferred alternative (Alternative 4A) that ensures resource protection while balancing recreational values and interests. The new preferred alternative reflects public comment received during the Draft Environmental Assessment comment period beginning in August 2006. Alternative 4A features an access road that connects to a new cul-de-sac at the south end of Royal Street, and extends eastward to a 110-space parking area, and a vehicular turnaround located just west of the Potomac River. The cul-de-sac, perimeter barrier system, and landscape plantings to be located just south of the turnaround would be similar to Alternative 4. A tot-lot and an 80 x 40 yard multi-use field oriented east/west would be located north of the parking area. A 110 x 60 yard multi-use field oriented northwest/southeast would be located south of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge in a similar location as the existing field. Alternative 4A contains items common to the other action alternatives released in the first draft EA. This alternative modifies selected elements. Please refer to the Summary section in this EA for a table of substantive EA revisions to help you reference these changes.

The alternatives studied for improvements to JPP are part of the mitigation commitments outlined in the 2000 Record of Decision (ROD) and 1997 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) et al, required for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge (WWB) Replacement Project. The proposed alternatives include the No-Action Alternative and five action alternatives. The No-Action Alternative maintains the existing soccer fields located south of the WWB; however, the No-Action Alternative does not address the federal Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) security recommendation to remove all public vehicle access and parking from beneath the new WWB. Further, the No-Action Alternative does not fulfill the Purpose and Need for the project (refer to Chapter 1.0 of this EA), the NPS resource management goals for JPP (refer to Chapter 2.0 of this EA), or the conditions relevant to JPP as stated in the Record of Decision and the Memorandum of Agreement for the WWB Replacement Project (refer to Appendices E and F of this EA).

The action alternatives contain the following similar components: park manager's office/comfort station; tot lot; promenade/boardwalk; access to the Mt. Vernon Trail; shoreline stabilization; proposed bulkhead, canoe/kayak launch, and a fishing pier; the rehabilitation of the Jones Point Lighthouse and the preservation of the D.C. South Cornerstone; and drainage improvements along a new access road.

The differences between the action alternatives relate to the location and orientation of the multi-use fields, the length of the access road, and the location and size of parking areas. Each action alternative could use a combination of perimeter barriers to limit vehicular access and public parking under the WWB, and within an 80-foot distance surrounding the bridge. This document supersedes the Jones Point Park Environmental Assessment (JPP EA) dated August 18, 2001 and September 2001, and serves as a comprehensive management plan for future development of JPP.

This document identifies Alternative 4A as the Preferred Alternative for improvements to JPP. The Preferred Alternative would address resource management interests, enhance recreational opportunities in JPP, address security issues, improve drainage conditions and would minimize, as much as possible, the potential community and environmental effects of the proposed improvements. The NPS believes that the proposed park redevelopment plan addresses the broad range of park uses recommended by the citizens of the City of Alexandria and regional park visitors. This EA is available for public review at the George Washington Memorial Parkway Headquarters, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and on the NPS website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/gwmp>. Copies of the EA are also available at the following libraries:

Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library  
5005 Duke Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

James M. Duncan Branch Library  
3809 Mt. Vernon Street (temporary location)  
Alexandria, Virginia 22305

Sherwood Regional Library  
2501 Sherwood Hall Lane  
Alexandria, Virginia 22306

Waller Barrett Branch  
717 Queen Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Central Library  
1015 N. Quincy Street  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

John Marshall Library  
6209 Rose Hill Drive  
Alexandria, Virginia 22310

Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch  
4701 Seminary Road  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

Oxon Hill Library  
6200 Oxon Hill Road  
Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745

Martha Washington Library  
6614 Fort Hunt Road  
Alexandria, Virginia 22307

We value and welcome your input on this project. The public comment period closes on July 30, 2007. The preferred system for receiving public comments electronically is through the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website, where the EA is publicly posted on the Internet. The PEPC database is a tool used by the NPS to manage official correspondence and analyze public comment in the planning process. The website address is <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/gwmp>. You may complete a comment form online. From the list of projects, click on the Jones Point Park Environmental Assessment. In the left menu, click Document List, then June 2007 Draft Environmental Assessment, and Comment on Document. You can also mail comments to:

Mr. David Vela, Superintendent  
ATTN: Jones Point Park EA  
George Washington Memorial Parkway  
Turkey Run Park  
McLean, Virginia 22101

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we would honor to the extent allowable by law. There may also be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. **If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment.** If you include personal information, we may use it to provide further project updates during the planning process. Thank you for your interest in Jones Point Park, and your input in this project.

Sincerely,



David Vela  
Superintendent