

Appendix A

Public Engagement Process

CLAUDE MOORE FARM AREA CONCEPT PLAN PUBLIC COMMENT REPORT

JULY 1, 2019

INTRODUCTION TO SCOPING PROCESS

Project Description

The National Park Service (NPS) is preparing a Concept Plan for the future of Claude Moore farm area in McLean, VA. The 69-acre Claude Moore farm area is within Turkey Run Park, one of the many sites managed by the NPS along the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

Following the public comment period, the NPS will develop an initial range of concepts for future use and enjoyment of the Claude Moore farm area of Turkey Run Park. The NPS will share these concepts with the public during a second public comment period and provide further opportunities for feedback. The outcome of the effort will be a Concept Plan that contains a range of refined concepts that could then be considered as options for the NPS to implement.

Plan Goals

The goals of the Concept Plan are to:

- Conduct community outreach and provide opportunities for the public to re-imagine the park
- Explore and identify potential adaptive reuse of existing facilities
- Develop a range of concepts for the park as part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway expanding opportunities for the public to explore the resources and engage in new visitor experiences

Public Comment Period

The comment period for the Concept Plan began on April 25, 2019 and extended through May 25, 2019.

DESCRIPTION OF PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting was held on April 25, 2019 to provide the public with an opportunity to share their vision for the Claude Moore farm area's future and identify any issues or concerns they might have with the project. The public meeting was held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Madison Community Center at 3829 N Stafford Street in Arlington, VA. Fifty-two attendees registered on the sign-in sheet.

The public meeting was held in an open-house format. Meeting attendees were provided an opportunity to view and ask questions about project-related information on presentation boards arranged in the meeting room. Attendees could circulate the room to speak to the NPS and consultant representatives to address specific issues. The boards addressed the following:

- Plan Goals
- Project Timeline

- Project Location
- Share Your Ideas
- Share Your Ideas (Tell us about your visits to the park and activities that you have envisioned could happen here)
- Play: What would you like to do at the park?
- Activities: What would you like to do at the park?
- Play & Activities: What would you like to do at the park?
- How Can You Submit Comments?

Attendees were provided with post-it notes to respond to questions on the boards for posting to the boards. Attendees were also given dot stickers to place on precedent images of activities that interest them on the boards.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

Introduction

Ninety pieces of correspondence were received during the public comment period. Correspondences were received from residents of Alexandria, Annandale, Arlington, Ashburn, Fairfax, Falls Church, Great Falls, Haymarket, Herndon, Manassas, McLean, Reston, Springfield, and Vienna in Virginia. Comments were also received from residents of Bethesda, Chevy Chase, Forest Heights, Frederick, Glen Echo, Potomac, Silver Spring, and Thurmont in Maryland. Five pieces of correspondence were also received from residents of the District of Columbia, North Carolina, Ohio, and Hawaii.

Members or official representatives of several groups, including the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia, Claude Moore Colonial Farm, Friends of the Colonial Farm at Turkey Run, Fairfax County Democrats, Friends of Dyke Marsh, J.R.'s Custom Catering/Colonial Caterers\J.R.'s Goodtimes, Inc., Mid Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts, Outdoor Alliance DMV, National Parks Conservation Association, Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, Sierra Club, and Ship's Company Chanteymen, provided comments, which are summarized in the following section of this report.

Comment analysis assists the planning team in organizing, clarifying, and addressing technical information relevant to the development of the Concept Plan. It also aids in identifying the topics and issues to be evaluated and considered throughout the planning process. The following summary of comments is provided to outline the major groupings of comments, along with examples of specific comments to illustrate the trend.

General statements that the comments included

Topic Questions

During the public comment period, comments could be submitted at the public meeting, via mail, or via the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website. The comment form at the public meeting and PEPC website asked commenters to answer the following three topic questions.

1. Please tell us about your previous visits to the park. Include information about what activities you enjoyed, how often you have visited, the activities you have participated in, how long you were there, and the time of year you visited.

2. What would you like to see at the park in the future? Please include information about educational programs, new activities, and connections to other local attractions.
3. What other additional comments or suggestions do you have about the park?

Answers to each of these topic questions are summarized below. Comments submitted via mail that answered these topic questions are also summarized below.

1. **Previous Visits - Type of Commenters** A majority of the correspondences received were from commenters who were previously park visitors. **Table 1** summarizes the previous relationship of all commenters to the park.

Table 1: Type of commenters

Previous Relationship to Park	Number of Correspondences
Visitor	48
Visitor and volunteer	15
Visitor and volunteer or farm staff	1
Volunteer	7
Volunteer and farm staff	2
Farm staff	1
Contractor	2
Neighbor	1
Interest Group (e.g., Friends of Dyke Marsh)	6
Have never visited	2
Unknown	5
Total	90

2. **Previous Visits - What activities did you enjoy or participate in?**

Visitors

Table 2 summarizes the most common activities visitor commenters stated that they enjoyed or participated in at the park.

Table 2: Activities visitor commenters enjoyed or participated in at the park

Activity	Number of Correspondences
Attended market fairs	22
Experienced colonial life/Saw history in action/Interacted with interpreters	13
Visited book store	12
Attended seasonal farm events and/or fairs	10
Visited farm animals	10
Visited gift shop	10

Activity	Number of Correspondences
Attended other farm events and/or fairs (not specified)	9
Walked around the grounds	8
Learned about colonial history and life	7
Attended plant sale	4
Picnicked	3
Attended or helped with Girl Scout events	3

Visitor commenters also stated that they enjoyed or participated in other, less common, miscellaneous activities at the park including:

- Attending field trips
- Hiking
- Playing on paths
- Touring the farm
- Attending farm days
- Exploring historic replica farm exhibits
- Attending weekend living history events
- Helping with farm chores
- Attending the Wassail
- Participating in the Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count
- Camping
- Attending community events at the pavilions
- Attending sporting events
- Attending programs

Volunteers and Farm Staff

Table 3 summarizes the most common activities volunteer and farm staff commenters stated that they enjoyed or participated in at the park.

Table 3: Activities volunteer and farm staff commenters enjoyed or participated in at the park

Activity	Number of Correspondences
Worked at market fairs	14
Worked at events	5
Worked behind the scenes	5
Provided interpretation, including first-person interpretation	5

Volunteer and farm staff commenters also stated that they enjoyed or participated in other, less common, miscellaneous activities at the park including:

- Educating visitors about colonial life and farming
- Performing special activities
- Working at the fall harvest festivals
- Performing in the Wassail
- Performing as part of historical music group
- Maintaining facilities
- Performing routine maintenance
- Participating in regular daily operations
- Performing farm chores
- Caring for animals
- Planting or harvesting crops
- Planning programs
- Working at the office
- Rebuilding website
- Rewiring office network
- Indexing books

Youth Volunteers/Junior Interpreters

Eleven correspondences stated that the commenter had children/teenagers who previously volunteered at the farm or were previously volunteers themselves when they were a child/teenager. Comments stated that youth volunteers served as junior interpreters, volunteered at the market fair and other events, gardened, farmed, participated in animal care, worked behind the scenes, served as an apprentice, performed farm chores, etc. Some comments described the benefits to the commenter or their children from their youth volunteer experiences. Examples of these comments include the following:

- “My eldest was a Claude Moore junior interpreter and learned a lot about interacting with the public, animals and farming, and better awareness of the lives of people who rarely make it into the history books. She also gained a lot of independence and practice at responsibility because of how the program was run.”
- “When our daughter was old enough, she became a Junior Interpreter and worked at the farm as a volunteer for 8 years until she entered college. . . . The farm was instrumental in my daughter's education and opportunities for personal growth.”
- “My son was a youth volunteer for two seasons. He learned so much about the period and sharing it with others. I credit this experience with giving him a high comfort level speaking to audiences.”

- 3. Previous Visits - How often have you visited?** Comments received in response to this question varied widely. The most common response stated that commenters visited or volunteered at the park was several times. **Table 4** summarizes how often commenters visited or volunteered at the park.

Table 4: How often commenters visited or volunteered at the park

Frequency	Number of Correspondences
Once	5
6-8 times in the past several years	1
Couple of times	1
Periodically	1
Regularly	1
Frequently	2
Several times	3
At least once per month	2
Weekly in the spring and fall	1
Per Year	
Few times	1
Several times	7
1-2 times	1
2 times	4
2-3 times	1
3 times	3
3-4 times	1
4 times	2
40 times	1

- 4. Previous Visits - How long were you there?** Eleven correspondences described how much time the commenter spent at the park. Overall, commenters spent between 45 minutes to a full-day at the park. Nine correspondences stated that the commenter visited the park between 45 minutes to a full-day at the park. Market fair visitors spent two hours to a full-day at the park. Other visits to the park ranged from 45 minutes to three hours. Two correspondences stated that the commenter volunteered at the park for either a half-day or full-day. One correspondence stated that the commenter was a full-time staff member.
- 5. Previous Visits - What time of year did you visit?** The most common time of year commenters stated that they visited or volunteered at the park was in the fall. **Table 5** summarizes how often commenters visited or volunteered at the park.

Table 5: Time of year commenters visited or volunteered at the park

Time of Year	Number of Correspondences
Spring	20
Summer	19
Fall	21
Winter	8
Off-season	1
All times/throughout the year	6
All times/throughout the year (when Claude Moore Colonial Farm was open)	4

- 6. What would you like to see at the park in the future?** Comments received in response to this topic question varied widely and in level of detail. Overall, sixty-four correspondences stated that the commenter would like a colonial, living history, or working farm and/or farm-related activities, programs, or events at the park in the future. Thirty-six correspondences stated that the commenter would like see some other feature, activity, or program, not specifically related to a farm, at the park in the future.

Farm/Living History

Forty-five correspondences stated that the commenter would like a colonial, living history, or working historical farm at the park in the future. Three correspondences stated that the commenter would like to see a working farm, but did not specify a colonial or historical farm. Two correspondences stated that the commenter would like to see a farm, colonial or otherwise.

Table 6 summarizes the most common farm-related activities, programs, and events commenters stated that they would like at the park in the future.

Table 6: Farm-related activities, programs, and events commenters would like at the park in the future

Activity, Program, or Event	Number of Correspondences
Market fairs	19
First person interpretation/Historical re-enactors or interpreters	6
Heritage breed animals	6
Hands-on learning activities	6
Over-night programs	5
Volunteer program	5
Field trips/school visits	4
Programs similar to what has been presented at the farm in the past (programs unspecified)	4
Educational programs	4

Commenters also stated that they would like to see other, less common, farm-related activities, programs, and events at the park in the future including:

- Special, holiday, and summer weekend events
- Informal colonial events for children and families (e.g., birthday parties)
- Campground events for military reenactment
- Wassailing
- Plant sales
- Scout programs
- Junior interpreters and youth volunteer opportunities
- Junior ranger programs
- Summer day camps
- Lectures/seminars/workshops
- Movies about colonial times
- Crops true to the colonial time period
- Tobacco fields/farm
- Kitchen garden
- Gardens
- Animal husbandry program
- Interpretive outdoor museum

Commenters also stated that they would like to keep the existing farm buildings in place (3 correspondences), keep the giftshop open (3 correspondences), and keep the book store open (2 correspondences). One correspondence stated that the commenter would like free or low-cost meeting rooms and a visitor center with displays and maps.

Three correspondences also stated that the commenter would like for the park to continue as a home for 18th-century living research with examples of books and other materials from the time period for research purposes.

Other Features, Activities, and Programs

Commenters also noted a variety of other features, activities, and programs not specifically related to a farm that they would like at the park in the future. **Table 7** summarizes the most common features, activities, and programs commenters would like at the park in the future.

Table 7: Features, activities, and programs commenters would like at the park in the future

Feature, Activity, or Program	Number of Correspondences
Hiking or Walking Trails	7
Trails (type unspecified)	6
Camping	6
Picnic space	5
Horse activities/riding lessons	4
Educational opportunities/programs	4

Other, less common, features, activities, and programs, commenters stated that they would like at the park in the future are summarized below.

In addition to hiking or walking trails, commenters stated that they would like to see mountain biking trails, multi-use trails, equestrian trails, and a history trail at the park in the future. Three total correspondences also stated that the commenter would like nicer walking paths, trails expanded and opened to bicycles (type unspecified), or to keep the existing trails open but to not expand the trail system. Two total correspondences stated that the commenter would like senior hikes and trails or nature walks.

Additional features commenters stated that they would like at the park in the future include the following:

- Open spaces
- Active recreation areas
- Racquet courts for tennis and pickleball
- Picnic spaces
- Seating areas
- Music shell/covered venue for performances
- Climbing or bouldering areas
- Skiing areas
- Nature preserve
- Meditative walking mandala
- Gardens
- Community garden
- Permaculture project
- Dog park
- Gift shop
- Book store
- Public restrooms
- Concessions
- Information about local cultural activities
- Children-oriented activities and programs (including junior ranger program and volunteer opportunities)

Additional programs and events commenters stated that they would like at the park in the future include:

- Art classes
- Festivals or seasonal events
- Farm-to-table restaurant
- Concerts/music programs
- Environmental education
- Small petting zoo
- Animal visits
- Events hosted at pavilions

Commenters also noted that would like to see nicer restroom facilities, handicap-accessible restrooms, expanded opportunities for handicap access, more informational signage, and signage with NPS rules.

- 7. Trail Connections** Ten correspondences stated that the commenter would like to see new trails that connect to existing trails, the pavilion and baseball fields, Langley Forks Park, Langley Oaks Park, Turkey Run Park, Turkey Run, Dead Run, and the Potomac Heritage Trail. Examples of these comments include the following:

- “Support connecting trails & protecting as much of natural resources as possible”
- “Perhaps the park could connect to and complement Langley Fork / Langley Oaks Parks. E.g., by integrating with local hiking trails”
- “I would like to see the existing trails open to the public, linked to adjacent parks such as Turkey Run Park closer to the Potomac River”

- 8. Park Activities/Features Not Wanted** Fourteen correspondences specified activities or features that the commenter would not like to see at the park in the future. Eight correspondences stated that the commenter would not like active recreation, ball fields, or soccer fields at the park in the future. The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia stated “We

urge that you not assume that the area must continue as an active use area or be continued as a farm park. . . . More development, including active recreation, threaten to cause more degradation to our air and water.” The Friends of Dyke Marsh also noted how additional traffic and development, including active recreation, will likely bring air and water degradation. Additional activities or features commenters stated that they would not like to see at the park in the future include:

- Any kind of development
- Hiking and biking trails
- Park geared solely towards hiking and nature-based activities
- Dogs in general and off-leash dogs
- Playgrounds
- Picnic spots
- Woods clearing
- Hi-tech interactive activities
- Parking or informal access to the park from adjacent residential streets

Some commenters noted that playgrounds, nature trails, ball fields, and picnic spots already exist in the local area.

9. Perspective offered at Claude Moore Colonial Farm (CMCF) Ten correspondences stated that the CMCF offered a unique perspective when compared to other sites portraying colonial life. In general, comments stated that the CMCF showed the setup and life of a poorer, average farm whereas sites like Mount Vernon and Williamsburg show the life of the middle and upper class. Examples of these comments include the following:

- “I feel Claude Moore was unique in its approach and its focus, turning instead from large houses of famous founders and bustling capitals like Mount Vernon or Williamsburg respectively, towards a farm family working the land to eke out a living. This was a perspective so often overlooked.”
- “We are hopeful that NPS will consider the option of maintaining a lower-class 18th Century farm. With proximity to Old Town Alexandria and Mount Vernon Estate, this allows the public to view along the GW Parkway and close proximity a broad representation of mid-to-late 18th Century life, from agrarian farmer to city life to the upper social classes.
- “This part of Virginia has many programs and sites that focus on the colonial elites. The Claude Moore Farm filled an important niche as a site that focused on non-elite farmers. Its loss leaves a significant gap in the region’s programs.”

Five correspondences specifically described connections to, partnerships with, or complementary programming with Mount Vernon and/or other historic sites portraying colonial life. Examples of these comments include the following:

- “I’ve often thought there was great potential for the Farm to do some sort of program in conjunction with the National Colonial Farm, in Accokeek, and nearby Mount Vernon, showing the similarities and differences in life and agriculture between a poorer farm, (Claude Moore) a middling farm, (Accokeek) and a well-to-do farm. (Mount Vernon).”
- “Perhaps there could be a sort of history trail linking other similar sites in the area to include Mount Vernon, the restored canal in Georgetown, etc. “

Three correspondences stated that a colonial farm at the park in the future would be redundant in the Washington, DC region. These comments stated that opportunities to learn about colonial life and farming are available at National Colonial Farm, Oxon Hill Farm, Sully Plantation, Frying Pan Farm Park, and Mount Vernon.

10. Future Farm Management/Ownership Thirteen correspondences included comments about the future management and/or ownership of the park. Five total correspondences mentioned the Friends group in the future of the park. One correspondence stated that they “would like to see the return of the Friends to running the park.” One correspondence stated that the Friends of the Claude Moore Colonial Farm should be reconstituted with new leadership to work out a contract or agreement. The commenter stated that the Friends of the Claude Moore Colonial Farm should be given the opportunity to purchase the park and privately run it. Another correspondence stated that the area occupied by the bookstore and pavilions should be turned over to Fairfax County or another organization so that the Friends of the Farm may “engage in other revenue-making projects which benefit the farm.” Two correspondences from the Friends of the Colonial Farm at Turkey Run, Inc. outlined their vision for programs, funding streams, and plans for the park in the future.

Six correspondences stated that the commenter would like a colonial farm opened up again either by another group, under new management, under a different structure, or the commenter has no preference who runs the farm.

One additional correspondence asked if there is an opportunity for the National Park Foundation to steward the site.

One additional correspondence from J.R.’s Goodtimes, Inc. proposed a “MOU style Public/Private agreement that would allow us to complete our previous CMCF contract with its responsibilities under that Agreement and conduct our operations for the remainder of this year and until December 20, 2020.”

11. Other Group Comments Correspondences from the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and Friends of Dyke Marsh stated that planning should not proceed until a comprehensive biological survey of natural resources in the park is completed and future plans should fully consider environmental impacts. The two groups stated that the park property “offers a prime and rare opportunity to preserve and enhance native habitat,” could be part of an enhanced conservation core, and should improve air quality and water quality of area streams and the Potomac River

The Outdoor Alliance DMV commented that they see the park as having “potential to create a core trail system and trailhead for inside-the-beltway outdoor access.” They stated that they have “begun to develop an outdoor recreation base map for the area, showing existing trail, paddling, and climbing opportunities to help guide the discussion and illustrate potential connections to the Claude Moore Colonial Farm site.”

The National Parks Conservation Association commented that the park “is an important green oasis in an ever increasingly developed landscape and provides many of these opportunities for recreation.” They described what they have heard from their area members about future uses, which are summarized in previous sections of this report.

Public Meeting Comments

At the public meeting, attendees were provided with post-it notes to respond to questions on the boards and dot stickers to place on precedent images of activities that interest them on the boards. The following section summarizes major groupings of comments from the post-it note text and dot stickers.

12. Previous Visits The boards included the following questions regarding previous visits to the park:

- How often have you visited?
- What have you enjoyed doing at the park?
- What do you like to do at the park?
- What of year did you visit?
- How long did you stay?

Eighteen post-it notes included text that responded to the above questions. Responses varied widely and in detail. Examples of these responses include the following:

- “Visited regularly for 15 years, spring, summer, winter & fall for farm events”
- “Walked nature trail and trails”
- “Visited many times a year. Brought my child & friends from age 2 to 16. Came to see special events on farm site, & to market fair. Volunteered. Our whole family volunteered and learned.”
- “6-8 times/year since 1988. colonial farm. Stayed all day/many days attended picnics @ pavilion.”
- “My homeschool child volunteered weekly as a junior interpreter. He learned history & skills. He was there for 2 years.”

13. What would you like to do at the park in the future? The most common activity attendees indicated through the dot stickers and post-it notes that they would like to do at the park in the future was experience a colonial-style or living history farm, colonial living history, or living history. **Table 8** summarizes the most common activities meeting attendees indicated that they would like to do at the park in the future with dot stickers and post-it notes.

Table 8: Activities Meeting Attendees would like to do at the park in the future

Activity	Dot Stickers	Post-It Notes	Total
Experience a colonial-style or living history farm, colonial living history, or living history	69	23	92
Walk/hike/jog on trails	29	9	38
Learn a skill	29	0	29
View nature or wildlife/study nature/enjoy natural resources	26	3	29
Visit a farm	27	0	27
Go on an interpretive nature walk with a Park ranger	26	0	26
Have a picnic	19	1	20
Go mountain biking	11	7	18
Use accessible trails	17	0	17
Attend a pop-up event	14	0	14
Practice photography	10	1	11

Other activities that received more than one, but less than ten, dot stickers or post-it note comments included:

- Host gatherings/events
- Use large picnic pavilion area
- Tend to a community garden
- Attend a junior ranger program
- Participate in youth programs (e.g., volunteer programs, organized school tours, colonial-related programs and workshops, day camps)
- Take an art class
- Learn farm skills/activities
- Explore using a GPS/Wayfinding
- Throw or hit a ball/athletic fields/recreational fields
- Use open space
- Go horseback riding
- Play frisbee golf
- Play volleyball
- Visit a dog park/exercise and walk dog
- Use biking (not specified) trails or road biking trails
- Use multi-use trails
- Restore and protect natural habitat
- Go tent camping
- Experience colonial camping/living
- Attend festivals
- Attend market fairs
- Attend a renaissance festival
- Visit an environmental living center

14. Trail Connections Some attendees described on the post-it notes areas they would like trails to connect to from the park. Nine post-it notes stated that attendees would like to see connections:

- To the current trail network
- To Langley Oaks
- To Langley Fork Park
- To Turkey Run Park
- To Turkey Run Park trail system
- To the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail
- From N. Randolph Street in Arlington to Turkey Run Park and Old Georgetown Road and eventually to American Legion Bridge and Great Falls

Some attendees explicitly stated that these connections should be made via walking/hiking and biking trails.

SOUTH TURKEY RUN PARK CONCEPT PLAN PUBLIC COMMENT REPORT

NOVEMBER 14, 2019

INTRODUCTION TO SCOPING PROCESS

Project Description

The National Park Service (NPS) is preparing a Concept Plan for the future of Claude Moore farm area in McLean, VA, now known as South Turkey Run Park. The 69-acre South Turkey Run Park is within Turkey Run Park, one of the many sites managed by the NPS along the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP).

The second public comment period builds on the first public comment period conducted in April/May 2019, when the public was invited to share their vision for the park's future. The NPS has reviewed the comments received and considered them in the development of an initial range of concepts for South Turkey Run Park. Following the second public comment period, the NPS will prepare a Concept Plan that contains a range of refined concepts that could then be considered as options for NPS to implement.

Plan Goals

The goals of the Concept Plan are to:

- Conduct community outreach and provide opportunities for the public to re-imagine the park
- Explore and identify potential adaptive reuse of existing facilities
- Develop a range of concepts for the park as part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway expanding opportunities for the public to explore the resources and engage in new visitor experiences

Public Comment Period

The comment period for the Concept Plan began on September 26, 2019 and extended through October 26, 2019.

DESCRIPTION OF PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting was held on September 26, 2019 to provide the public with an opportunity to review initial concepts for the future use and enjoyment of South Turkey Run Park. The public meeting was held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at McLean High School at 1633 Davidson Road in McLean, VA. Thirty-three attendees registered on the sign-in sheet.

The public meeting started and ended in an open-house format. During the open house, meeting attendees were provided an opportunity to view and ask questions about project-related information on presentation boards arranged in the hallway outside McLean High School's auditorium. Attendees could circulate the room to speak to the NPS and consultant representatives to address specific issues. The boards addressed the following:

- Plan Goals
- Project Timeline
- Public Comment Period #1 Summary
- Adventure + Exploration Concept
- Cultivation + Connection Concept
- Rejuvenation + Renewal Concept
- How Can You Submit Comments?

The middle portion of the public meeting included a formal presentation given by the GWMP Superintendent in the auditorium. The presentation included the same information as presented on the boards, but in more detail. The presentation also reviewed the new park name. Attendees were provided the opportunity to ask questions at the end of the presentation.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

Introduction

Seventy pieces of correspondence were received during the public comment period. Correspondences were received from residents of Alexandria, Arlington, Ashburn, Belleview, Falls Church, Great Falls, Herndon, Manassas, Manassas Park, McLean, Reston, South Riding, and Springfield in Virginia. Comments were also received from residents of the District of Columbia and Baltimore, Forest Heights, and Silver Spring in Maryland.

Members or official representatives of several groups, including the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia, J.R.'s Goodtimes, Inc. (Colonial Caterers Inc./J.R.'s Custom Catering), Evermay Community Association, Fairfax County Government, Fairfax County Parks Authority Board, Friends of Dyke Marsh, Friends of the Colonial Farm at Turkey Run, McLean Citizens Association, National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), and Outdoor Alliance DMV provided comments, which are summarized in the following section of this report.

Comment analysis assists the planning team in organizing, clarifying, and addressing technical information relevant to the development of the Concept Plan. It also aids in identifying the topics and issues to be evaluated and considered throughout the planning process. The following summary of comments is provided to outline the major groupings of comments, along with examples of specific comments to illustrate the trend.

General statements that the comments included

Concept Comments

- 1. Comments supporting or opposing the concepts** Overall, the Cultivation + Connection Concept received the most support of the three concepts from commenters. **Table 1** summarizes the number of correspondences that expressed support or opposition for the three concepts.

Table 1: Correspondences supporting or opposing the concepts

Concept	Number of Correspondences	
	Support	Opposition
Adventure + Exploration	5	5
Cultivation + Connection	23	4
Rejuvenation + Renewal	12	0

2. Adventure + Exploration Concept

Support

Five correspondences expressed support for the Adventure + Exploration Concept. Some commenters stated that they support the concept because it “allows for camping,” provides “extra fields for sports,” and the “adventure facility, with limited tent camping for groups, would be a valuable addition to this area.”

Outdoor Alliance DMV expressed support for the Adventure + Exploration Concept because the concept “could transform the outdoor recreation options in the region.” The concept’s proposal for progressive outdoor recreation in this area of the GWMP “may significantly increase equitable access for underserved populations in our region and help develop new users, stakeholders, and stewards for the Parkway’s resources.”

Opposition

Five correspondences expressed opposition to the Adventure + Exploration Concept. Some commenters stated that they oppose the concept because it seemed deficient and included an adventure facility and campgrounds.

The Evermay Community Association (i.e., the homeowner association representing 159 homes located on the south and north sides of Dolley Madison Blvd./Route 123) stated that the Adventure + Exploration Concept received unanimous disapproval at their Board of Director’s meeting on October 2, 2019.

The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and Friends of Dyke Marsh stated that active recreation camping with utility hookups and sports would not be consistent with their goals, the NPS already has camping opportunities at Prince William Forest Park, and area local governments already provide a wide range of active recreational and sports opportunities.

3. Cultivation + Connection Concept

Support

Twenty-three correspondences expressed support for the Cultivation + Connection Concept. Commenters stated that they support the concept because the concept would, for example:

- Keep “alive the interpretive areas of the original farm”
- Provide “local residents the opportunity to learn about agriculture”
- Include gardening which is “extremely improvement for the environment and community building”
- Be the “most amenable to families with children while also being the most environmentally friendly”
- Include “the possibility of an interpretive farm”
- Keep “some interpretive capacity for Colonial history (especially agricultural) but also allows flexibility for events, hiking, and community gardens”
- Recognize “the huge amount of support the public expressed for the continued farm and market fair presence at the park”
- Make “use of the existing Colonial structures and educates the community on its own history”
- Be the “most amenable to promoting both the ecological and cultural beauty of our region”

Members or official representatives of NPCA, the McLean Citizens Association, and the Evermay Community Association also expressed support for the Cultivation + Connection Concept. NPCA stated that the concept is “best fitting for the wishes of our members” which expressed their desire for natural hiking trails and some type of agricultural or farming based outdoor education. NPCA also stated that they would some type of tent camping incorporated. The McLean Citizens Association stated that the concept “most closely aligns with feedback received through the McLean Citizens Association” and “supports stewardship opportunities in historical and agricultural based outdoor education.” The Evermay Community Association requested “any future use of South Turkey Run Park be based on a combination of” the Cultivation + Connection and Rejuvenation + Renewal Concepts.

One commenter in support of the Cultivation + Connection Concept stated that they would like the Flexible Event/Recreation Area changed to an active sports area, with soccer and baseball/softball fields. Another commenter stated that “the area emphasize a green community and reforest, create a nursery, or habitat for pollinators” and requested an accessible sidewalk.

Opposition

Four correspondences expressed opposition to the Cultivation + Connection Concept. The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and Friends of Dyke Marsh stated that athletic fields, interpretive farms with agricultural fields and more impervious parking lots, pavilions, and other surfaces would not be consistent with their goals.

4. Rejuvenation + Renewal Concept

Support

Twelve correspondences expressed support for the Rejuvenation + Renewal Concept. Commenters stated that they support the concept because, for example:

- “More bees, butterflies, and other insects in the area” are needed
- “People need places that are generally untampered to go visit where they can enjoy the beauty of nature”
- The concept “best compromises with the prior function of the space as colonial farm while expanding other recreational opportunities”
- The concept “appeals to a broad sector of the public: those interested in a colonial farm, those interested in event spaces, and those looking for natural recreation”

Members or official representatives of the Evermay Community Association, Audubon Society of Northern Virginia, and the Friends of Dyke Marsh also expressed support for the Rejuvenation + Renewal Concept. The Evermay Community Association requested “any future use of South Turkey Run Park be based on a combination of” the Cultivation + Connection and Rejuvenation + Renewal Concepts.

The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and Friends of Dyke Marsh stated that the concept is consistent with their goals and the “property is better suited as a natural resources-focused park and passive recreation.” These groups expressed support for the multiple habitat types, ecological interpretation points, trail connections, pollinator meadows, reforestation nursery, and reforested fields.

Opposition

No correspondences expressed opposition to the Rejuvenation + Renewal Concept.

Other Comments

- 5. Other Recommended Park Features, Activities, and Programs** Several correspondences stated that the commenter would like some other feature, activity, or program at the park in the future. Twenty-six correspondences stated that the commenter would like a colonial farm, historical programming, or a similar experience to what Claude Moore Colonial Farm offered. Five correspondences stated that the commenter would like market fairs at the park in the future.

Commenters also stated that they would like to see other, less common, features, activities, and programs at the park in the future. Recommendations not already captured in the three concepts include:

- Conversion of existing buildings for camping facilities, classes, and meetings
- Meeting hall facility
- Book shop
- Gift shop
- Dog park

- Historical markers 18th century flora, fauna, Natives, and settlers
 - Mountain biking trails
 - Native plants
 - Native crops
 - Agents of Discovery missions (<https://agentsofdiscovery.com/>) and other technology-aided strategies to engage youth
 - Classes ranging from outdoor photography to archery to seasonally appropriate uses like snowshoeing taught by local organizations and businesses
 - Use of solar power
- 6. Trails** Eight correspondences expressed support for trails and the proposed connections to trails and parks outside of South Turkey Run Park. NPCA expressed support for the expanded trail system and connections to other existing trails. NCPA expressed support for the proposed trail connections to Langley Fork Park, Langley Oaks Park, and the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail. The McLean Citizens Association also expressed support for trails noting that the extension of the trail network can “potentially establish running routes for youth groups and similar organizations or events.”
- 7. New Park Name – South Turkey Run Park** NPCA expressed support for the name change because “it is a more fitting name for this parcel of the GWMP.” One correspondence expressed opposition to the park’s name change stating that “now its just a run of the mill park” whereas “Claude Moore Colonial Farm” was memorable.
- 8. Park Activities/Features Not Wanted** Twenty correspondences specified activities or features that the commenter would not like to see at the park in the future. Seven correspondences stated that the commenter would not like athletic fields or sports activities at the park in the future. Seven correspondences also stated that the commenter would not like camping or a campground at the park in the future. Commenters noted several other activities or features that they would not like to see at the park in the future.

Some commenters specified that they do not want *new* or *more of* specific activities or features, whereas other commenters stated that they generally do not want specific activities or features. Activities or features commenters stated that they do not want new or more of, with some commenters noting that these activities or features are available elsewhere, include:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Athletic fields/sports activities | • Forest |
| • Campgrounds | • Picnic pavilions |
| • Hiking trails | • Picnic tables |
| • Development | • Pergolas |
| • New buildings | • Lean tos |
| • New or expanded parking lots | • Outdoor auditoria |
| • Playgrounds | |

Activities or features that commenters stated that they do not care about or will never use include:

- Athletic fields
- Picnic pavilions

Activities or features that commenters stated that they do not want, are not in favor of, are opposed to, or find unacceptable include:

- Athletic fields/sports activities (including no land clearing to accommodate athletic fields/sports activities)
- Camping
- Campgrounds
- Trailer/RV camping site
- Active recreation
- Motorbike trails
- Bike trail
- Development
- Extension of utilities
- Playgrounds
- Adventure facility
- Community garden
- Deforestation
- Use of insecticides

The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and Friends of Dyke Marsh stated that they liked that the concepts did not assume that the park would be continued as a farm park noting that NPS already has an interpretive farm in the Washington, DC area.

- 9. Other Group Comments** Correspondences from the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and Friends of Dyke Marsh reiterated their comments submitted during the first public comment period. These organizations stated that planning should not proceed until a comprehensive biological survey of natural resources in the park is completed and future plans should fully consider environmental impacts. The two groups stated that the park property “offers a prime and rare opportunity to preserve and enhance native habitat,” could be part of an enhanced conservation core, and should improve air quality and water quality of area streams and the Potomac River

The Outdoor Alliance DMV encouraged “the inclusion of bike access to the proposed trail system and park” and noted that they “stand ready with volunteer and fundraising support.”

The Friends of the Colonial Farm at Turkey Run briefly outlined their plans to revive a living history museum at South Turkey Run Park as described in their comments submitted during the first public comment period. They proposed partnering with Eastern National, a non-profit organization that provides a variety of services on NPS sites, and teaming with local public school divisions.

NCPC stated that they have advisory review authority for federal projects in the environs and therefore, the NPS is required to submit landscape and development projects for Commission review. NCPC requested that they be included in the NPS’ outreach as the selected concept evolves.

J.R.’s Goodtimes, Inc. (Colonial Caterers Inc./J.R.’s Custom Catering) proposed to “establish an agreement, in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding, to continue manage and operate the Pavilions of Turkey Run South, to market the space to tour long established client base, book/plan the events, cater and manage the events, and be responsible for the maintenance, insurance and security of the Pavilions area.” J.R.’s Goodtimes, Inc. also proposed to provide revenue generated over a two- to three-year agreement to help fund the planning and development of the northern portion of South Turkey Run Park.

Appendix B

Existing Structures

Existing structures referenced throughout the Concept Plan are identified below.



Figure B-1 Existing Structure #1



Figure B-2 Existing Structure #2



Figure B-3 Existing Structure #3

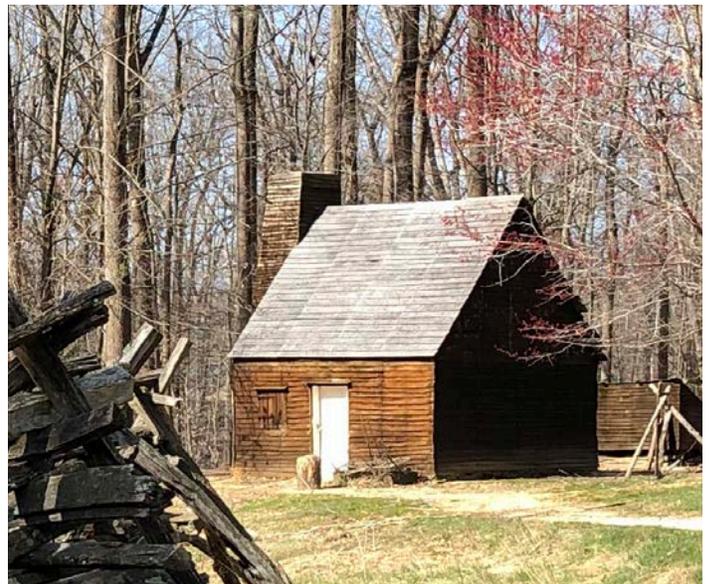


Figure B-4 Existing Structure #4

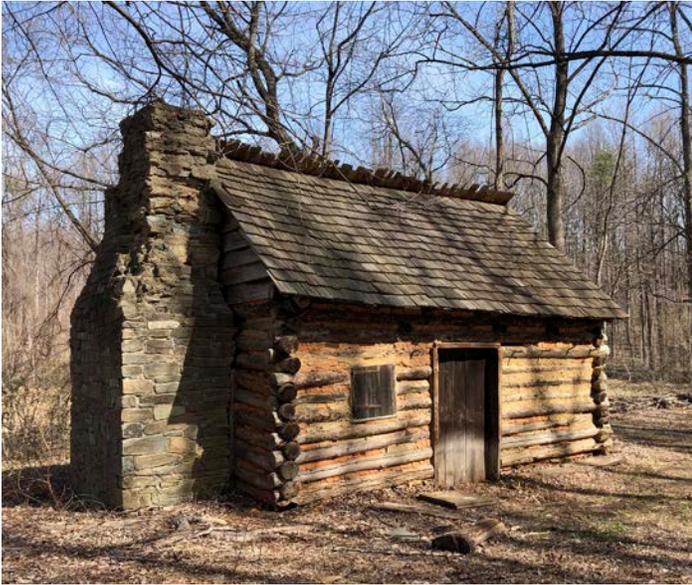


Figure B-5 Existing Structure #5



Figure B-6 Existing Structure #6



Figure B-7 Existing Structure #7



Figure B-8 Existing Structure #8

Appendix C

Future Concept Adaptations

In the event specific facilities are removed, the park area occupied by the facilities could continue to offer recreational and educational experiences to visitors. Potential future “back-up plans” for these areas are identified below.

Common to All Concepts

The area occupied by a former outdoor adventure and exploration facility, community gardens, or reforestation nursery could continue to provide opportunities for visitors to access the park from the north, hike on trails, and observe an evolving habitat. Structures and equipment could be removed and natural vegetation could be allowed to grow into the area to expand the park’s wooded environment and provide additional wildlife habitat. Trails in the area could continue to be maintained.

Return to Wild

The area occupied by a former interpretive farm could provide park visitors a trail experience through multiple habitats and opportunities to observe and learn about the park’s plants and animals through individual study, wayside interpretation, or interpretive programs. Successional forest consisting of native species could be allowed to overtake the area or the area could be planted with native species to create pollinator or wildflower meadows. Trails in the area could continue to be maintained.

Appendix D

Visitor Capacity

Introduction

Visitor capacity was identified for each concept based on the Visitor Capacity Guidebook (2019) developed by the Interagency Visitor Use Management Council (IVUMC). The following appendix describes the visitor capacity identification process according to the Guidebook's four basic guidelines: 1) determine the analysis area, 2) review existing direction and knowledge, 3) identify the limiting attribute(s), and 4) identify capacity. Additional information on the IVUMC and their Visitor Use Management Framework is available at: <https://visitorusemanagement.nps.gov/>.

The primary goals of visitor use management are to maintain opportunities for high-quality visitor experiences and protect resources. Visitor capacity, a component of visitor use management, is “the maximum amounts and types of visitor use that an area can accommodate while achieving and maintaining the desired resource conditions and visitor experiences that are consistent with the purposes for which the area was established” (IVUMC 2019: 3). Determining visitor capacity is a necessary step to identifying strategies and actions to manage the amount of visitor use within established visitor capacities.

Guideline 1: Determine the Analysis Area

The Concept Plan re-envisioned South Turkey Run Park as three concepts, which include multiple improvements throughout the park. The National Parks and Recreation Act (1978) requires general management plans to include the identification of and implementation commitments for visitor carrying capacities for all areas of the unit.” For these reasons, the analysis area is the entire South Turkey Run Park.

Guideline 2: Review Existing Direction and Knowledge

Applicable laws and policies, prior applicable planning and guidance documents, existing park conditions, future visitor uses at the park, and similar NPS parks were reviewed to ensure that any legal requirements for identifying visitor capacity are met and to identify:

- Desired conditions and values
- Resource conditions that are directly impacted by visitor use
- Conditions that would influence visitor use management and visitor capacity identification
- Prior visitor use data
- Visitor capacity estimates of future individual facilities

APPLICABLE LAWS, POLICIES, AND GUIDANCE

As described earlier, the National Parks and Recreation Act (1978) requires general management plans to include visitor capacities for all areas of a park unit. The George Washington Memorial Parkway Foundation Document (2014) identifies several parkway-wide fundamental resources and values (FRVs) and other important resources and values (OIRVs) for the George Washington Memorial Parkway. FRVs and OIRVs identified in the Foundation Document that could be applicable to South Turkey Run Park include the following (NPS 2014):

- **Recreation Opportunities.** George Washington Memorial Parkway contains a diverse array of recreational opportunities such as hiking, biking, climbing, kayaking, fishing, picnicking, living history, visiting historic sites, cultural activities, wildlife and wildflower viewing, organized sports, and opportunities for solitude. Providing this broad spectrum of recreational opportunities to Washington, DC's urban population and improving quality of life in the city is fundamental to the park's mission. These recreational activities are supported by a wide variety of amenities such as the Potomac

Heritage National Scenic Trail (including the Mount Vernon Trail), multipurpose playing fields, playgrounds, picnic areas, boat launches, marinas, and expansive natural areas.

- **Biodiversity of Natural Communities.** The complex topography and varied habitats within the 7,374 acres that comprise George Washington Memorial Parkway provide a diverse array of habitat types including upland and floodplain forests, tidal freshwater marsh communities, and several globally rare vegetation types that occupy the bedrock terraces, exposed rocks, and frequently flooded shores of the Potomac River.
- **Education.** The diversity of cultural, natural, and recreational sites along George Washington Memorial Parkway provide outstanding educational opportunities for both residents of the Washington, DC metropolitan area and those visiting our nation’s capital.

The George Washington Memorial Parkway Long-Range Interpretive Plan (2005) also identifies parkway-wide and Turkey Run Park visitor experience goals. Parkway-wide goals that could be applicable to South Turkey Run Park include visitors having the opportunity to (NPS 2005):

- Discover connections among parkway sites and their relationships
- Experience solitude in an urban area
- Find a place to get together with family and friends
- Enjoy a safe visit

Turkey Run Park goals that could be applicable to South Turkey Run Park include visitors having the opportunity to (NPS 2005):

- Make intellectual and emotional connections with park resources
- Experience some form of interpretation and education program
- Savor the sounds and beauty of the Potomac River and adjacent woodlands

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Current Conditions chapter of the Concept Plan describes existing facilities, grading and erosion concerns, invasive vegetation, and protected wildlife potentially present at South Turkey Run Park. The number of parking spaces in each existing parking lot are presented in **Table D-1**. Public transportation access to the park is very limited. Only one bus line, the 15K Chain Bridge Road line, a Metrobus Commuter Route line, stops within the vicinity of the park. However, this bus line runs only Monday through Friday during morning and afternoon/evening commute hours.

PREVIOUS PARK VISITATION

According to the draft 2015 Operations Evaluation of Claude Moore Colonial Farm, the annual visitation for Claude Moore Colonial Farm (i.e., excluding the pavilion area) was approximately 60,000 visitors. The pavilion area has accommodated events up to 900 people (NPS 2015).

Table D-1 Existing Parking Spaces

Parking Lot	Non-Accessible Parking Spaces	Accessible Parking Spaces	Total Parking Spaces
Northern paved parking lot	20	1	21
Gravel parking lot	Approximately 18	0	Approximately 18
Southern paved parking lot	49	0	49
Southern grass overflow parking area	Approximately 106	0	Approximately 106

During Public Comment Period 1, the public was asked about their previous visits to the park. Visitor commenters stated that the top three most common activities they enjoyed or participated in at the park were attending the market fairs, experiencing colonial life/seeing history in action/interacting with interpreters, and visiting the book store. Of the 90 pieces of correspondence received, 11 correspondences described how much time the commenter spent at the park, which ranged from 45 minutes to a full-day. The most common time of year commenters stated that they visited or volunteered at the park was in the fall.

FUTURE VISITOR USES

The three concepts introduce new ways for visitors to experience the park and expand recreation and education opportunities. The Concept Recommendations chapter of the Concept Plan describes the potential range of visitor uses for each concept. **Table D-2** summarizes these visitor uses, and which uses are included in this visitor capacity analysis.

Specific visitor uses were excluded from this analysis because visitor capacity estimates for some individual facilities cannot be identified at this stage in the planning process. The realization of the outdoor exploration and adventure facility, interpretive farm, community garden, and reforestation nursery are dependent on the NPS establishing a relationship with a partnering organization. The NPS would work with the partner to identify infrastructure changes and outfitting to accommodate each of these facilities as well as appropriate activities and program offerings. Furthermore, the NPS would need to determine the specific location, appropriate size, and infrastructure needs to realize the nature-themed children’s play area. These future planning and design efforts will help identify the limiting attribute(s) for these individual facilities and thus, better inform visitor capacity estimates for these facilities and the park as a whole.

FUTURE VISITOR CAPACITY

For each concept, visitor capacity estimates were identified for individual facilities where specific visitor uses, as indicated in **Table D-2**, would occur. These facilities include the expanded trail system, event space, and facilities in the southern area of the park where an open field and three sand volleyball courts are currently located.

Expanded Trail System

Desired visitor experiences along the park’s expanded trail system can be drawn from the George Washington Memorial Parkway Long-Range Interpretive Plan’s (2005) visitor experience goals. According to the Plan, visitors should have the opportunity to experience solitude in an urban area, enjoy a safe visit, and savor the sounds and beauty of the woodlands. Visitor perceptions of crowding and/or high visitor density on a trail could detract from the quality of visitor experience and create impacts on resources as a result of foot traffic outside the trail pathway and trail widening overtime.

Based on professional judgment, three people were selected as the average size of a group using the trail system to account for solitary, family, and other group trail users. In order to achieve and maintain the desired visitor experiences while keeping foot traffic within the trail pathway, 150 feet or 0.03 miles was identified as an appropriate distance between trail user groups in a park within a suburban setting. Based on this information, the visitor capacity for the expanded trail system was calculated for each concept (see **Table D-3**) using the following formula:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{((\text{Length of expanded trail system}) / (\text{Distance between trail user groups}))}{\times} \\ & (\text{Average trail user group size}) \\ & = \\ & \text{Visitor capacity} \end{aligned}$$

Table D-2 Future Visitor Uses

Concept	Visitor Use	Included in Visitor Capacity Analysis?
Common to All Concepts	Host and attend events at pavilions (i.e., event space)	Yes
Common to All Concepts	Hike and engage in other activities along the expanded trail system	Yes
Adventure + Exploration	Participate in classes, camps, and other activities at the outdoor exploration and adventure facility	No
Adventure + Exploration	Play at the nature-themed children’s play area	No
Adventure + Exploration	Partake in organized or pick-up sports at the active sports area	Yes
Cultivation + Connection	Observe and engage in farm-based activities at the interpretive farm	No
Cultivation + Connection	Tend a community garden	No
Cultivation + Connection	Host and attend events at the flexible event/recreation area	Yes
Cultivation + Connection	Participate in informal recreation activities at the flexible event/recreation area	Yes
Rejuvenation + Renewal	Visit a reforestation nursery	No
Rejuvenation + Renewal	Engage in informal recreation activities at the informal play area	Yes

Table D-3 Expanded Trail System Visitor Capacity

Concept	Expanded Trail System (Miles)	Visitor Capacity
Adventure + Exploration	1.6	168
Cultivation + Connection	1.2	128
Rejuvenation + Renewal	1.4	146

Event Space

In each concept, the event space would retain the four existing open-air pavilions and supporting structures (e.g., comfort station). No new pavilions would be constructed. Based on the minimum number of required plumbing fixtures identified by the International Plumbing Code (IPC), the event space could accommodate 575 or 750 occupants depending on the area’s IPC classification and given the existing comfort station’s number of water closets (NPS 2015). For purposes of this visitor capacity analysis, the visitor capacity for the event space was identified as 575 occupants.

Southern Area

Adventure + Exploration

The active sports area could provide visitors, school teams, camps, and intermediate recreation leagues the opportunity to play in organized or pick-up sports. The existing open field and three sand volleyball courts could be enhanced.

A sport activity with a small player-to-field (or court) area ratio, such as volleyball, was used to identify visitor capacity for the open field since the field could accommodate a variety of sport

activities. In the event of a volleyball tournament, the field could comfortably accommodate approximately five volleyball courts. This approximation accounts for existing open space and topography, a buffer zone from the existing tree line and overflow parking area, the court playing area dimensions, a 10-foot unobstructed free zone around each playing area, north-south court orientation to reduce glare from sun, and area for spectators and pedestrian circulation.

The maximum number of players allowed on a team roster for recreational outdoor volleyball leagues in the region varies, but such leagues were found to allow at most 14 players on a team roster. An average of one spectator per player was anticipated. Therefore, in the event a volleyball tournament occurs on the field at the same time as the three sand volleyball courts are utilized, the visitor capacity of the active sports area would be approximately 448 visitors, calculated using the following formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{[(Number of estimated volleyball courts on field) +} \\
 & \quad \text{(Number of existing sand volleyball courts)]} \\
 & \quad \times \\
 & \text{[2} \times \text{(Maximum number of players per team roster)]} \\
 & \quad \times 2 \\
 & \quad = \text{Visitor capacity}
 \end{aligned}$$

Cultivation + Connection

The flexible event/recreation area could accommodate a wide range of events and informal recreation activities including, but not limited to, community gatherings, fairs, festivals, small concerts or performances, pop-up events, seasonal events, and pick-up sports. The existing open field could be retained. The three existing sand volleyball courts could be replaced with lawn.

A festival or fair with 10-foot by 10-foot tents was used to identify visitor capacity because such an event would have a smaller person-to-area ratio than informal recreation activities. The flexible event/recreation area could accommodate approximately 99 tents. This approximation accounts for existing open space and topography, a 40-foot aisle between rows of tents for pedestrian circulation, and a buffer zone from the existing tree line, from the overflow parking area, and between

the rear of tent rows. Based on professional knowledge and judgment, 10 square feet per person was identified as an appropriate minimum area for an individual at an event with a loose crowd (i.e., one person is approximately an arm’s length from their nearest neighbor). An average of 1.5 persons manning each tent was anticipated. Therefore, the visitor capacity for the flexible event/recreation area would be approximately 2,129 visitors, calculated using the following formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{[(Aisle area in front of tents) /} \\
 & \quad \text{(Square footage per person)]} \\
 & \quad + \\
 & \text{[(Number of tents)} \times \text{1.5]} \\
 & \quad = \\
 & \quad \text{Visitor capacity}
 \end{aligned}$$

Rejuvenation + Renewal

The informal play area could offer a flexible space for informal recreational activities. The existing open field and three sand volleyball courts could be retained in their current condition.

The total area available for informal play on the open field would be approximately 35,000 square feet. This approximation accounts for existing open space and topography, and a buffer zone from the existing tree line and overflow parking area.

Based on professional knowledge and judgment, 100 square feet per person was identified as an appropriate minimum area for an individual engaging in informal recreation activities. Therefore, the visitor capacity for the field would be approximately 350 visitors, calculated using the following formula:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{(Field area) / (Square footage per person)} \\
 & \quad = \\
 & \quad \text{Visitor capacity}
 \end{aligned}$$

The visitor capacity for the volleyball court area would be approximately 168 visitors, using the same methodology as described for the active sports area in the Adventure + Exploration Concept. Therefore, the total visitor capacity for the informal play area would be approximately 518 visitors.

FUTURE VISITOR USE LEVELS

Future visitor use levels for South Turkey Run Park, as a whole, were estimated using the vehicle capacity of the visitor parking lots, visitor use data available from comparable NPS parks, and professional judgment according to the following steps.

1. Determine the total parking spaces available for visitor use

Table D-5 presents the total parking spaces that could be available for visitor use in each concept according to **Table D-1** and the existing parking lots retained in each concept. The Adventure + Exploration and Cultivation + Connection Concepts could retain all existing parking lots for visitor parking. The Rejuvenation + Renewal Concept could retain the existing southern parking lot and overflow parking area for visitor parking, remove the middle existing parking lot, and retain the northern existing parking lot for NPS-only parking.

2. Determine an appropriate recreation visit person-per-vehicle (PPV) multiplier

To better understand future potential visitor use levels at South Turkey Run Park, visitor use counting data for other parks were reviewed. The NPS collects visitor use statistics that address how many people visit parks and how long they stay. Park units apply a variety of technologies and procedures to estimate recreation and non-recreation visits and overnight stays. For more information on how recreation and non-recreation visits are defined, see the call-out box to the right (NPS 2019a). Examples of visitor use data and counting procedures available for parks include, but are not limited to, visits by type by month, traffic counts by month, average daily traffic counts, persons-per-vehicle (PPV) multiplier, and average length-of-stay.

RECREATION VISITS

The entry of a person onto lands or waters administered by the NPS except as defined below for non-reportable and non-recreation visits.

NON-REPORTABLE VISITS

The entry into a park by NPS employees, their families, concession employees, members of cooperating associations, NPS contractors, and service personnel are not reportable for visitor use. Examples of specific situations include:

- Employees of the NPS who are assigned to the park or are visiting the park in connection with their duty assignment;
- NPS contractors, concessionaires, cooperating associations and their employees; and
- Any other persons whose presence in the park is to help the Service fulfill its mission (e.g., volunteers in the park, research activities associated with the NPS mission).

REPORTABLE NON-RECREATION VISITS

Visits that include:

- Persons going to and from inholdings across significant parts of park land;
- Commuter and other through traffic using Service-administered roads or waterways through a park for their convenience;
- Trades-people with business in the park;
- Any civilian activity a part of or incidental to the pursuit of a gainful occupation (e.g., guides);
- Government personnel (other than NPS employees) with business in the park;
- Citizens using NPS buildings for civic or local government business, or attending public hearings; or
- Outside research activities (visits and overnights) if independent of NPS legislated interests (e.g. meteorological research).

NPS parks in the National Capital Area system were identified for review based on if they contained facilities and programs similar to those proposed in the South Turkey Run Park concepts, similar landscape characteristics, and readily available visitor use counting procedure data. Visitor use levels at these similar parks have not been documented to adversely affect park resources.

Table D-4 identifies these parks and visitor use counting procedure data that could help inform future visitor use levels at South Turkey Run Park (NPS 2015a, 2015b, 2017, 2019b). Note that National

Colonial Farm, a living history farm, at Piscataway Park was considered in the review of other similar parks. The park was not included in the following table because visitor use counting procedure data was not readily available.

Using **Table D-4**, NPS parks that have the most similar facilities and programs to those proposed in each concept were then identified. Recreation visit PPV multipliers associated with those comparable parks were used to identify an appropriate range of recreation visit PPV multipliers for each concept (see **Table D-5**).

Table D-4 Similar Parks

Park	Similar Facilities and Programs	Other Facilities and Programs	Recreation Visit PPV Multiplier
Turkey Run Park (McLean, VA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wooded hiking trails Picnic areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hiking trails overlooking the Potomac River 	1.24
Fort Hunt Park (Alexandria, VA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wooded hiking trails Picnic pavilions Open fields Athletic fields Playground Summer community concerts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Batteries 	1.68
Great Falls Park (McLean, VA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wooded hiking trails Picnic areas Ranger-led programs Adventure activities (i.e., rock climbing and whitewater activities) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitor center Falls and river overlooks Hiking trails overlooking the Potomac River Multi-use trails for biking and equestrians 	2.58
Fort Dupont Park (Washington, DC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer camps Summer event series Community gardens Wooded hiking trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity center 	1.5
Oxon Cove Park & Oxon Hill Farm (Oxon Hill, MD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farmstead/working farm Farm programs Hiking trail Picnic tables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm animals Visitor bookstore and exhibits Historic house Hiker-biker trail 	3.0
Greenbelt Park (Greenbelt, MD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wooded hiking trails Picnic areas Playground Baseball field Open field 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tent campgrounds RV campgrounds Equestrian trail 	2.5 (January) 3.0 (February-April) 3.5 (May-September) 3.0 (October-December)
Prince William Forest Park (Triangle, VA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wooded hiking trails Picnic pavilion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tent campgrounds RV and trailer campgrounds Cabin camps Bike trails and routes Fishing 	3.0

Table D-5 Parking Lot Capacity, Similar Parks, and Visitor Use Level

Concept	Total Parking Spaces Available for Visitor Use	Parks with Similar Facilities and Programs	Range of Recreation Visit PPV Multipliers for Similar Parks	Visitor Use Level
Adventure + Exploration	194	Fort Hunt Park Great Falls Park Greenbelt Park Prince William Forest Park	1.68 – 3.0	582
Cultivation + Connection	194	Fort Hunt Park Fort Dupont Park Oxon Cove Park & Oxon Hill Farm	1.5 – 3.0	582
Rejuvenation + Renewal	155	Turkey Run Park Great Falls Park Prince William Forest Park	1.24 – 3.0	465

3. Estimate visitor use levels

Visitor use levels for South Turkey Run Park, as a whole, were estimated in the event that the visitor parking lots are at vehicle capacity using visitor use data available from similar NPS parks. The visitor use level of the park at any given time during park hours was calculated for each concept (see **Table D-5**) using the following formula:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{(Total parking spaces available for visitor use)} \\
 \times \\
 \text{(Maximum recreation visit PPV multiplier} \\
 \text{for similar parks)} \\
 = \\
 \text{Visitor use level}
 \end{array}$$

Guideline 3: Identify the Limiting Attribute

The limiting attribute is the attribute that most constrains the analysis area’s ability to accommodate visitor use. Examples of limiting attributes include physical (e.g., facility infrastructure), biological (e.g., resource conditions), social (e.g., visitor experience) and/or managerial attributes.

In line with resources, values, and visitor experience goals identified in the George Washington Memorial Parkway’s Foundation Document and Long-Range Interpretive Plan, the South Turkey Run Park concepts provide an array of recreational and educational opportunities for visitors to connect with the park’s resources while protecting and enhancing the park’s natural communities. Visitors could engage in these experiences across the park’s various facilities. Existing parking lots, which contain limited parking spaces, could provide visitor access to these facilities. New or expanded parking lots would require tree removal and conflict with resource preservation goals and therefore, are not proposed. For these reasons, the priority to preserve the park’s forested landscape and natural resources was identified as the most limiting attribute for the analysis area.

Guideline 4: Identify Capacity

VISITOR CAPACITY

For each concept, a baseline visitor capacity for the park was identified based on Guidelines 1-3. The visitor capacities were identified based on the best available information and are to be continuously reevaluated and updated with future planning efforts as informed by monitoring.

The maximum level of visitor use that South Turkey Run Park could accommodate at any given time during park hours while achieving and maintaining desired resource conditions and visitor experiences is approximately 582 visitors for the Adventure + Exploration and Cultivation + Connection Concepts and approximately 465 visitors for the Rejuvenation + Renewal Concept. As presented in **Table D-6**, the sum of the visitor capacity estimates for the expanded trail system, event space, and facilities in the southern area of the park (i.e., the cumulative facility visitor capacity) is greater than the visitor use level based on the parking lot capacity and similar NPS parks. Due to the park's suburban location, limited public transportation access, and existing lack of external pedestrian and bicycle trail connections, it is anticipated that a majority of visitors would access the park via vehicle in the future. Visitor capacity managed according to the cumulative facility visitor capacity could create impacts on the park's natural resources as a result of visitor overflow parking outside of the parking lots. Visitor parking in undesignated areas could also compromise desired visitor experiences identified in the George Washington Memorial Parkway Foundation Document and Long-Range Interpretive Plan. This parking could reduce the area available for recreation opportunities, impact the visitor visual and auditory experience of the park, create pedestrian-vehicle conflicts, and limit access of NPS or other official vehicles (e.g., emergency vehicles) to the park. For these reasons, the visitor use level based on parking lot capacity and similar NPS parks was used to identify the visitor capacity for the park.

The visitor capacity identified for the park, based on parking lot visitor capacity, is accompanied by the following caveats:

- Additional visitors may access the park via foot or bicycle in the future. The concepts' proposed external trail connections to FCPA and other NPS parks, as well as planned pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure identified in the Fairfax County Countywide Trails Plan and Bicycle Master Plan Recommended Bicycle Network, could create new pedestrian and bicycle access points into the park. The exact routes and lengths of these external trails, which will be determined in coordination with future planning efforts, may help inform the anticipated number of visitors accessing the park via foot or bicycle.
- School field trip, camp, and other large organized groups may access the park via bus. Bus parking may alter the total number of parking spaces at the park.
- Existing parking lots would need to be updated to comply with the minimum number of required accessible parking spaces defined by the 2015 Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS). The update could alter the total number of parking spaces at the park.
- Parking spaces available for visitor use may be occupied by NPS employees, concession employees, members of cooperating associations, NPS contractors, or service personnel. The recreation visit PPV multipliers used in this analysis do not account for entry into the park by these individuals. For the purposes of NPS visitor use statistics, entry by these individuals are not reportable for visitor use and therefore, are not defined as a "recreation visit."

Table D-6 Visitor Capacity and Use Level Comparison

Concept	Expanded Trail System Visitor Capacity	Event Space Visitor Capacity	Southern Area Visitor Capacity	Cumulative Facility Visitor Capacity ¹	Visitor Use Level
Adventure + Exploration	168	575	448	1,191	582
Cultivation + Connection	128	575	2,129	2,832	582
Rejuvenation + Renewal	146	575	518	1,239	465

¹The cumulative facility visitor capacity is calculated as the sum of the visitor capacity estimates for the expanded trail system, event space, and southern area.

MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

The NPS could implement the identified visitor capacity at South Turkey Run Park through the following management strategies and actions:

- Reservation and permit system:** The NPS could make select facilities (e.g., the event space) available for use through a recreation fee, reservation, and permit system. The NPS could also require programs and events greater than a specific size to apply for use of park facilities through such a system. Permit rules could require vehicles to park in a specific parking lot and limit the number of vehicles and/or total number of people.
- Online educational messaging:** Via the park’s website, the NPS could inform visitors that the park contains a limited number of parking spaces, manage visitor expectations by providing information about high-use times and areas, and encourage visitors to select less popular times and areas to visit the park.
- Alternative access:** The NPS could encourage visitors to use other modes of transportation to access the park. The park’s website could provide information on how to access the park via foot or bicycle, including through external trail connections. Directional signage could be installed at trailheads for external trail connections. The park’s website and directional signage could both include the approximate distance to/from South Turkey Run Park and the approximate time to travel that distance on the external trail connections. Bicycle racks could also be installed at the park.
- Park staffing:** NPS staff could patrol the park during high-use times to enforce visitor parking only within the visitor parking lots and re-direct vehicles if the lots are at capacity.
- Signage:** The NPS could install signs noting that parking is prohibited outside of the visitor parking lots.

Appendix E

Cost Estimates

Table E-1 Adventure + Exploration Concept - Cost Estimates

Concept Element	Labor	Material	Equipment	Other	TOTAL
Adapt and create trails	\$255,043	\$87,500	\$11,003	\$0	\$353,547
Reforestation area	\$587,082	\$52,630	\$20,121	\$0	\$659,833
Nature-inspired play area	\$70,485	\$54,292	\$0	\$0	\$124,777
Repair sport fields	\$14,635	\$12,843	\$723	\$0	\$28,200
Parking lot maintenance	\$898	\$941	\$168	\$0	\$2,007
TOTAL	\$928,143	\$208,206	\$32,015	\$0	\$1,168,364

Table E-2 Cultivation + Connection - Cost Estimates

Concept Element	Labor	Material	Equipment	Other	TOTAL
Adapt and create trails	\$236,729	\$82,767	\$10,525	\$0	\$330,021
Reforestation area	\$141,629	\$33,486	\$4,744	\$0	\$179,860
Cultivation area	\$147,637	\$111,730	\$13,765	\$0	\$273,132
Flexible event area	\$47,770	\$11,478	\$1,789	\$0	\$61,037
Parking lot maintenance	\$898	\$941	\$168	\$0	\$2,007
TOTAL	\$574,662	\$240,402	\$30,992	\$0	\$846,055

Table E-3 Rejuvenation+ Renewal - Cost Estimates

Concept Element	Labor	Material	Equipment	Other	TOTAL
Adapt and create trails	\$247,415	\$85,860	\$10,810	\$0	\$344,085
Reforestation area	\$40,214	\$3,964	\$2,712	\$0	\$46,890
Meadow hills area	\$62,723	\$4,684	\$3,845	\$0	\$71,251
Parking lot maintenance	\$898	\$941	\$168	\$0	\$2,007
TOTAL	\$351,249	\$95,448	\$17,536	\$0	\$464,232



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