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GOOCHLAND COUNTY 2010–2015 PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN



Prepared By:
Department of Community Development

Supported By:
**Recreation Advisory Commission
Department of Parks and Recreation**

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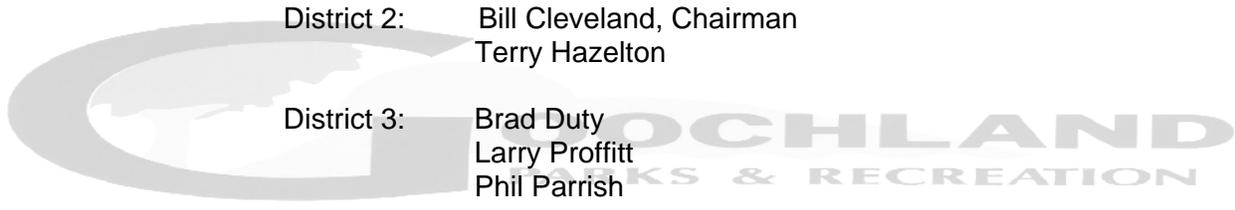
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- District 4: Malvern R. Butler
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I. INTRODUCTION

The Goochland County 2010-2015: Parks and Recreation Master Plan (Master Plan) marks Goochland County's inaugural effort to strategically plan for future park and recreation facilities and services. This Master Plan is necessary to evaluate the supply and demand for park and recreation facilities, to guide the planning and development of future projects, and to support cost-effective allocation of County resources.

The following excerpt is drawn from the County's comprehensive plan, *Goochland 2028: The Comprehensive Plan for Goochland County, Virginia*:

Park and recreation facilities are valuable community assets. The social, communal, and personal benefits derived from park, recreation, open space, and leisure opportunities are increasingly important as development increases and the overall pace of life quickens. Quality park and recreation facilities enhance the quality of life of County residents, and sufficient park and recreation facilities, both public and private, should be available to meet recreational needs.

This Master Plan is intended to formally define the County's role in parks and recreation planning and development and to recognize the County's responsibility as a parks and recreation provider. Furthermore, this plan will create a solid foundation for future park and recreation planning efforts, and through its implementation and future revisions, will expand park and recreation opportunities for County residents and visitors.

This document consists of several sections. The first section establishes the overall need for County-wide parks and recreation planning. The next section describes Goochland County in general including existing park and recreation facilities and programs. The following sections focus on per capita supply/demand of park and recreation facilities and start to prioritize recommendations for new facilities. Conceptual park plans previously prepared by County staff are exhibited, and planning cost estimates are calculated for the conceptual plans. Next, a primer on potential funding sources is included. The Master Plan concludes with an implementation section offering detailed proposals to address current and anticipated needs. A series of appendices supplements information provided in this plan.

This Master Plan aims to guide parks and recreation decision making in the County for the next five years and further intends to be the foundation for future funding and policy decisions. Ideally, this Master Plan will augment other County planning efforts including the County's comprehensive plan. Importantly, this Plan seeks to complement and not to supersede the mission of any public agencies or other policy documents or plans.

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose

This Master Plan initiates long range planning for parks and recreation facilities in the County; responds to the need for an analysis of the County's parks and recreation facilities; and provides guidance and direction for future growth and development of the County's parks and recreation system. Recommendations set forth in this Plan are based on public input, demographic and land use trends, new and previously considered conceptual plans, and professional analysis by County staff.

Relationship to Other County Plans

This Master Plan builds upon the County's comprehensive plan, *Goochland 2028: The Comprehensive Plan for Goochland County, Virginia* which was updated in February 2009. While the comprehensive plan guides growth and development of all lands within the County, this Master Plan focuses on parks and recreation resources.

Goochland County Population and Other Demographic Trends

The County continues to retain much of its rural character, and residents have clearly expressed their desire to protect the County's rural culture. The County abuts more populated suburban localities on all sides (except Cumberland Co. to the southwest), and land use patterns in the County reflect the varying growth pressures. While some parks and recreation usage can be attributed to non-residents, more demand arises from County residents utilizing desirable public facilities and services in other locales and seeking their incorporation into County planning efforts.

The County sits at a crossroads for future planning efforts. There is a recurring public call for improved public services and facilities, and the County has recently faced difficult decisions regarding public school, utility, fire/rescue, and park/recreation facilities. These challenges must consider the County's small population, low residential densities, and scarce public resources.

Goochland County Parks and Recreation Resources

The County maintains one County park (Hidden Rock Park) and a variety of other facilities. The County has a small staff in place to manage parks and recreation resources, operate programs, and coordinate volunteers. The Recreation Advisory Commission provides a vehicle for direct citizen participation in parks and recreation planning efforts. Expansion or changes to the overall work program would have significant impacts on the staff.

Park and Recreation Needs Assessment

The County would benefit from a comprehensive County-wide survey to assess parks and recreation facilities most desired by citizens. Information in this Master Plan was largely gathered from public input meetings sponsored by the Recreation Advisory Commission, from citizen comments at other public meetings, from other relevant County plans, and from staff's analysis of County resources.

Park and Recreation Level of Service Standards

“Level of service” (LOS) standards are often employed to analyze the need for parks and recreation facilities. *Facility standards* typically establish a quantity of units per a population factor (playgrounds per 1,000 people, for example). Many localities have adopted LOS standards based on guidelines from the National Recreation and Park Association; therefore, LOS standards from communities of different sizes and locations often bear a strong resemblance. National standards should be viewed as a reference point only and must be weighed against the needs and priorities identified by the community and County leaders.

Conceptual Park and Recreation Facility Plans

In response to public calls for new athletic fields, the County has previously explored several potential sites, both County-owned and privately-owned, for additional parks and recreation facilities. County staff has drafted several conceptual site plans, and for conceptual plans on County property, also calculated planning cost estimates.

Funding Options

The amount of funding required to implement parks and recreation plans can be sizeable, and park and recreation priorities must compete with other County priorities for scarce public funds. Fiscal planning is complicated by the fact that capital costs may be very large and one-time only, while maintenance and other costs are ongoing.

Not all parks and recreation resources must be provided by the County. There are several ways to fund parks and recreation improvements beyond local tax support, and the County has successfully solicited grants, volunteers, and donations in creation of the existing park and recreation system.

Implementation Plan

To efficiently implement the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the County will need to organize and focus efforts in four areas:

- 1) Strategic Park and Recreation Planning
- 2) Prioritize Need for Specific Facilities
- 3) Prioritize Long-term Projects
- 4) Look for Unique Short-term Opportunities

The County should evaluate the following County-owned properties for development/renovation/adaptive reuse which include park and recreation facilities:

- Leake’s Mill Park
- Tucker’s Park at Maidens Crossing
- Old Middle School
- Hockett Road Property
- Matthews Road Property
- Courthouse Creek Properties

The County should include the following facilities in future park and recreation plans:

- Soccer fields (regulation)
- Baseball fields (regulation)
- Softball fields (regulation)

- Multi-use athletic fields
- Access to the James River
- Fairgrounds complex (Agricultural, equestrian, and other events)
- Horse trails
- Walking trails
- Bicycle trails
- Tot lots
- Dog park
- A park with universal ADA accessibility
- Special use facilities
- A multi-functional Community Center facility
- Community facility for teenagers

Prioritize the allocation of County resources to develop the following projects:

- 1) Leake's Mill Park
- 2) Adaptive Reuse of the Old Middle School
- 3) Community Park – Matthews Road Property (County park in western area of the County)

Grant funding is a good option for some types of projects. The following park and recreation projects are good candidates to meet the eligibility requirements for traffic enhancement, Recreational Trails Fund, and other grant programs:

- ◆ Courthouse Creek Greenway
- ◆ Tucker's Park at Maidens Crossing
- ◆ James River Heritage Trail
- ◆ Goochland County River Water Trail
- ◆ Pedestrian and bikeways in the villages
- ◆ Pedestrian, bikeway, and bridle paths outside of villages

III. PURPOSE

The Goochland County 2010-2015: Parks and Recreation Master Plan creates a long-term plan to identify and address the County's park and recreation needs. This Plan identifies deficiencies and establishes a framework to define priorities, pursue policies, and guide both short-term and long-term decision-making to address the deficiencies. This Master Plan builds upon the goals, objectives, and strategies identified in the County's 2028 Comprehensive Plan adopted in February 2009.

The Master Plan is intended to be a dynamic document – one that will be utilized in formulating other County-wide plans, such as the Capital Improvement Plan, and for designing future conceptual plans for park and recreation sites. The recommendations herein may guide decision-making - including administration, funding, operations, and capital investments - for the next five years.

This Master Plan serves as a valuable initial step by attempting to address the breadth, detail, and substance of park, recreation, open space, and cultural opportunities present or desired in the County. This Plan focuses on “active” park and recreation facilities and on “passive” facilities and activities. Facilities oriented toward active recreation tend to include parks and athletic fields designed for higher impact and/or group recreation activities: athletic fields/courts, playgrounds, picnic shelters, and community centers.

Future planning efforts may increase the focus on passive recreation and open space and/or cultural resources. In fact, the rural character of Goochland County lends itself to promoting passive park and natural areas. Passive recreation areas tend to include non-developed natural areas and minimally developed and managed park lands. While available for public use, they are designed for low impact recreational activities such as walking, jogging, picnicking, wildlife viewing, reading, non-motorized boating, fishing, or related uses. These areas often function as wildlife corridors, view sheds, conservation areas, urban buffers, and water resource management areas. The James River, as one example, provides notable locations to consider passive activities.

This Master Plan is further intended to serve as a starting point for more comprehensive planning efforts in the future. As park and recreation efforts in the County mature, there are abundant possibilities for the citizenry and decision makers to consider, including additional recreation areas such as bikeways, greenways, community bridle trails, and canine areas, as well as indoor recreation, cultural, arts, museums, theatres, etc.

The County possesses public spaces not addressed in this plan such as libraries and State-owned sites which help serve the park and/or recreation needs of the citizenry. Also, a number of cultural and historic resources in the County are privately or semi-privately owned. These resources – recreational, cultural, historic, scenic, or archeological – link the County to the past and provide a feeling of continuity and a sense of history and place which are very important to County residents.

IV. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COUNTY PLANS

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan should be consistent with other County planning documents and policies. In particular, this Master Plan builds upon the County's Comprehensive Plan which was updated in February 2009 (the 2028 Plan). The 2028 Plan guides growth and development of all lands within the County, and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, naturally, focuses on and significantly expands analysis of parks and recreation resources.

The following selections are excerpted from the 2028 Plan and are relevant to this Master Plan:

Goochland County – County-wide Trends and Conditions

- The vast majority of land in the County continues to be dedicated to forested, natural open space, or agricultural uses.
- Geographically, most of the County is not served by public water or public sewer.
- New uses in West Creek and Centerville as well as growth in Powhatan, Chesterfield, Henrico, and Hanover Counties will continue to drive demand for residential and retail development, especially in the eastern part of the County.
- People are attracted to the County for many reasons and increasingly desire and choose to make Goochland County their home. This continuous pressure for growth makes preserving the unique character of the County increasingly more challenging.
- The market demand for housing has resulted in an increase in residential growth - new homes and new residents.
- The County is experiencing a steady increase in the amount of developed land.
- Population growth is spread across the entire County including areas outside the designated growth areas.

Goochland County - Parks and Recreation Trends and Conditions

- Current recreation facilities and programs are at or near capacity.
- Acquisition of additional park and/or recreation lands will be essential to keep pace with population growth and offer high quality recreation services to County residents.
- The Parks and Recreation department is understaffed to handle the existing programs and activities in the County. Future growth will call for an even greater commitment to parks and recreation.
- The parks and recreation master plan should be updated and added to the comprehensive plan.
- Public recreation and parks facilities are not evenly distributed countywide.
- The County does not provide public access to the James River. This should be a priority.

Goochland 2028: Vision for Parks and Recreation:

The County nurtures the expression of creative talents and supports diverse cultural, entertainment, and recreational activities. County parks provide a public open space of natural beauty where people can socialize, relax, or recreate.

Goochland 2028: Principals for Parks and Recreation:

Park and recreation facilities are valuable community assets. The social, communal, and personal benefits derived from park, recreation, open space, and leisure opportunities are increasingly important as development increases and the overall pace of life quickens. Quality park and recreation facilities enhance the quality of life of County residents, and sufficient park and recreation facilities, both public and private, should be available to meet recreational needs. Principles for the development of parks, open space, recreational facilities, and activities include:

1. The system must serve all people regardless of age, gender, race, or socioeconomic status.
2. The community is the basic unit around which park and recreation planning revolves. In this instance, "community" refers to a specified local area.
3. Give priority to developing community parks and recreation areas that are accessible to the most residents.
3. Relate park, open space, and recreation area and facility planning to the density and total population of the community to be served.
4. Strive for open space, park, and recreation program planning to meet standards set forth by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Goochland 2028 Goals, Objectives, and Strategies:

The 2028 Plan incorporates a series of Goals, Objectives, and Strategies which seek to establish the vision for the future of Goochland County. A goal is a general statement of an ideal towards which the County strives. An objective is a more specific subsection of a goal, and a strategy is a recommended action the County should undertake to achieve the goal, and thereby, realize the vision for the County.

Goal 8.1: Parks and Recreation - Project and plan for future parks and recreation facilities and programs in advance of public demand.

***Objective 8.1.1:** The County has the opportunity to undertake long range planning around current and future recreational needs. Maintain a Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the County to address present and future needs and provide a long-range vision for parks and recreation.*

- ♦ **Strategy 8.1.1a:** Research existing facilities and services and develop an inventory of existing supply.
- ♦ **Strategy 8.1.1b:** Develop a comprehensive needs assessment of future demand based on demographic projections and other factors.
- ♦ **Strategy 8.1.1c:** Maintain a Master Plan detailing existing facilities, future demand, and an implementation strategy to satisfy anticipated demand.
- ♦ **Strategy 8.1.1d:** The County does not currently provide public access to the James River. Develop a park facility on the Tucker property along Rte. 522 to provide this access.
- ♦ **Strategy 8.1.1e:** Develop a strategy for acquiring and maintaining public access to the James River.

Goal 8.2: Parks and Recreation Planning - Provide park and recreation facilities to meet the needs of current County residents and the growing population.

Objective 8.2.1: *Manage development and maintenance of new and existing facilities.*

- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.1a:** The County should create additional park facilities including:
 - Acquire property affording public access to the James River without a railroad crossing conflict.
 - Establish a new County park which includes soccer, baseball, softball, or football fields. The Bourne property may be an acceptable location.
 - Establish a County park which supports agricultural and equestrian events, shows, activities, etc. The Bourne property may be an acceptable location.
 - Create County park/recreation facilities on the former middle school site which may include new soccer, baseball, softball, or football fields.
 - Support the use of available property in the County for temporary recreation uses when they can be converted safely and relatively inexpensively.
- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.1b:** Formalize maintenance agreements with School Board to improve upkeep and expand existing school sites to meet recreational needs.
- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.1c:** Continue to review County policies and regulations and revise ordinances as needed to require the dedication of adequate open space, park, and recreation areas.
- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.1d:** Encourage developers to include open space, walking trails, bridle trails, tot lots, or other amenities with development applications.
- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.1e:** Continue to support private sector, non-profit, or other entities attempting to create or expand recreational opportunities in the County.

Objective 8.2.2: Provide and coordinate recreational activities for all County residents

- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.2a:** Develop a recreational policy manual.
- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.2b:** Continue to organize and staff the Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC)
- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.2c:** Increase citizen participation through publicizing RAC meetings, public comment periods, and annual public hearings on recreation needs.
- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.2d:** Survey County residents to find out desired activities.
- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.2e:** Investigate the need for senior citizen programming.
- ◆ **Strategy 8.2.2f:** Continue to encourage the County to maintain a full-time recreation staff sufficient to handle the parks and recreation needs of County residents.

V. GOOCHLAND COUNTY POPULATION AND OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

Increasing demand for park and recreation facilities is largely a function of the County's population. As the County's population grows, the demand for park and recreation services will be expected to increase also. Therefore, a brief review of the County's historical population trends is helpful.

Population Growth - Region

Population Trends - Adjoining Counties 1960-2000						
County	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	Change
Henrico	117,339	154,364	180,735	217,881	262,300	124%
Chesterfield	71,197	76,855	141,372	209,274	259,903	265%
Hanover	27,550	37,479	50,398	63,306	86,320	213%
Louisa	12,959	14,004	17,825	20,325	25,627	98%
Powhatan	6,747	7,696	13,062	15,328	22,377	232%
Fluvanna	7,227	7,621	10,244	12,429	20,047	177%
Goochland	9,206	10,069	11,761	14,163	16,863	83%
Cumberland	6,360	6,179	7,881	7,825	9,017	42%

In comparison to adjoining jurisdictions, Goochland has generally experienced a slower rate of population growth from 1960 - 2000.

Goochland 2023 - The Comprehensive Plan for Goochland County, Virginia

Population Growth – Goochland County

Goochland County Population 1960-2010					
Area	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Goochland County	9,206	10,069	11,761	14,163	16,863
<i>Census Tract 4001</i>	 	 	3,236	3,971	4,363
<i>Census Tract 4002</i>	 	 	2,442	2,997	3,578
<i>Census Tract 4003</i>	 	 	668	1,029	1,274
<i>Census Tract 4004</i>	 	 	2,998	3,316	4,205
<i>Census Tract 4005</i>	 	 	2,417	2,850	3,443

Steady population growth has taken place in all of the County's census tracts.

Goochland 2023 - The Comprehensive Plan for Goochland County, Virginia

Goochland Co. Population Est. 2000-2008		
Year	Population Estimate	
2000	16,863	Average annual growth rate of approximately 2.44%
2001	17,200	
2002	18,000	
2003	18,400	
2004	18,676	
2005	19,360	
2006	20,085	
2007	20,615	
2008	20,956	

2000 to Present – The County's population is estimated to have increased from 16,863 (Census) to 20,956 in 2008 (VEC), which equates to an average annual population growth rate of approximately 2.44%.

Population Growth – Future Projections

The State Demographer (VEC) provides population estimates for the County. The 2030 estimate of 32,641 employs an average annual growth rate 2.25%:

Goochland County Population 1980-2030						
Area	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2030
Goochland County	11,761	14,163	16,863	22,078	27,091	32,641

Impact of Population Growth on Providing Park and Recreation Services

The County has consistently gained population for decades. While exact growth rates vary annually, the County's recent average annual growth rates in the 2.0-3.0% range are consistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan recommendations. Therefore, population growth will continue to boost the overall demand for public park and recreation facilities and services.

While growth rates may be higher in the eastern portion of the County, population growth continues to occur, to some extent, County-wide. This presents an additional challenge in balancing the location and expenditure of scarce park and recreation resources in an equitable manner.

VI. GOOCHLAND COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION RESOURCES

Recreation Advisory Commission

The Goochland County Recreation Advisory Commission (RAC) is an eleven-member citizen board appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Two representatives from each voting district plus one additional citizen serve on this volunteer committee. The RAC is an advisory board and typically meets once a month (third Tuesday). A Goochland Parks and Recreation staff member serves as recording secretary.

According to its by-laws, RAC serves as an advisory body of the Goochland County Board of Supervisors and as a liaison between all organized groups concerned with recreation, the Board, and citizens. RAC is directed to consult with and advise the Parks and Recreation staff, the County Administrator, and the Board in matters affecting recreation policies, programs, personnel, finances, and the acquisition and disposal of lands and properties related to the County's recreation program including the long range plan for parks and recreation.

Parks and Recreation Department Staff

The County's Parks and Recreation Department (Department) work program is approved for a staff of five full-time positions: a Director of Parks and Recreation, a Maintenance Coordinator, an Office Manager, and two (2) maintenance staff. Due to the small complement, Department staff focuses primarily on managing programs, classes, camps, special events, etc. and maintenance activities. Historically, the delivery of Department services has been heavily dependent on volunteer efforts and vendors, and this responsibility requires coordinating approximately 25 vendors and 100 volunteers during the fiscal year.

To some extent, the limited number of staff members and the lack of specialized staff restrict the number and variety of recreation programs and special events the Department can provide for the community.

The ability to provide adequate park and recreation facility and field maintenance is a significant challenge faced by the Department. Adding or relocating facilities and fields would add to existing resource, manpower, and logistic challenges. At current staffing and funding levels, the addition of new park and recreation facilities to meet the needs of the growing community could strain both Department resources.

Parks and Recreation Department Programs

The Parks and Recreation Department schedules and manages a number of programs, classes, camps, and special events. Activities are operated year round and participation is open to the general public. The following is a list of activities sponsored in the 2009 calendar year:

Classes

Gymnastics
 Beginners Basic Ballet
 Hip-Hop Dance Class
 Drama Classes
 Belly Dancing
 Kid Fitness: Kid Fit/ Junior Power Hour
 Mom & Tot Gym-Jam
 Karate Class
 Women's Boot Camp
 Dog Obedience
 Knitting & Quilting Classes
 Pottery Class
 Aerobics & More
 Guitar Lessons Made Easy!
 Beginner/Intermediate Guitar
 Tennis Anyone?

Special Events

CASA Fun Run
 Goochland Co. Spring Festival 2009

Summer Day Camps

Discovery Camp
 Culinary Camp
 Nature Camp
 Adventure Camp
 FUNtastic Summer Camp
 Theatre Arts Camp
 Science Camp

Summer Sport Camps

Variety Sports Camp
 Basketball Camp
 Tennis Camp
 Co-ed Basketball Camp
 Soccer Camp
 Tennis Camp
 Volleyball Camp
 Football Camp
 Baseball Camp
 Softball Camp
 Cheerleading Camp
 Variety Sports Camp

Major Quarterly Special Events

The Department schedules and manages a series of Major Quarterly Special Events which are free to the public:

1. Goochland County Spring Festival (established May 2008)

Entails County-wide community involvement:

- ◆ Festivities include a Classic Car Show, government agency booths, local non-profit organizations, community businesses on site & hosting open houses, Goochland County's Largest Yard Sale, extensive children's activities program, Show & Sell (Arts & Crafts), plus food vendors and live entertainment serving an estimated 5,000 visitors (one quarter of the County's population)
- ◆ In excess of 100 Vendors on main Festival Site with an average of 25 Community Business Open Houses staged throughout the Goochland Courthouse Village, 25 Largest Yard Sale sellers, and 40 Classic Car Show participants
- ◆ Workforce includes 25 Parks and Recreation Department associated staff (full-time staff plus part-time program assistants (active and inactive roster and vendor status)) plus an average of 60-80 volunteers for a total of over 100 workers

County staff has begun the planning process to add a "Goochland Day Parade" for the Spring Festival with the support and cooperation of the Recreation Advisory Commission, the Goochland YMCA, and the Goochland Jaycees

2. Fourth of July Fireworks Display

County-sponsored Independence Day celebration in the Goochland Courthouse Village:

- ◆ An estimated 2,500-3,000 spectators

3. Goochland County Fall Festival (established 2008)

Children’s Halloween themed festival:

- ◆ Festivities include 25 free-standing stations (Halloween Costume Contest, Little Screamer’s Haunted Hayride, Pumpkin Painting, Make & Take Activities, Scavenger Hunt, Monster Money with Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, Carnival Games, etc.) which served an estimated 1,500
- ◆ Average of 40-60 vendors representing government agencies, local non-profit organizations, community businesses, Show & Sell (Arts & Crafts), and independently contracted food and service vendors
- ◆ 25 Parks and Recreation Department associated staff (full-time staff plus part-time program assistants (active and inactive roster and vendor status)) plus an average of 60 volunteers for a total of over 80 workers for this large-scale event

Summer Camp Program

A 10-week Summer Day Camp program was initiated in 2008 and is a partnership between the Department and the Virginia Cooperative Extension 4-H. The summer camp program was developed to complement the existing 9-week Sports Camp Series sponsored solely by the Parks and Recreation and is intended to provide a more themed-based, age specific program for youth in the community. .

The 2009 Summer Camp Program includes a 9-week Sports Camp Series offering a total of 11 camps (maximum capacity of 50 per camp) and a Summer Day Camp offering a 7-week schedule modified by age: 3 weeks serving 5-8 year olds and 4 weeks serving 9-12 (maximum capacity of 30 per camp).

Sports

Goochland County residents participate in a wide range of sports, cultural, and other activities offered through the Department, Goochland Co. Public Schools, private schools, private organizations, and non-profit community organizations. In particular, youth and adult sports tend to be organized and run by community-based, non-profit sports organizations. Following are sports supported by local non-profit organizations serving County residents:

- ◆ Football Goochland Youth Athletic Association (GYAA) (affiliated with Metropolitan Youth Football and Cheerleading League)
- ◆ Cheerleading GYAA
- ◆ Baseball GYAA (affiliated with Dixie Youth Baseball)
Goochland Little League (affiliated with Little League Baseball)
- ◆ Softball GYAA (affiliated with Dixie Youth Softball)
- ◆ Soccer Goochland United Soccer Association, Richmond Strikers
- ◆ Lacrosse Geronimo Lacrosse

The following are additional popular sport/cultural activities with facilities in the County:

- Equestrian	- Golf
- Tennis	- Mud Bogging
- Hunting	- Fishing

Cultural

Several organizations sponsor cultural activities serving County residents, including:

- Center for Rural Culture
- Goochland Historical Society
- Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardener Association
- Safe Routes to School Task Force

Existing Sites and Facilities

The following *Inventory of Existing County-Owned Facilities* excludes State and privately-owned facilities; however, an abundance of State and privately owned facilities offering recreational opportunities are located in the County (see Appendix A).

The *Inventory of Existing County-Owned Facilities* does not factor in school classroom and auditorium buildings. While they may provide a resource for recreation, sport, or other community activities, their primary use is educational. In a similar manner, public school facilities such as the high school football/soccer/baseball fields may generally not be available for general public use due to use/overuse for school activities. As a rule, school activities have priority over other organizations for practices and games on school property. Their limited availability must be a consideration when analyzing public park and recreation capacity and increases the need for athletic fields for organized sports outside of the school system.

Finally but importantly, although the County has a number of existing athletic fields, many of the fields are used for practice but are not regulation-size fields and are not appropriate for sanctioned games.

Hidden Rock Park - Community Park

Hidden Rock Park is Goochland’s primary park, playground, and ball field facility. The 39-acre park is centrally located on Fairground Road in the Goochland Courthouse Village. Hidden Rock includes baseball/softball fields, soccer fields (youth size), a playground, walking trails totaling approximately one mile in length, picnic shelter /pavilions, sand volleyball court, basketball court, horseshoe pits, and a natural amphitheater with electricity. The park also includes bathrooms, concession stand, and benches. In addition, the park features small ponds, decorative landscaping, open lawn areas, and mature stands of trees.

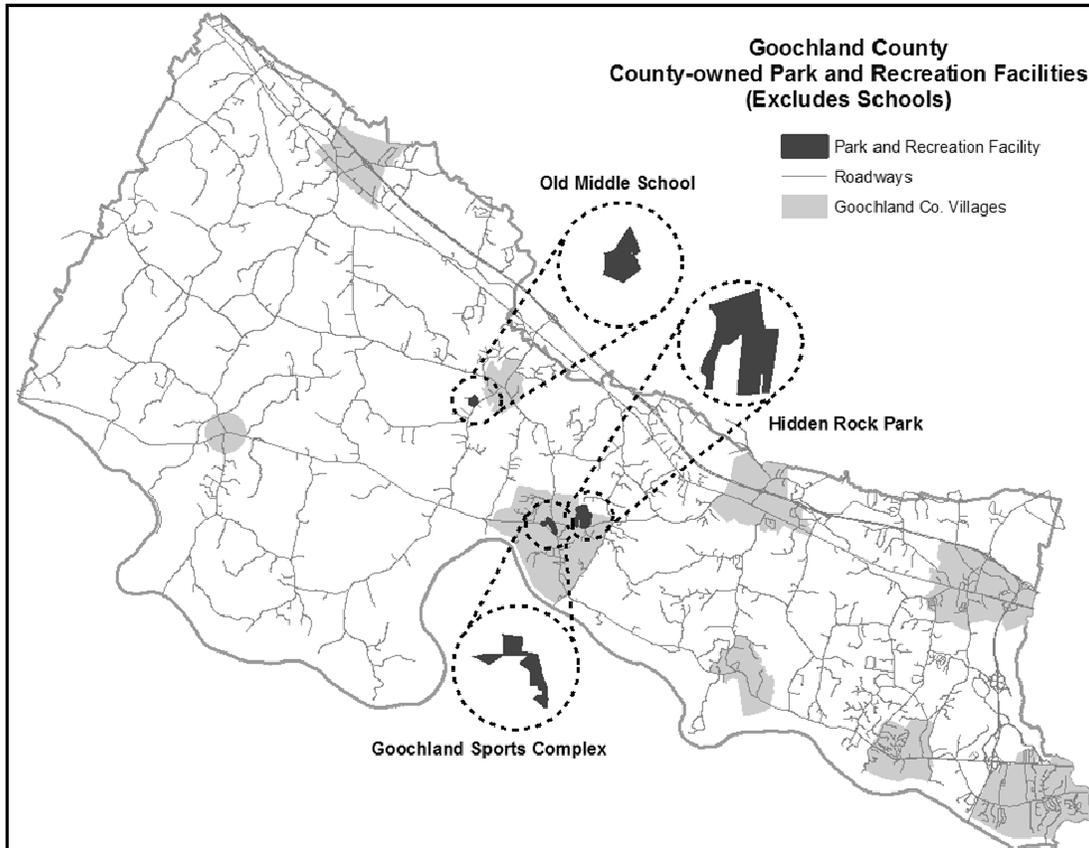
Goochland Sports Complex

The Goochland Sports Complex is an adaptive reuse of former high school athletic facilities including a gymnasium. Outdoors, the site features a football field with a press box and scoreboard, softball/baseball fields, a concession stand with bathrooms, and former tennis courts (2) that have been converted to a skateboard park. Indoors, the

gymnasium includes a full size basketball court, classrooms and studios space for programs and activities, bathrooms, and offices for Department staff.

Old Middle School

The County owns and maintains a former middle school property along Dogtown Road which is fairly centrally located (geographically). The site includes youth soccer fields, softball/baseball fields, and a ¼ mile gravel track which may be used for recreation activities. The structure, however, is currently vacant, and at this time, the Old Middle School site is generally recognized as an underutilized County asset.



Inventory of Existing County-Owned Facilities (by Type of Facility)

(Separated for Parks and Recreation Department and Public Schools)

Facility	Parks and Recreation	Public Schools		County Total
		Elementary	Middle/High	
Baseball/softball field	8	1	2	11
Football/soccer field (adult)	1	0	1	2
Soccer field (youth size)	4	0	0	4
Multi-purpose rectangular field (practice)	0	1	2	3
¼ Mile track	1	1	1	3
Playground	1	4	0	5
Tennis court	0	0	6	6
Gymnasium	1	0	1	2
Skateboard park	1	0	0	1
Walking trail	2 (1 mile)	1 (1/2 mile)	0	3 (1½ miles)
Picnic shelters/pavilion	2	0	0	2
Sand volleyball court	1	0	0	1
Natural amphitheater	1	0	0	1
Horseshoe pit	2	0	0	2
Community building	0	0	0	0

Inventory of Existing County-Owned Facilities (by Location)

Public School Sites

Byrd Elementary School	(1) Playground (w/grass field)
Randolph Elementary School	(1) Baseball/Softball (1) Playground (w/grass field) (1) Walking Trail (est. ½ mile)
Goochland Elementary School	(1) Multi-purpose Field (Football/Soccer Practice) (1) ¼ mile Track (2) Playgrounds
Goochland County Middle/High School Complex	(2) Baseball/Softball (1) Football/Soccer (Adult) (1) Gymnasium (2) Multi-purpose (Football/Soccer Practice) (1) ¼ mile Track (6) Tennis Courts

Park and Recreation Department Sites

Old Middle School	(2) Baseball/Softball (2) Soccer Fields (Youth size) (1) ¼ mile Track
Goochland Sports Complex	(2) Baseball/Softball (1) Football/Soccer (Adult) (1) Gymnasium (1) Skateboard Park (Formerly Tennis Courts)
Hidden Rock Park	(4) Baseball/Softball (2) Soccer (Youth size) (1) Playground (2) Walking Trails (est. 1 mile) (2) Picnic Shelter/Pavilions (1) Sand Volleyball Court (1) Amphitheater (Natural) (2) Horseshoe Pits

Privately-Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities

The County contains numerous privately-owned facilities, especially outdoor athletic fields, equestrian facilities, and rustic camps/campgrounds that may help satisfy the demand for park and recreation activities. However, these facilities are generally available only for those who qualify for membership and/or can afford the cost. Private recreation facilities (See Appendix A) are not included in the facilities inventory; however, it is important to recognize that private facilities serve much of the population and help fulfill park and recreation demand.

Also, some larger residential developments and larger office buildings offer fitness facilities or gathering places as well.

Open Space (Preservation Tracts)

As residents of a predominantly rural County, Goochland citizens largely support the preservation and protection of open space in the County. Natural open space is closely associated with the quality of life in the community. Zoning districts which support residential development require a percentage of land area in the proposed subdivision be dedicated for open space. The percentages ranges from 20% - 50%. Depending on the zoning district, the open space dedication may set aside for active recreation uses or for natural open space.

VII. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Goochland County has gathered data on the community's expectations for parks and recreation facilities and programs: The following techniques were utilized:

- ◆ a needs assessment to determine programs and facilities favored by residents
- ◆ adoption of park and recreation standards
- ◆ definitions for the County's desired park and recreation levels of service

Citizen Participation

In order to craft a truly comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan, citizen input from County residents is necessary. County residents are the ultimate consumers of park and recreation services, and their collective preferences and knowledge are invaluable for establishing priorities, providing insight to problems or deficiencies that may not otherwise be apparent, and offering creative community-based ideas for expanding park and recreation resources. Also, citizens are more receptive to a plan that solicits their personal input.

The following basic questions were addressed in attempts to gather citizen input:

- ◆ *How well do the existing facilities and programs meet residents' current needs?*
- ◆ *Do the conditions of the facilities meet community standards and expectations?*
- ◆ *Does the quality of programming meet community standards and expectations?*
- ◆ *What additions or changes to existing facilities are necessary to meet the needs of residents? visitors?*
- ◆ *What is the community's perception of current facilities and programs?*

Recreation Advisory Commission Public Forums

During the creation of this document, several public forums were utilized to gather public input. In May 2009, the Recreation Advisory Commission hosted a town hall-style public meeting specifically to solicit citizen input regarding desired parks and recreation facilities. Later, Department and Community Development staff, in cooperation with the RAC, participated in two additional public meetings: October 26, 2009 at the Goochland Recreation Center and October 29, 2009 at Fire-Rescue Station #3 in Centreville. Through information gathered at these public meetings as well as through the working knowledge of its members, the RAC was able to provide valuable input toward addressing the above mentioned questions.

At the May meeting, several projects and ideas were discussed, including:

- ◆ New community center
- ◆ Community center in west end of County
- ◆ Programs for adults
 - 60% of the County is age 18 or older
- ◆ Nature paths serving the entire County
- ◆ Upgrade Byrd Park
- ◆ Nice sports fields/venues for kids
- ◆ Trails or walkways for kids to schools/YMCA/parks/library
- ◆ Active kids = healthy kids
- ◆ Not enough practice fields vs. game fields for baseball, softball, soccer, etc.

- All game fields would be in better shape if there were enough practice fields
- ◆ No fields for “new” sports like lacrosse or field hockey
- ◆ Satellite parks with picnic pavilions, trails, and playgrounds for families with or without kids
- ◆ Place where kids, teens specifically, can safely hang out
- ◆ Build Tucker’s Park at Maidens Crossing with river access
- Volunteers have offered to help construct Tucker’s Park at Maidens Crossing
- ◆ Finish projects partly done or needing renovation. (Courthouse Creek greenways path, Tucker’s Park at Maidens Crossing, Old Middle School, Byrd Park). Use as much volunteer help as possible.
- Old Middle School has a basketball court and ball fields. Could also be a community center.
- Floors in Old Middle School gym have been refinished, gym painted - building is sitting and waiting
- Basketball for church leagues at the Old Middle School
- RAC presented plans for Old Middle School that included a recreation center for the seniors and a cafeteria (Friendship Café)
- Upgrade Fairgrounds building
- ◆ Return soccer to Hidden Rock Park
- ◆ Reach out to community for more opinions with a survey
- ◆ Determine the minimum quality (facility standards) for County facilities
- ◆ Create greenways
- ◆ Walking/biking trail from Hidden Rock Park to Tucker’s Park at Maidens Crossing
- ◆ Volunteer man hours are available

A preliminary draft of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan was presented at the two public meetings in October 2009. The attendees were generally supportive of the Master Plan priorities.

Also, a detailed citizen survey was distributed through Goochland High school, made available on-line to any resident with internet access, and could be found at the Parks and Recreation main office.

Goochland 2028 Comprehensive Plan

In February 2009, the County adopted an update to the comprehensive plan. The update process featured an extensive effort to solicit public input on a wide variety of matters including parks and recreation resources. Through this process, the following recommendations were included in the 2028 Plan:

- Acquire property affording public access to the James River without a railroad crossing conflict.
- Create a new County park which includes soccer, baseball, softball, or football fields.
- Establish a County park which supports agricultural and equestrian events, shows, activities, etc.
- Create County park/recreation facilities on the former middle school site which may include new soccer, baseball, softball, or football fields.

- Support the use of available property in the County for temporary recreation uses when they can be converted safely and relatively inexpensively.

In summary, residents have a variety of interests and expectations regarding the County's role and priorities relating to park and recreation facilities. Many of these are reasonable and attainable in the long term with thoughtful planning. Also, in a spirit characteristic of Goochland County, citizens want to volunteer time and energy to bring plans to fruition.

VIII. LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

Many factors influence the demand for park and recreation facilities, and the most important include: population size and age distribution; the popularity of recreation sites, facilities, and programs; and the amount of recreation provided to non-residents.

Park and recreation planners often employ “level of service” (LOS) standards to assess the need for park and recreation facilities. *Facility standards* typically establish a quantity of units per a population factor (playgrounds per 1,000 people, for example), and *park standards* generally establish an acreage requirement (acres per 1,000 residents). A “gap analysis” determines if sufficient or too few facilities serve the population.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) issued standards in 1934 which are essentially still in use today. The NRPA’s Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines (last revised in 1996) has served as a “bible” for recreation and park professionals. Many states and communities have adopted their own LOS standards based on these guidelines; therefore, LOS standards from communities of different sizes and locations often bear a strong resemblance.

In addition to LOS standards, NRPA guidelines also suggest a classification system for parks. The various levels of parks, such as neighborhood or community parks, vary in size and service area depending on their classification.

While national LOS standards are useful in observing how the County compares to other localities, national standards should be viewed as a guide or a reference point in a discussion of allocating the County’s park and recreation resources. For Goochland County, reviewing national LOS standards provides one gauge to detect inadequacy in providing park and recreation facilities in comparison to standards commonly used by other localities. However, these LOS standards must be weighed against the needs and priorities identified by the community and County leaders.

Preferred LOS standards can change over time as demographics or the culture of a community changes. Also, a number of other unconnected variables may affect supply/demand analysis, such as environmental regulations, the economy, social trends, new technologies, and development trends.

The following table provides LOS standards based on both the NRPA guidelines and on standards of other counties in Virginia which utilize standards consistent with NRPA guidelines. The Park and Recreation Master Plan envisions using these LOS standards as the starting point in making decisions related to park and recreation facilities and amenities. This table does not consider service providers such as colleges and private schools, not-for-profit recreation groups like the YMCA, and religious organizations. Also, there are a couple of more contemporary facilities listed for which widely accepted LOS standards have not been established, such as dog parks and skate parks.

Facility Type	Level of Service (LOS) Standard	Recommended Supply for Goochland Co. (21,000 residents)	Goochland Co. Inventory			Surplus / (Deficit)
			General Government	*Elementary Schools	Total	
Community Parks (10-100 Acres)	3 acres/1,000	63 acres	98 acres	0	98 acres	35 acres
Regional Open Space/Natural Areas (100+ Acres)	3 acres/1,000	63 acres	0	0	0	(63 acres)
Linear Parks/Greenways (Acres)	2 acres/1,000	42 acres	0		0	(42 acres)
Special Use Areas (Acres)**	1 acres/1,000	21 acres	1 acre		1 acre	(20 acres)
Total Park Acres	15 acres/1,000	315 acres	99 acres		99 acres	(216 acres)
Tennis Courts	1 court/2,000	10.5 courts	0	0	6 courts	(10.5) courts
Basketball Courts (outdoor)	1 court/5,000	4.2 courts	1 court	0	1 court	(3.2 courts)
Playgrounds	1 site/1,250	16.8 sites	1 site	4 sites	5 sites	(11.8 sites)
Picnic Pavilions / Shelters (100-199 people)	1 shelter/5,000	4.2 shelters	2 shelters	0	2 shelters	(2.2 shelters)
Soft surface Trails	.4 miles/1,000	8.4 miles	1 mile (2)	.5 mile (1)	1.5 miles	(6.9 miles)
Bike Lanes: (miles)	?	?	?	?	?	?
#Baseball (Youth: 60 bases/ 200' outfield)	1 field/5,000	4.2 fields	3 fields	0	3 fields	(1.2 fields)
Lighted	1 field /30,000	.7 field				
Baseball (Regulation: 90 ft Bases 300' Outfield)	1 field/5,000	4.2 fields	1 field	0	1 fields	(3.2 fields)
Lighted	1 field /30,000	.7 field				
#Softball Fields (Youth)	1 field/7,000	3 fields	2 fields	1 field	3 fields	0 fields
Softball Fields (Adult/Regulation)	1 field/7,000	3 fields	2 fields	0	2 fields	(1 field)
Football field w/ Goal Posts (Regulation)	1 Field/ 20,000	1 field	1 field	0	1 field	0 fields
#Soccer Fields (Youth - Competitive)	1 field/4,000	5.25 fields	4 fields	0	4 fields	(1.25 field)
Soccer Fields (Adult/Regulation)	1 field/10,000	2.1 fields	0	0	0	(2.1 fields)
Multi-purpose Rectangular Fields (Football, Soccer, Lacrosse, Fields Hockey Practice)	1 field/5,000	4.2 fields	0	1 field	1 fields	(3.2 fields)
Volleyball Courts	1 court/5,000	4.2 courts	1 court	0	1 court	(3.2 courts)
¼ Mile Running Track	1 track/20,000	1 track	1 track	1 track	2 tracks	1 track
Outdoor Swimming Pools	1 pool/20,000	1 pool	0	0	0	(1 Outdoor Pool)
Skate Parks (Skateboard)	1 site/50,000	0	1 site	0	1 site	1 site
Off-leash areas	1 site/50,000	0	0	0	0	n/a
18 hole golf course	1 course/50,000	0	0	0	0	n/a
Community Center	1 sq.ft./person	21,000 sq. ft.	0	0		(21,000 sq. ft.) est.
Recreation Center - Sports Complex (Square Feet)	1 sq.ft./person	21,000 sq. ft.	7,800 sq. ft. (est.)	0	7, 800 sq. ft. (est.)	(13,200 sq. ft.) est.
Gymnasium – Sports Complex (Square Feet)	1 sq.ft./person	21,000 sq. ft.	12,400 sq. ft. (est.)	0	12,400 sq. ft (est.)	(8,600 sq. ft.) est.

Not all existing youth baseball, softball, and soccer fields are regulation fields.

*Due to use by scholastic teams, the availability of Middle/High School fields and facilities for the general public is very limited, especially Monday through Friday during the school year. Also, due to school activities, Middle/High School athletic fields are susceptible to overuse; therefore, the following Middle/High School fields and facilities are not included in the analysis of facilities available for use by the general public:

- (1) Gymnasium (15,052 sq. ft. (est.))
- (1) Football/soccer Field (Adult)
- (1) Baseball field (regulation)
- (1) Softball field (regulation)
- (1) ¼ mile track
- (2) Multi-purpose rectangular fields
- (6) Tennis courts

**Special Use Area – “Catch all” category which includes specialized spaces like zoos, ski courses, gun ranges, historic or natural preservation and interpretation sites, nature centers, community arts centers, marinas, etc.

Goochland County Special Use Areas

- Natural Amphitheater Hidden Rock Park

Gap Analysis – Goochland Park and Recreation Facilities

Comparison with National Standards

Based simply on the park and recreation LOS standards provided in the preceding table, the following chart summarizes the surplus/deficit of park and recreation facilities in Goochland County versus NRPA guidelines:

Parks (Acreage)			
Surplus	Close to Norm	Mild Deficit	Significant Deficit
Community Park			Regional Open Space Linear Park/Greenway Special Use Area

Recreation - Outdoor Facilities			
Surplus	Close to Norm	Mild Deficit	Significant Deficit
	Football Fields – Reg. ¼ Mile Track Softball Fields – Youth Softball Fields – Reg. Skate Parks	Tennis Courts Baseball -Youth Baseball - Regulation Soccer Fields - Youth Multi-Purpose Rectangular Fields	Basketball Courts Playgrounds Picnic Pavilion/Shelter Soccer Field – Adult Reg. Soft Surface Trails Volleyball Courts Outdoor Pool

Recreation - Indoor Facilities			
Surplus	Close to Norm	Mild Deficit	Significant Deficit
Gymnasium			Recreation Center Community Center

According to this chart, the County has surplus of Community Park acreage and an adequate supply of gymnasiums and outdoor facilities for selected organized sport activities. However, the County appears to generally have a mild or significant shortage of many types of facilities based on population.

This type of analysis is helpful for discussing the overall supply of park and recreation facilities in the County versus national guidelines, but it is not intended to dictate short-term decision making. Other factors must be considered. For example, private facilities satisfy many of the park and recreation needs of County residents. More importantly, the stakeholders must carefully assess the need for specific park and recreation facilities. The knowledgeable insight of officials and residents are a necessary countermeasure to estimates based on these standards.

Finally, several other factors must also be considered in a thoughtful plan to provide park and recreation facilities, including:

- Potential rehabilitation of existing facilities
- Adequate funding for acquisition, construction, and maintenance of new facilities
- Additional funding required to maintain expanded operations
- Overuse of existing facilities. For example, with too few athletic fields relative to the demand, there may be fewer seasonal opportunities to take a field temporarily out of use in order to rest the turf.
- Public Schools may share the use of athletic facilities; however, school activities have priority over other programs, which increases the need to provide fields for organized sports outside of the school system.
- The County's relatively small population means each new park and recreation facility has a measurable and favorable impact when analyzing the overall supply.
- The County's small Park and Recreation Department and Buildings and Grounds staff means each new park or recreation facility could have a significant impact on staff resources.

IX. CONCEPTUAL PARK SITE PLANS / COST ESTIMATES

The public demand for athletic fields – including soccer, baseball, softball, football, and other sports - is high in Goochland County. The demand has been largely driven by local non-profit sports organizations that primarily serve County youth and adults and by regional sports organization and private scholastic institutions that primarily serve non-Goochland residents.

County-Owned Property

In response to the recurring calls for new athletic fields, County staff has previously explored several alternative sites for additional park and recreation facilities. The prospective solutions included both County-owned and privately-owned properties. The County owns several properties which could sensibly be considered for park and recreation facilities, and of course, utilizing County-owned property would eliminate the significant cost of land acquisition. County staff has generated conceptual plans for park and recreation facilities for four County-owned properties:

- ◆ Leake's Mill Park
- ◆ Tucker's Park at Maidens Crossing
- ◆ Old Middle School
- ◆ Matthews Road Property

With these conceptual plans, staff also prepared planning cost estimates to construct the proposed improvements. The preliminary costs estimates were prepared with the following assumptions:

- Prices are planning estimates only and assume all work would be carried out by contractors. The County would realize considerable savings by:
 - completing park improvements in-house; or
 - accepting in-kind contributions from the community.
- Costs represent *regulation* facilities
- Costs do not include supplemental landscaping and screening costs. For example, a field located close to a residential neighborhood or major roadway may require an extensively landscaped buffer.

The *Facility Planning Cost Estimates Chart* on the following page provides estimated construction and annual maintenance costs for selected facilities (baseball field, football fields, etc.).

- Maintenance costs include staff and materials costs.

Privately-Owned Property

County staff has also generated detailed conceptual plans for park and recreation facilities for two privately-owned properties; however, the County did not purchase either property.

Other County-Owned Property

The County owns several additional properties that may be appropriate for use in whole or in part for park and recreation uses although no conceptual plan has been drafted.

Facility Planning - Cost Estimates

Facility Planning Cost Estimates Chart

Facility	Construction Cost	Annual Maintenance Cost*	Features
Skateboard Park	\$100,000	\$1,200	Approximately 10,000 sq. ft.: Either flat concrete pad with a variety of steel ramps, jumps, and rails, or concrete bowl design. Due to the variety of designs, costs may be more variable
Baseball/Softball Field	\$65,000	\$16,000	Lighting, fencing, backstop, scoreboard, minimal drainage, low capacity seating for teams and spectators. Easy conversion to softball, regulation baseball, or little league play
Football/Soccer Field	\$26,000	\$11,000	Regulation turf soccer/football field with basic drainage and a scoreboard
Tennis	\$35,000	\$1,200	Regulation tennis court with 10 ft. fencing and netting
Basketball	\$28,000	\$900	Regulation, college-size concrete basketball court with painted lines and backboard
Playground	\$20,000	\$1,400	Modular play system with swings, a single light, and a drinking fountain
Sand Volleyball	\$6,000	\$800	Regulation beach volleyball court with netting and standard gravel/sand drainage
Park (General)	\$50,000	18,000	Open space, actively landscaped (decorative trees and shrubs) security lighting, trash cans, park benches, picnic tables, stationary barbecue units, bike rack, restroom, and drinking fountain.
Preliminary Site	\$15,000/acre		Timber, clear, and rough grade
Access Drive	\$582,000		2/10 mile in length 12' lane width Right/left turn lanes
Parking	\$1,300/space		Asphalt on a crushed aggregate base
Soft Costs	x 20%		Engineering design

*State of Colorado: Small Community Park & Recreation Planning Standards (2003)

Conceptual Park and Recreation Facility Plans

Leake's Mill Park

The County owned property is a 167-acre parcel located along Rte. 6 approximately 1.8 miles west of the Goochland Courthouse Village. Up to approximately one-third of the property is impacted by flood plain, wetlands, and steep slopes. As proposed, the conceptual plan for this park features five regulation size soccer/multipurpose fields, two baseball/softball fields, and one multi-use area that could potentially be used for equestrian activities. The plan also calls for the eventual development of a concession stand and trail system within the park. Access would be provided from Rte. 6.

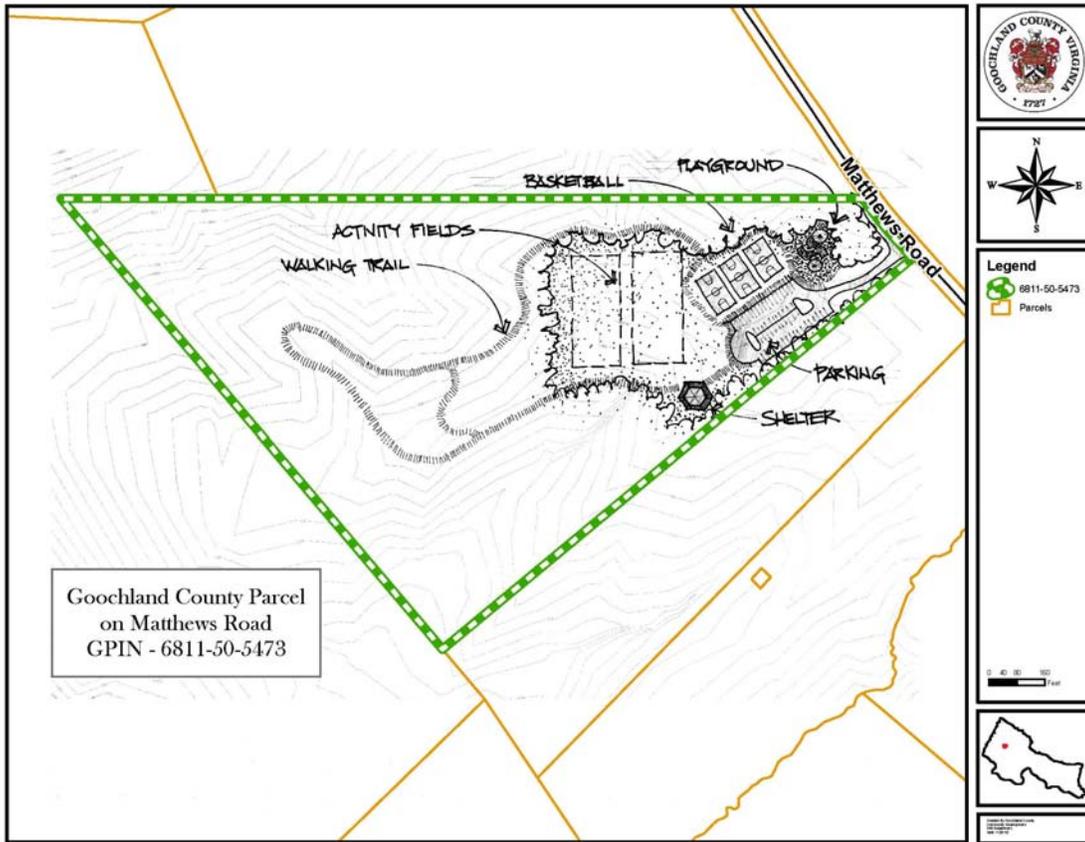


Planning Cost Estimate	
Preliminary site (80 acres)	\$1,200,000
Baseball fields (2)	\$104,000
Soccer fields (4)	\$104,000
Access drive (2)	\$1,164,000
Parking spaces (385)	\$500,500
Concessions	\$500,000
Soft costs (20%)	\$714,500
Preliminary Estimate:	\$4,287,000

Matthews Road Property (Western Park Site)

The County owns a 35.9-acre parcel along the west line of Matthews Road near the intersection of White Hall and Hadensville-Fife Roads in the west-central area of the County. As preliminarily designed, this park features three hard court basketball courts that could also be used for other hard court games such as tennis, one picnic shelter, a playground, walking trails, and two multi-purpose fields. Access would be from Matthews Road.

This site has been identified as an option to replace amenities lost due to new construction at Byrd Elementary School.



Planning Cost Estimate	
Preliminary site (35.9 acres)	\$162,000
Hard Courts (Basketball) (3)	\$ 30,000
Access drive	\$ 15,000
Parking area	\$ 78,000
Shelter	\$ 28,000
Playground	\$ 20,000
Walking/Jogging Trails	\$ 10,000
Multi-purpose Fields	\$ 30,000
Soft costs (20%)	\$ 77,000
Preliminary Estimate:	\$450,000

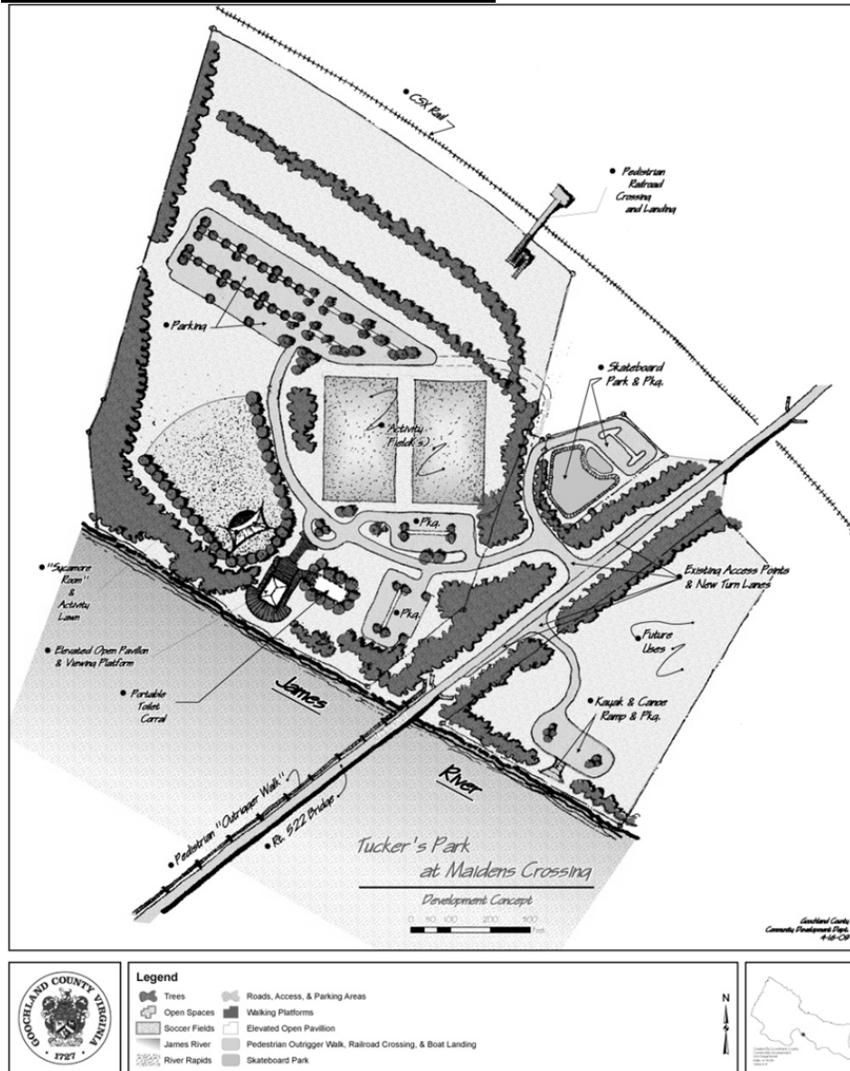
Old Middle School Site (exterior only)

The County owns the former middle school building which includes two parcels totaling 22.3 acres. The site is located at the intersection of Dogtown Road and Robinson Road in the west-central area of the County. Adaptive reuse of the Old Middle School could include renovating the structure and site for multiple uses such as recreational, community center, cultural, civic, or general government uses. At a minimum, establish the following park and recreation uses:

(Conceptual Plan to be inserted)

Planning Cost Estimate	
Preliminary site (22.25 acres)	\$334,000
Access drive	\$ 75,000
Parking area	\$124,000
Shelters	\$ 50,000
Playground	\$ 28,000
Walking/Jogging Trails	\$ 20,000
Multi-purpose fields (partially lit)	\$578,000
Soft costs (20%)	\$241,800
Preliminary Estimate:	\$1,450,800

Tucker's Park at Maidens Crossing



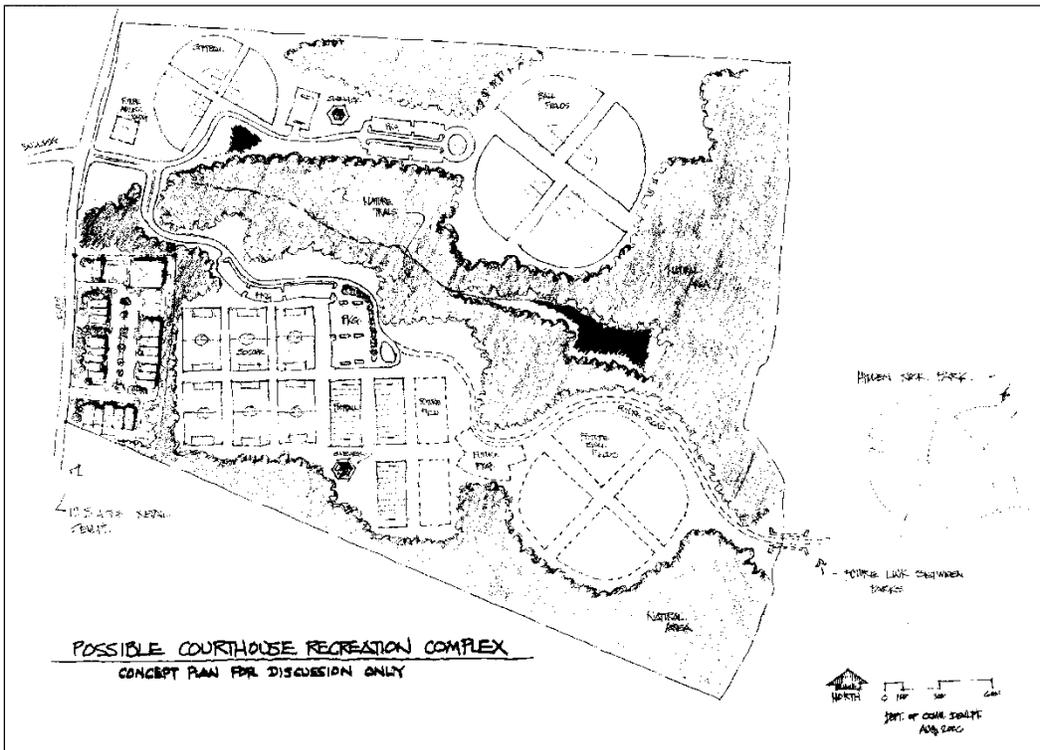
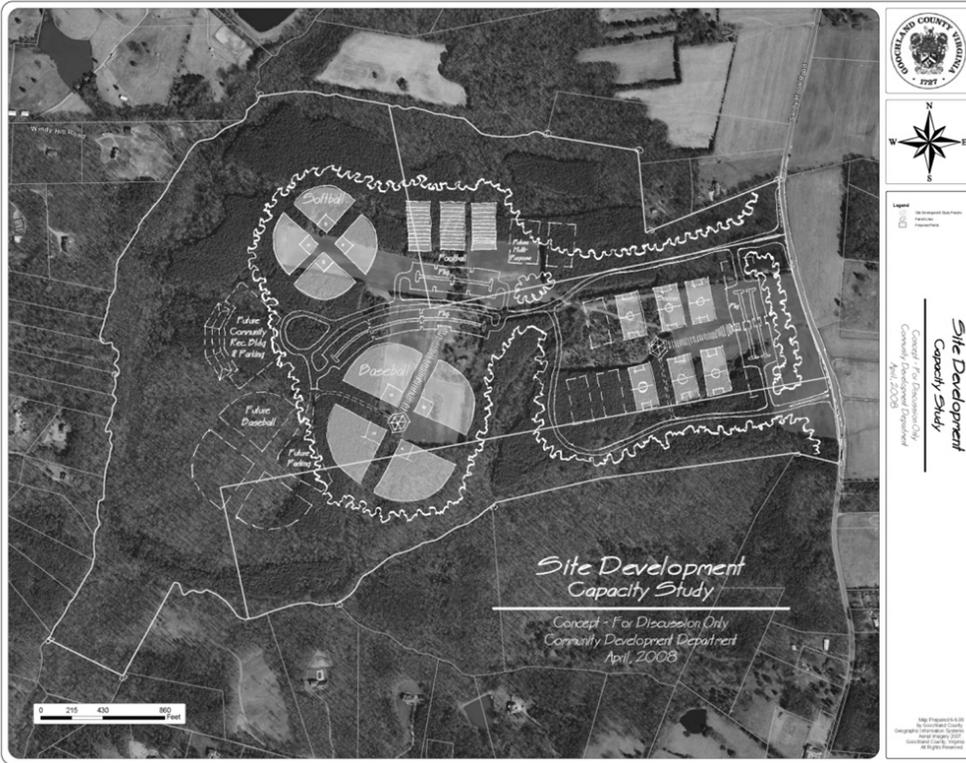
In 2008, the County purchased approximately 40 acres along the James River at the Rte. 522 bridge crossing of the River. This property is significant because it provides direct access to the River unimpeded by railroad tracks, which is infrequent in Goochland County. The property is located entirely within the flood plain.

The conceptual plan features a boat ramp for non-motorized craft, an outdoor stage with lawn seating, an open pavilion overlooking the River, a pedestrian walkway along the bridge to the Beaumont boat landing in Powhatan, a skateboard park, (2) multi-use athletic fields, and areas reserved for future use.

Planning Cost Estimate	
Preliminary site (37 acres)	\$555,000
Football/soccer fields (2)	\$52,000
Skateboard park	\$100,000
Activity lawn with structure	\$25,000
Elevated pavilion with platform	\$100,000
Canoe/kayak ramp	\$10,000
Access drive (2)	\$1,164,000
Parking spaces (Phase 1 - 248)	\$322,400
Parking spaces (Phase 2 - 40)	\$52,000
Soft costs (20%)	\$476,000
Preliminary Estimate:	\$2,856,400

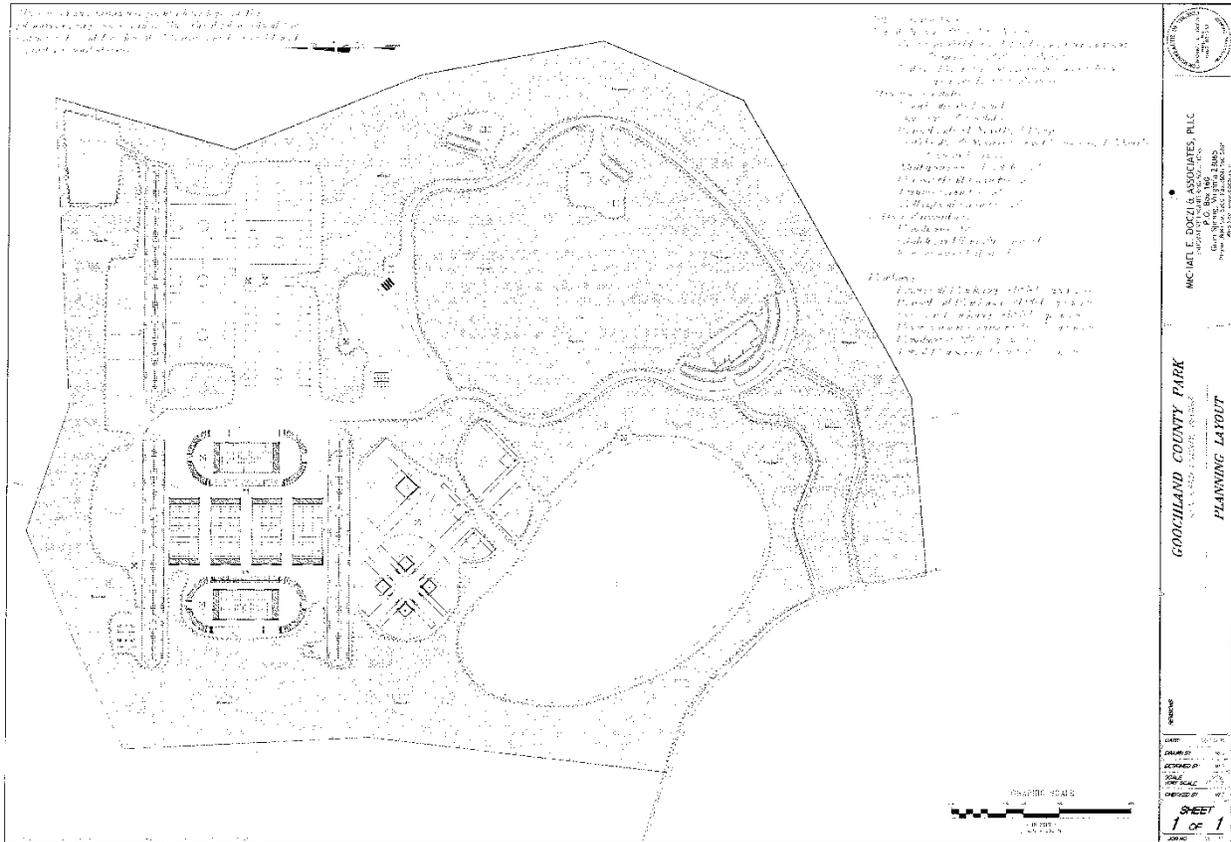
Conceptual Plans (Privately Owned Property)

County staff prepared conceptual park plans for properties along Rte. 522 that the County was considering for purchase; however, the properties were not purchased.



Conceptual Master Plan (Planning purposes - no specifically designated property)

In 2006, the Department of Parks and Recreation worked with a consultant to prepare a generic park master plan for planning purposes. As prepared, the plan presented one option for developing a 350-acre park which would include (6) football fields, (7) soccer fields, (5) baseball fields, (4) softball fields, (2) multi-purpose fields, (2) basketball courts, (2) tennis courts, (2) volleyball courts, (5) picnic pavilions, (4) children’s play areas, and 1,689 parking spaces.



Football fields (6)	\$156,000	Site Acquisition**	\$4,550,000
Soccer fields (7)	\$182,000	Preliminary site (350 acres)	\$5,250,000
Baseball fields (5)	\$325,000	Access drive (2)	\$1,164,000
Softball fields (4)	\$260,000	Parking spaces (1,689)	\$2,195,700
Multi-purpose fields (2)	\$52,000	Soft costs (20%)	\$3,030,040
Basketball courts (2)	\$56,000		
Tennis courts (2)	\$70,000		
Volleyball courts (2)	\$12,000	*@ \$125/square foot	
Picnic pavilions (5)	\$110,000	**@ \$13,000/acre	
Children’s play areas (4)	\$80,000		
Recreation Center (5,500 sq ft.)	\$687,500		
			Preliminary Estimate: \$18,180,240

X. FUNDING SOURCES

Funding is a critical consideration. The amount of funding required to implement park and recreation plans can be sizeable, and park and recreation priorities must compete with other County priorities for scarce public funds. A strategy for funding park and recreation facilities must provide: 1) sufficient funds and 2) funds at the time they are needed. Fiscal planning is further complicated by the fact that capital costs may be very large and one-time only, while maintenance and other costs are ongoing. Therefore, funding plan implementation may require creativity, cooperation, and patience in identifying funding sources.

Importantly, not all park and recreation resources must be provided by the County, and there are ways to fund park and recreation improvements beyond traditional tax support, and they include:

- Employing resourceful funding and financing tools
- Creating revenue producing facilities
- Utilizing private/volunteer resources
- Adapting and reusing existing assets

In the past, the County has successfully solicited grants, volunteers, and donations in creation of the existing park and recreation system. For example, installation of the baseball/softball fields at Hidden Rock Park was largely completed through the funding and efforts of County residents and the business community. Park and recreation facilities may also spring from other resourceful or strategic efforts. For example, the Goochland Sports Complex was transferred to the general government after its useful life as part of the old high school ended. Also, the soccer fields at Hidden Rock Park are an adaptive reuse of an old municipal landfill.

This master plan anticipates the County will need to generate additional resources and revenue from a variety of sources.

Capital Improvements

Not unlike other small localities, Goochland County typically budgets a modest percentage of the annual budget for park and recreation capital projects. The County's budget includes funds generated by a cash proffer policy which partially offsets the costs for park and recreation projects. The following are brief descriptions of funding sources that, in some combination, may be required carry out park and recreation capital improvements.

General Obligation Bonds

A general obligation bond is a common type of municipal bond used to finance capital projects, including the acquisition of land and construction for park and recreation facilities. Bonds are often secured by the locality's pledge to use available resources, usually tax revenues, to repay bond holders. Bonds are an especially popular funding mechanism for large, one-time expenditures.

Cash Proffers

As population increases, additional facilities for schools, fire and rescue, transportation, parks and recreation, libraries, and others require significant investments. Each public service has capital costs associated with it, including buildings, vehicles, communication systems, and other improvements. To offset the impact of *residential development* on the cost of public facilities, the County accepts cash and in-kind dedications voluntarily offered by a developer. The cash proffers are submitted by developers at the time of rezoning application for *residential* uses.

In 2009, the County's total cash proffer amount was \$14,292 per lot, of which \$973 was allocated toward park facilities.

Grant Funds

The County has had some success obtaining grant funds made available by Federal and State agencies. For example, Hidden Rock Park was partially funded by a State grant (DCR), and the County has used transportation enhancement funds (previously known as ISTEA or TEA-21) to install sidewalks in the Goochland Courthouse Village. The County received Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) funding to promote safe pedestrian and bicycle access to schools and is pursuing SRTS funds for additional construction activities.

Also, the County has utilized Purchase of Development Right (PDR) grant funds to preserve open space. There may be opportunities through the County's PDR program to provide passive recreation areas like walking trails, nature viewing areas, or access to the James River,

There are also opportunities to seek grants which are passed through private organizations, non-profits, or other entities for public improvements. For example, in discussions regarding the proposed Goochland Courthouse Soccer Complex, supporters of soccer in the community have committed to seeking grant funds to contribute toward the cost of the facility.

While grant fund allocations can be considerable, grant programs are typically annual competitions; therefore, grant funding often cannot be guaranteed in future budgets or relied upon as a consistent source of funding.

In-kind Contributions

As mentioned previously, the County has utilized volunteers and donations in the creation of existing park facilities. The County will likely continue to benefit from the donation of time and labor by County residents and businesses. Doing so decreases the funds required of the County and allows persons or groups to contribute the land, labor, and/or expertise they can afford or are uniquely able to provide.

Naming Rights

One creative funding method for park and recreation facilities is naming rights. At the County's Hidden Rock Park, naming rights were effectively utilized in combination with in-kind contributions to offset the cost of the baseball/softball fields.

Ads/Sponsorship

Sponsorships typically includes some form of advertising such as space in a program guide, an event partnership, logos/company name on team jerseys, banners at fields or at special events, or vendor leases.

Other Strategies

Adaptive Reuse: The Goochland Sports Complex was transferred to the general government after its useful life as the old high school ended, and the soccer fields at Hidden Rock Park were formerly a municipal landfill.

Phasing: Phasing the development of park projects, especially larger ones, expands the options available for park and recreation planning.

Easements: An easement permits access onto and use of property for specific recreation activities without purchasing the land. Easements may include conditions to regulate the uses. Recreation easements can be particularly effective when overlapping a pre-existing easement. For example, an easement for a bridal path may work in combination with an existing sewer, water, gas line, electric or other utility easement.

Maintenance and Operations

In addition to the creation of new park and recreation facilities, the County must keep pace with needed repairs and upgrades of existing facilities. The expansion of existing facilities or the creation of new ones inevitably increases this burden. The cost of maintenance and operations are typically included in annual line-item budgets, and there are fewer funding options.

User Fees

User fees distribute the costs among the facility users/beneficiaries at a “fair” cost. Revenues are more likely to be allocated to offset maintenance and operations than capital costs. As one example, local organizations that utilize fields and facilities are typically charged a nominal fee.

XI. IMPLEMENTATION

The County faces the challenge of balancing the demand for new park and recreation facilities with the ongoing need to maintain and update existing facilities. To make progress on implementation of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan over the next five years, the County's will need to organize and focus efforts in four areas:

- 1) Strategic Park and Recreation Planning
 - a. Ongoing Effort
- 2) Prioritize Need for Specific Facilities
 - a. Identify Short-term and Long-term Needs
- 3) Prioritize Projects
 - a. Implement Priority Projects
 - b. Develop Long-term Projects and Strategies
- 4) Look for Unique Short-term Opportunities
 - a. Ongoing Effort

1. Strategic Park and Recreation Planning

Goochland County can improve strategic planning for and management of park and recreation decision-making processes. Such improvements are critical to:

- Efficient allocation of County resources
- Identification of existing and expected future resources
- Expanding partnerships with the private and non-profit sectors, and
- Meeting the expectations of the citizens

Objectives for Strategic Park and Recreation Planning

- ◆ ***County-owned Property.*** Identify land available for park and recreation facilities:
 - Evaluate existing County owned properties for potential use, in whole or in part, for park and recreation purposes.
 - A primary need identified by citizens is for an overall property management plan that evaluates the use of existing County owned properties.
 - Adaptive reuse of existing facilities may offer economies of scale, especially when other public uses are considered such as cultural, historic, senior center, etc. This may favorably impact decisions regarding future acquisitions and improvements for other public uses.
 - Evaluate eastern and western areas of the County for future park sites
- ◆ ***Public Schools.*** Build a more formal partnership with Public Schools to proactively provide active recreation facilities to meet the County's park and recreations needs.
 - This may allow school campuses to be improved by including park and recreation facilities that exceed the schools' regular program requirements.
 - There may be facilities that are used by a school during the day and the community on nights and weekends such as athletic fields, playgrounds, or auditoriums.
- ◆ ***Private Organizations/Companies.*** Build on partnerships with private and non-profit entities such as the YMCA to more efficiently and economically provide recreation facilities or programs to meet County-wide park and recreations needs.
- ◆ ***Private Sport/Cultural Associations.*** Work with private and non-profit associations to build a shared sense of responsibility for the maintenance and use of public facilities.

- ◆ *Level of Service Standards.* Create unique Level of Service (LOS) standards for Goochland County
- ◆ *Facility Standards.* Establish design standards and principles for parks and recreation facilities:
 - To maintain the desired, consistent level of quality expected by residents
 - To better manage and estimate costs for new facilities.
- ◆ *Maintenance Standards.* Develop maintenance standards for all parks facilities:
 - To create a clear understanding of maintenance requirements, and
 - To calculate and manage the appropriate level of operational funding needed to keep the parks and amenities as attractive as possible
- ◆ *Funding.* In future budgeting and fund raising exercises:
 - Proactively seek new sources of funding for park and recreation facilities.
 - Examine opportunities to fund the renovation of existing sites and structures.
 - Ensure appropriate funding for maintenance needed to protect the County's investment in parks and recreation.
 - Adding new facilities usually requires additional funding for maintenance.
- ◆ *Residential Development.* Encourage new residential development to include park or recreation amenities to decrease the demand for publicly funded improvements.
 - Higher density housing such as apartments, townhouses or housing for the elderly typically provide a critical mass of units to improve feasibility.
 - Amenities are easily accessible to neighborhood population by safe pedestrian or bike access.
- ◆ *Open Space.* Review regulations and policies regarding open space required in Rural Preservation (RP), Rural Residential (RR), and residential zoning districts.
- ◆ *Master Plan Review.* Review and update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan within five years.

2. Prioritize Need for Specific Facilities

The following list of park and recreation facilities was compiled from an assortment of forums which engaged County residents and community and business leaders to offer input on their interests and expectations regarding parks and recreation needs and priorities. The list is not in order of priority but anticipates that future park and recreation planning efforts will focus on addressing these specific, identified needs:

Objectives to Prioritize Need for Specific Facilities

- ◆ Formally evaluate existing football, soccer, baseball, and softball fields to identify which fields are regulation fields and which fields are capable and feasible to upgrade to a regulation field.
- ◆ Incorporate the following facilities in future park and recreation plans:
 - ¹Soccer Fields (regulation) (¹Planned for Goochland Courthouse Soccer Complex)
 - Baseball Fields (regulation)
 - Softball Fields (regulation)
 - Multi-use Athletic Fields (¹Planned for Goochland Courthouse Soccer Complex)
 - ²Access to the James River (²Planned for Tucker's Park at Maidens Crossing)
 - Designate sites for an extended James River water trail ("blueway")
 - Create natural viewing areas

- Picnic areas
 - Fairgrounds Complex to accommodate agricultural, equestrian, and other events
 - Equestrian Facility (Show ring, practice ring, stables, announcers stand)
 - Exhibition Hall
 - Horse trails
 - Walking trails
 - Bike trails
 - Tot lots
 - Dog park
 - Create / update a park with universal ADA accessibility
 - ³ Special use facilities (³Skateboard park, river overlook, and outdoor theater planned for Tucker's Park at Maidens Crossing)
 - A multi-functional Community Center facility
 - Community facility for teenagers
- ◆ Other facilities that may be desirable except that little demand has been identified:
 - Outdoor pool
 - Horseshoe pits
 - Practice tennis wall
 - Shuffleboard courts
 - ◆ Undertake a comprehensive County-wide survey of residents to solicit feedback regarding:
 - Needed facilities
 - Strengths and weaknesses of existing park and recreation system
 - Funding, fee structures, etc.
 - Facility design standards
 - Many other potential park and recreation matters
 - ◆ Support innovative new policies to increase the supply and variety of park and recreation facilities:
 - Evaluate use of easements for trails and greenways
 - Promote a network of trails which connect destination spots in the County to allow people to move more freely without automobiles and to promote health and fitness.
 - ◆ Advocate for greater access to the James River through both public locations and private development to allow access to the water for recreational purposes.

3. Prioritize Projects

Objectives to Implement Priority Long-term Projects

- ◆ Identify and prioritize specific sites for developing park and recreation facilities
 - Direct resources to available sites and structures already owned by the County
 - Design park and recreation projects to meet the needs identified in this Master Plan.
 - Evaluate/update existing conceptual plans as needed
 - Reinforce the land use planning strategy which identifies villages and designated growth areas. Seek to locate new park and recreation facilities within the villages and designated growth areas.

- Balance the need to provide park and recreation facilities closer to the higher density areas of the County with the need to provide a geographic balance across the County.
- ♦ Evaluate the following County-owned properties for development/renovation/adaptive reuse which includes park and recreation facilities:
 - Old Middle School
 - Fairgrounds Building
 - Hockett Road Property
 - Courthouse Creek Properties

Parks and Recreation Project Priorities (with general overview)

Prioritize the allocation of Goochland County resources to develop park and recreation projects as follows:

A. Leake's Mill Park

County has already completed rough grading and some preliminary site work toward development of this facility:

- a. Four regulation fields for adult and youth soccer
- b. Two regulation baseball/softball fields
- c. One multi-use area
- d. Fully irrigated and partially lighted playing surfaces
- e. Fully accessible parking lots
- f. Concession stand
- g. Soft surface trails

B. Adaptive Reuse of the Old Middle School

Renovate structure and site for multiple uses which may include recreation, community center, cultural, civic, or general government uses. At a minimum, establish the following park and recreation uses:

- a. Two multi-purpose fields (partially lighted, fully irrigated)
- b. Walking/jogging trails
- c. Additional parking
- d. Playground
- e. Picnic shelter
- f. Floor space dedicated to community center use

C. Mathews Road Property (western park site)

At a minimum, locate the following park and recreation uses

- a. Parking area
- b. Hard court games (basketball)
- c. Playground
- d. Picnic shelter
- e. Athletic open space (with future potential development)

Parks and Recreation Project Priorities - Summary of Planning Cost Estimates

Priority	Park and Recreation Project/Facility	Cost Estimate
A.	Leake's Mill Park	\$4,287,000
B.	Adaptive Reuse of Old Middle School	\$1,450,800 (Exterior only)
C.	Community Park-Matthews Road Property	\$450,000

Other Potential Parks and Recreation Projects (Long-term)

- ◆ *Tucker's Park at Maidens Crossing*
At a minimum, locate the following park and recreation uses:
Two multi-purpose (football/soccer practice) fields
Skateboard park
Activity lawn with outdoor theater
Elevated pavilion with platform for river overlook
Canoe/kayak ramp
Pedestrian bridge
- ◆ *Goochland County River Water Trail* - Goochland County segment of the Middle James River Water Trail features existing and future river access between Columbia in Fluvanna County and Robious in Chesterfield County.
- ◆ *Community Park - Hockett Road Property* (County Park in eastern section of Goochland County)
 - a. Develop site for multiple uses which may include recreation or general government uses.

4. Look for Unique Short-term Opportunities

State/Federal Grants

The County has experienced some success with grant applications for State and Federal funds to address park and recreation needs. Grant funding is a good option for some types of projects. For example, traffic enhancement funds administered by the Virginia Department of Transportation are offered annually for projects which provide alternatives to vehicular travel or beautify roadways.

The following are park and recreation projects which would be expected to meet the eligibility requirements for traffic enhancement programs:

- ◆ *Courthouse Creek Greenway:*
Bikeway/pedestrian trail along Courthouse Creek in the Goochland Courthouse Village. Would connect Tucker Park at Maidens Crossing to Hidden Rock Park.
- ◆ *Tucker's Park at Maidens Crossing:*
Pedestrian walks including bridge walk along Maidens bridge.

- ◆ *James River Heritage Trail:*
Regional bicycle trail designated by DCR running mostly along State Route 6.
- ◆ *Goochland County River Water Trail:*
Goochland County segment of the Middle James River Water Trail featuring existing and future river access between Columbia in Fluvanna County and Robious in Chesterfield County.
- ◆ Pedestrian and bikeways in the villages
- ◆ Pedestrian, bikeway, and bridle paths outside of villages

Other Grants

Corporations or foundations may fund development or improvement of park and recreation facilities to support programs or as community outreach. Although these funds may have relatively few restrictions, they may target specific activities. Use of private grant funds has been proposed as a means to upgrade or provide amenities for the proposed Goochland Courthouse Soccer Complex.

Conclusion

From a certain perspective, Goochland County is in an enviable position. Due to the small population, the per capita demand for new facilities is comparatively small, and due to the rural nature of the County, there is an abundance of land suitable for park, recreation, or open space use. Also, the County already provides residents and visitors the opportunity to participate in a range of leisure and cultural activities, and the quality of the programs and facilities offered and their affordability is appreciated by the citizens.

The challenges before the County are two-fold. First, continue the good work and rise to the next level. That will require continuous commitment and planning ahead; fully evaluating the needs of the community; and seeking additional ways to procure necessary resources. Secondly, as the County's population continues to increase, greater demands will be placed on current resources. The solutions to meeting these demands must not be limited to public site acquisition and new facility construction. The County must be proactive to promote innovative program design, expanded joint use of school-facilities where appropriate, identification of historic and culturally significant places and structures, and coordination with other recreation providers.

The County must define its role in supervising the future growth and management of recreation, parks, and open space resources in Goochland. This Master Plan offers the County the opportunity to prove once again its ability to address the concerns of the citizenry.

Appendix A

State/Semi-Public/Semi-Private Facilities (Best available information)

J. Sargeant Reynolds

Collegiate Sports Complex
St. Catherines Sports Complex
Benedictine Sports Complex

Camp Brady Saunders
Camp Hilbert
Westview on the James

Hermitage Country Club
Kanawha Club
Kinloch Golf Club
Richmond Country Club
Royal Virginia Golf Club
Sycamore Creek Golf Course

Goochland Recreation Center

YMCA

Deep Run Hunt Club
Spring Valley Farm
Swift Creek School of Equitation
Young Entry Stables

Wood 'N' Racket Farm

Westview Boat Landing

Route 6 Wayside (picnic)

Bogey's Sports Park
Patterson Golf Park

Appendix B

Facility Standards (Sample)

Facility/ Activity	Recommended Standards			Other Information
	Space Requirements	Size and Dimensions	Orientation	
Tennis	7,200 sq. ft./court	36' x 78' 12' Clearance	Long axis north/south	Sets of 2 to 4 in a community park; or adjacent to a school site
Softball	1.5 to 2.0 acre	Baselines: 60' Mound: 46' men/40' women Fast pitch field radius from plate: 225' Slow pitch radius: 275' (men) 250' (women)	Locate home so pitches cross sun; batter does not face sun. Line from home plate through pitcher's mound runs east by northeast	Slight difference in dimension for 16" slow pitch May also be used for youth baseball
Little League	1.2 acre	Baselines: 60' Pitcher's Mound: 46' Foul Lines: 200' Center Field: 200'	Locate home so pitches cross sun; batter does not face sun. Line from home plate through pitcher's mound runs east by northeast	Part of a larger complex Lighted fields
Playground Softball	10,000 sq. ft.	100' x 100'	Locate home so pitches cross sun; batter does not face sun. Line from home plate through pitcher's mound runs east by northeast	Neighborhood park
Regulation Basketball	5,600–7,980 sq. ft.	50' x 94' w/5' sidelines	Long axis north/south	Outdoor courts in neighborhood and community parks Active recreational areas in other parks
Basketball (high school)	5,040–7,280 sq. ft.	50' x 84' w/5' sidelines	Long axis north/south	Outdoor courts in neighborhood and community parks Active recreational areas in other parks
Basketball (youth)	2,400-3,060 sq. ft.	46' x 84' w/5' sidelines	Long axis north/south	Outdoor courts in neighborhood and community parks Active recreational areas in other parks
Basketball (1/2 Court)	1,500 sq. ft.	35 'x 35'	Basket on north (if possible)	Neighborhood Park

Facility/ Activity	Recommended Standards			Other Information
	Space Requirements	Size and Dimensions	Orientation	
Soccer	1.7 to 2.1 acres	195' to 226' x 330' to 360' 6' clearance all sides	Long axis from northwest to southeast	Number of fields depends on popularity Youth soccer may play on smaller fields adjacent to schools or in neighborhood or community parks
Football	1.5 acre	160' x 360' 6' clearance on all sides	Long axis from northwest to southeast	Often part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school
Track, 1/4 mile	4.3 acres	276' overall width 600' length 32' width for 8 lanes	Long axis in sector from north to south to northwest/southeast with finish line at northerly end	Usually part of high school or in community park complex in combination with football soccer, etc
Swimming Pool	1 1/2 to 2 acres	25 yd x 45' for teaching pool 3' to 4' min. depth	None	Pools for community use should be planned for teaching, competitive, and recreational purposes Locate in community park or school site
Outdoor Shelters	Varies	None	None	Community Park
Recreation Center	up to 1 sq. ft. per person	None	None	Community Park
Volleyball	2,500 sq. ft.	30' x 60' per court	None	Community or Neighborhood Park
Horseshoe Pits	1,000 sq. ft.	10' x 50' per court	None	Community or Neighborhood Park

Appendix C

Definitions

Park Terms

Parks are typically defined through a hierarchy of park types. Each type of park varies in size and offers a certain kind of park and recreation experience.

Mini-park, or Pocket Park – Very small in size (generally less than 1 acre), these parks are intended to serve those within walking distance. They may provide trails, sidewalks, or benches for passive activities, or a “tot lot” or sports court. Generally, restrooms are not provided, and minimal parking is sufficient.

Neighborhood Park - Generally small in size (approximately 5 to 10 acres) and intended to serve residential areas in close proximity to the park. Neighborhood parks typically include a small combination of amenities such as playground equipment, picnic facilities, sports courts, open grass areas, wooded areas, trails, or bicycle paths to provide for active and passive recreation activities. Restrooms may be provided along with limited on-site parking.

Community Park - A park serving a broader purpose than a neighborhood park while also serving as a neighborhood park for nearby residents. Often between 10 and 50 acres in size, community parks provide the space and facilities for structured activities and activities attracting large numbers of people such as community events, organized sports, or tournaments. While providing similar facilities found in neighborhood parks, community parks may provide them in a more diverse combination and in larger numbers. Hidden Rock Park is best described as a Community Park.

Community parks may include auxiliary facilities such as restrooms or concession stands to accommodate masses of people (think game day) and ample parking. They may also feature and be designed to protect natural amenities such as open space, wetlands, wooded areas, or water bodies.

Neighborhood parks and community parks may be provided in conjunction with school facilities and may function as a park after school hours and during school breaks.

Regional Park - Often operated by the State, these parks typically include facilities like those found in a community park to serve local residents but are larger in size. County parks may also include unique amenities which attract users from beyond the local area such as camping facilities, expansive natural areas, and trails.

Special Use Area – “Catch all” category which includes specialized spaces like zoos, ski courses, gun ranges, historic or natural preservation and interpretation sites, community arts centers, nature centers, marinas, et al. The natural amphitheater at Hidden Rock Park is an example of a special use area.

Open Space – Open space is land set aside for preservation of significant natural resources including view sheds. Open space may provide for passive recreational opportunities like walking or nature viewing and may function as greenways.

Recreation Terms

Blueway - A route along a river or across a lake, also known as a water trail, for small boats like kayaks or canoes. May be identified by the land facilities that support water travel including launch/landing sites, campsites, or other points of interest. On water, the trail surface is constantly changing due to currents, rainfall, or other natural impacts.

Community Center - A center where members of a community can gather for social, recreational, educational, or cultural activities: may include banquet/conference rooms, community rooms, studios, exercise rooms, arts and crafts rooms, senior citizen center, kitchen, stages, restrooms, or other amenities.

Greenway – Similar to trails in that they often connect parks or other points of interest; however, greenways normally exist parallel to a natural resource such as a river, floodplain, or wetland area.

Multi-purpose Fields - Fields that are acceptable as practice fields but do not meet regulations for playing fields as official or sanctioned games

Public Open Space - Public land held in the public interest to provide for: passive or active outdoor recreational use and protect prominent natural, geographical, geological, and cultural features. Such areas may contain green space areas, forest, floodplains, wetlands, and scenic vistas.

Recreation Centers - A center providing facilities which are targeted primarily toward active recreational programming: may include a gymnasium, exercise rooms, arts and crafts rooms, community rooms, kitchen, stages, restrooms/lockers/showers, or other amenities.

Recreation Facility – Structure, court, trail, or field typically designed for a specific or limited number of activities (i.e., basketball court, soccer field, greenway, or pedestrian/bike trail).

Trail – Generally categorized as either park trails or connector trails. Park trails are generally contained within one park. Connector trails often run between parks, other recreation facilities, and/or destination points; thereby interconnecting them and creating a trail system that is accessible from many different points.

Appendix D

James River Water Access

Regional Water Access to James River

- Middle James River Water Trail - Regional water trail (blueway) designated by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) which runs from Lynchburg to Goochland Co. (aka James River Bateau Festival Trail).

Local Water Access to James River

- Goochland County River Water Trail - Goochland County segment of the Middle James River Water Trail features existing and future river access between Columbia in Fluvanna County and Robious in Chesterfield County.
- *Current Goochland Co. River Water Trail James River access points (west-to-east):*
 - Columbia (Fluvanna Co.)
 - Cartersville (Cumberland Co.)
 - Westview Landing (Goochland Co.)- (State facility)
 - Beaumont/Maidens Landing (Powhatan Co.)
 - Watkins (Powhatan Co.)
 - Robious (Chesterfield Co.)
- *Pending James River access point:*
 - Tucker's Park at Maidens Crossing (Goochland)
 - Proposed in County park with canoe/kayak launch

Recommended Access Points in Goochland Co. (from west to east):

- *Elk Island area* – approximately 5 miles from both Columbia and Cartersville
 - Island is mostly farmland. Historically, an old Monacan Indian village and many artifacts can be found on the island. Also, remnants of Byrd Creek aqueduct are still visible.
 - Island formed from canal construction – over 1,000 acres in sizes
 - Large landowners include: Albert Pyle, Paul Klinefelter, John Wright, and Elk Hill Farm.
 - Potential for conservation easements in this area
 - A couple of roads traverse the railroad R-o-W and the river to the island. A one lane bridge across the river would likely need to be widened for a boat access.
 - Elk Island Road- crosses railroad and river to the northern part of the island
 - Klinefelters- crosses railroad
 - Elk Hill Road- crosses railroad and river to the southern part of the island
- *Rock Castle Road/Ben Lomond Road area* - approximately 6 miles from Westview and Beaumont/Maidens Landing
 - Mostly farmland. Two crossings exist over the railroad R-o-W to access farmland along the river.
 - Large landowners include - Pocahontas Farm, R.I. Pruitt, and James Massie.

- *Crozier/Lee Road area*- approximately 6 miles from Beaumont/Maidens Landing and Watkins
 - Mostly rural residential dwelling on larger lots along Lee Road and Pleasant Green Lane.
 - Possible road crossing over railroad R-o-W at the end of Lee Road.
 - Two large, forested islands and several small islands are located in the area.
 - Large landowners include - Luck Stone Family Partnership, State Farm, George Richardson, R.I. Pruitt, Brockenbough, and other private residential landowners.
 - Pending conservation easements in this area.

Appendix E

Trails and Greenways

Bikeway/Pedestrian Trails (Existing)

- Cross Country loop trails - Located within the forested area between Goochland MS/GHS and Goochland ES. Swampy/wetland area has a boardwalk but maintenance is minimal.
- Hidden Rock Park – Two loop trails located within the park.
- Randolph Elementary School - Linear trail located in the forested area behind the school.

Bikeways/Greenways/Pedestrian Trails (Proposed)

- Courthouse Creek Greenway
 - Bikeway/pedestrian trail along Courthouse Creek in the Goochland Courthouse Village. Would connect Tucker Park at Maidens Crossing to Hidden Rock Park.
- Tucker's Park at Maidens Crossing
 - Pedestrian walks including bridge walk along Maidens bridge.

Bikeways

Regional

- James River Heritage Trail
 - Regional bicycle trail designated by the DCR runs mostly along State Route 6.
 - Focuses on scenic view sheds, historic areas, and access to the James River

Appendix F

2000 Census Profile - Population Characteristics: Goochland County vs. U.S.

Data gathered by the Census Bureau during the 2000 Census with national figures provided for comparison. The next decennial census is scheduled for 2010.

2000 Census Profile – Goochland County vs. United States			
	County Total	County (%)	U.S. (%)
Population Characteristics			
Gender			
Male	8,494	50.4%	49.1%
Female	8,369	49.6%	50.9%
Age			
Median age (years)		40.5	35.3
Under 5 years	875	5.2%	6.8%
18 years and over	13,276	78.7%	74.3%
65 years and over	2,109	12.5%	12.4%
Race/Ethnicity			
One race	16,733	99.2%	97.6%
White	12,261	72.7%	75.1%
Black or African American	4,324	25.6%	12.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	33	0.2%	0.9%
Asian	80	0.5%	3.6%
Some other race	35	0.2%	5.5%
Two or more races	130	0.8%	2.4%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	144	0.9%	12.5%
Household/Housing Unit Characteristics			
Household population (non-group quarter)	15,475	91.8%	97.2%
Group quarters population	1,388	8.2%	2.8%
Average household size		2.51	2.59
Housing units	6,555		
Occupied housing units	6,158	93.9%	91.0%
Vacant housing units	397	6.1%	9.0%
Owner-occupied housing units	5,334	86.6%	66.2%
Renter-occupied housing units	824	13.4%	33.8%
Median value (dollars)		\$149,800	\$119,600
Social Characteristics			
High school graduate or higher	9,647	78.8%	80.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher	3,601	29.4%	24.4%
Civilian veterans	1,469	11.1%	12.7%
Disability (5 years old and older)	2,267	15.4%	19.3%
Foreign born	331	2.0%	11.1%
Economic Characteristics			
In labor force (16 years old and older)	8,650	63.1%	63.9%
Mean travel time to work in minutes		32.1	25.5
Median household income in 1999 (dollars)		\$56,307	\$41,994
Median family income in 1999 (dollars)		\$64,685	\$50,046
Per capita income in 1999 (dollars)		\$29,105	\$21,587
Families below poverty level	202	4.3%	9.2%
Individuals below poverty level	1,068	6.9%	12.4%

Appendix G

Soccer/Athletic Field – Immediate Action Plan
 Submitted to the Goochland County Board of Supervisors
 March 17, 2009

IMMEDIATE ACTION PLAN

Staff recommends undertaking the following as the most appropriate measures to address immediate soccer/athletic field needs:

Spring 2009

I. Allocate funding to the following projects on County-owned property:

Goochland MS/HS	Field Preparation x 2 fields (Goals, Paint lines)	\$3,300
		Estimated Cost: \$3,300

Staff estimates this would yield (2) additional fields for use by ages U-14 to adult.

II. Consider a new policy (see attached):

Goochland County, through the Parks and Recreation Department, may enter into agreement with non-profit organizations to sponsor sports activities on privately-owned property.

Several adult size fields may be available; however, the total number of approved fields would be limited by Goochland County.

Fall 2009

III. Allocate funding to the following projects on County-owned property:

Old Middle School	Grade/reseed damaged portion	
	Field Preparation x 1 (Paint lines)	\$7,500
Goochland Elementary -	Power Rake (Level Grade Reseed)	\$3,500
Field inside track	Field Preparation x 1 field (Goals, Paint lines)	\$1,100
		Estimated Cost: \$12,100

Staff estimates this would yield (2) additional fields for use by ages U-14 to U-19. (Note: Goochland ES field would likely be used for football in the fall and soccer in the spring.)

Goochland Courthouse	Commercial Entrance (Gravel)	
Soccer Complex	Internal Roadway - Rough Grading/Gravel	
	Parking - Rough Grading/Gravel	
	Fields - Rough Grading/Seeding	
	Field Preparation	
		Estimated Cost: \$750,000

Staff estimates this would yield (4) adult fields.

POSSIBLE NEW COUNTY POLICY**Privately–Owned Property**

There are currently no fields available for GUSA in Goochland County for their older age groups (Adult, U-19, U-14). Spring practice has begun; therefore, only existing fields can be considered for Spring 2009 use.

REGULATORY BARRIER

Point #1: Regulatory barriers inhibit expanded use of private athletic fields. Obtaining a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) typically requires 90-120 days, and the outcome including CUP conditions cannot be predetermined. If suitable and agreeable privately-owned property were identified, the time frame required for CUP review and approval may exclude its use.

Point #2: The County is not required to obtain a CUP for County sponsored activities.

PROPOSED COUNTY POLICY

Staff recommends consideration of the following policy:

Goochland County, through the Parks and Recreation Department, may enter into agreement with non-profit organizations to sponsor sports activities on privately-owned property.

Staff would further recommend the following:

- The County, the non-profit organization, and the applicable property owner are parties to the agreement.
- The aggregate number of fields approved will be limited to the number identified by County staff to meet the urgent need for athletic fields for the Spring 2009 and Fall 2009 seasons.
- Include appropriate conditions in the agreement which may include but are not limited to:
 - A limit on the days/nights fields may be used under this policy
 - A limit on the hours fields may be used under this policy
 - A prohibition on buses or other measures to reduce traffic impacts
 - A limit on the number teams/participants
- No fields utilize lights or loudspeakers.
- Approval may be limited to one year.

Key benefits:

- Subject to an agreement, neither the organization nor the property owner would be required to obtain a CUP.
- Agreement could be co-signed quickly
 - County may manage:
 - Use of fields
 - Days/Hours fields in use
 - Lighting/loudspeakers
 - Number of participants
 - Other items as identified
- Minimal public expense
- Limit Goochland County's liability
- Do not increase impacts to County (Parks and Recreation) staff

Key concerns:

- Public notification/input minimized
- Need to define development standards

Could be applicable to:

Cosby Fields
Salem Baptist Church
Manakin Towne Center
Other properties as identified

OVERALL DEMAND FOR ATHLETIC FIELDS

The demand for athletic fields – including soccer, baseball, softball, football, and other sports - is high in Goochland County. The demand is driven by local organizations that serve County youth and adults and by regional sports organization and scholastic institutions that primarily serve non-Goochland residents.

The County has experienced more demand than can be accommodated by the existing number of fields for many years, and Goochland United Soccer Association (GUSA) has pointed out there are currently no soccer fields available for GUSA in Goochland County for their older age groups (teenagers and adults). Due to the imbalance of supply and demand, existing fields are suffering from overuse.

IDENTIFIED DEMAND FOR SOCCER FIELDS

Each youth team typically require fields two days a week after school for practice and one field for games on Saturday. Adults require one field per week for games only (Referees in the area are allocated to youth on Saturdays and adults on Sundays). Local soccer organizations have identified the following acute demand for soccer fields:

Central Virginia Soccer Association (CVSA) is non-profit, adult soccer league coordinating approximately 102 teams and 1,900 active players for the Spring 09 season. CVSA has identified the need for 1 or 2 adult-size fields for up to 2 or 3 games each (maximum of six games). The typical use for one field is Sunday at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. for games.

Goochland United Soccer Association (GUSA) is a non-profit organization devoted to promoting youth soccer in Goochland County for children between the ages of 4 and 19. Typical field use is on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. GUSA typically needs to accommodate one game per age group for boys and girls with a few extra in the U-10. If two adult size fields were available, all age groups might be finished by 1:30 p.m. Not all games are home games, which helps to stagger the weekend use.

GUSA has indicated that the lack of fields, the current condition of existing fields, and the uncertainty regarding field availability has reduced current membership. If more fields were available, their membership would very likely increase.

The Richmond Strikers is a non-profit organization devoted to teaching soccer to thousands of children ages 4-18 in the Richmond area and is one of the largest clubs in Virginia and in the nation. At the moment, the Strikers may not need additional fields in Goochland County on a weekly basis; however, the 50 fields per weekend utilized over the Richmond area are stressed. The Strikers could always use an additional one or two fields from 9:30 – 4:30 on Saturdays.

The Strikers could use as many fields as possible for their three-to-four tournament weekends (two weekends in March and two in the summer).

Access to 1-2 adult size fields per each organization would enable play and take immediate stress off the situation. No soccer leagues require lights or loudspeakers; however, there is a long term need to have access to fields with lights since most youth soccer practice takes place after 5:30 on weeknights.

SUPPLY OF SOCCER FIELDS

The supply of available fields was recently reduced due to the widely publicized need to manage methane gas releases at the Hidden Rock Park. The elimination of these fields are critical for two reasons: 1) these were the only soccer fields owned and maintained by the County, and 2) the fields are centrally located in the Goochland Courthouse Village to serve the maximum number of County residents as conveniently as possible.

PLANNING

In response to public demand, the Goochland Board of Supervisors directed County staff to craft a plan to address the acute shortage of athletic fields. The first step entailed County staff conducting a preliminary assessment of potential athletic field sites entitled "Possible Sites/Estimated Costs for New Athletic/Soccer Fields" (revised March 12, 2009). This study represents the first phase of what will likely be a multiphase response to the identified need for more athletic fields. Future phases could include repurposing existing county-owned land to recreation use, facilitating private land owners' efforts to provide semi-public recreational use of their land, updating the Park and Recreation Master Plan, and/or sponsoring a referendum to determine the countywide need for public recreation areas.

One can conclude from this study that there is sufficient available land for athletic field development; however, many existing sites are "raw land," and neither preliminary planning/engineering nor site improvements have been undertaken.

IMMEDIATE ACTION PLAN

The Immediate Action Plan arises from the urgent need identified to provide soccer fields for the Spring 2009 seasons. There is not sufficient time to carry out detailed planning, engineering, and site improvements; therefore, this plan is not intended to provide ideal long-term solutions. However, the plan may provide individual components which may be expanded upon as part of a comprehensive long term approach. Also, this Immediate Action Plan is intended to implement the first phase of what will likely be a multiphase response to the need for more athletic fields.

The Immediate Action Plan presents the County staff's recommendation to address the acute short term need for soccer fields. The recommendations can be carried out quickly and with minimal expense with funds previously appropriated for athletic field development.

The County and Public Schools enjoy a beneficial relationship for the joint use of school facilities for community recreation. Joint use has proven to be invaluable in maximizing the utility of existing public land for community benefit. This Immediate Action Plan is dependent of the continued participation of Public Schools.

Appendix H

Open Space Plan

Introduction

“Open space” may be simply defined as undeveloped or minimally developed land or land not dominated by man-made structures. Open space can exist in a natural and undeveloped state, consist of cultivated fields or forests, or provide for passive recreation uses. Some structures, parking areas, roads, trails, or other facilities which support these uses may be present.

In Goochland County, open space is closely associated with the quality of life, and preserving open space is critical for maintaining the rural and agricultural character of the County. While it may be somewhat difficult to recognize the need for open space planning in a rural county like Goochland, since so much already exists, open space is an exhaustible resource. Therefore, owing to this and to the fact that Goochland citizens strongly support its preservation and protection, the County must be proactive to ensure open space is protected and preserved for current residents and for future generations.

Benefits of Open Space

The public derives a wide variety of benefits from open space including a range of economic, aesthetic, environmental, and recreational benefits.

Economic - Preservation of farmland and forestland supports the sustainability of agricultural uses, thereby maintaining diversity in the local economy while also retaining the rural identity of the community. Property may be used for business such as a vineyard, bed and breakfast, or hunting preserve which partially depends on maintaining and promoting open space. Also, natural open space is often attractive to homebuyers and thereby enhances property values.

Aesthetic - Rural open space is a noteworthy asset, is aesthetically desirable, and enhances cultural and historic resources such as scenic view sheds and historic sites. In rapidly growing suburban areas, open space promotes privacy and offers relief from congestion and other negative effects of development.

Environmental - Property left in a natural state offers numerous environmental benefits including wildlife and plant habitats, groundwater recharge areas, and flood water storage. It protects water quality in streams which ultimately benefits the James River and the Chesapeake Bay. It also minimizes environmental damage from development on steep slopes; in floodplains, wetlands, and riparian buffers; and on inappropriate soils.

Recreational - Open spaces be used for recreation activities, and drivers, cyclists, or boaters may enjoy scenic views along a roadway, pathway, or blueway. In Goochland, golf courses, campgrounds, and equestrian facilities are particularly noteworthy.

Types of Open Space

Wooded areas and agriculture - including pastures, hay fields, and row crops – are common open space land uses in the Goochland County, and many such tracts are very large in size. There is also a significant amount land left undeveloped due environmental conditions (i.e., floodplain, steep slopes, wetlands). Following are different forms or types of open space present in the County with supplemental information and a few notable examples provided:

- Farm land (Pastures, hay fields, row crops)

- Vineyards (Grayhaven Winery, (future) Rassawek)
- Conservation easements (Via donation, Purchase of Development Rights program)
- Land required to be set aside in approved subdivisions and not to be built upon:
 - RP District (50% open space) – (The Preserve at Deerfield, (future) Breeze Hill)
 - Preservation Tract - easement required
 - RR District (25% open space) – (High Grove, Estates at Royal Virginia)
 - R-3 District (25% open space) – (Creekmore Park)
 - R-1 District (25% open space) – (Holland Hills, Rivergate)
 - RPUD District (30% open space) - (The Parke at Centerville, Kinloch)
- Public parks – portions left in a natural state (Hidden Rock Park)
- Scenic view sheds (James River)
- Land owned by semi-public organizations and utilized for purposes which maintain and promote the benefits of open space (Camp Brady Saunders, Westview on the James)
- Privately-owned land used for business/recreation which maintains and promotes use as open space
 - Golf Course (Sycamore Creek, Royal Virginia)
 - Equestrian (Deep Run Hunt Club, Spring Valley Farm)
 - Bed and Breakfast (Brightly)
 - Festival Event (Field Day of the Past show grounds)
 - Hunting Preserve (Orapax Plantation)
- Historic sites (Tuckahoe (plantation), Goochland County Courthouse Square)
- Land with regulated restrictions on development due to sensitive environmental conditions:
 - Floodplains, wetlands, steep slopes, riparian buffers, etc.
- Green infrastructure

Preserved Open Space

Preserved open space is land protected from development with a perpetual easement (open space or conservation) or by fee simple ownership (federal, state, or local government; nonprofit organization; or related entity). The land may be reserved for agricultural, natural resource, forestry, wildlife, recreation, historic, cultural, or open space use, or to protect water quality.

Goochland County contains over 4,200 acres of preserved open space, which includes land in conservation easements, subdivision preservation tracts, subdivision common areas, or local parks. Preserved open space can be public, private, or community-owned; however, most preserved open space in the County, approximately 3,600 acres, is held by private landowners in conservation easements.

Much of the remainder of the preserved open space in the County is located in residential subdivision preservation tracts (430 acres) or subdivision common areas. In Goochland, residential zoning districts require between 25%-50% of the gross land area be included in open space. “Common area” is land typically owned by the homeowner’s association and only accessible to the residents of that community.

Conservation Easement

A conservation easement puts restrictions on property which limit the landowner’s right to develop, clear, harvest timber, mine, etc. the land. By giving up the rights to these uses, the landowner is in essence donating (or selling) their rights to the public interest. In return, the property owner receives tax credits for a charitable contribution or other compensation; therefore, land preserved in a conservation easement must possess desirable and useable

qualities in order to qualify. As one example, Goochland County manages a Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program. The PDR program allows landowners to receive payment for their development rights instead of tax credits.

The decision to commit to a conservation easement is driven by the individual land owner. The conservation easement holder can be a public agency (Goochland County), a quasi-public agency (Virginia Outdoors Foundation), or a non-profit organization (Ducks Unlimited). The easement holder may require a conservation plan or forest management plan for those landowners with agricultural or forestal uses on the property. These plans help provide for soil conservation, nutrient management, pesticide and herbicide control, coordination with appropriate state agencies (Virginia Department of Forestry, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, etc.) and recommend best management practices.

As previously pointed out, most of the preserved open space in the County is in conservation easements. The easements may vary in size from about 40 to 500 acres, and the underlying land is mainly privately owned. Many easements include one residence, and some also support an agricultural activity such as livestock and/or crops or have timber stands that can be harvested. Recreational activities allowed on these properties are typically passive in nature; including wildlife viewing, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, and walking trails. Some privately owned lands allow public use subject to being granted permission – examples include the boy scouts for camping or equestrians for horseback riding.

Residential Subdivision Preservation Tract/Subdivision Common Area

Subdivision Preservation Tracts and Common Areas are a product of the County's Zoning Ordinance. All residential zoning districts require between 25%-50% of the gross land area be included in open space. (The Forestal-Conservation District provides for 75% open space, but to date, there is no land with this zoning classification.) The largest requirement for this open space lies within the Rural Preservation Zoning District (RP District) which requires at least 50% open space. The other residential zoning districts require 25%-30% open space.

With the exception of two open space areas in RP District subdivisions approved for farm land, subdivision preservation tracts and common areas are generally used for passive recreation and natural buffer areas. Most of the land is forested and contains streams. The RP District regulates setbacks for existing roadways to protect rural view sheds and to require riparian buffers along streams to protect water quality, and the open space is laid out with the protection of the scenic views and water resources in mind.

Other Open Space Areas

Environmentally Sensitive Areas - Federal, State, and Local environmental regulations offer protections for selected open space areas on privately owned land in the County. For example, due largely to the County's proximity to the James River, approximately 10% of the County falls within a 100-year floodplain, and development activities are very limited within floodplain areas. Other regulations require impacts to wetland areas be mitigated, riparian buffers, or steep slopes be left intact.

Other Areas - Goochland County includes significant land holdings by private landowners and semi-public organizations which are utilized for purposes which maintain and promote the benefits of open space. Although there is a public benefit to the open space, the property may not be preserved in perpetuity, and the land use could change if the property were sold or market forces dictate. Generally, these are business, recreation, historic, or cultural sites, and

the uses may include golf courses, equestrian facilities, bucolic bed and breakfast inns, festival event locales, hunting preserves, and historic locations.

Objectives to Protect Open Space

In addition to utilizing established land use management tools to protect open space, the County should explore the following additional techniques to protect open space lands for public and private use:

- 1) Continue to hold conservation easements and support conservation easements held by other organizations that are consistent with the County's comprehensive plan.
- 2) Continue to employ PDR grant funds to preserve open space. Although this program is targeted to private landowners, there may be opportunities to provide passive recreation uses like walking trails, nature viewing areas, or access to the James River.
- 3) Discourage the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped land into development.
- 4) Develop a Green Infrastructure Plan to create linkages between open space lands and other relevant areas to create a network of green spaces. This plan would identify and prioritize lands suitable for conservation and instruct developers where to set aside open space. (As an example, by encouraging development to be designed with future, nearby parks in mind, future trails on the proposed Bourne Property park can be linked to trails on adjacent properties.)
- 5) Encourage developers to include open space, walking trails, bridle trails, or other amenities with development proposals.
- 6) Promote permanent contiguous open spaces in new subdivisions which adjoin existing green spaces to form an interconnected network of open space.
- 7) Create greenway corridors to allow pedestrians/bicyclists to experience the benefits of natural areas as well as providing interconnections to commercial and residential areas.
- 8) Revise County Ordinances and develop policies to expand protection of environmentally sensitive areas, scenic view sheds, and natural resources, and to provide recreation opportunities. Clustering, riparian buffers, design guidelines, conservation easements, transfer of development rights, and other techniques can aid in the preservation of significant open space areas.
- 9) Designate the James River as a scenic river
- 10) Create a linkage of cultural, environmental, and recreation opportunities by providing for a water trail along the James River.
- 11) Designate specific roads as scenic byways.
- 12) Prepare standards for development along scenic byways regarding fences, natural buffers, and other measures to preserve their natural and historic character.

Appendix I

**County Parks and Recreation
2009 Master Plan Survey**

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in providing feedback to Goochland County Parks and Recreation in preparing a countywide Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan.

The community's input is one step in the interactive involvement needed to develop a comprehensive plan for the future.

Please answer all questions presented. Thank you.

1. What is your zip code in Goochland County? (please circle)

- 23014 23063 23102 23153
- 23038 23065 23103 23160
- 23039 23067 23129

2. Please indicate how true the following statements are:

	VERY TRUE	MOSTLY TRUE	SLIGHTLY TRUE	NOT TRUE	NO OPINION
The parks and playgrounds in Goochland County are enjoyable to visit and use					
Parks and open spaces should be important considerations in future land use decisions					
Goochland County Parks and Recreation should play a primary role in protecting open spaces					
A community's quality of life is enhanced through a well developed park system.					

3. Where Have You Visited? Check the following Goochland County Parks and Recreation sites that you or your family have visited and indicate your satisfaction with those facilities.

	VERY SATISFIED	SATISFIED	NOT SATISFIED	NO OPINION
Hidden Rock Park				
Goochland Sports Complex				
Old Middle School Site				

4. Activities and Programs / Please indicate how often you or a family member of your household participate in the different activities listed

INDOOR	OFTEN	SOMETIMES	ONCE	NEVER
Arts and Crafts				
Basketball - Adult				
Basketball - Youth				
Bridge/Cards/Board Games				
Dance				
Drama and Music				
Educational/Enrichment Classes				
Exercise				
Gymnastics				
Volleyball - Youth/Adult				

OUTDOOR	OFTEN	SOMETIMES	ONCE	NEVER
Baseball				
Basketball - Outdoor				
Bicycling				
Boating				
Canoeing				
Field Hockey				
Fishing				
Football				
Golf-Adult				
Golf-Youth				
Horseback Riding				
Jogging				
Lacrosse				
Nature Study				
Outdoor Concerts				
Picnicking				
Playground				
Roller Hockey				
Skateboarding				
Soccer - Adult				
Soccer - Youth				
Softball - Adult				
Softball - Youth				
Summer Camps				
Tennis - Adult				
Tennis - Youth				
Volleyball				
Walking				

5. Of those previously listed activities, which one(s) did you or a member of your household NOT participate in solely due to a lack of nearby facilities?

Please indicate indoor activities: _____

Please Indicate outdoor activities: _____

6. If you or a member of your household has traveled to participate in an activity not available in Goochland County, where have you traveled and for what activity?

	Chesterfield	Hanover	Henrico	Louisa	Powhatan	Fluvanna
Activity –						
Activity –						
Activity –						

7. How far would you be willing to travel to participate in Parks and Recreation activities? (please circle)

0-4 min 5-9 min 10-14 min 15-19 min 20-30 min more than 30 min

8. How often do you participate in Parks and Recreation activities? (please circle)

Not at all Less that 1 X month 1 X week 2-3 X week 4 X week or more

Park Development

9. If additional land was acquired/developed for park and program development, where would be the best location?

Western Goochland County Central Goochland County Eastern Goochland County

10. Below is a list of potential facilities the County could consider developing. Please indicate the level of priority you feel each should receive.

	High Priority	Med. Priority	Low Priority	No Priority
Senior Center				
Baseball Fields				
Basketball Courts				
Dog Parks				
Football Fields				
Field Hockey Fields				
Lacrosse Fields				
Multipurpose Fields				

	High Priority	Med. Priority	Low Priority	No Priority
Nature Center				
Nature Trails				
Picnic Areas				
Playgrounds				
Soccer Fields				
Softball Fields				
Skateboard Parks				
Tennis Courts				
Walking/Jogging Trails				

11. What programs or specific features would you suggest for a multi-purpose recreation center?

Please provide us with any additional comments below:

Thank you for your time to provide us with your input regarding the Goochland County Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Completed surveys may be mailed to or dropped off at the following location:

Goochland County Parks and Recreation
 1800 Sandy Hook Road
 P.O. Box 910
 Goochland, VA 23063

e-mail to:
dstamey@co.goochland.va.us
tcoleman@co.goochland.va.us