Urban Parks and Public Spaces (UPPS) Design Guidelines
Project Briefing

NOTE: This presentation has been adjusted for accessibility support.
Agenda

The relationship between the *Energized Public Spaces Functional Master Plan (EPS FMP)* and the *UPPS Design Guidelines*

Background
- Where will the *UPPS Design Guidelines* be applied?
- Why are we creating the *UPPS Design Guidelines*?
- Who will use the *UPPS Design Guidelines*?
- What is the relationship between the *UPPS Design Guidelines* and existing plans?

Document Outcomes
- How will we deliver the *UPPS Design Guidelines*? Document Outline

Public Outreach

Project Schedule
Energized Public Spaces Functional Master Plan (EPS FMP)

Energized Public Spaces Plan relationship with the UPPS Design Guidelines

EPS FMP Plan
Approved and Adopted March 2018
Establishes the park location.

Urban Parks and Public Spaces Design Guidelines
Winter 2018
Determines the park type and facilities for the park.

Operations Framework
Coming 2019
Funds and builds the park.
Vision

“Stronger, healthier and happier communities in the County. In the places where we have the most people, everyone can walk to a public space to enjoy the outdoors.”

- EPS FMP, 2018
Background

Where will the guidelines be applied?

- The EPS Study Area

Where?

- Urban Parks, Public Spaces and other parks in the EPS Study Area that function as urban parks.

- Design Guidelines
  
  *A companion document to the EPS FMP Plan*

- EPS FMP Plan
  
  *A functional plan to identify park and public space shortages and prioritize where to spend limited resources*
Why are we creating these guidelines?

*To create integrated public spaces with high quality design*

*To provide early design guidance*

*To create a common language*

*To align expectations*
New Urban Park Paradigm

Integrated Public Spaces Network with centrally located parks.
A platform of Community Experiences for residents, workers and visitors.
Who will use the UPPS Design Guidelines?

- Developers, Property Owners, Designers
- M-NCPPC Staff
- The Community: Residents and Workers
What is the relationship of the *UPSS Guidelines* with other existing plans?

This document should be used in conjunction with

- *2017 Park Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan*
- *Energized Public Spaces Functional Master Plan*
- *Master/Sector Plan and Sector Plan Design Guidelines*
- *Streetscape Standards*
- *2017 Recreation Guidelines*
- *Operations Framework (proposed)*
What is the relationship with existing review processes?

The UPPS Design Guidelines will assist
- Developers
- Property Owners
- M-NCPPC Staff
- The Community

With review processes for
- Master and Sector Plans
- Sector Plan Guidelines
- Public Parks
- Privately-owned Public Spaces (POPS)

To obtain Planning Board approval
Major Deliverables

- **EPS FMP Plan**
  - Quantitative Analysis
  - Location of Shortages

- **Master and Sector Plans**
  - Park Hierarchy, Park Types and Public Spaces

- **Urban Parks and Public Space Design Guidelines**
  - Sector Plan Design Guidelines
  - Design Quality Parameters
How will we deliver these guidelines?

**Goals**

- Develop a flexible parks & public spaces guidelines
- Create a common language
- Integrate lessons learned from case studies
Outcomes

Integrated parks and public spaces network where design quality contributes to:

- Social Equity
- Economic Development
- Human and Habitat Health
Design Principles

- Access and Connectivity
- Sense of Community
- Urban Ecology
Design Principles: Access and Connectivity

- Public spaces that are **open** and **inviting** to **everyone**.
Design Principles: Access and Connectivity

- Centrally located public spaces Framed and faced by streets and buildings and are the focal point of a larger area or neighborhood.

- The physical, social and environmental heart of communities.

Veteran’s Plaza, Silver Spring, MD
Design Principles: Sense of Community

- Places of community pride and social interaction.

Civic Green, Rockville, MD
Design Principles: Sense of Community

Experiences

- Parks and public spaces must be attractive, safe and engaging with a range of experiences to be active, relax, recreate, stay and enjoy its spaces.
Design Principles: Urban Ecology

Health and Habitat

- Public spaces clean the air and water, keep places cooler, and contribute to community resilience by acting as **green infrastructure**. They also can encourage greater **environmental stewardship, learning** and provide **natural habitat**.

*Tear Drop Park, NY, NY*
How do we apply these guidelines?

**Design Principles**
- Access and Connectivity
- Sense of Community
- Urban Ecology

**Themes within the Guidelines**

- **Function/Experiences**
  - Character
  - Experiences
  - Program

- **Key Features**
  - Park Type Specific Features
  - Natural System Enhancements
  - Streetscape Enhancements
  - Visitor Facilities
  - Viewsheds
  - Natural and Historic Significant Features

- **Site Connections**
  - Street Front Visual & Physical Connections
  - Trail, Transit, and Street Grid Safe Connections
  - Shared Parking

- **Context/Location**
  - Location
  - Edges

- **Size**
  - Ideal Size
  - Minimum Size
Design Guidelines

Functions/Experiences

- Character
- Experiences
- Program
Design Guidelines

Functions/Experiences

- **Character**
  
  *All urban parks and public spaces should act as community focal points that are open and inviting to all, without bias to incomes, ages and/or abilities.*
  
  - Regional Destination
  - Local Destination
  - Formally designed
  - Informally designed

_Schenley Plaza, Pittsburgh, PA_
Design Guidelines

Functions/Experiences

- Experience Focus

  *Public spaces should foster human interactions by sharing a common place for a variety of activities.*

  - Active Recreation
  - Contemplative Areas
  - Social Gathering Places
Design Guidelines

Functions/Experiences

- **Program**
  
  *Urban parks should consider room for formal programming: events, festivals, Public Spaces should offer room for flexible program with informal gathering and unstructured recreational opportunities.*

  - Activity Areas
  - Informal Areas
  - Year-Round Activity
Urban Parks and Public Spaces Types

How do I apply these guidelines to urban park and public spaces?

Countywide Urban Parks
- Civic Greens
- Plazas
- Urban Greenways
- Urban Recreational Parks

Community Use Urban Parks
- Neighborhood Greens
- Pocket Greens
- Urban Recreational Parklets

NEW
- Temporary/Interim Park
  Applied to any park type
Urban Park Types Summary Sheet

Park Typology sample page layout

- Guidelines
  - Function / Experience
  - Key Features
  - Size
  - Context / Location
  - Site Access and Connectivity

- Best Practices and Range of Character
  - Sample precedent images for the design principles
# Urban Park Types

## Summary Sheet sample page layout

- Guidelines
  - Function/Experience
  - Key Features
  - Size
  - Context / Location
  - Site Access and Connectivity

### Park Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Type Name</th>
<th>Context/Location</th>
<th>Site Access &amp; Connectivity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Street Front Visual and Physical Access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edges</td>
<td>Trail, Transit and Street Grid Safe Connections</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Function/Experience

- Experience:
  - Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

### Key Features

- Character:
  - Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

### Size

- Program:
  - Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Intramural

- Edges:
  - Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Pathways

- Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Trail

- Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Street Grid Safe Connections

- Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Urban Park Types

Summary Sheet sample page layout

- Best Practices and Range of Character
  - Sample precedent images for the design principles
Urban Park Types

Case Studies sample page layout

- Guidelines
- Function/Experience
- Key Features
- Size
- Context / Location
- Site Access and Connectivity
- Map scale
## Park Types and Design Guidelines Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Types</th>
<th>Design Guidelines</th>
<th>Civic Green</th>
<th>Plaza</th>
<th>Urban Greenway</th>
<th>Urban Recreational Park/Parklet</th>
<th>Neighborhood Green</th>
<th>Pocket Green</th>
<th>Temporary / Interim Park</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Function / Experiences</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key Features</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Central Lawn</td>
<td></td>
<td>Central Hardscape</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Size</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Context/Location</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spaces between buildings protected from wind, noise, traffic</td>
<td></td>
<td>Site of proposed park or underutilized area nearby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Site Connections</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Case Studies

NEW: Temporary / Interim Park

Civic Green

Plaza

Urban Recreational Park / Parklet

Neighborhood Green

Pocket Green

Urban Greenway
Document Outline

Chapters

1. Introduction
2. Design Guidelines
3. Park Types and Public Spaces
4. Case Studies
Public Outreach

**Designers Team and Core Team**
- January – December 2018 – Monthly Meetings

**Urban Parks Advisory Group**
- February – November 2018 - Monthly Meetings

**Public Comment Period**
- Fall 2018 3-4 week comment period
Advisory Group – Urban Parks Guidelines and Standards

Citizen or Community Group Representatives (5 members)
- Dan Reed (Silver Spring)
- Mary Flynn /Amanda (Bethesda)
- Dan Thompson – Wheaton Wonders (Wheaton)
- Fatmata Barrie– Eastern County Citizens Advisory Board and African Affairs Advisory Group
- Dan Wilhelm – East Region – Greater Colesville Citizens Association

Property Owners, Developers, Attorneys, Designers (5 Members)
- Jack McLaurin (EYA)
- Claire Bedat (AECOM + Casey Trees)
- Miguel Iraola (HCM2)
- Gabriela Canamar Clark (LandDesign)
- Lawrence Evans (Realtor- Germantown + resident)
Advisory Group – Urban Parks Guidelines and Standards

Montgomery County Government Staff or Officials (4 members)

- Richard Bingham (Silver Spring Urban District)
- Eric Rasch (Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza)
- Rick Ammirato (Bethesda Urban Partnership)
- Jeremy Souders (DOT/PLD)
Project Schedule

November-December 2017
Formation of Urban Parks Advisory Group and Urban Parks Core Team

2018
Project scope and content development, Urban Parks Advisory Group and Core Team
Monthly Meetings and Designers Worksessions

June 28, 2018
- Planning Board Briefing

Fall 2018
- Working Draft Release

Fall 2018
- Planning Board Worksession and Public Comments

Winter 2018
- Planning Board Worksession and Approval