



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Department of Parks and Recreation

6600 Kenilworth Avenue Riverdale, Maryland 20737

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 18, 2024

TO: Prince George's County Planning Board

VIA: Bill Tyler, Department of Parks and Recreation Director
Len Pettiford, Acting Deputy Director, Administration and Development
Sonja Ewing, Chief, Park Planning and Environmental Stewardship Division
Dominic Quattrocchi, Land Acquisition, Development Review and Environmental Stewardship Section

FROM: Ivy R. Thompson, AICP, Planner III, Section Land Acquisition, Development Review and Environmental Stewardship Section

SUBJECT: Department of Parks and Recreation Facilities Design Guidelines

Subdivision Regulation 24-4507(b)(2) mandates that the Department of Parks and Recreation, in collaboration with Planning Department staff, develop the Parks and Recreation Facilities Design Guidelines. These "Design Guidelines" were last updated in 1983.

The Parks and Recreation Facilities Design Guidelines are in line with Formula 2040 and are meant to complement the current Subdivision Regulations and Zoning Ordinance. They ensure consistent implementation for developing and constructing public and private outdoor recreation facilities in Prince George's County. The guidelines are designed to be dynamic and will be regularly updated to maintain relevance.

Private recreation facilities are reviewed by the Planning Department Urban Design staff, while public recreation facilities are overseen by the Department of Parks and Recreation staff. This document promotes design consistency, aiming to meet or exceed minimum quality standards and provide an appropriate level of service for park and recreation facilities within the County. The Parks and Recreation Facilities Design Guidelines offer insights into the role of the Department of Parks and Recreation in the Development Review Process and the development of outdoor parks and recreation facilities.

The guidelines and standards cover various park elements, including trails, athletic facilities, play areas, natural resource areas, urban spaces, pet facilities, as well as other site elements such as shelters, restrooms, and bridges. They also include M-NCPPC, national, and sport-specific standards. Additionally, the appendix features plant lists, cost estimates, and examples of recreation facilities agreements, performance bonds, and project forms.

Overall, the updated Parks and Recreation Facilities Design Guidelines play a vital role in ensuring the consistent and high-quality development of both public and private outdoor recreation facilities in Prince George's County. By offering insights, standards, and examples, this dynamic document supports the Department of Parks and Recreation staff and the Planning Department Urban Design staff in their efforts to create and maintain excellent park and recreation facilities that meet the needs of the community.

Attachments