



2024 RECREATION, PARKS, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Henrico’s recreation, parks, and open space offerings help make the county an outstanding place to live, work, and play. These assets support community vitality, well-being, public health, environmental and infrastructure services, and economic growth.

The Division of Recreation and Parks offers a variety of programs, facilities, and parks to meet the needs of Henrico County residents. The Division, also referred to as the Department, oversees the development, construction, and maintenance of numerous parks, recreational facilities, athletic complexes, historic sites, and natural areas throughout the county.

This *2024 Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Master Plan* replaces the *2015 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan*, which was adopted as part of the Henrico County 2026 Comprehensive Plan. The county should consider this document to be a flexible guideline for making positive changes – one that must continually consider current trends, changing public opinions, and available funding.

PROCESS

This report examines the current Henrico park system, including the inventory of amenities and facilities, the physical condition of these assets, and the existing level of service (LOS). The inventory was first conducted in 2021, then updated in 2024 to reflect system expansions. The **Existing Conditions** section includes these elements.

To ensure decision-making involved resident users, a Needs Assessment was conducted in 2021-2022. The Survey Evaluation and Research Laboratory at Virginia Commonwealth University initiated a scientific, statistically significant survey of county residents. Their opinions were solicited regarding recreation and park facilities and amenities, as well as programming and funding importance. Public input was also collected through the Division’s annual Recreation and Parks survey.



Community Program (Source: Henrico County)

Based on these findings, public input, demographic and recreational trends, best practices, and alignment with county goals, this report provides recommended population-based LOS standards, identifies shortfalls of amenities in 2024, and projects recreation and parks’ needs into 2033 based on population assessments and geographic mapping. Using these same input factors, the report contains a series of recommendations for the improvement of existing parks and facilities and the expansion of the parks system. These recommendations are phased into a 10-year implementation plan. The **Analysis and Recommendations** section of this plan includes these assessments and recommendations.

CORE PRINCIPLES

The core principles underlying this plan are rooted in sustainability and include conservation, health and wellness, and social equity, which are the three pillars of the National Recreation and Parks Association. They provide an appropriate context when considering the value of existing and proposed improvements to parks and programs. The Department’s Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Core Values are also key guides in the development of this plan.

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION THREE PILLARS



Conservation: Parks are critical in the role of preserving natural resources that have real economic benefits for communities. The Henrico County Division of Recreation and Parks (the Department) is a leader in protecting open space, connecting people with nature, and providing education and programming that helps the county engage in conservation practices.



Health and Wellness: The Department leads the county in improving the overall health and wellness of its residents and is combating some of the most complicated and expensive challenges our country faces—poor nutrition, hunger, obesity, and physical inactivity.



Social Equity: Universal access to public parks and recreation is a right, not a privilege. Each day the Department is working hard to ensure that ALL members of the community have access to available resources and programming.

HENRICO RECREATION AND PARKS MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

Mission Statement: Enriching Lives, Connecting Communities

Our mission is to create and deliver exceptional recreation and park experiences that foster well-being and a sense of belonging.

Vision Statement: Innovating Tomorrow's Parks, Today

We aspire to be leaders in the recreation and park industry by setting the standard of excellence in operations, programs, and services.

Core Values:

Community: We serve the residents of Henrico County by providing parks and facilities where they can gather that are safe, clean, and well-maintained.

Inclusion: We are committed to providing all residents of Henrico County access to our facilities, programs, and services and strive to create an environment where everyone feels welcome and valued.

Stewardship: We are dedicated to the responsible management and preservation of our open spaces and historic resources for future generations to enjoy.

Wellness: We prioritize the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of our community through recreational programs, fitness opportunities, and outdoor activities.

PARKS AND FACILITIES

The park system is well-used, and the community views it and its facilities as important. While there are gaps in service, the expressed unmet need is limited to only a few amenities. This report identifies recommendations for how Henrico County can enhance existing popular and unique facilities and continue providing a world class, destination-quality parks and open space system.

FINDINGS

- Level of development and age of amenities varies across the system. Newly built or refurbished parks match best practices.
- Some existing facilities have issues related to use and age, as well as spots of limited ADA access.
- Parks are a mix of single-purpose and those with a variety of amenities. There are opportunities for programming infill.
- There is a need for increased bike/pedestrian connections to park and recreation facilities, as well as within parks.
- Park acreage meets population-based LOS standards, but there are some areas with a high-need for neighborhood parks.
- The county needs additional indoor recreation space.
- There is a high unmet public need for outdoor fitness spaces, loop trails within parks, and additional indoor aquatic facilities.
- Henrico County does not currently operate an amphitheater.

HENRICO PARKS AND FACILITIES 2024 SNAPSHOT

3,353 acres of parks operated by Henrico Recreation and Parks

2,643 acres of the 3,353 acres is neighborhood, community, and county park land

546 acres of additional county-owned land for proposed future parks

125,417 sf of indoor recreation space (Rec and Parks community/recreation centers and future parks YMCA Aquatic Center)

Henrico Recreation and Parks' Sites:

28 parks **15** athletic facilities

11 community/recreation centers **12** specialty facilities

1,302 acres of additional public parkland in the county (school sites, National Park Service, and other public entities)

IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- Repairs and improvements to existing facilities, including improving ADA accessibility.
- Lifecycle replacement
- Aquatic center
- Outdoor fitness
- Loop trails within parks
- Bike/pedestrian connections to parks
- Indoor recreation centers
- Amphitheater
- Basketball courts
- Neighborhood park access

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS

- Repair and improve existing amenities, focusing first on safety, ADA requirements, deferred maintenance, and outdated equipment.
- Improve linkages between parks, adjacent neighborhoods, and other recreational facilities.
- Establish additional loop trails within parks, with a variety of surfacing conditions.
- Expand access to neighborhood parks in priority gap locations, through purchase and development, shared use agreements, public-private partnerships, or adding neighborhood park amenities to an existing county facility.
- Develop two new recreation centers and expand an existing center.
- Facilitate access to a new aquatic center.
- Construct additional amenities to meet recommended LOS now and for the projected population growth. As of 2024, there are significant shortfalls of basketball courts, outdoor fitness, paved loop trails, and multi-use rectangular fields.
- Develop undeveloped park sites as appropriate to site conditions and context.

- Facilitate infill development of new amenity types at existing park and recreation sites, as appropriate to site conditions and context, to expand recreational opportunities.
- Improve environmental and resource management at park and recreation sites.



Dorey Spray Park

10-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Implementation planning takes action items and converts them into tangible results. The goal of the plan is to identify the most efficient way to sequence recommendations to meet demand over the next ten years in a manner that balances resident needs with county resources.

IMPLEMENTATION PHASING

Phasing is determined by overlaying the public need priorities, order of repairs, and construction feasibility findings on the list of recommendations for sustaining the recreational system. For example, a facility that addresses safety, code nonconformities, or access that could be implemented easily, and/or is a high priority, would be rated as a short-term project, to be completed within the next five years. Long-term priorities involve recommendations that require in-depth consideration, compilation of larger funding amounts, projected demographic shifts, and long-range planning and should be completed within the next 5 – 10 years. Ongoing efforts include implementation items that can be done on an as-needed basis, should be done on a periodic (seasonal, annual, or other cycle) basis, or undertaken as funding becomes available.

The order of recommended actions should be reviewed every year to reflect budgets, staffing levels, new policies, usage trends, and resident demand. Phasing may shift if opportunities arise to implement them sooner than listed in this plan. To track and stay on top of changing priorities and needs, the Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Master Plan should be updated every five years and coordinated with other county departments and planning documents.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Short Term

Next 5 years (by 2029)

Improve existing facilities and practices; build out to the capacity of existing facilities; set groundwork for long-term actions

- Address safety issues, repairs, lifecycle maintenance
- Improve existing facilities through stormwater management improvements, increased access to shade, and implementing a consistent signage system
- Construct new amenities to meet current LOS shortfalls
- Improve neighborhood linkages to parks
- Conduct aquatic center and recreation center feasibility assessments
- Expand 1-2 existing recreation/community centers
- Make plans for providing access to neighborhood

Long Term

5-10 Years (2033)

Expand operations of the Department and meet population growth needs

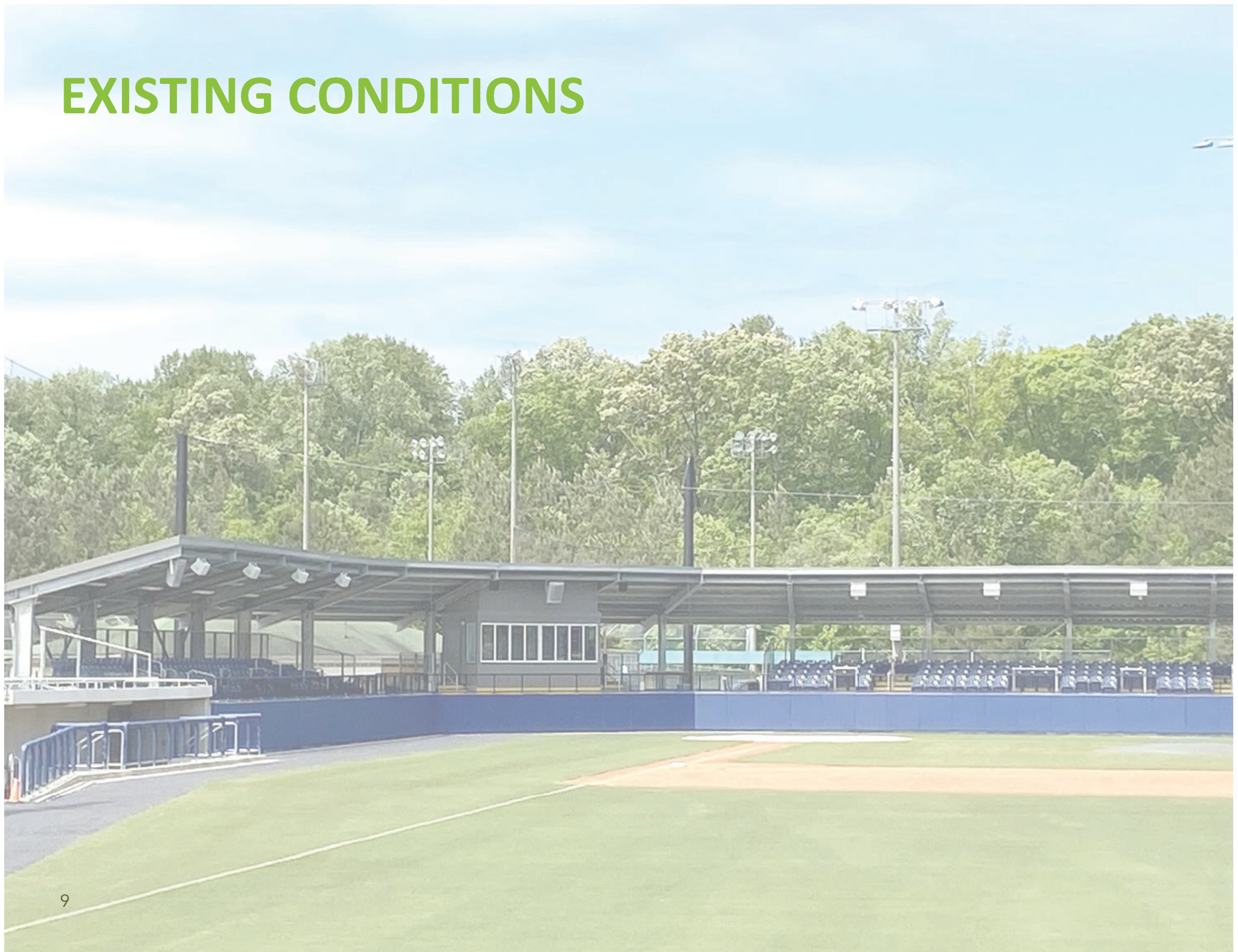
- Develop undeveloped park sites
- Construct new amenities to meet 2033 LOS shortfalls
- Construct two new recreation centers

Ongoing

Continue ongoing efforts, as issues arise, or as land or funding becomes available

- Increase availability of universally accessible amenities
- Construct new infill amenities at existing facilities
- Update master plans for older parks
- Construct loop trails in all parks

EXISTING CONDITIONS



INTRODUCTION

In 2021, the Division of Recreation and Parks (the Department) owned and maintained 65 park, specialty, community recreation, and athletic facilities. This mix of assets and historic sites provides open space, recreational programming, and sports tourism opportunities across the county.

PARK AND FACILITY CLASSIFICATIONS

The county’s recreation and parks holdings can be grouped into seven categories:¹ neighborhood, community, and county parks; specialty, athletic, and school-based facilities; and properties owned by the county that are not specifically programmed for a particular use.

Neighborhood Park
(3-20 acres, 0.5-mile service radius)

These parks serve as extensions of the surrounding neighborhood. They are designed for both active and passive recreation geared to all age groups and physical abilities. They may include wooded areas, picnic shelters, open play areas, exercise trails, court games, play equipment, and other amenities. Support facilities such as restrooms and parking may be provided. School sites that include these types of amenities function as neighborhood parks and provide an important supplement to the county’s system.

In 2021, there were 13 neighborhood park sites in Henrico County.

¹ Park services and amenities are included in the description of the classification but are not used to determine the site’s category. The result is that a 120-acre site may be classified as a county park but have limited

HENRICO PARKS AND FACILITIES 2021 SNAPSHOT

3,253 acres of parks operated by Henrico Recreation and Parks

2,668 acres of the 3,253 acres is neighborhood, community, and county park land

667 acres of additional county-owned land for proposed future parks

122,175 sf of indoor recreation space (Rec & Parks community/recreation centers and YMCA)

Henrico Recreation and Parks’ sites:

27 parks **16** athletic facilities

11 community/recreation centers **11** specialty facilities

1,302 acres of additional public parkland in the county (school sites, National Park Service, and other public entities)

Note: This inventory reflects 2021 inventories. Refer to the Executive Summary and Analysis and Recommendations sections of this report for 2024 inventory quantities.

facilities that mean the site cannot provide the services expected in a county park classification.

Community Park

(20-100 acres, 3-mile service radius)

Community parks are intended to provide both active and passive recreation uses. Sites are large enough that different zones of activity or land cover may exist. Picnic facilities, play equipment, fishing sites, nature trails, multi-use paths, hiking trails, and scenic open spaces are available for the passive user. Court games and ball fields serve the more active user. Some sites may include specialty amenities, like themed playgrounds or niche sport playing fields. Support facilities such as restrooms and parking should be provided.

There were eight community parks in Henrico County.

County Park

(100+ acres, 5-mile service radius)

County parks offer a wide variety of active and passive recreational amenities on larger tracts of land. These may include tournament quality facilities accommodating organized recreational programs and events, a recreation or nature center, water-related activities, picnic facilities, open play areas, play equipment, and more. Support facilities such as restrooms, concessions, and parking may be provided. County parks are developed to serve a wide audience and are not tailored for use by a specific group.

As of 2021, Henrico County had six county parks.



Meadow Farm Museum (Source: Henrico County)

Specialty Facility and Community/Recreation Centers

(No acreage or service radius standard)

Specialty facilities center around unique environmental, cultural, historical, or recreational features. The sites vary in acreage and are intended to expand the variety of recreational opportunities available in the county, in conjunction with a specialized program need or a unique resource. They may include high quality amenities accommodating organized or un-organized activities, programs and events, and interpretive facilities, as well as support elements such as parking, picnic areas, open play areas, restrooms, and play equipment. Specialty facilities include recreation and community centers, historic sites and museums, and arts centers.

The Division operated 22 specialty facilities, 11 of which were recreation or community centers. There were four additional sites owned and managed by other public or semi-public entities, including the Richmond National Battlefield at Malvern Hill.

Athletic Facility

(No acreage or service radius standard)

Athletic facilities vary in size and are intended to provide active recreational opportunities for the entire county. They include amenities accommodating organized and non-organized athletics for a variety of age groups, recreational programs, or events. Support elements can include roadways, parking, picnic areas, open play lawns, concessions, restrooms, and play equipment. The county heavily promotes sports tourism and many of these sites host tournaments.

In 2021, Henrico County had 16 athletic facilities. In addition, the Belmont Park and Golf Course is managed by an outside organization and is available for public use.

School-Based Facility

(No acreage or service radius standard)

These facilities are located at elementary, middle, and high schools across the county. They vary in size and include high and mid-quality athletic and multipurpose fields which accommodate school and community sports teams, pick-up games, recreational programs, and other events. Use of these sites is negotiated with individual schools.

Land Banked Properties

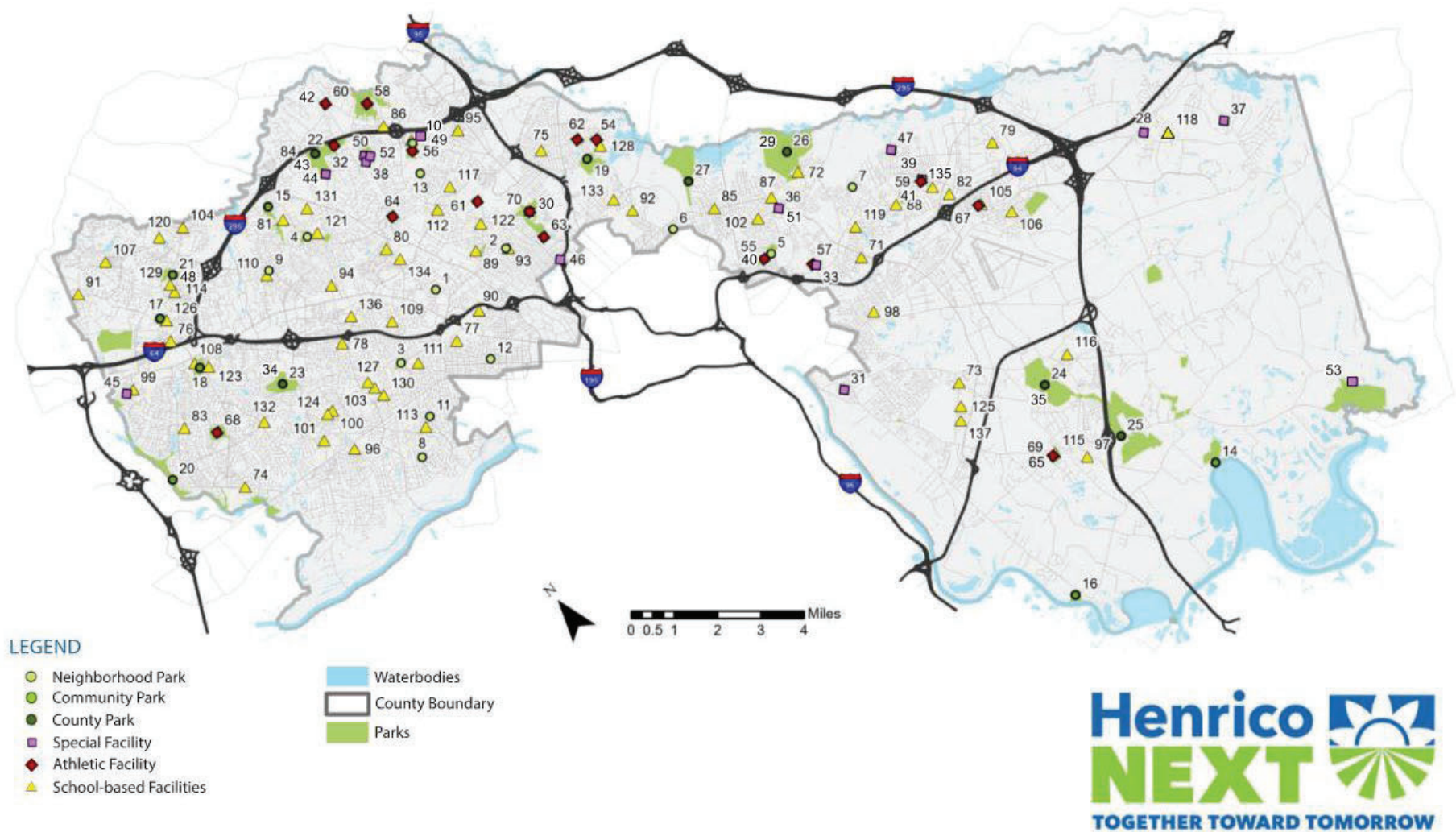
(Not included in park service evaluation)

In addition to the parks, school-based, and specialty and athletic facilities, the Department also manages land acquired by the county that has not been programmed for a specific use. While some properties may be developed in the future, other land is flood-prone and was purchased to prevent inundation of residential and non-residential structures. These properties do not yet have or require a management plan and are not included in the acreage totals of park land maintained by the Department.



Short Pump Park (Source: Henrico County)

MAP 1 // RECREATION AND PARK FACILITIES INVENTORY, 2021



REC & PARK FACILITIES KEY



Neighborhood Parks

1. Bethlehem Park
2. Brook Road Park
3. Cheswick Park
4. Dunncroft/Castle Point Park
5. Hidden Creek Park
6. Highland Gardens Park
7. Robinson Park
8. Roslyn Hills Park
9. Springfield Park
10. Virginia Randolph Recreation Area
11. Westham Park Dogwood Park
12. Westwood Park
13. Woodman Park



Community Parks

14. Deep Bottom Park
15. Echo Lake Park
16. Osborne Park
17. Pouncey Tract Park
18. Short Pump Park
19. Three Lakes Park and Nature Center
20. Tuckahoe Creek/Tuckahoe Village Park
21. Twin Hickory Park



County Parks

22. Crump Park/Meadow Farm Museum
23. Deep Run Park
24. Dorey Park
25. Four Mile Creek Park
26. Meadowview Park
27. Vawter Street Park/Glen Lea Recreation Area



Special Facility & Community/Recreation Centers

28. Antioch School Community Center
29. Armour House
30. Belmont Recreation Center
31. Clarke-Palmore House Museum
32. Courtney Road Service Station
33. Dabbs House Museum
34. Deep Run Recreation Center
35. Dorey Recreation Center
36. Eastern Henrico Recreation Center
37. Elko Recreation Area
38. Forest Lodge
39. Henrico Theatre
40. Hidden Creek Recreation Center
41. Highland Springs Community Center
42. Hunton Community Center
43. Meadow Farm Historic House
44. Parsons Community Center
45. Nuckols Farm Park
46. Spring Park Historic Site
47. The Springs Recreation Center
48. Twin Hickory Recreation Center
49. Virginia Randolph Museum
50. Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen*
51. Frank J Thornton YMCA Aquatic Center *
52. Walkerton Tavern*
53. Richmond National Battlefield (Malvern Hill) †



Athletic Facility

54. Capital Park
55. Central Gardens Recreation Area
56. Glen Allen Softball Complex
57. Glen Echo Recreation Area
58. Glover Park
59. Highland Springs Recreation Area
60. Hunton Park

61. J. Sargeant Reynolds Recreation Area ‡
62. Klehr Field
63. Lakeside Recreation Area
64. Laurel Recreation Area
65. McGeorge Field
66. RF&P Park
67. Sandston Recreation Area
68. Tuckahoe Park
69. Varina Recreation Area
70. Belmont Park and Golf Course*



School-based Facilities

71. Adams E.S.
72. Ashe E.S.
73. Baker E.S.
74. Carver E.S.
75. Chamberlayne E.S.
76. Colonial Trail E.S.
77. Crestview E.S.
78. Davis E.S.
79. Donahoe E.S.
80. Dumbarton E.S.
81. Echo Lake E.S.
82. Fair Oaks E.S.
83. Gayton E.S.
84. Glen Allen E.S.
85. Glen Lea E.S.
86. Greenwood E.S.
87. Harvie E.S.
88. Highland Springs E.S.
89. Holladay E.S.
90. Johnson E.S.
91. Kaechele E.S.
92. Laburnum E.S.
93. Lakeside E.S.
94. Longan E.S.
95. Longdale E.S.
96. Maybeury E.S.
97. Mehfoud E.S.

98. Montrose E.S.
99. Nuckols Farm E.S.
100. Pemberton E.S.
101. Pinchbeck E.S.
102. Ratcliffe E.S.
103. Ridge E.S.
104. Rivers Edge E.S.
105. Sandston E.S.
106. Seven Pines E.S.
107. Shady Grove E.S.
108. Short Pump E.S.
109. Skipwith E.S.
110. Springfield Park E.S.
111. Three Chopt E.S.
112. Trevvett E.S.
113. Tuckahoe E.S.
114. Twin Hickory E.S.
115. Varina E.S.
116. Ward E.S.
117. Brookland M.S.
118. Elko M.S.
119. Fairfield M.S.
120. Holman M.S.
121. Hungary Creek M.S.
122. Moody M.S.
123. Pocahontas M.S.
124. Quiocasin M.S.
125. Rolfe M.S.
126. Short Pump M.S.
127. Tuckahoe M.S.
128. Wilder M.S.
129. Deep Run H.S.
130. Freeman H.S.
131. Glen Allen H.S.
132. Godwin H.S.
133. Henrico H.S.
134. Hermitage H.S.
135. Highland Springs H.S.
136. Tucker H.S.
137. Varina H.S.

* County facility managed by others.

† National Park Service maintained and managed

‡ Owned by the Commonwealth of Virginia but maintained by Rec & Parks.

**TABLE 1 // HENRICO PARKS AND FACILITY AMENITY
INVENTORY, 2021**

	Total Acreage	Acreage in Floodplains	Interior Square Footage	Aquatic Center	Baseball Field	Basketball Court	Bike Path	Boat Ramp/Slide	Canoe/Kayak Launch	Community Center	Concession	Cricket Field	Croquet	Disc Golf Course	Dog Park	Exercise Trail	Fishing	Gazebo	Golf Course	Gravel Trail	Gymnasium	Historic Bldg./Museum	Horse Trail & Ring	Horseshoe Pits	Multi-Use Field	Nature Center	Paved Trail	Open Play Area	Parking	Performing Arts Center	Pickleball Court	Picnic Shelter	Playground	Pump Track	Recreation Center	Restrooms	Sand Volleyball	Shuffleboard	Skate Park	Softball Field	Sprayground	T-Ball	Tennis Court	Track			
Neighborhood Parks (5-20 Acres)	157	20.1		-	1	3	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1.01	-	-	-	-	3	-	1.60	6	-	-	-	9	15	-	-	6	-	-	-	1	1	-	6	-			
Bethlehem Park	1.0	-																		-							0.08					1															
Brook Road Neighborhood Park	6.1	5.2																										1	Y																		
Cheswick Park	24.5	8.0					1												0.45								0.54	1	Y			2	1			1											
Dunncroft/Castle Point Park	55.9	-										1		1					0.39								0.19	1	Y			1	1			1					1						
Hidden Creek Park	32.4	2.4							1										0.03								0.47	1	Y			3	1			1						2					
Highland Gardens Park	1.1	-																	0.14								-					1															
Robinson Park	9.1	-				1																					-	Y				1	2			1							2				
Roslyn Hills Park	2.5	-																		-							-	1				2															
Springfield Park	5.4	-																		-				1			-		Y			1	2			1			1								
Virginia Randolph Recreation Area	10.8	-				2				1										-				2			0.32		Y			1	1			1							2				
Westham Park	2.2	1.4																		-							-	1				1															
Westwood Park	1.4	0.1																		-							-					1															
Woodman Park	5.0	3.1			1															-							-		Y			1															
Community Parks (20-50 Acres)	643	424.7		-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	2		5	1	-	2.44	-	1	-	-	4	1	3.78	6	-	-	-	12	11	12	-	-	9	4	-	-	2	2	-	-	-		
Deep Bottom Park	85.6	50.3						1	1								1		0.26								-	Y				2				1											
Echo Lake Park	55.0	36.2															1		0.59								0.25	1	Y			1	1			1											
Osborne Park	26.1	20.1															1	1	-								0.79	1	Y			2	2			2											
Pouncey Tract Park	23.2	-								1									-					2			0.73	1	Y		12	3	1		1				1								
Short Pump Park	45.0	-								1				2					-		1		1		1	0.82	1	Y				2		2		2					1	1					
Three Lakes Park	118.7	77.3															1		1.17						1	0.22	1	Y			2	3			1												
Tuckahoe Creek Park	240.8	240.8															1		-							-																					
Twin Hickory Park	48.5	-							1										0.42						1		0.97	1	Y			1	3			1	4				1						
County Parks (50+ Acres)	1,067.8	823.7		-	4	1	4	-	-	-	5	1	-	1	2	3	3	4	-	7.48	-	3	1	8	11	-	5.28	5	-	-	-	25	13	1	2	14	-	-	-	6	-	-	3	-			
Crump Park/Meadow Farm Museum	149.1	11.6															1		3.31		2		4			0.20	2	Y			2	3			2												
Deep Run Park	164.8	26.7				1	1					1				1	2		0.88					3		3.12	1	Y			7	5	1	1	3												
Dorey Park	400.0	21.1			2		2			4		1	2	1	1	2			3.29			1	4	7		1.58	2	Y			13	3		1	6				6				1				
Four Mile Creek Park	326.7	93.4					1												-								Y				1																
Meadowview Park	590.5	465.1																	-		1					0.38	Y				1	1			2								2				
Vawter Street Park/Glen Lea Recreation Area	236.7	205.8			2					1					1				-					1			Y		Y		1	1			1												
Specialty Facility & Community/ Recreation Centers	58	2.3	141,403	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	3	2	-	0.82	-	-	1	8	5	3	-	3	23	-	1	-	-	1	-	#	1			
Antioch School Community Center	2.0	-	1,281						1											-							-	Y				1	1			1											
Armour House		-	4,642																	-						-	Y								1												
Belmont Recreation Center*	NA	-	17,872																	-						-	Y								1								8				
Clarke-Palmore House Museum	10.3	1.6	1,348																	-		1				-	Y								1												
Courtney Road Service Station	0.3	-																		-		1				-	Y																				
Dabbs House Museum	0.9	-	5,829																	-		1				-	Y									1											
Deep Run Recreation Center	NA	-	22,574																	-	1					-	Y									2											
Dorey Recreation Center	NA	-	12,378																	-						-	Y								2												
Eastern Henrico Recreation Center	24.2	0.3	25,765							1									-	1				2		0.75	Y			2	1		1	3						1				1			
Elko Recreation Area	5.7	-	3,242		1	1			1										-				3			-	Y			1	1				1								2				
Forest Lodge	1.2	0.4																	-		1					-										1											
Henrico Theatre	1.8	-	19,099																	-						-	Y	1							2												
Hidden Creek Community Center	NA	-	2,403																	-						-	Y								1												
Highland Springs Community Center	0.7	-	1,200							1										-						-	Y								1												
Hunton Community Center	NA	-	2,761																	-						-	Y								1												
Meadow Farm Historic House	NA	-	4,960																	-						-																					
Parson Community Center	NA	-	4,228																	-						-	Y																				
Nuckols Farm	3.2	-																		-						-																					
Spring Park Historic Site	2.8	-																		-						0.07	Y																				
The Springs Recreation Center	5.4	-	8,691										1							-						-	Y			8	1				1	2		1									
Twin Hickory Recreation Center	NA	-	2,030																	-						-	Y									1											
Virginia Randolph Museum	0.2	-	1,100																	-		1				-	Y																				
Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen	33.4																																														

TABLE 1 // HENRICO PARKS AND FACILITY AMENITY INVENTORY, 2021, CONTINUED

	Total Acreage	Acreage in Floodplains	Interior Square Footage	Aquatic Center	Baseball Field	Basketball Court	Bike Path	Boat Ramp/Slide	Cano/Kayak Launch	Community Center	Concession	Cricket Field	Croquet	Dog Park	Exercise Trail	Fishing	Gazebo	Golf Course	Gravel Trail	Gymnasium	Historic Bldg./Museum	Horse Trail & Ring	Horseshoe Pits	Multi-Use Field	Nature Center	Paved Trail	Open Play Area	Parking	Performing Arts Center	Pickleball Court	Picnic Shelter	Playground	Pump Track	Recreation Center	Restrooms	Sand Volleyball	Shuffleboard	Skate Park	Softball Field	Spray ground	T-Ball	Tennis Court	Track		
Athletic Facility	526.8	43.6		-	#	##	-	-	-	1	#	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	0.15	-	-	-	-	19	-	0.23	-	-	-	-	4	13	8	-	-	18	8	-	1	#	-	4	7	1	
Capital Park	16.6	-									1	1							-				4	-	-	-	Y							1											
Central Gardens Recreation Area	16.7	-				2													-				1	-	-	Y												1							
Glen Allen Softball Complex	34.3	1.8									1								-				1	-	-	Y					2			1				4							
Glen Echo Recreation Area	15.3	-			1	1													-					-	-	Y								1											
Glover Park	202.3	6.7																	-				4	-	-	Y								1	8										
Highland Springs Recreation Area	9.0	-				4					1						1		-				1	-	-	Y					1	1		1											
Hunton Park	4.5	0.5				1				1	1								-					-	-	Y					1	2		1				2							
J. Sargeant Reynolds Recreation Area	40.7	7.2			1	2																	1	-	-	Y															6	1			
Klehr Field	18.8	-			3						1								-				2	-	-	Y					1	1		1						1					
Lakeside Recreation Area	10.3	10.0			4						1								-						-	-	Y					1	1		1										
Laurel Recreation Area	10.4	0.8									1								-				2	-	-	Y					1	1		1			1	1							
McGeorge Field	5.4	-			1																	1	-	-	Y									1											
RF&P Park	53.5	9.1			4						4							0.15					1	-	0.23	Y					3			4				3			1				
Sandston Recreation Area	5.2	-			2						2								-						-	-	Y				4	1	1		2										
Tuckahoe Park	68.0	-			8						1								-						-	-	Y					1			1					2		3			
Varina Recreation Area	15.8	7.5			1						1								-				1	-	-	Y						1	1		1				4						
Belmont Park and Golf Course*	123.6	30.0									1						1																		1										
Indoor Sports Convocation Center (VCC)	24.7	-	115,000																																										
Proposed Future Park	666.7	151.9																	-						-																				
Highland Springs Park	26.1	6.2																	-						-																				
Holladay Park	13.5	6.6																	-						-																				
Gill Dale Park	76.3	19.2																	-						-																				
Kain Road Property	121.6	9.3																	-						-																				
New Market Park	219.1	77.2																																											
Midview Park	3	-																																											
Ridings Property	64	-																																											
Taylor Farm Park	99.2	8.8																																											
Turkey Island Conservation Area	21	21.4																																											
Yahley Mill Property	23	3.2																																											
National Parks	953.0																		3.5						-																				
Richmond National Battlefield (Malvern Hill)	953.0																		3.45						-																				
TOTALS for Existing (County):	3,253.3	1,314.4	141,403		31	15	5	1	1	6	24	3	1	2	4	4	8	6		11	2	9	1	11	39	1	12	17		1	24	63	51	1	5	70	12	1	1	26	4	4	26	2	
TOTALS for Proposed (County):	666.7	151.9																																											
Proposed park/facility Managed by others	24.7		115,000																																										
TOTALS for Managed by others :	1,118.5	30	78,917	1							1						1	1	3		1								1						6										
Key:																																													
Existing County park/facility	*Note: The Belmont Park and Golf Course property is owned by Henrico County but is maintained by others. The inventory separates the indoor recreation facility from the outdoor amenities; no elements are double counted.																																												
Proposed County park/facility																																													
Proposed park/facility managed by others																																													
Existing park/facility managed by others																																													

TABLE 2 // INVENTORY OF SCHOOL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, 2021

School Name	Baseball	Basketball	Multi-Use Field	Playground	Softball	Stadium Field	Tennis Court	T-Ball	Track
Adams Elementary School				1					
Ashe Elementary School			1	1					1
Baker Elementary School				1					
Brookland Middle School	1				1		4		1
Carver Elementary School	1	2		1					
Chamberlayne Elementary School			1	1					1
Colonial Trail Elementary School			1	1					1
Crestview Elementary School				1					
Davis Elementary School			1	1					1
Deep Run High School	1	2	4		1	1	6		1
Donahoe Elementary School				1					1
Dumbarton Elementary School			1	1	3				1
Echo Lake Elementary School				1					1
Elko Middle School	1	2	1		1		4		1
Fair Oaks Elementary School				1					1
Fairfield Middle School	1		2		1		4		1
Freeman High School	1		1		1	1	6		1
Gayton Elementary School			1	1					1
Glen Allen Elementary School				1					
Glen Allen High School	1		4		1	1	6		1
Glen Lea Elementary School				1	1				
Godwin High School	1	2	4		1	1	6		1
Greenwood Elementary School				1					1
Harvie Elementary School	1				1	1	6		1
Henrico High School	1		1		1	1	8		1
Hermitage High School			1	1					1
Highland Springs Elementary School			1	1					1
Highland Springs High School						1			1
Holladay Elementary School		2		1					
Holman Middle School	1	2	1		1		4		1
Hungary Creek Middle School	1	2	1		1		4		1
Johnson Elementary School	1			1	1			1	
Kaechele Elementary School			1	1					1
Laburnum Elementary School	1			1					1

School Name	Baseball	Basketball	Multi-Use Field	Playground	Softball	Stadium Field	Tennis Court	T-Ball	Track
Lakeside Elementary School	1		1	1					1
Longan Elementary School	1	1		1					1
Longdale Elementary School		1	1	1					1
Maybeury Elementary School	1	1		1					
Mehfoud Elementary School			1	1					
Montrose Elementary School			1	1	1				1
Moody Middle School			1		2		4		1
Nuckols Farm Elementary School			1	1					1
Pemberton Elementary School				1	1				
Pinchbeck Elementary School				1					1
Pocahontas Middle School	1	2	1		1		4		1
Quioccasin Middle School	1	3	1		1		4		1
Ratcliffe Elementary School				1	1				
Ridge Elementary School				1	1				
Rivers Edge Elementary School		1	1	1					1
Rolfe Middle School	1	2	2		1		4		1
Sandston Elementary School				1					1
Seven Pines Elementary School	1		1	1	1				
Shady Grove Elementary School			1	1					1
Short Pump Elementary School				1					
Short Pump Middle School	1	2	2		2		4		1
Skipwith Elementary School		1	1	1					1
Springfield Park Elementary School			1	1					1
Three Chopt Elementary School			1	1					1
Trewett Elementary School				1	1				
Tuckahoe Elementary School			1	1					
Tuckahoe Middle School	1	2	2				4		1
Tucker High School	1				1	1	6		1
Twin Hickory Elementary School			1	1					1
Varina High School	1		1		1	1	7		1
Varina Elementary School				1					1
Ward Elementary School			1	1					1
Wilder Middle School	1	2	1		1		4		1
Totals for Schools	26	32	53	46	32	9	99	1	50

PARK AND FACILITIES CONDITIONS

INTRODUCTION

Park properties and facilities are the backbone of the county's system. They support programming, user experiences, and access to recreational opportunities. It is paramount that they be well maintained, meet current standards, and fulfill residents' needs. The upkeep, repair, and improvements to existing facilities is a top priority for the Division of Recreation and Parks (the Department). Periodic assessment of the physical condition of properties and facilities is critical to the Department's ability to budget and implement priority repairs and improvements in an organized and timely manner.

Methodology

In 2021, an assessment was performed to document the physical condition of a sampling of county parks and facilities (buildings).² The evaluations identify and quantify conditions which have a direct effect on the quality of programming, user experiences, and public health, welfare, and safety. A summary of the findings provides an overview of general themes for the condition of parks and facilities in Henrico's system.

Assessment forms were customized to inventory features, such as infrastructure, parking, and amenities. The information was then used to evaluate conditions using a numeric scoring system. The review also included qualitative evaluations of development potential for infill and connectivity. The scores for all categories were added together to yield a total score for the site. The maximum potential points of each location were also calculated.

These two sums were used to create a percentage scoring system for comparing park conditions. This allows for one with limited diversity of amenities to be more equitably compared to another with a wide diversity of features. The percentage score shows the positive condition of site, so a total point score of (0), or perfect, would earn a 100% rating.

Park Conditions were assessed on a scale of (0) to (4) in a range of categories. A score of (0) indicates no concerns, and (4) indicates immediate major problems. The maximum total score possible for a park to receive is 80, which would indicate that there are immediate major problems in every category evaluated. Only constructed facilities were evaluated. For example, if a park had all the features below except for a recreational aquatics amenity, its total maximum potential score would be a 76, rather than 80.

Park Evaluation Categories

- Access Conditions
- ADA accessibility
- Ball fields
- Crime Prevention (CPTED)
- Equipment (backstops, hoops, etc.)
- General cleanliness/appearance
- Hard courts (tennis, basketball, etc.)
- Hazards to Visitors
- Irrigation
- Landscaping
- Neighborhood Linkages
- Parking Area Conditions
- Parking Availability
- Picnic Shelters
- Playgrounds
- Recreational Aquatics (pool, spray ground, etc.)
- Restrooms
- Sidewalks/Paths/Trails
- Stormwater Drainage
- Turf

² LPDA conducted assessments for a sampling of 25 facilities (buildings) and park sites in a variety of classifications throughout the county. Recreation and Parks staff facilitated the assessments.

Facility Conditions were assessed on a scale of (0) to (4) in a range of categories. A score of (0) indicates no problems, and (4) indicates immediate major action needed. The maximum total score possible for a facility to receive is 72, which would indicate that there are immediate major problems in every category evaluated. As with parks, only constructed facilities were evaluated and included in the maximum point potential.

Facility Evaluation Categories

- ADA Accessibility
- Adequacy of Space
- Auditorium
- Classrooms
- Exterior Lighting
- Facility Condition
- Gymnasium
- Interior Lighting
- Kitchen
- Mechanical Equipment
- Neighborhood Linkages
- Office
- Parking Availability
- Recreational Aquatics
- Security
- Site Access Conditions
- Storage Areas
- Vandalism

Opportunities for connectivity both within a park and to areas outside of it were noted on the forms. Reviewers also included specific observations that were not encompassed by any category and supplemental notes. These are incorporated into each site's assessment summary in the "primary issues" and/or "connectivity" columns.



Three Lakes Nature Center (Source: Henrico County)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Henrico County has a diverse offering of parks and facilities and maintains them to a very high standard. Some have been recently constructed and include modern, high-quality amenities. Older, more established ones require investment to bring them up to the county's standard.

The scores for the condition of parks and facilities ranged from a perfect 100% indicating no condition concerns (Deep Run Recreation Center) to a grade of 52% (Three Lakes Park). None of the sites visited scored below 50%, or very poor, in the conditions' evaluation, with most earning more than 70%.

The outdoor site with the highest percentage of condition concerns was Three Lakes Park which came out at 52%. Other than some ADA accessibility issues and lack of community access, no major individual shortfalls were identified at the park. The site is older and heavily used and requires standard lifecycle repair and replacement to some amenities. As with many of the parks, Three Lakes Park has a newer universally accessible playground, which is a priority investment for the Department.



Deep Run Park (Source: Henrico County)

The indoor facility with the highest percentage of condition concerns was Three Lakes Nature Center, which earned 71%. The building was in good condition, but has some minor functionality and site restrictions, like a significant lack of storage, some drainage issues around the building, parking shortages during peak use, and a few ADA problem spots.

During these evaluations, the team identified several common issues among multiple parks that affect health, safety, and accessibility:

- Limited ADA accessibility to portions of or to certain amenities at the site.
- Safety hazards (cracked sidewalk, tripping hazards, broken equipment).

Several themes in the condition, development, and management of the sites were observed during the assessments. Some of these are positive best practices that should be continued, and others are opportunities for improvement:

- Recently developed parks showed high levels of investment, but older ones have not yet been redeveloped to match the same level of service.
- Parks are a mix of single purpose and ones with a variety of amenities. There are opportunities for programming infill at existing sites to expand the recreational opportunities to engage a variety of user groups and challenge levels.
- Sports tourism is an important economic development tool in Henrico County and the Department invests in high quality athletic tournament facilities. This results in prioritized investments for athletic facilities over traditional neighborhood park amenities.
- Henrico County offers a variety of unique specialty facilities for environmental education, historic interpretation, and arts and culture that provide high-quality enriching experiences to visitors, beyond what is usually provided by a public recreation and parks division. All of the specialty facilities are well maintained.
- There are opportunities for increased connectivity between parks, the surrounding area, and within them. These connections promote equity of access and encourage park use. Loop trails within parks are recreational amenities and create welcoming and walkable sites. Athletic complexes are frequently very separated from the surrounding area, and where feasible, would benefit from sidewalk and trail connections. Within most of the parks assessed, there are opportunities for an internal loop trail of a variety of surfacing and use type.
- The Department has prioritized installation of universally accessible play equipment at all park sites, which is a positive move towards ensuring equitable service.

- Many parks have themed playgrounds (farm, trains, woodland), but the equipment is predominantly traditional post and deck style. There is an opportunity to expand the types of play available and diversify the style of equipment throughout the parks system, potentially including other types like nature play, rope climbers, and agility.
- Athletic complexes frequently face parking shortages during tournament events.
- Recent infill development of amenities at existing parks is expanding the types of activities available and responds to current recreation trends. For example, the Department has initiated a program to construct splash pads at existing parks.
- Site identification and directional signage is inconsistently applied and designed through the county's system due to a prior lack of standards. The Department has been replacing and adding signage that adheres to current design standards in conjunction with other improvement projects at each site, but not all park sites have been improved. Many parks lack orientation and trail map signage.
- Improvements are needed at parking lots, shelters, restrooms, walkways, and some older sports fields due to aging facilities and deferred maintenance. Many parking lots require curb and gutter to address stormwater concerns.
- Ornamental landscaping is provided only at newer parks. There are opportunities for decorative infill landscaping in park entrance, property border, and internal buffer spaces. All current landscaping is well maintained.



Virginia Randolph Recreation Area (Source: Henrico County)



Glover Park (Source: Virginia State Sports Guide)

- Sites only occasionally have crime issues, many of which could be solved by redeveloping the park with amenities to directly serve the immediately adjacent community, which could promote use and create safety through 'eyes on the park.'
- Several sites with water bodies have drainage and stormwater issues. Sites without water bodies have occasional drainage issues that can be addressed through minor regrading or infrastructure repairs.
- The parks system does not currently have a sustainability manual. There are opportunities for expanding environmental sustainability practices, including gray water irrigation, native plant landscaping, habitat development, and integrated stormwater management.
- Older parks would benefit from updated master plans that address current and future recreation trends.

The condition and themes for each site evaluated can be found in the following pages. The tables illustrate the assessment percentage score of parks and facilities, with a gradient of green to red to highlight those in best to worst condition, based on the percentage of total points accrued compared to total possible. It is important to note that even though a park may have scored well on overall conditions, there may be an issue such as inadequate ADA access or faulty equipment which requires immediate attention.

Facility Name	Overall Score	Potential Total	Percentage	Primary Issues	Connectivity
Duncroft/Castle Point Park	7	80	9%	No major problems; parts of park (disc golf course, cricket field) not ADA accessible; landscaping could use a refresh; crosswalk to sidewalk needed.	Loop trails, sidewalk, and trail connection potential; Large map/kiosk could be helpful.
Springfield Park	8	60	13%	Some minor issues; Restrooms in fair condition; Shelter and picnic tables are older/ have cosmetic issues; Potential drainage issues adjacent to restrooms.	Multi-use path and trail connection potential; Park has sidewalk connections to the elementary school as well as the neighborhood. A crosswalk across Springfield Road would increase connectivity to additional neighborhoods.
Hidden Creek Park	22	60	37%	Some minor issues; Drainage and standing water a major issue; Hard courts in poor condition; Shelters and picnic tables are older/ have cosmetic issues; Tennis courts are underutilized; The park has had previous issue with crime.	Sidewalk and trail connection potential.

Color Key: 

Condition Percentage = (Potential Total - Overall Score) ÷ Potential Total

Facility Name	Overall Score	Potential Total	Percentage	Primary Issues	Connectivity
Twin Hickory Park	4	76	5%	No problems; Park is located behind the library. No sign at road intersection need for directional signage.; More trees are needed around playground and splash pad.	Loop trails, multi-use path, sidewalk, and trail connection potential; There is a sidewalk connection to an adjacent neighborhood street. There is potential for additional trail connections to the adjacent neighborhoods.
Tuckahoe Creek Park	4	32	13%	No problems; Parking is limited to on-street parking on Old Coach Lane. There is no map or signage showing the park extents or explaining the significance of the park.	Opportunities for trail connection to adjacent parks; Future connections may be possible to neighborhoods to the north and to the south along Tuckahoe Creek. Potential for boat access.
Short Pump Park	10	76	13%	No problems; There is a shortage of parking most of the time due to the parks high use. Park is not ADA accessible from the old portion to the new portion due to steps and steep grade.	Loop trail & multi-use path connection opportunities; This is a very car-dependent area making pedestrian connectivity a challenge. There is a trail and sidewalk connections to neighboring residential areas.
Pouncey Tract Park	12	76	16%	No problems; Park is not used as much as other parks Heavily used by pickleball users, but lightly used by other users.	Loop trails, multi-use path, sidewalk, and trail connection potential; Some linkages exist to middle school. There is also a sidewalk along the road frontage of the property; however, it does not extend beyond property. There is potential to extend to the adjacent Richmond Strikers Soccer Park as well as the middle school.
Osborne Park	12	56	21%	Fairly clean, some minor issues; Only portions of the park are ADA accessible; No neighborhood linkages; Some areas subject to flooding; Parking area needs to be restriped; Dock is well-used and will need routine maintenance.	Opportunity to increase connectivity through a multi-use path along road. There are no trail or sidewalk connections to adjacent neighborhoods due to the remote area.
Three Lakes Park	29	60	48%	Fairly clean; Only portions of the park are ADA accessible; some minor issues; Poor drainage around the parking area and in front of the Nature Center; Better signage/ need for directional signage.	Loop trails, multi-use path, sidewalk, and trail connection potential; There are no trail or sidewalk connections to adjacent neighborhoods. There are several miles of internal connections in the park; however, the asphalt paths that border the lakes are technically not ADA accessible and are in poor condition in some places.

Color Key: 

Condition Percentage = (Potential Total - Overall Score) ÷ Potential Total

TABLE 5 // HENRICO COUNTY PARKS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY - COUNTY PARKS

Facility Name	Overall Score	Potential Total	Percentage	Primary Issues	Connectivity
Meadowview Park and Armour House	7	68	10%	No problems; The park is hidden and underutilized. There is no signage at the road intersection. Need to encourage visitation to the park.	Multi-use path, loop trail and trail connection opportunities. There are sidewalk connections to the adjacent Arthur Ashe Elementary school as well as Clarendon Farms neighborhood.
Crump Park	11	60	18%	Fairly clean; only portions of the park are ADA accessible; some minor issues; better directional signage would be helpful to lay out entire park complex; restrooms need minor fixes; lack of parking during peak-use; picnic shelters are older and need minor cosmetic updates.	Multi-use path, sidewalk and trail connection opportunities; Potential for better mapping; opportunity for paved trail connections to rest of park complex.
Deep Run Park	22	76	29%	Fairly clean, some minor issues; only portions of the park are ADA accessible; There is an abundance of non-ADA compliant paved paths and unpaved nature trails; Site heavily impacted by drainage/runoff/erosion; Many paths are in poor condition with cracking, sags and humps; Shelters and picnic tables are older/ have cosmetic issues; better directional signage would be helpful	Multi-use path, sidewalk and trail connection opportunities. ADA assessment has already been done. Difficult to update paths due to current ADA regs. Many trail connections exist to adjacent neighborhoods but are not paved/ADA accessible. No sidewalk connections to main entrance.
Dorey Park	27	76	36%	Some minor issues; some facilities within park (picnic shelters, bathrooms, concession, etc.) in need of minor updates; minor cracks and leveling issues with sidewalk (ADA), ; Shelters and picnic tables are older/ have cosmetic issues; Shade needed for bleachers, more maintenance shed space needed; Wood dock on pond in poor condition. better directional signage would be helpful	Loop trail and potential connections to adjacent neighborhoods. The park serves primarily a regional park.

Color Key: 100% 99%-90% 89%-80% 79%-70% 69%-60% 59%-50%

Condition Percentage = (Potential Total - Overall Score) ÷ Potential Total

TABLE 6 // HENRICO COUNTY PARKS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY - SPECIALTY FACILITIES

Facility Name	Overall Score	Potential Total	Percentage	Primary Issues	Connectivity
Henrico Theatre	3	30	10%	Storage is inadequate and affects programs significantly; neighborhood crime is a concern.	Good sidewalk & neighborhood linkages.
VA Randolph Recreation Area/ Museum	15	76	20%	Fairly clean, some minor issues; Footbridge needs to be repaired, tennis courts not heavily used/ need minor repair; there are some crime concerns and occasional vandalism that occurs in the park.	Loop trail and sidewalk connection potential.
Three Lakes Nature Center	16	56	29%	Some minor issues; Drainage issue in the front of the building; Facility needs more storage space; Facility to receive funding for parking and drainage improvements. Vandalism occurred in the past.	Potential for greater neighborhood connectivity through the addition of sidewalks and trail connections.
Meadow Farm	17	56	30%	Fairly clean, some minor issues; only portions of the park are ADA accessible; sidewalks are limited - those that exist need repair; drainage/runoff issues throughout park (animal enclosures, driveway).	Trail and sidewalk connection potential. Several projects planned for the park (period kitchen, museum under renovation, new large animal enclosure); potential for better signage and more arts/history events.

TABLE 7 // HENRICO COUNTY PARKS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY - RECREATIONAL CENTERS

Facility Name	Overall Score	Potential Total	Percentage	Primary Issues	Connectivity
Deep Run Rec Center	0	68	0%	No issues; Planning for additional fitness facility.	There are several paved paths that connect to the facility; however, they are not ADA accessible.
Eastern Rec Center	3	68	4%	No issues; Vandalism has occurred in the past but there is an abundance of security cameras and safety lighting in place. Landscaping around parking area is in need of replacement due to tree blight	A loop trail connects portions of the site. There are some linkages to adjacent neighborhoods as well a bus stop.

Color Key: 

Condition Percentage = (Potential Total - Overall Score) ÷ Potential Total

TABLE 8 // HENRICO COUNTY PARKS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY - ATHLETIC FACILITIES

Facility Name	Overall Score	Potential Total	Percentage	Primary Issues	Connectivity
RF+P Park	9	72	13%	Some minor issues; some facilities within park (picnic shelters, train cars, etc.) not ADA accessible; minor cracks and leveling issues with sidewalk (ADA); seating areas for softball and football fields need repair; footbridge needs replacement; some drainage/channeling issues.	Loop path, sidewalk, and trail connection potential; More connecting trails to avoid walking on the road - trails connecting Crump to RF+P; Would be beneficial to have large map showing the different fields and trails.
Glover Park	9	68	13%	Additional parking is needed during peak use; Lacks neighborhood connectivity due to remote location; Shade structures needed.	Potential for loop trails with the park as well as bike/ped bridges over wet areas to adjacent parks/ communities.
Glen Allen Softball Complex	18	72	25%	Some minor issues; some facilities within park (picnic shelters, bathrooms, concession, etc.) in need of minor updates; Parking shortage during peak use; Paved parking lot is needed. Wood timber steps, possible trip hazard.	Opportunity for loop trail within the park as well as sidewalk connections to neighborhood.
Varina Recreation Center	17	68	25%	Some cosmetic issues due to age of the complex; Several areas of the parking lot need major repairs; Some areas not ADA accessible; minor cracks and leveling issues with sidewalk (ADA); some drainage/channeling issues, as well as some ponding on the fields.	Sidewalk connection opportunities to neighborhood.
Klehr Field	19	70	27%	Some minor issues; some facilities within park (picnic shelters, etc.) not ADA accessible; Shelters and picnic tables are older/ have cosmetic issues; some drainage/channeling issues that impact the use of the playground as well as some ponding on the baseball fields.	A loop trail could offer recreation opportunities and additional connectivity within the park.
Laurel Recreation Area	27	76	36%	Some minor issues; some facilities within park (picnic shelters, etc.) not ADA accessible; Shelters and picnic tables are older/ have cosmetic issues; Skate park has some areas which need repair; Crime is present in this area.	Sidewalk connections to neighborhood; Loop trails within the park. A crosswalk connection would increase park connectivity.

Color Key: 100% 99%-90% 89%-80% 79%-70% 69%-60% 59%-50%

Condition Percentage = (Potential Total - Overall Score) ÷ Potential Total



RF&P Park (Source: Henrico County)

CONCLUSION

In 2021, the Division of Recreation and Parks managed 106 separate sites in a broad range of categories, from traditional parks, athletic facilities, and indoor recreation centers to historic sites, school fields, and cultural centers. The Department is dedicated to providing high quality recreational opportunities. However, with an extensive and diverse system, maintaining uniformly high levels of service and investment is a challenge. During the site assessments, several common themes were observed, including limited ADA accessibility, poor neighborhood connectivity, aging amenities and equipment, deferred maintenance, and stormwater and drainage concerns. The county should take a phased approach to repairs and refurbishment, addressing issues of safety and code-deficiency immediately, and then proceeding to undertake more systemic issues related to deferred maintenance and obsolescence.

In order of priority, this plan recommends that repairs and improvements in the parks should be prioritized as follows:

1. Safety: tripping hazards, standing water, broken play equipment, surfacing.
2. Code: ADA, ingress/egress, lighting, fire
3. Deferred Maintenance: paint, equipment repairs, etc.
4. Obsolescence/Replacements: non-standard or non-code compliant amenities, etc.
5. Park Improvements: additions which address programs, address current needs, add value etc.

The Department has implemented several practices that promote better usability and experience for park visitors, including building accessible play structures, having high standards of service in new park and facility construction, infilling modern amenities at existing sites, developing high quality sports tourism facilities, and providing diverse specialty facilities. Continuing and expanding these actions, as well as other best practices in park design and management, will further enhance Henrico's high-quality system to better deliver community-focused opportunities.

LEVEL OF SERVICE

Recreation and park Level of Service (LOS) standards help to define the appropriate number of amenities needed by the population to ensure demand is met now and in the future. These standards can and will change over time, as population grows, demographics shift, and recreation trends evolve. It is important to periodically reevaluate them to determine if the Department's actions have been meeting the standards and if the LOS should be revised to meet changing conditions.

Industry best practices have shifted away from national LOS benchmarks to customized standards to meet each locality's context and user needs. Henrico County faces increasing land costs and limited availability of suitable park sites, so the traditional acreage-based and proximity-driven techniques are no longer appropriate. Henrico is focused instead on providing a community needs and facility-driven recreational experience. Higher levels of programming, extended operating hours, and infill amenity development are all possible ways to address community needs within existing park footprints.

The traditional method to communicate LOS is as a unit of recreation needed per some thousands of a population. For example, one standard of service might be 1 playground per 5,300 people. Though Henrico County is not using this evaluation metric, its analysis can still provide an understanding of current service provision when compared to expressed public need and when benchmarked against peer agency performance.

This subsection of the report evaluates current levels of service only. The next section, Park Improvements, includes custom recommended LOS standards. The proposed LOS standards are compared to current service levels to see where they are met and if shortfalls may exist. The recommended LOS was also used to evaluate projected future needs based on forecasted population change in 2033.

EXISTING LEVEL OF SERVICE

The parkland and amenity level of service was calculated based on 2021 inventory lists provided by the Department and compared to the 2020 Henrico County population of 334,389 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020). The LOS includes the parkland and facilities provided by the Department, relevant school-based facilities, and sites provided by other public entities or public-private partnerships. Undeveloped and proposed future sites and facilities were not included in the evaluation, because they are not currently open for recreational use. Land banked properties were not included in the 2021 LOS inventory evaluation.

Park Acreage and Recreation Center Square Footage LOS

This report evaluates the total park land available, as well as the types of park acreage. The 'Existing Service Levels' section of Table 9 shows the park acreage service levels per 1,000 people and the square footage of recreation centers provided per person. The 2020 service levels are shown, as well as the benchmark service levels identified in the 2026 Comprehensive Plan. The standards are compared to the benchmark standards to determine that current service levels are being met.

To gain a better understanding of the level of development suitability and capacity of park land, Henrico County park acreage in the floodplain was removed from the total of each park type and placed in a separate "restricted development park land" category. Laws and regulations restrict the type of improvements that can be made in flood-prone areas. This land provides important conservation and buffering functions but should not support all traditional active park uses. The LOS calculates the acreage available for a broad range of active facilities. The floodplain parkland could be developed with limited facilities like boardwalks or canoe/kayak launches, but the construction potential must be evaluated on an individual site basis and cannot be assumed in LOS calculations.

Elementary and middle schools with neighborhood park amenities (playground, basketball court, tennis court, track) were included in the inventory. This reflects the sites being publicly funded and serving as resources to the surrounding community. The acreage was calculated conservatively, with 1 acre per playground and track and ¼ acre per hard court. The total number of these amenities was factored at a reduced percentage to account for school hours and variable public access policies.

Relevant acreage of school-based facilities was counted towards the total for athletic facilities.

The Richmond National Battlefield (Malvern Hill) is included in the "Undevelopable Park Land" category to reflect its development restrictions.

The square footage of recreation and community centers and the YMCA were included in the evaluation.

Benchmarks for athletic complexes and specialty facilities are not included in a population-based service level analysis because they are founded on opportunity-based acquisition rather than population. Their acreage does count towards the overall parkland service ratio, so the existing LOS is calculated.

Some highlights from the analysis are:

- The acreage analysis shows that 1,314 acres, or 40% of Recreation and Park's land is in the floodplain. Although it has development restrictions, these areas can still provide important conservation and passive recreation opportunities. This is an important consideration as the Department examines how to provide increased services through the existing system.
- The ratio of total developable parkland is 6.75 acres/1,000 population. The ratio of all parkland is 13.62 acres/1,000 population
- The ratio of acreage and square footage per 1,000 people is higher now in all categories compared to benchmark LOS ratios.

TABLE 9 // HENRICO PARK LAND INVENTORY AND STANDARDS COMPARISON

	2021 Inventory				2021 Existing Service Levels						2021 Standards		
TYPE	County Inventory	School Inventory	Other Inventory	Total Inventory	Current Service Levels (per 2020 pop. of 334,389)			Benchmark Service Levels (as est. in the 2026 Comp Plan)			Meets Standard/ Shortfall Exists	Shortfall/Surplus	
Parks													
Neighborhood Park (acres)	137.3	28.9		166.2	0.41	acres per	1,000	0.07	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	143	Acre(s)
Community Park (acres)	218.2			218.2	0.65	acres per	1,000	0.23	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	141	Acre(s)
County Parks (acres)	1,044.1			1,044.1	3.12	acres per	1,000	2.40	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	242	Acre(s)
Specialty Facility (acres)	56.1		42.0	98.1	0.29	acres per	1,000	No Standard			No Standard		Acre(s)
Athletic Facility (acres)	483.2	167.0	93.6	743.8	2.22	acres per	1,000	No Standard			No Standard		Acre(s)
Total Parkland Acreage	1,938.9	195.9	135.6	2,270.4	6.79	acres per	1,000	No Standard			No Standard		Acre(s)
Undevelopable Park Land (acres)	1,314.4		983.0	2,297.4	6.87	acres per	1,000	No Standard			No Standard		Acre(s)
Overall Acreage	3,253.3	195.9	1,118.6	4,567.8	13.66	acres per	1,000	No Standard			No Standard		Acre(s)
Recreation Centers (sf)	101,183.0		20,992.0	122,175.0	0.37	sf per	person	0.29	sf per	person	Meets Standard	25,202	Square Feet

Park Amenity LOS

The county offers a diverse set of amenities through its park system, school-based facilities, and other public and public-private partnership entities. The Department schedules a large number of athletic facilities at school sites across the county. Refer to Table 2 for the detailed list. All of these sites were counted in full in the inventory.

The inventory also includes playgrounds, basketball courts, tennis courts, and tracks at elementary and middle schools in the county, as these are classic park amenities and are funded by tax dollars. Multi-purpose and diamond fields are excluded from the count because their standard of development is variable, and sites may not match the county's service standard.

Use of school facilities by the public is restricted by school hours and policies at individual sites. To account for these restrictions, only half were counted; in consideration of campus access policies, the remaining sites were counted at 50% of capacity to account for school hours. In effect, 1 in 4 school facilities are included in the inventory. For example, there are 28 basketball courts at elementary and middle schools, so the LOS inventory lists seven as publicly available. ($28/2 = 14/2 = 7$).

Sites included in the "others" category include the Belmont Golf Course, Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen, the YMCA Aquatic Center, the Walkerton Tavern, and the Richmond National Battlefield (Malvern Hill).

No standard for amenity service ratios was established in the 2026 Comprehensive Plan, so the service ratio cannot be evaluated as currently meeting or falling short. The existing LOS will provide a benchmark for understanding the results of the 2022 Recreation and Parks Survey.

TABLE 10 // HENRICO PARK AMENITIES STANDARDS - 2021

	2021 Inventory				2021 Existing Service Levels		
	County Inventory	School Inventory	Other Inventory	Total Inventory	Current Service Levels (per 2020 pop. of 334,389)		
TYPE							
Amenities							
Aquatic Center	0		1	1	1	site per	334,389
Baseball Field	31	30		61	1	site per	5,482
Basketball Court	15	7		22	1	site per	15,200
Bike Path	5			5	1	site per	66,878
Boat Ramps/Slide	1			1	1	site per	334,389
Canoe/Kayak Launch	1			1	1	site per	334,389
Community Center	6			6	1	site per	55,732
Concession	24		1	25	1	site per	13,376
Cricket Field	3			3	1	site per	111,463
Croquet	1			1	1	site per	334,389
Disc Golf Course	2			2	1	site per	167,195
Dog Park	4			4	1	site per	83,597
Exercise Trail	4			4	1	site per	83,597
Fishing	8			8	1	site per	41,799
Gazebo	6		1	7	1	site per	47,770
Golf Course	0		1	1	1	site per	334,389
Gravel Trail (miles)	11		3	14	1	mile per	23,885
Gymnasium	2			2	1	site per	167,195
Historic Building/Museum	8		1	9	1	site per	37,154
Horse Trail & Ring	1			1	1	site per	334,389
Horseshoe Pits	11			11	1	site per	30,399
Multi-Use Field	39	41		80	1	site per	4,180
Nature Center	1			1	1	site per	334,389
Open Play Area	17			17	1	site per	19,670
Paved Trail (miles)	12			12	1	mile per	27,866
Performing Arts Center	1		1	2	1	site per	167,195
Pickleball Court	24			24	1	site per	13,933
Picnic Shelter	63			63	1	site per	5,308
Playground	51	12		63	1	site per	5,308
Pump Track	1			1	1	site per	334,389
Recreation Center	5			5	1	site per	66,878
Restrooms	70		6	76	1	site per	4,400
Sand Volleyball	12			12	1	site per	27,866
Shuffleboard	1			1	1	site per	334,389
Skate Park	1			1	1	site per	334,389
Softball Field	26	32		58	1	site per	5,765
Spray Ground	4			4	1	site per	83,597
T-Ball	4			4	1	site per	83,597
Tennis Court	26	13		39	1	site per	8,574
Track	2	12.5		14.5	1	site per	23,061

Park Service Area

Another method to evaluate service levels is to map service radii to see what geographical areas and population centers of the county are under-served by particular park types. A service radius (or service area) is the total distance that a person can be expected to travel to reach a park and are expressed in miles. Larger parks with more amenities tend to attract people from farther distances and therefore have larger radii. Below is a listing of service radii used for this plan:

- Neighborhood Parks: ½ mile radius
- Community Parks: 3-mile radius
- County Parks: 5-mile radius

Specialty facilities, athletic complexes, and recreation and community centers are unique place-based or destination facilities and do not have a service radius associated with them.

All elementary and middle schools are included in the neighborhood park facility mapping. They offer neighborhood park style amenities like playgrounds, basketball courts, and tennis courts.³

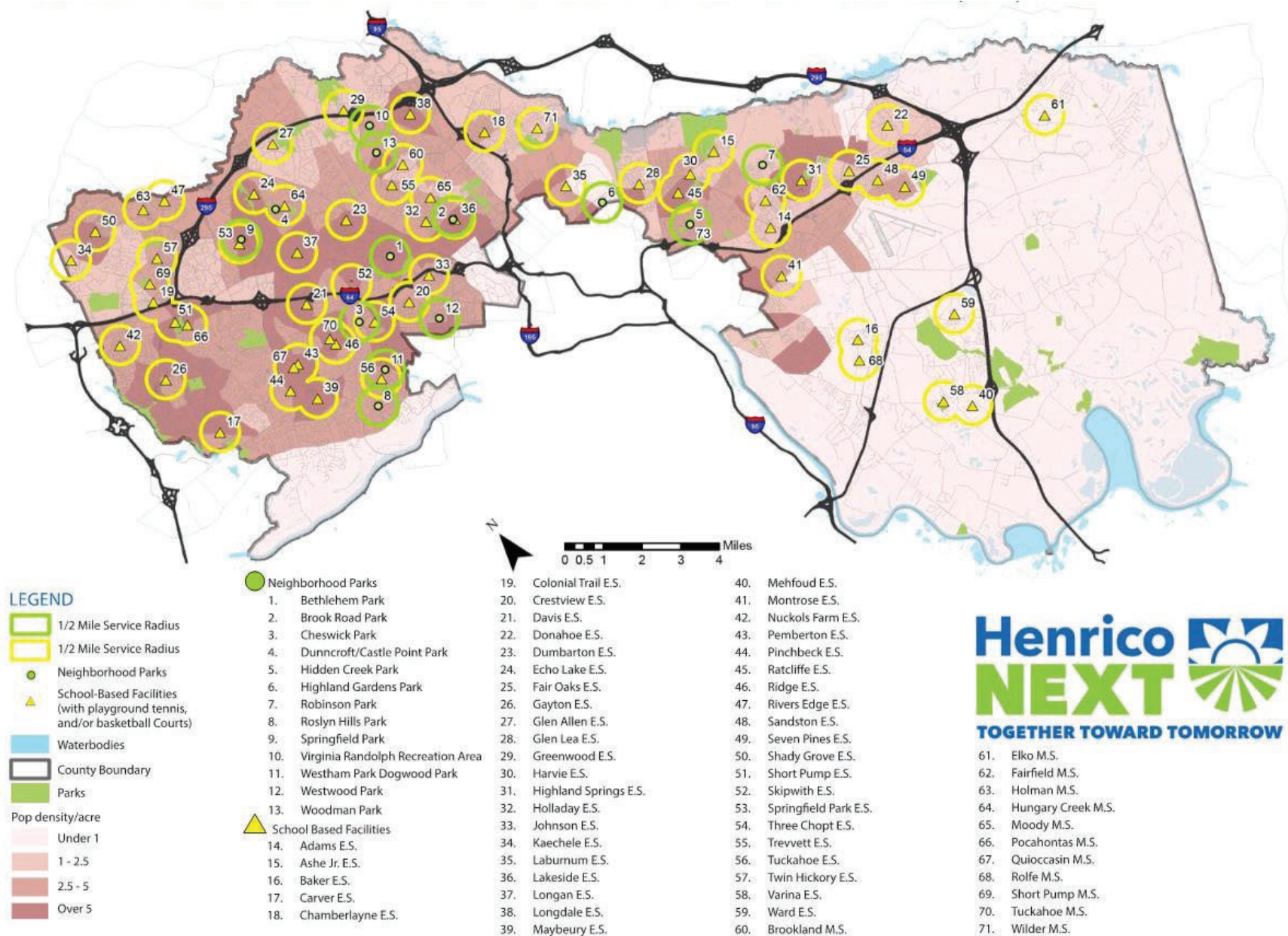
Refer to the maps on the following pages for the park service areas overlayed onto population density. Population density was mapped using data from the 2019 American Community Survey (US Census Bureau).

Some highlights from the geographic analysis are:

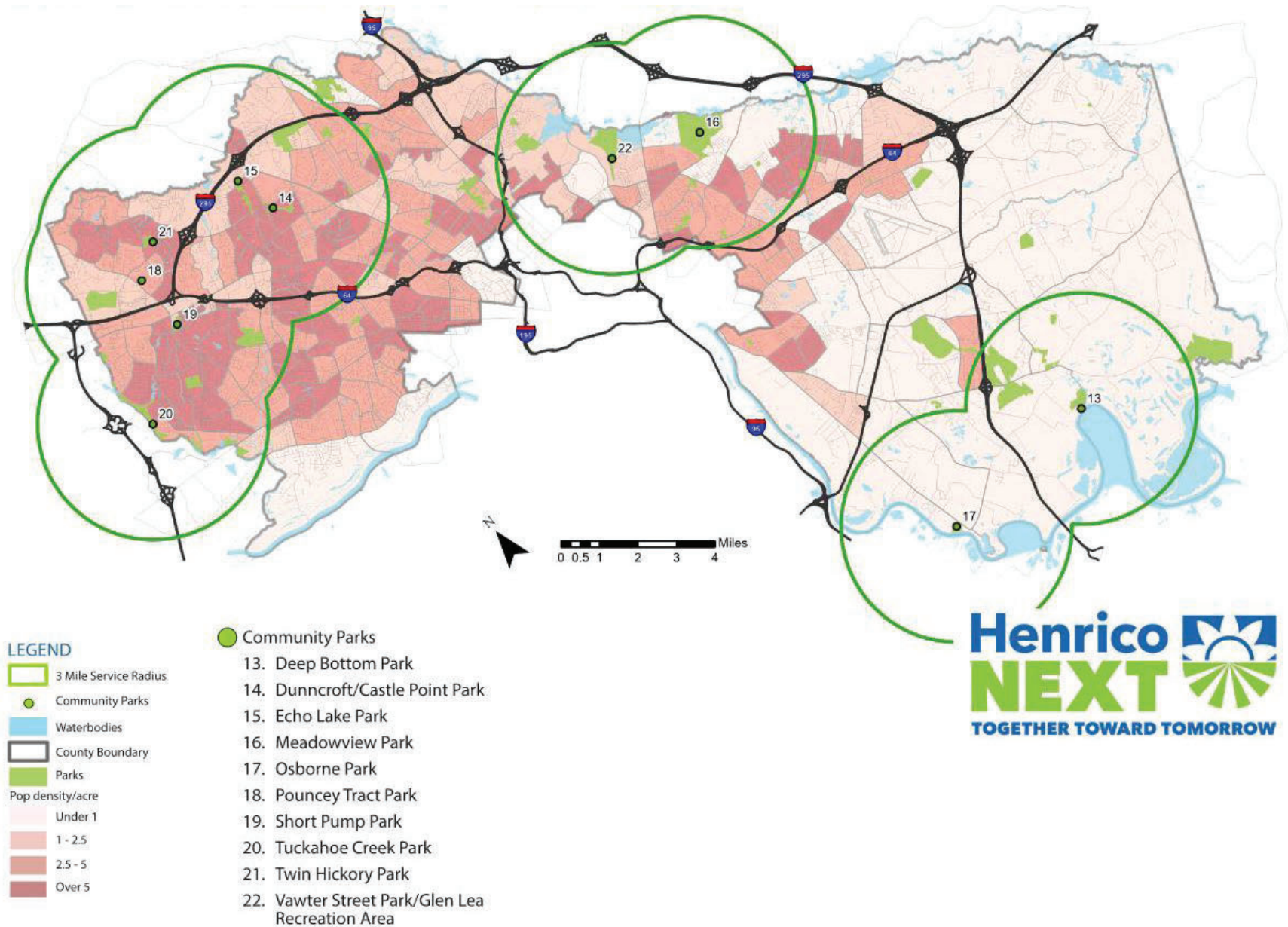
- Including school playgrounds in the neighborhood park service analysis provides a more even coverage of access in this category to high density population areas than the Department's locations alone would. There are 13 neighborhood parks and 58 school parks.
- Community parks are clustered on the northern edge of the county, leaving the population clusters on the northwestern and eastern borders of Richmond underserved by this type of park.
- There is a fairly even distribution of county-type parks across Henrico.
- The eastern half of the county has very limited-service coverage by neighborhood and community parks but is almost entirely served by two large county parks.

³ Access to school property is controlled by each administration, so not all schools mapped may be open for public use.

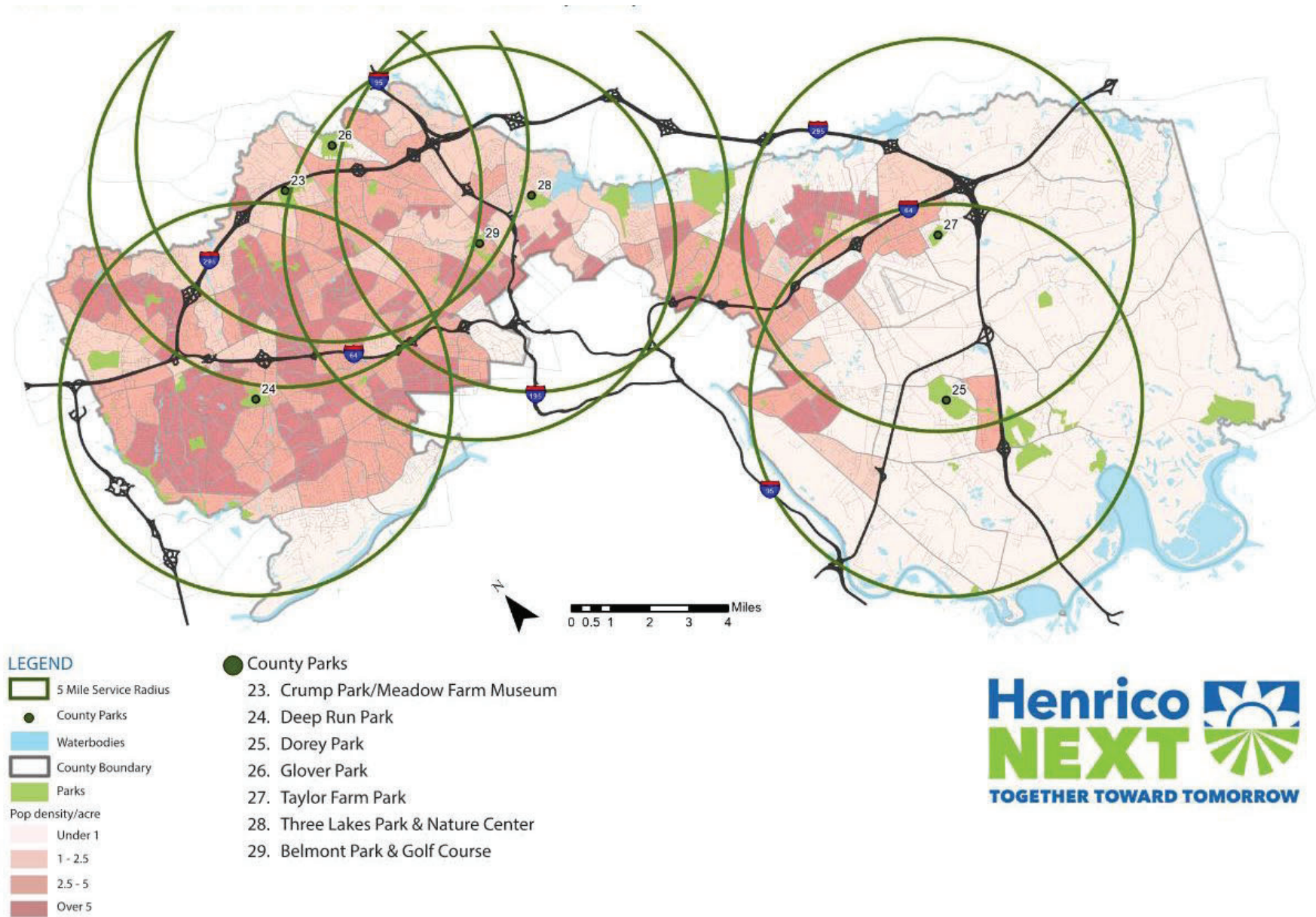
MAP 2 // NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS AND ELEM. & MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE AREA



MAP 3 // COMMUNITY PARK SERVICE AREA



MAP 4 // COUNTY PARK SERVICE AREA



ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



INTRODUCTION

The **Analysis and Recommendations** section of the *Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Master Plan* examines the 2024 Henrico parks system inventory, creates population-based level of service (LOS) recommended standards, identifies shortfalls of amenities in 2024, and projects recreation and parks' needs into 2033 based on population assessments and geographic mapping. Based on these LOS findings, site condition assessments, public input, demographics, and county goals, the report creates a series of recommendations for the improvement of existing parks and facilities and the expansion of the system. These recommendations are phased into a 10-year implementation plan.



Taylor Farm Skate Park (Source: Henrico County)



Tuckahoe Creek Park (Source: Henrico County)

DEMOGRAPHIC AND RECREATIONAL TRENDS ANALYSIS

A demographic and recreational trends analysis provides Henrico County with insight into the general makeup of the population served and identifies market trends to better understand the types of parks and facilities most appropriate to satisfy the needs of residents now and in the future.

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

The demographic analysis is based on the Sociodemographic Report prepared by the Henrico County Planning Department. Key elements have been included into this document to facilitate analysis of recreational planning.

It is important to note that while the analysis evaluates the population characteristics of the county, the Division of Recreation and Parks (the Department) does serve a regional audience.

KEY DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

- Henrico County added 27,454 residents and grew by 9% between 2010 and 2020. This is a slightly higher rate than Virginia, which grew by 8% over the same period.
- The population is aging, driven by the Baby Boomer generation between the ages 60 to 78.
- Distribution between the age segments is fairly even, with 25% of Henrico's population under the age of 20, 20% between the ages of 20 to 34, 27% between the ages of 35 to 54, and 28% of the population ages 55 and older.
- The county is growing more diverse, as nearly five out of ten residents identify with a race or ethnic group other than White.
- Median household income in Henrico County has remained just over \$70,000 for the last 10 years. Stagnating wages are a trend in the Richmond Metropolitan Statistical Area.

- Poverty rates have declined slightly to 9% from a 2010 peak of 10%. This is a lower rate than the greater Richmond Metro Area (11.2%) or the state (10.6%).
- In Henrico, 11% of the population had a disability in 2019. Those 65 and older is disproportionately represented, with one-third of the population in this age group living with a disability. As Baby Boomers continue to grow older, the number of disabled individuals can be expected to increase.

SUMMARY OF DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS RELATED TO RECREATIONAL PLANNING

- Population levels are anticipated to remain approximately the same, so no significant construction should be required.
- Current age distribution is even and is expected to remain so, with the exception of those 55 and older, which will slightly. The Department should continue to need to serve all interests, including children, young adults, adults, and active older adults.
- The population of those aged 55 and older is expected to gradually increase, requiring a slight expansion in services and amenities to meet this group's needs.
- Though poverty rates are low, the county should continue to provide services at multiple price points to ensure all residents have access to recreational opportunities.
- As the county grows more diverse, additional special interest or niche activities and facilities may need to be provided.
- Increasing universally accessible facilities will be needed as the population continues to age.

NATIONAL TRENDS IN RECREATION

The following analysis provides an understanding of national and local recreational trends that can be used to guide recommendations for Henrico County. Data used for this analysis was obtained from Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA), the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), and ESRI. All data is based on current and/or historical participation rates.

METHODOLOGY

The SFIA's *Sports, Fitness & Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report 2023* provides national recreation participatory trends.



The study is based on findings from surveys conducted in 2023 by the Physical Activity Council (PAC). They were administered to all genders, ages (6 and older), income levels, regions, and ethnicities to allow for statistical accuracy of the national population.

The report's objective is to identify levels of activity and key participatory trends in recreation across the United States. This study looked at 120 different sports/activities and subdivided them into various categories including: sports, fitness, outdoor activities, aquatics, etc.

NATIONAL TRENDS OVERVIEW

All seven major sport and fitness physical activity categories (team sports, individual sports, fitness activities, outdoor sports, water sports, racquet sports, winter sports) showed increased year-over-year rates of participation. Approximately 236.9 million people ages six and older reported being active in 2023, which is a 1.9% increase from 2021 and the greatest number of active Americans in the last 6 years.

Team sports are continuing to recover following shutdowns during the pandemic. Participation rates increased to 23.2%, which is near

2019 participation level. Pickleball continues to be the fastest growing sport in America, doubling its participation in 2023. Following the popularity of pickleball, every racquet sport also increased in total participation in 2023.

National Trends in Sports

The most widely participated sports in the United States were basketball, golf, and tennis, which all have participation figures significantly higher than the other activities within the general sports category. Baseball and outdoor soccer round out the top five.



Basketball
28.1
Million.



Golf
25.6
Million



Tennis
23.6
Million



Baseball
15.5
Million



Soccer
13.0
Million

National Trends in General Fitness

Trend analysis also highlights the fitness category, where many health club-based activities, such as treadmill, stair-climbing, rowing machine, and most class-based fitness activities, such as barre, Pilates, and yoga, saw good gains in participation. The activities with the most participation were walking for fitness, treadmill, free weights, running/jogging, and yoga.



Participation Trends by Generation

Different age segments of the population have varying recreational interests. The following are the most popular activities for each group:

- Ages 6-24: fishing, camping, team sports, martial arts, working out with weights, kayaking
- Ages 25-44: bicycling, fishing, camping, kayaking, hiking, fitness swimming.
- Ages 45-59: bicycling, fishing, camping, fitness swimming, hiking
- Ages 60-78: fishing, fitness swimming, bicycling, birdwatching/ wildlife viewing

There is some overlap between age groups. Overall, the activities that appeal to most include camping, bicycling, fishing, and swimming for fitness.

Recreation Trends Summary

Understanding national trends in participation allows Henrico to gain general insight into life cycle stages of recreational programs and activities, as well as what facility infrastructure is needed to support demand. Some major takeaways are:

- Nationally, fitness walking remains the most popular activity overall.
- Aquatic activities have experienced strong participation growth nationally.
- Basketball has the highest participation nationally.
- The popularity of pickleball continues to grow significantly.
- Participation in team sports has rebounded to near pre-pandemic levels.
- Outdoor recreational activities are on the rise nationally.
- According to the SFIA's Sports, Fitness & Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report, income level positively impacts activity rates, with higher-income households typically engaging in more, while lower-income households tend to have lower activity rates.

LEVEL OF SERVICE RECOMMENDATIONS

Parks and Recreation Level of Service (LOS) standards help to identify the appropriate number of amenities needed to serve the population to ensure demands are met now and in the future. Standards can and will change over time, as the population grows, demographics shift, and recreation trends evolve. It is important to periodically reevaluate LOS to determine if the Department's actions have been meeting the standards and if the LOS should be revised to meet changing conditions.

Population-based LOS standards are communicated as a unit of recreation needed per some thousands of a population. For example, one standard of service might be 1 playground per 5,000 people. By applying these standards to the population of Henrico County, gaps, and surpluses in the inventory of park and facility/amenity types, now and in the projected future, are revealed. A custom LOS was developed based on the following factors:

- 2015 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan
- National Recreation and Park Associate (NRPA) guidelines
- National and regional recreation trends
- County demographics and projections
- Community and stakeholder input including the 2022 Recreation and Park Survey
- Expectations and practices in Henrico County recreation and park facility and service delivery

The existing parkland and amenity level of service was calculated based on 2024 inventory lists provided by the Henrico Division of Recreation and Parks. This is an update to the inventory included in the Existing Conditions section of this plan.

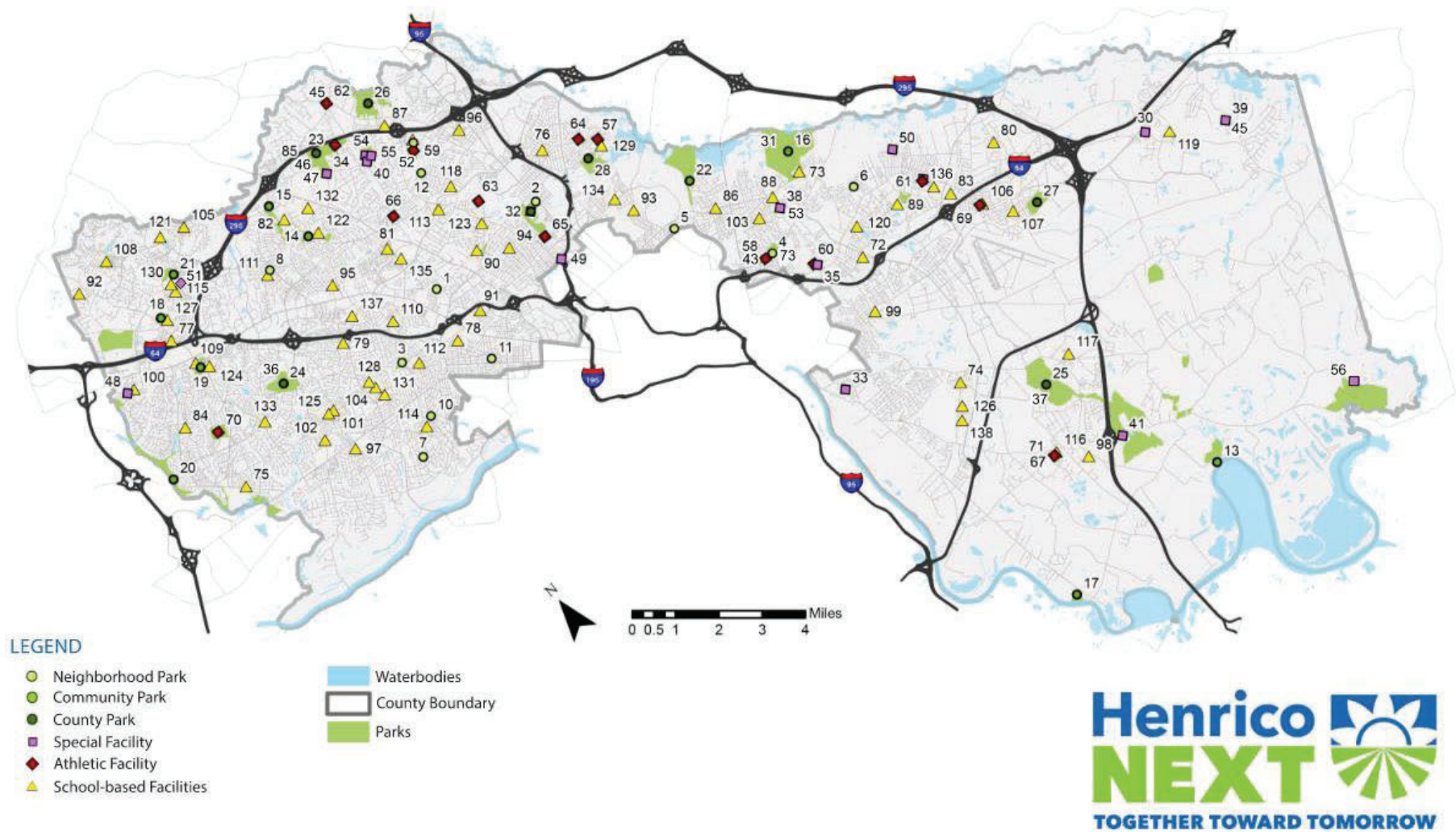
The current 2024 LOS ratios were developed using the Weldon Cooper Center's 2023 Henrico County estimated population of 339,918. To account for future projected use, an estimated 2033 population of 364,483 (Weldon Cooper Center, Woods and Poole)

was used. All publicly available sites and amenities are included in the LOS inventory, including county school-based facilities, the Cultural Arts Center, and the YMCA Aquatic Center. Private or fee-based club amenities and land are excluded because these facilities are not accessible to the general public. However, the county should consider these facilities in market feasibility studies for new developments, as they may impact demand and planning for publicly available recreational spaces.



Children playing at Dorey Park Playground (Source: Henrico County)

MAP 5 // RECREATION AND PARK FACILITIES INVENTORY, 2024



-  Neighborhood Parks
1. Bethlehem Park
 2. Brook Road Park
 3. Cheswick Park
 4. Hidden Creek Park
 5. Highland Gardens Park
 6. Robinson Park
 7. Roslyn Hills Park
 8. Springfield Park
 9. Virginia Randolph Recreation Area
 10. Westham Park Dogwood Park
 11. Westwood Park
 12. Woodman Park

-  Community Parks
13. Deep Bottom Park
 14. Dunncroft Castle Point Park
 15. Echo Lake Park
 16. Meadowview Park
 17. Osborne Park
 18. Pouncey Tract Park
 19. Short Pump Park
 20. Tuckahoe Creek/Tuckahoe Village Park
 21. Twin Hickory Park
 22. Vawter Street Park Glen Lea Recreation Area

-  County Parks
23. Crump Park/Meadow Farm Museum
 24. Deep Run Park
 25. Dorey Park
 26. Glover Park
 27. Taylor Farm Park
 28. Three Lakes Park and Nature Center
 29. Belmont Park and Golf Course

 Special Facilities & Community/ Recreation Centers

30. Antioch School Community Center
31. Armour House
32. Belmont Recreation Center
33. Clarke-Palmore House Museum
34. Courtney Road Service Station
35. Dabbs House Museum
36. Deep Run Recreation Center
37. Dorey Recreation Center
38. Eastern Henrico Recreation Center
39. Elko Recreation Area
40. Forest Lodge Belvedere
41. Four Mile Creek Park
42. Henrico Theatre
43. Hidden Creek Community Center
44. Highland Springs Community Center
45. Hunton Community Center
46. Meadow Farm Historic House
47. Parson Community Center
48. Nuckols Farm Park
49. Spring Park Historic Site
50. The Springs Recreation Center
51. Twin Hickory Recreation Center
52. Virginia Randolph Museum
53. Frank J Thornton YMCA Aquatic Center *
54. Cultural Arts Center at Glenn Allen*
55. Walkerton Tavern*
56. Richmond National Battlefield (Malvern Hill) †

 Athletic Facilities

57. Capital Park
58. Central Gardens Recreation Area
59. Glen Allen Softball Complex
60. Glen Echo Recreation Area
61. Highland Springs Recreation Area

62. Hunton Park
63. J. Sargeant Reynolds Recreation Area ‡
64. Klehr Field
65. Lakeside Recreation Area
66. Laurel Recreation Area
67. McGeorge Field
68. RF&P Park
69. Sandston Recreation Area
70. Tuckahoe Park
71. Varina Recreation Area

 School-based Facilities

72. Adams E.S.
73. Ashe E.S.
74. Baker E.S.
75. Carver E.S.
76. Chamberlayne E.S.
77. Colonial Trail E.S.
78. Crestview E.S.
79. Davis E.S.
80. Donahoe E.S.
81. Dumbarton E.S.
82. Echo Lake E.S.
83. Fair Oaks E.S.
84. Gayton E.S.
85. Glen Allen E.S.
86. Glen Lea E.S.
87. Greenwood E.S.
88. Harvie E.S.
89. Highland Springs E.S.
90. Holladay E.S.
91. Johnson E.S.
92. Kaechele E.S.
93. Laburnum E.S.
94. Lakeside E.S.
95. Longan E.S.
96. Longdale E.S.
97. Maybeury E.S.
98. Mehfoud E.S.
99. Montrose E.S.

100. Nuckols Farm E.S.
101. Pemberton E.S.
102. Pinchbeck E.S.
103. Ratcliffe E.S.
104. Ridge E.S.
105. Rivers Edge E.S.
106. Sandston E.S.
107. Seven Pines E.S.
108. Shady Grove E.S.
109. Short Pump E.S.
110. Skipwith E.S.
111. Springfield Park E.S.
112. Three Chopt E.S.
113. Trevvett E.S.
114. Tuckahoe E.S.
115. Twin Hickory E.S.
116. Varina E.S.
117. Ward E.S.
118. Brookland M.S.
119. Elko M.S.
120. Fairfield M.S.
121. Holman M.S.
122. Hungary Creek M.S.
123. Moody M.S.
124. Pocahontas M.S.
125. Quioccasin M.S.
126. Rolfe M.S.
127. Short Pump M.S.
128. Tuckahoe M.S.
129. Wilder M.S.
130. Deep Run H.S.
131. Freeman H.S.
132. Glen Allen H.S.
133. Godwin H.S.
134. Henrico H.S.
135. Hermitage H.S.
136. Highland Springs H.S.
137. Tucker H.S.
138. Varina H.S.

*County facility managed by others.

† National Park Service maintained and managed

‡ Owned by the Commonwealth of Virginia but maintained by the Rec & Parks.

TABLE 11 // HENRICO PARKS AND FACILITIES INVENTORY, 2024

	Total Acreage	Acreage in Floodplains	Interior Square Footage	Aquatic Center	Baseball Field	Basketball Court	Boat Ramp/Slide	Canoe/Kayak Launch	Community Center	Concession	Cricket Field	Croquet	Disc Golf Course	Dog Park	Exercise Trail	Fishing Access	Gazebo	Golf Course	Gravel Trail	Gymnasium	Historic Building/Museum	Horse Trail & Ring	Horseshoe Pits	Multi-Use Field	Nature Center	Paved Trail	Open Play Area	Outdoor Fitness Area	Parking	Performing Arts Center	Pickleball Court	Picnic Shelter	Playground	Pump Track	Recreation Center	Restrooms	Sand Volleyball Court	Shuffleboard	Skate Park	Softball Field	Sprayground	T-Ball	Tennis Court	Track			
Neighborhood Parks (5-20 Acres)	101.52	20.14		-	1	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	2	8	1	-	-	4	8	16	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-			
Bethlehem Park	1.0														1				-						0.08							1															
Brook Road Park	6.1	5.18																								1	Y																				
Cheswick Park	24.5	7.96													1			0.45						0.54	1	1	Y				2	1				1											
Hidden Creek Park	32.4	2.40							1									0.03						0.47	1	Y		Y		4	3	1			1												
Highland Gardens Park	1.1														1			0.14							-							1															
Robinson Park	9.1					1													-						-			Y			1	2		1								2					
Roslyn Hills Park	2.5																		-						-						2																
Springfield Park	5.4																		-						0.32	1	Y		Y		1	2			1												
Virginia Randolph Recreation Area	10.8					2				1									-				2			-		Y			1	1		1									2				
Westham Park	2.2	1.40																	-						-	1						3															
Westwood Park	1.4	0.10																	-						-	1					1																
Woodman Park	5.0	3.10				1													-						0.10	1	Y				1																
Highland Springs Park	26.1	6.20																	-						-	1																					
Holladay Park	13.5	6.60																	-						-																						
Community Parks (20-50 Acres)	1407.27	1018.30		-	2	-	2	2	1	3	1	-	1	2	2	4	2	-	2	-	2	-	5	-	4	6	1	-	-	24	12	13	-	-	13	4	-	-	1	3	-	2	-				
Deep Bottom Park	85.6	50.30					1	1								1	1		0.26						0.04		Y				1			1		1											
Duncroft/Castle Point Park	55.9										1			1				0.39							0.19	1	Y		Y		1	1		1						1							
Echo Lake Park	55.0	36.20														1			0.59						0.25	1	Y		Y		1	1		1							1						
Meadowview Park	590.5	465.10																-		1					0.38		Y		Y		1	1		2									2				
Osborne Park	26.1	20.10				1	1									1	1		-						0.79	1	Y		Y		2	2		2											2		
Pouncey Tract Park	23.2									1					1			-					2		0.73	1	1	Y		24	3	1		2													
Short Pump Park	45.0									1									-		1			1	0.82	1	Y		Y			2		2						1	1						
Tuckahoe Creek Park	240.8	240.80												2		1			-			1			-							1															
Twin Hickory Park	48.5								1									0.42						1	0.97	1	Y		Y		1	3			1	4					1						
Vawter Street Park/Glen Lea Recreation Area	236.7	205.80			2					1					1				-					1				Y		Y		1	2			1											
Gill Dale Park	76.3	19.20																	-						-																						
New Market Park	219.1	77.20																																													
County Parks (50+ Acres)	1134.07	152.20		-	4	1	-	-	-	4	1	-	1	4	2	4	4	-	12	-	2	1	8	16	1	7	7	1	-	-	-	27	18	2	2	17	8	-	1	6	4	-	1	-			
Crump Park/Meadow Farm Museum	149.1	11.60														1			3.31		2		4			0.20	2	Y			2	3		2		2											
Deep Run Park	164.8	26.70				1					1					1	1	2	0.88					3		3.12	1	Y			7	5	1	1	4												
Dorey Park	400.0	21.10				2				4				1	2	1	1	2	3.29				1	4	7	1.58	2	Y		Y		13	3		1	6				6	1		1				
Glover Park	202.3	6.70				2								2					3.10					6		1.00		1	Y			1			2	8					1						
Taylor Farm Park	99.2	8.80																							1.00	1	Y		Y		3	3	1	2				1									
Three Lakes Park	118.7	77.30														1			1.17						1	0.22	1	Y		Y		2	3			1					2						
Kain Road Property	121.6	9.33																																													
Belmont Park and Golf Course	123.6	30.00								1								1																			1										

TABLE 11 // HENRICO PARKS AND FACILITIES INVENTORY, 2024, CONTINUED

	Total Acreage	Acreage in Floodplains	Interior Square Footage	Aquatic Center	Baseball Field	Basketball Court	Boat Ramp/Slide	Canoe/Kayak Launch	Community Center	Concession	Cricket Field	Croquet	Disc Golf Course	Dog Park	Exercise Trail	Fishing Access	Gazebo	Golf Course	Gravel Trail	Gymnasium	Historic Building/Museum	Horse Trail & Ring	Horseshoe Pits	Multi-Use Field	Nature Center	Paved Trail	Open Play Area	Outdoor Fitness Area	Parking	Performing Arts Center	Pickleball Court	Picnic Shelter	Playground	Pump Track	Recreation Center	Restrooms	Sand Volleyball Court	Shuffleboard	Skate Park	Softball Field	Spraground	T-Ball	Tennis Court	Track	
Athletic Facility	324.53	36.90		-	28	6	-	-	1	15	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	0	-	-	-	15	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	14	8	-	1	16	-	-	1	17	-	5	7	1	
Capital Park	16.6									1	1								-				4		-				Y							1									
Central Gardens Recreation Area	16.7					2																1		-				Y											1						
Glen Allen Softball Complex	34.3	1.80								1																			Y			2				1			4						
Glen Echo Recreation Area	15.3				1	1																							Y						1										
Highland Springs Recreation Area	9.0									1							1						1		-	y	Y			Y		1	1		1										
Hunton Park	4.5	0.50				1			1	1																		Y		Y		1	2		1			2							
Reynolds Recreation Area	40.7	7.20			1	2																	1						Y						1							6	1		
Klehr Field	18.8				3					1													2		1.00				Y			1	1		1							1			
Lakeside Recreation Area	10.3	10.00			4					1																			Y		Y		1	1		1					1				
Laurel Recreation Area	10.4	0.80			1					1													2						Y		Y		1	1		1			1	1					
McGeorge Field	5.4				1																		1		-				Y		1														
RF&P Park	53.5	9.10			4					4								0.15						2		0.23			Y		3					4			3			1			
Sandston Recreation Area	5.2				2					2																			Y		4	1	1		2										
Tuckahoe Park	68.0				10					1																			Y		1					1				2		3			
Varina Recreation Area	15.8	7.50			1					1													1						Y		1	1		1	1				4						
Indoor Sports Convocation Center (VCC)	24.7		115,000																																										
Specialty Facility	385.16	95.70	141403	-	6	1	-	-	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	3	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	12	7	5	-	3	25	-	1	-	-	1	-	8	1	
Antioch School Community Center	2.0		1,281						1											-									Y		1	1				1									
Armour House			4,642																	-	1					1.00			Y		1	1				1									
Belmont Recreation Center	NA		17,872																	-									Y						1	1							8		
Clarke-Palmore House Museum	10.3	1.60	1,348																	-	1								Y							1									
Courtney Road Service Station	0.3																			-	1								Y																
Dabbs House Museum	0.9		5,829																	-	1								Y							1									
Deep Run Recreation Center	NA		22,574																	-	1								Y							2									
Dorey Recreation Center	NA		12,378																	-									Y							2									
Eastern Henrico Recreation Center	24.2	0.30	25,765							1										-	1		3	2		0.75			Y		2	1		1	3					1				1	
Elko Recreation Area	5.7		3,242		1	1			1											-			3						Y		4	1	1		1										
Forest Lodge	1.2	0.40																		-	1															1									
Four Mile Creek Park	326.7	93.40																		-									Y			1				1									
Henrico Theatre	1.8		19,099																	-									Y	1						2									
Hidden Creek Community Center	NA		2,403																	-									Y							1									
Highland Springs Community Center	0.7		1,200																	-									Y							1									
Hunton Community Center	NA		2,761						1											-									Y							1									
Meadow Farm Historic House	NA		4,960																	-																									
Parson Community Center	NA		4,228																	-									Y																
Nuckols Farm	3.2																			-																									
Spring Park Historic Site	2.8																			-						0.07			Y								1								
The Springs Recreation Center	5.4		8,691		5							1								-									Y		8	1	1		1	2		1							
Twin Hickory Recreation Center	NA		2,030																	-									Y								1								
Virginia Randolph Museum	0.2		1,100																	-	1								Y								1								
Midview Park	3																																												
Ridings Property	64																																												
Yahley Mill Property	23	3.20																																											
Frank J Thornton YMCA Aquatic Center	5.9		20,992	1																									Y									1							
Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen	33.4		50,300																										Y	1							2								
Walkerton Tavern	2.7		7,625														1					1							Y								2								
TOTALS for Existing (County):	3,352.54	1,323.24	141,403	-	41	11	2	2	6	24	3	1	2	6	7	8	7		14.2	2	10	1	11	41	1	15.9	21	3		1	44	68	60	2	6	76	12	1	2	24	8	5	22	2	
TOTALS for Proposed (County):	546.0	121.7		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.00	2	-	-	-	-	3	3	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
TOTALS for Managed by others :	190	30	193,917	1	-	-																																							

TABLE 12 // INVENTORY OF SCHOOL FACILITIES WITH RECREATIONAL AMENITIES, 2024

School Name	Baseball	Basketball	Multi-Use Field	Playground	Softball	Stadium Field	Tennis Court	T-Ball	Track
Adams Elementary School				1					
Ashe Elementary School			1	1					1
Baker Elementary School				1					
Brookland Middle School	1		1		1		4		1
Carver Elementary School	1	2		1					
Chamberlayne Elementary School				1					1
Colonial Trail Elementary School				1					1
Crestview Elementary School				1					
Davis Elementary School				1					1
Deep Run High School	1	2			1	1	6		1
Donahoe Elementary School				1					1
Dumbarton Elementary School				1	3				1
Echo Lake Elementary School				1					1
Elko Middle School	1	2	1		1		4		1
Fair Oaks Elementary School				1					1
Fairfield Middle School	1	4	1		1		4		1
Freeman High School	1				1	1	6		1
Gayton Elementary School				1					1
Glen Allen Elementary School				1					
Glen Allen High School	1				1	1	6		1
Glen Lea Elementary School				1	1				
Godwin High School	1	2			1	1	6		1
Greenwood Elementary School				1					1
Harvie Elementary School				1					1
Henrico High School	1				1	1	6		1
Hermitage High School	1				1	1	8		1
Highland Springs Elementary School				1					1
Highland Springs High School						1			1
Holladay Elementary School		2		1					
Holman Middle School	1	2	1		1		4		1
Hungary Creek Middle School	1	2	1		1		4		1
Johnson Elementary School	1			1	1			1	
Kaechele Elementary School				1					1
Laburnum Elementary School	1			1					1

School Name	Baseball	Basketball	Multi-Use Field	Playground	Softball	Stadium Field	Tennis Court	T-Ball	Track
Lakeside Elementary School	1			1					1
Longan Elementary School	1	1		1					1
Longdale Elementary School		1		1					1
Maybeury Elementary School	1	1		1					
Mehfoud Elementary School				1					
Montrose Elementary School				1	1				1
Moody Middle School			1		2		4		1
Nuckols Farm Elementary School				1					1
Pemberton Elementary School				1	1				
Pinchbeck Elementary School				1					1
Pocahontas Middle School	1	2	1		1		4		1
Quioccasin Middle School	1	3	1		1		4		1
Ratcliffe Elementary School				1	1				
Ridge Elementary School				1	1				
Rivers Edge Elementary School		1		1					1
Rolfe Middle School	1	2			1		4		1
Sandston Elementary School				1					1
Seven Pines Elementary School	1			1	1				
Shady Grove Elementary School				1					1
Short Pump Elementary School				1					
Short Pump Middle School	1	2	1		2		4		1
Skipwith Elementary School		1		1					1
Springfield Park Elementary School				1					1
Three Chopt Elementary School				1					1
Trewett Elementary School				1	1				
Tuckahoe Elementary School				1					
Tuckahoe Middle School	1	2	1				4		1
Tucker High School	1				1	1	6		1
Twin Hickory Elementary School				1					1
Varina High School	1				1	1	7		1
Varina Elementary School				1					1
Ward Elementary School				1					1
Wilder Middle School	1	2			1		4		1
Totals for Schools	26	36	11	46	32	9	99	1	50

LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS FINDINGS FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE SHORTFALLS

The current acreage, facility, and amenity inventory was evaluated using the proposed LOS to determine if there are shortfalls based on 2024 population levels and potential future shortfalls based on projected population in 2033. A thorough review of the parks and recreation system and public input resulted in a recommendation for the county pursue further development of specific parks and recreation amenities to meet the needs of the community and to increase the current LOS standard for the projected population in 2033. Some highlights from the analysis are:

- There are no shortfalls in the types of park acreage provided based on 2024 and 2033 population levels.
- The county will need to add amenities to the park system to meet 2024 standards for some outdoor parks. Those with the

greatest 2024 shortfalls are paved trails (seven-mile shortfall), outdoor fitness (two site shortfall), basketball courts (eight court shortfall), and gymnasiums (five facility shortfall).

- Henrico does not have an amphitheater and this analysis identifies the need for one.
- The county has a shortfall of 47,784 square feet of indoor recreation space, which grows to a 60,067 square foot shortfall in 2033. This is equivalent to constructing two comprehensive recreation centers (25,000 sf - 30,000 square feet each).
- Henrico has a shortfall of nine multi-use fields, which is expected to increase to 13 by 2033.
- Need for one disc golf course in 2024 expands to a shortfall of two courses by 2033.
- There is a shortfall of one cricket field in the county system.



Taylor Farm Park (Source: Henrico County)

TABLE 13 // POPULATION BASED LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2024 & 2033

	2024 Inventory				2024 Existing Service Levels		2024 LOS Evaluation			2024 Standards			2033 Standards				
TYPE	County Inventory	School Inventory	Other Inventory	Total Inventory	Current Service Levels (per 2024 pop. of 339,918)		Recommended Service Levels			Meets Standard/ Shortfall Exists		Shortfall/Surplus		Meets Standard/ Shortfall Exists		Shortfall/Surplus	
Parks																	
Neighborhood Park (acres)	101.5	28.9		130.4	0.30	acres per	1,000	0.07	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	107	Acre(s)	Meets Standard	105	Acre(s)	
Community Park (acres)	1,407.3			1,407.3	4.14	acres per	1,000	0.23	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	1,329	Acre(s)	Meets Standard	1,323	Acre(s)	
County Park (acres)	1,134.1			1,134.1	3.34	acres per	1,000	2.40	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	318	Acre(s)	Meets Standard	259	Acre(s)	
Specialty Facility (acres)	385.2		42.0	427.2	1.26	acres per	1,000	No Standard			No Standard		Acre(s)	No Standard		Acre(s)	
Athletic Facility (acres)	324.5	167.0	93.6	585.1	1.72	acres per	1,000	No Standard			No Standard		Acre(s)	No Standard		Acre(s)	
Total Parkland Acreage	3,352.5	195.9	135.6	3,684.1	10.84	acres per	1,000	No Standard			No Standard		Acre(s)	No Standard		Acre(s)	
Parkland in Wetlands (acres)	1,323.2		983.0	2,306.2	6.78	acres per	1,000	No Standard			No Standard		Acre(s)	No Standard		Acre(s)	
Overall Acreage	3,352.5	195.9	1,118.6	4,667.1	13.73	acres per	1,000	No Standard			No Standard		Acre(s)	No Standard		Acre(s)	
Recreation Centers (sf)	101,183.0		20,992.0	122,175.0	0.36	sf per	person	0.50	sf per	person	Shortfall	-47,784	Square Feet	Shortfall	-60,067	Square Feet	
Amenities																	
Aquatic Center	0		1	1	1	site per	339,918	1	site per	160,000	Shortfall	-1	Sites	Shortfall	-1	Sites	
Baseball Field	41	6.5		47.5	1	site per	7,156	1	site per	8,000	Meets Standard	5	Sites	Meets Standard	2	Sites	
Basketball Court	11	9		20	1	site per	16,996	1	site per	12,000	Shortfall	-8	Sites	Shortfall	-10	Sites	
Boat Ramps/Slide	2			2	1	site per	169,959	1	site per	300,000	Meets Standard	1	Sites	Meets Standard	1	Sites	
Canoe/Kayak Launch	2			2	1	site per	169,959	1	site per	150,000	Meets Standard	0	Sites	Meets Standard	0	Sites	
Community Center	6			6	1	site per	56,653	1	site per	60,000	Meets Standard	0	Sites	Meets Standard	0	Sites	
Cricket Field	3	0.5		3.5	1	site per	97,119	1	site per	75,000	Shortfall	-1	Sites	Shortfall	-1	Sites	
Disc Golf Course	2			2	1	site per	169,959	1	site per	100,000	Shortfall	-1	Sites	Shortfall	-2	Sites	
Dog Park	6			6	1	site per	56,653	1	site per	60,000	Meets Standard	0	Sites	Meets Standard	0	Sites	
Fitness (Outdoor)	3			3	1	site per	113,306	1	site per	70,000	Shortfall	-2	Sites	Shortfall	-2	Sites	
Fishing Access	8			8	1	site per	42,490	1	site per	50,000	Meets Standard	1	Sites	Meets Standard	1	Sites	
Golf Course	0		1	1	1	site per	339,918	1	site per	300,000	Meets Standard	0	Sites	Meets Standard	0	Sites	
Gravel Trail (mile)	14.18		3	17.18	1	mile per	19,786	1	mile per	15,000	Shortfall	-5	Miles	Shortfall	-7	Miles	
Gymnasium (Indoor)	2			2	1	site per	169,959	1	site per	50,000	Shortfall	-5	Sites	Shortfall	-5	Sites	
Historic Building/Museum	10		1	11	1	site per	30,902	1	site per	40,000	Meets Standard	3	Sites	Meets Standard	2	Sites	
Horse Trail & Ring	1			1	1	site per	339,918	1	site per	350,000	Meets Standard	0	Sites	Meets Standard	0	Sites	
Multi-Use Field	41	2.5		43.5	1	site per	7,814	1	site per	6,500	Shortfall	-9	Sites	Shortfall	-13	Sites	
Nature Center	1			1	1	site per	339,918	1	site per	300,000	Meets Standard	0	Sites	Meets Standard	0	Sites	
Paved Trail (mile)	15.85			15.85	1	mile per	21,446	1	mile per	15,000	Shortfall	-7	Miles	Shortfall	-8	Miles	
Performing Arts Center	1		1	2	1	site per	169,959	1	site per	150,000	Meets Standard	0	Sites	Meets Standard	0	Sites	
Pickleball Court	44			44	1	site per	7,725	1	site per	9,000	Meets Standard	6	Sites	Meets Standard	4	Sites	
Picnic Shelter	68			68	1	site per	4,999	1	site per	6,000	Meets Standard	11	Sites	Meets Standard	7	Sites	
Playground	60	12		72	1	site per	4,721	1	site per	4,500	Shortfall	-4	Sites	Shortfall	-9	Sites	
Pump Track	2			2	1	site per	169,959	1	site per	300,000	Meets Standard	1	Sites	Meets Standard	1	Sites	
Recreation Center	6			6	1	site per	56,653	1	site per	50,000	Shortfall	-1	Sites	Shortfall	-1	Sites	
Sand Volleyball	12			12	1	site per	28,327	1	site per	75,000	Meets Standard	7	Sites	Meets Standard	7	Sites	
Skate Park	2			2	1	site per	169,959	1	site per	120,000	Shortfall	-1	Sites	Shortfall	-1	Sites	
Softball Field	24	10.75		34.75	1	site per	9,782	1	site per	10,000	Meets Standard	1	Sites	Shortfall	-2	Sites	
Spray Ground	8			8	1	site per	42,490	1	site per	60,000	Meets Standard	2	Sites	Meets Standard	2	Sites	
T-Ball	5			5	1	site per	67,984	1	site per	90,000	Meets Standard	1	Sites	Meets Standard	1	Sites	
Tennis Court	22	25		46.75	1	site per	7,271	1	site per	8,000	Meets Standard	4	Sites	Meets Standard	1	Sites	
Track	2	12.5		14.5	1	site per	23,443	1	site per	25,000	Meets Standard	1	Sites	Meets Standard	0	Sites	
Amphitheatre	0			0	1	site per		1	site per	300,000	Shortfall	-1	Sites	Shortfall	-1	Sites	
*Note: For gravel and paved trails the inventory column reflects total mileage, not number of trails. *Bike paths and trails are amenities offered by Henrico Rec and Parks but were excluded from this Level of Service study. *School facilities are counted at 25% of inventory, to account for restricted access at schools. Except for ES softball fields, which are counted at 50%.																	

PARK SERVICE AREAS ACCESS AND EQUITY MAPPING

PARK SERVICE AREA

Another method to evaluate service levels is to map service radii to see how geographical areas and population centers of the county are under-served by particular park types. A service radius (or service area) is the total distance that a person can be expected to travel to reach a park and is indicated in miles. Larger parks with more amenities tend to attract people from farther distances and therefore have larger radii. Below is a listing of service radii used for this plan:

- Neighborhood Parks: ½-mile radius
- Community Parks: 3-mile radius
- County Parks: 5-mile radius

Specialty facilities, athletic complexes, and recreation and community centers are unique place-based or destination facilities and do not have a service radius associated with them.

All elementary and middle schools are included in the neighborhood park facility mapping. They offer amenities like playgrounds, basketball courts, and tennis courts. Middle school sites may not offer playgrounds, but the other amenities fulfill the role of neighborhood style parks.

Refer to Maps 6-8 on the following pages for the park service areas overlayed onto population density maps. Population density was mapped using block group data from the 2020 US Census Bureau.

Highlights from the geographic analysis are:

- Including school playgrounds in the neighborhood park service analysis provides a more even coverage of access in this category to high-density population areas than the Department's locations alone would. There are 12 neighborhood parks and 58 school-based facilities.

- Community parks are clustered on the northern edges of Henrico, in the area east of I-95 and west of I-64, and along the southern border of the county. Although there is a visible gap in park coverage for the population centers along the western edge of I-95, this area is adequately served by Belmont Park, a county-level facility that offers community park amenities. As a result, there is no pressing need to develop new community parks in this area.
- There is a fairly even distribution of county-type parks across Henrico.
- The eastern half of the county has very limited service coverage by neighborhood and community parks but is almost entirely served by two large county parks.

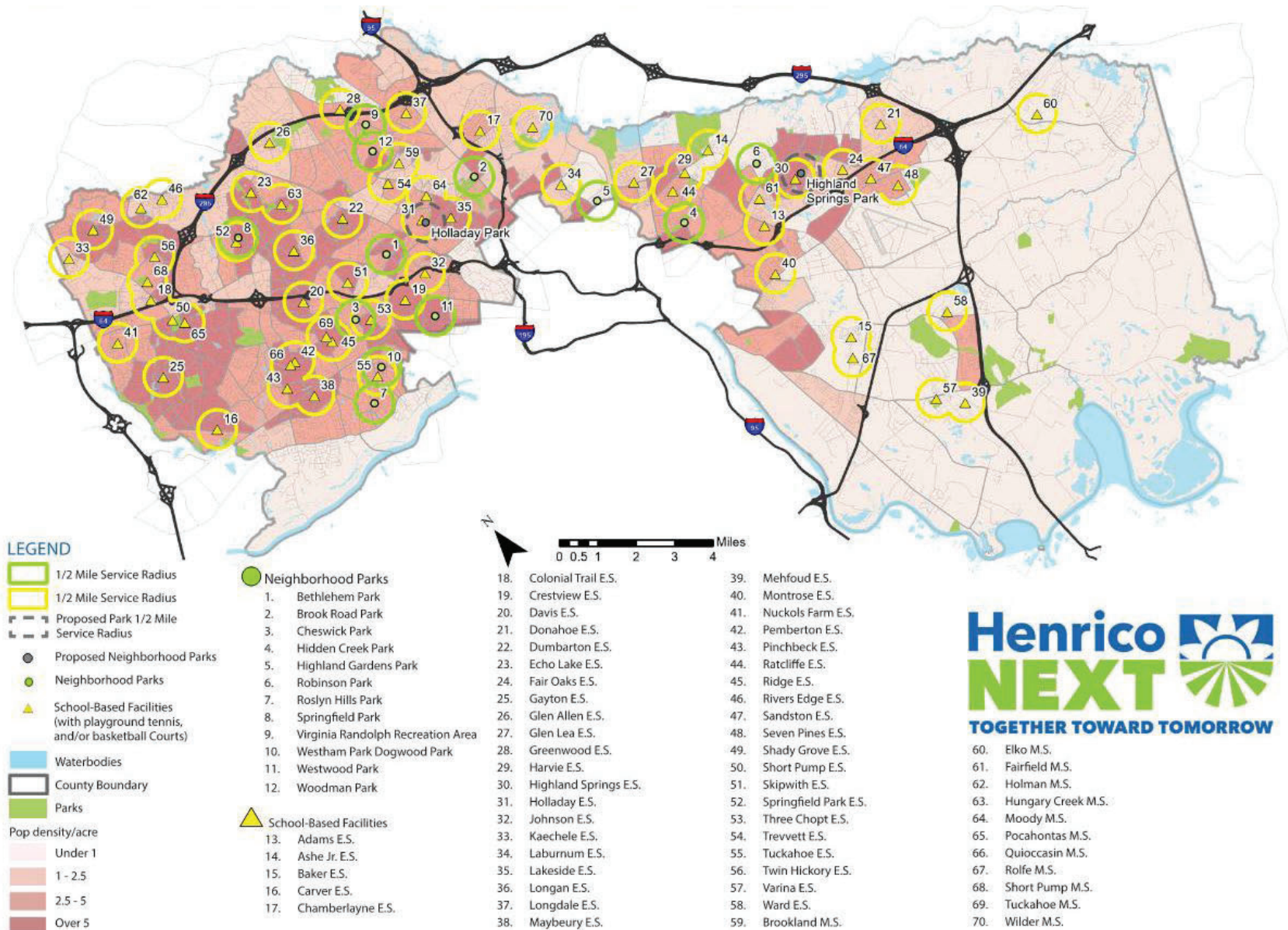
EXISTING PARK SERVICE AREAS AND PROPOSED SERVICE AREAS

Proposed parks, owned by the county but undeveloped, have been overlaid on the park service maps (See Maps 6-8). By seeing these and their respective service areas, it gives a more complete picture of service coverage if the proposed parks are built out.

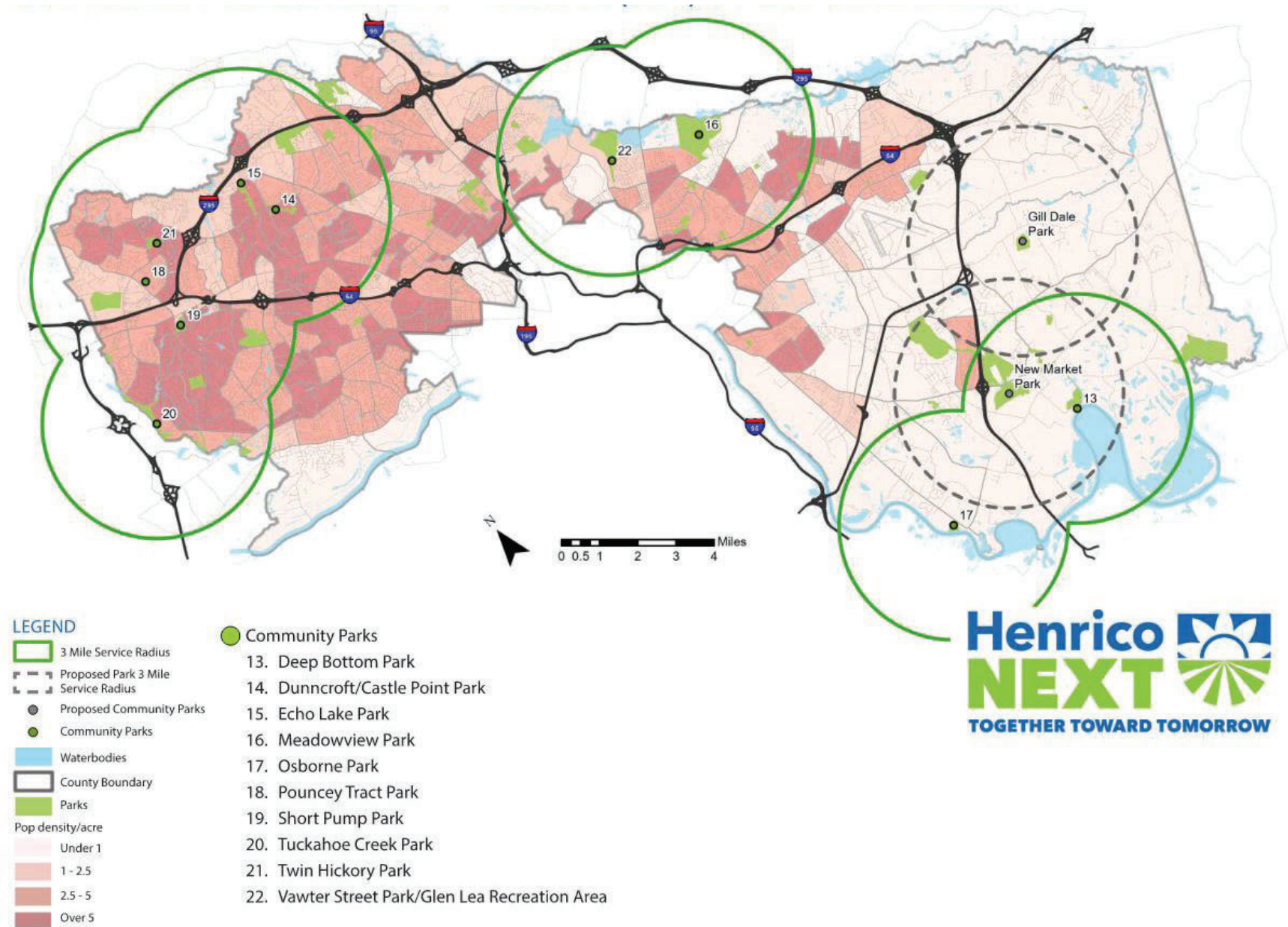
Some highlights from the geographic analysis are:

- There is only one proposed neighborhood park, Holladay Park, and it does little to fill any gaps in service areas because it overlaps with Holladay Elementary School.
- Two proposed community parks, Gill Dale Park and New Market Park, would address some of the underserved areas in the eastern parts of the county.
- One proposed county park, Kain Road Park, adds additional service coverage in the northwestern part of Henrico, an area that is already noted to be well-served by parks.

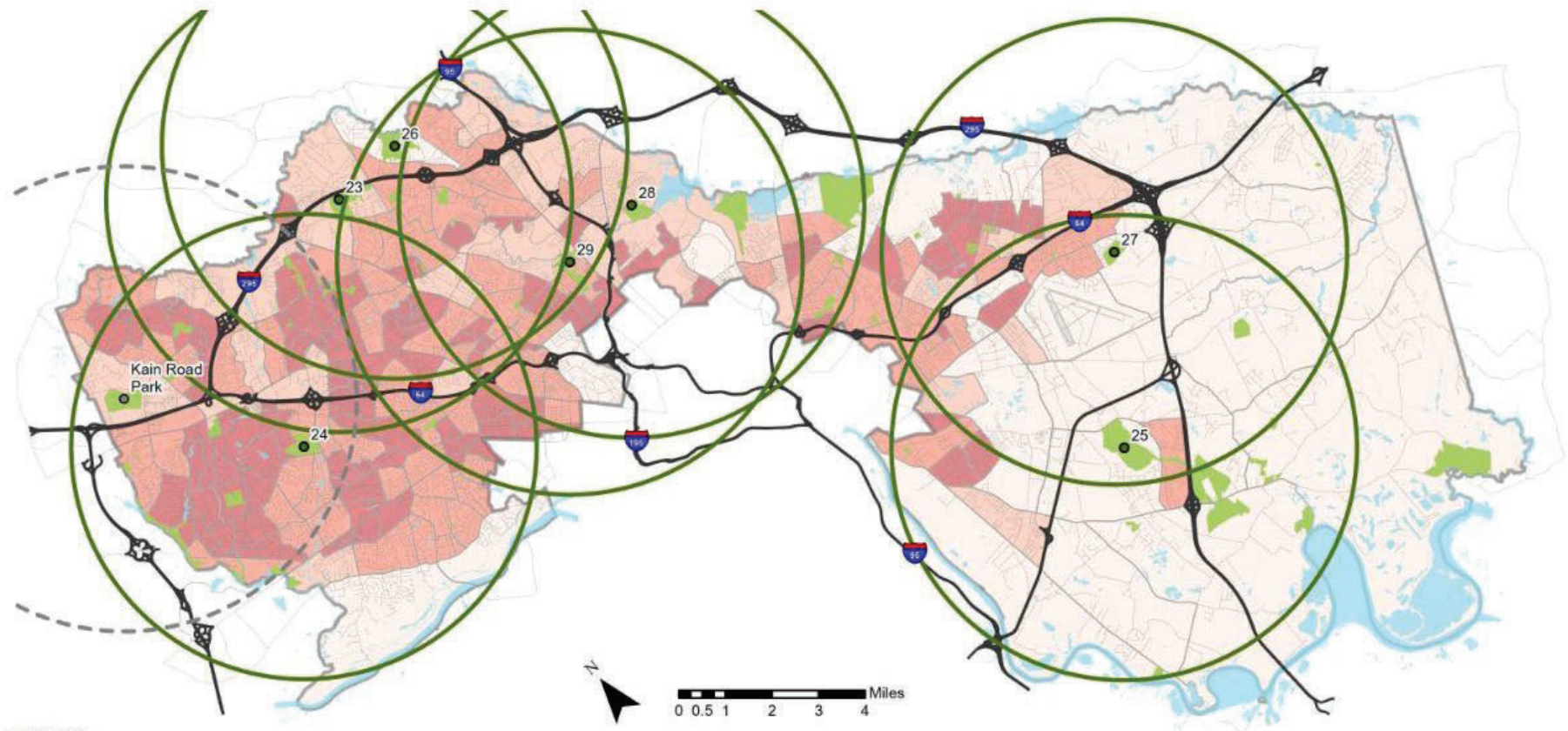
MAP 6 // NEIGHBOHOOD PARK SERVICE AREA AND PROPOSED PARKS



MAP 7 // COMMUNITY PARK SERVICE AREA AND PROPOSED PARKS



MAP 8 // COUNTY PARK SERVICE AREA AND PROPOSED PARKS



LEGEND

- 5 Mile Service Radius
- Proposed Park 5 Mile Service Radius
- Proposed County Park
- County Parks
- Waterbodies
- County Boundary
- Parks
- Pop density/acre
 - Under 1
 - 1 - 2.5
 - 2.5 - 5
 - Over 5

- County Parks
- 23. Crump Park/Meadow Farm Museum
- 24. Deep Run Park
- 25. Dorey Park
- 26. Glover Park
- 27. Taylor Farm Park
- 28. Three Lakes Park & Nature Center
- 29. Belmont Park & Golf Course

Neighborhood Park Service Areas and Equity Need

The geographic LOS analysis shown in Maps 6-8 indicate Henrico is well served by community and county level parks. There are some service gaps in community parks for the population centers on the west side of I-95, but the community park type services provided at the county level Belmont Park address those needs.

Based on a population level of service analysis, the county has sufficient acreage of neighborhood parks, although a geographic analysis reveals there are several gaps in distribution of these across the county. Additionally, neighborhood parks were identified as a high need in the Facility Priority Assessment to be discussed in the following pages.

Equity also plays a crucial role in determining the optimal allocation of park resources within the county. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Social Vulnerability Index (SVI), which combines 16 demographic factors, is a valuable tool for identifying and assessing communities facing social vulnerability. This tool enables policymakers to make informed, location-specific decisions that can effectively benefit underserved areas. In this analysis, SVI scores were combined with 2020 US Census population density data to create a composite map that highlights the most densely populated areas with the highest levels of social vulnerability. Both SVI and population density scores were scaled from one to five, with five representing the highest value. These scores were then merged into a composite map with a maximum score of 10. The SVI was specifically applied to neighborhood parks, as these parks are most directly tied to the immediate needs of local communities, particularly those with higher levels of social vulnerability.

By overlaying neighborhood and future parks, with elementary and middle schools we can see where gaps with the greatest need exist, as shown on Map 9. Special-use facilities and athletic facilities are also shown on the map, with the understanding that neighborhood park amenities could be added to these sites to address access without requiring new site acquisition. The intent of the map analysis is to identify the highest priority areas for new

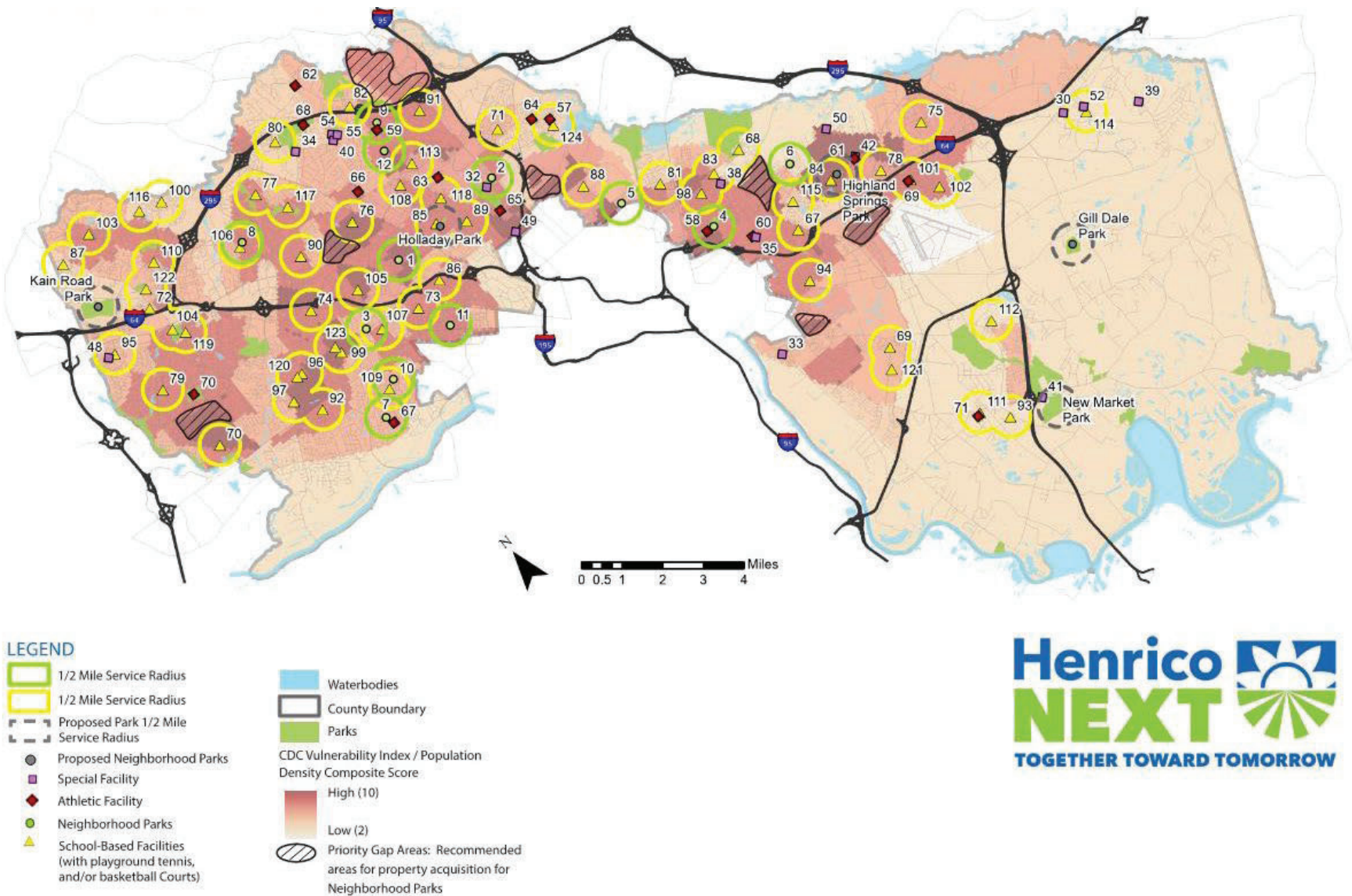
neighborhood park site acquisition or provisions. Seven of these areas have been identified on the map.

Refer to Maps 6-8 for the park service areas with proposed parks overlayed onto a population density map. Refer to Map 9 for the Overlay of Park and School-based Facilities and Population Density/CDC Vulnerability Index for recommended areas for new neighborhood park provision.



Park visitors exercising along the paved trail at Klehr Field. (Source: Henrico County)

MAP 9 // OVERLAY OF PARK AND SCHOOL-BASED FACILITIES AND POPULATION DENSITY / CDC VULNERABILITY INDEX



REC & PARK FACILITIES KEY



Neighborhood Parks

1. Bethlehem Park
2. Brook Road Park
3. Cheswick Park
4. Hidden Creek Park
5. Highland Gardens Park
6. Robinson Park
7. Roslyn Hills Park
8. Springfield Park
9. Virginia Randolph Recreation Area
10. Westham Park Dogwood Park
11. Westwood Park
12. Woodman Park



Special Facility & Community/ Recreation Centers

30. Antioch School Community Center
31. Armour House
32. Belmont Recreation Center
33. Clarke-Palmore House Museum
34. Courtney Road Service Station
35. Dabbs House Museum
36. Deep Run Recreation Center
37. Dorey Recreation Center
38. Eastern Henrico Recreation Center
39. Elko Recreation Area
40. Forest Lodge Belvedere
41. Four Mile Creek Park
42. Henrico Theatre
43. Hidden Creek Community Center
44. Highland Springs Community Center
45. Hunton Community Center
46. Meadow Farm Historic House
47. Parson Community Center
48. Nuckols Farm Park
49. Spring Park Historic Site
50. The Springs Recreation Center

51. Twin Hickory Recreation Center
52. Virginia Randolph Museum
53. Frank J Thornton YMCA Aquatic Center *
54. Cultural Arts Center at Glenn Allen*
55. Walkerton Tavern*
56. Richmond National Battlefield (Malvern Hill) †



Athletic Facility

57. Capital Park
58. Central Gardens Recreation Area
59. Glen Allen Softball Complex
60. Glen Echo Recreation Area
61. Highland Springs Recreation Area
62. Hunton Park
63. J. Sargeant Reynolds Recreation Area ‡
64. Klehr Field
65. Lakeside Recreation Area
66. Laurel Recreation Area



School-Based Facilities

67. Adams E.S.
68. Ashe Jr. E.S.
69. Baker E.S.
70. Carver E.S.
71. Chamberlayne E.S.
72. Colonial Trail E.S.
73. Crestview E.S.
74. Davis E.S.
75. Donahoe E.S.
76. Dumbarton E.S.
77. Echo Lake E.S.
78. Fair Oaks E.S.
79. Gayton E.S.
80. Glen Allen E.S.
81. Glen Lea E.S.

82. Greenwood E.S.
83. Harvie E.S.
84. Highland Springs E.S.
85. Holladay E.S.
86. Johnson E.S.
87. Kaechele E.S.
88. Laburnum E.S.
89. Lakeside E.S.
90. Longan E.S.
91. Longdale E.S.
92. Maybeury E.S.
93. Mehfoud E.S.
94. Montrose E.S.
95. Nuckols Farm E.S.
96. Pemberton E.S.
97. Pinchbeck E.S.
98. Ratcliffe E.S.
99. Ridge E.S.
100. Rivers Edge E.S.
101. Sandston E.S.
102. Seven Pines E.S.
103. Shady Grove E.S.
104. Short Pump E.S.
105. Skipwith E.S.
106. Springfield Park E.S.
107. Three Chopt E.S.
108. Trevvett E.S.
109. Tuckahoe E.S.
110. Twin Hickory E.S.
111. Varina E.S.
112. Ward E.S.
113. Brookland M.S.
114. Elko M.S.
115. Fairfield M.S.
116. Holman M.S.
117. Hungary Creek M.S.
118. Moody M.S.
119. Pocahontas M.S.
120. Quioccasin M.S.

121. Rolfe M.S.
122. Short Pump M.S.
123. Tuckahoe M.S.
124. Wilder M.S.

PRIORITY NEED ANALYSIS

County resources and time are finite, and identifying priorities for projects and improvements is a method to efficiently provide the services most needed by residents. Two types of prioritizations include ordering by public need for specific amenities, and by best practices for different types of projects. The results of these two analyses, as well as other factors like cost and feasibility, will lead into the final phased implementation plan.

PUBLIC NEED PRIORITY

The public need priority ranking assesses the level of need for a variety of facilities in Henrico County. It evaluates several factors of public need, assigning a value in each category for the type of facility. The resulting totals are then ranked according to high, moderate, and some need for those facilities. The evaluation categories are the public's value of the amenity (per Recreation and Park Survey, 2022), the public's unmet need (per 2022 survey), LOS shortfalls, demographics, trends, and existing inventory. High-scoring priority needs include multiple types of trails, outdoor fitness, aquatic center, amphitheater, gymnasium, neighborhood park, and basketball court.

Priority Order of Repairs and Improvements

1. Safety: tripping hazards, broken railings, standing water, broken play equipment, surfacing	2. Code: ADA, ingress/egress, lighting, fire	3. Deferred Maintenance: paint, equipment repairs	4. Obsolescence/ Replacements: obsolete non- standard/non-code- compliant amenities, features	5. Park Improvements: to address program needs, current use, and add value	6. System Expansion: innovations and additions to the county park system
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ORDER OF IMPROVEMENTS

The order of improvements to the recreation and parks system is based on ensuring public safety and allocating resources efficiently. The first items to be addressed are maintenance and safety of existing facilities and amenities, followed by improving the existing system, and finally building new projects. This priority framework ensures there is a consistent level of safety and appearance through the entire recreation system and that the Department will continue to operate and grow within its resource capacity, including staffing and budget.

Type of Facility	Priority
Outdoor Fitness	High Need
Paved Trail	
Gravel Trail	
Aquatic Center	
Amphitheater	
Gymnasium	
Basketball Court	Medium Need
Neighborhood Park	
Multi-Use Field	
Canoe/Kayak Launch	
Disc Golf Course	
Playground	
Tennis Court	
Cricket Field	
Dog Park	
Pickleball Court	
Picnic Shelter	
Community Park	
District Park	
Recreation Center	
Boat Ramp/Slide	
Nature Center	Some Need
Performing Arts Center	
Skate Park	
Sprayground	
Historic Building/Museum	
Sand Volleyball	
Fishing Access	
Baseball Field	
Softball Field	
Horse Trail & Ring	
Pump Track	
Community Center	
Golf Course	
T-Ball	
Track	

PARK AND FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations were developed through a review of the parks and facilities existing conditions assessments, Recreation and Park Survey (2022) findings, and results of the LOS analysis. They include improvements to existing parks and facilities and addition of new parks and facilities. The following are loosely prioritized based on need and interest.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXISTING PARKS AND FACILITIES

PARKS AND AMENITIES

Address safety hazards:

Safety issues, including tripping hazards, broken railings, damaged wooden boardwalk and stairs, standing water, trash accumulation, and uneven surfacing should be addressed at all county-maintained sites. The site condition assessments found limited instances of hazards, but all should be addressed immediately.

Review and address ADA accessibility:

Some of the parks and facilities assessments noted a lack of or limited ADA-accessibility in a portion of the site or buildings, especially paths and sidewalks within the parks. This includes parking spaces, access (sidewalks), facilities, and restrooms. The Department has an “ADA Transition Plan” in place, which includes ADA assessments for each park in 2016, 2019, and 2022. The Plan identifies areas of non-compliance with current codes and outlines an action plan to address these issues. The Plan is updated annually based on progress made. The Department should continue to assess park site conditions every three years and address the deficiencies found.

Continue to increase the quantity of universally accessible amenities and design elements:

Henrico County has been adding accessible amenities and features as part of lifecycle replacement and park investment. This includes access routes, furnishings, surfacing, and play equipment. The county should continue its focus on incorporating these elements into the design of new sites by replacing outdated features, constructing new ones, and adding additional amenities. For example, a new park could be designed to include a universally playable ball diamond, aging playground equipment could be replaced with an inclusive playground, and ADA-accessible picnic tables could be added.

Plan for equipment replacement:

A number of assessments noted that park or facility equipment was older yet still usable. At some point these amenities will need to be replaced rather than repaired and the Department’s budget must take this into account and begin to set aside funding. Site assessments evaluated the condition of equipment at school sites, but schools manage their own replacement schedule and budget.

Create database to track equipment age, schedule routine maintenance, and plan for equipment replacement:

Henrico County has an extensive park system with a vast number of amenities. The Department is actively creating a GIS-linked database that tracks the location, installation date, routine maintenance, and anticipated replacement date of these assets. It will aid in scheduling and performing routine maintenance which will extend the lifespan of equipment and increase safety, as well as assisting the county in budgeting maintenance and CIP costs.

Improve linkages to adjacent neighborhoods:

Many parks and facilities lack non-vehicular connections to adjacent neighborhoods or schools. Ideally, people who live near a park can walk, bike, or take a bus to reach it. This increases physical activity,

reduces reliance on automobiles, and creates stronger ties between community members and the area in which they live. Henrico should develop an action plan to create linkages to each facility. Methods include adding or improving sidewalks, bike lanes, multi-use trails, and adding or altering bus service. This improved linkage plan should align with the future county-wide Bike and Trail Master Plan.

Construct appropriate stormwater management facilities and erosion control measures:

All new park development or retrofits should follow Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act (CBPA) and the Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) regulations. Stormwater management features should be integrated into parks as an amenity that creates spaces, habitat, and educational opportunities. Best Management Practices (BMPs) should be implemented in existing parks to address stormwater drainage and erosion issues. Several parks are reported to have drainage/channeling issues, ponding in fields, standing water, erosion, or flooding, including Hidden Creek Park, Osborne Park, Three Lakes Park, Deep Run Park, Varina Recreation Center, and Klehr Field. Techniques such as regrading, yard or French drains, or BMPs should be implemented to address these health and safety concerns and provide proper drainage. Erosion management techniques like fencing, regrading, planting, and erosion control matting may be appropriate for the site situations.

Stormwater management improvements can be addressed individually or integrated with site redevelopment, depending on the extent of the problem and the Department's plans for the park. There are also opportunities to install landscape buffers to improve water quality on sites that drain directly to water bodies. These would be designed as continuous landscape beds of native plants, potentially shrubs, trees, grasses, or perennials. They would intercept runoff entering the water body, reduce the total runoff, filter pollution and trash, reduce sedimentation, stabilize banks, and provide wildlife habitat. The Department should develop an

improvement schedule to address existing stormwater issues at all managed parks and facilities.

Increase access to shade at all parks:

As the frequency and intensity of high-temperature days increase, access to shade features becomes even more important. Such features should be integrated into the design of all new parks and existing ones should be retrofitted with shade elements over seating, picnic, and activity areas. Options include shade sails, structures, new tree planting, and/or preservation of existing trees during design and development. A first-priority focus should be on community and county park facilities and higher usage, destination-level playgrounds.

Install consistent signage within the parks system:

The Department should commission a professionally developed standardized sign package for installation at all county facilities. This should include a range of different types of signs such as entrance, directional, and orientation. Currently there is missing, incomplete, and inconsistent signage, which causes confusion and may result in lower usage rates. Parks with trails should include a system map at the trailhead. In 2024, the Department initiated a Sign Committee, which will address instituting consistent and clear signage throughout the park system.

Manage historic sites to enhance recreation opportunities:

Identify improvements and enhancements to historical sites to enrich the visitor experience and maintain historic integrity. Explore viewshed and buffer easements and acquisition of adjacent property where and when appropriate or possible. Add visitor amenities such as picnic and play areas signage, and recreational water access as appropriate to the site and historical context. These additional amenities may provide neighborhood park-level services, addressing gaps in geographic access for county residents.

Infill new amenity types at existing parks:

Henrico County's parks are a mix of single-purpose and those with a variety of amenities. The county should construct infill programming at existing sites, especially single use like athletic complexes, to expand recreational opportunities for visitors and surrounding residents and to engage a wider variety of user groups and challenge levels. The Department has started this practice by adding dog parks, gravel trails, and outdoor fitness amenities to Glover Park, planned to open in 2025, turning it from an athletic complex to a county park. This is a best practice and should continue at other parks.

Expand variety of playground types:

Many parks have themed playgrounds, which is a best practice that distinguishes them, builds character of place, and makes them destinations, but the equipment is predominantly traditional post-and-deck style. The county should expand the types of play available and diversify the style of equipment throughout the parks system, potentially including other types like nature play, rope climbers, and agility. Taylor Farm Park, which opened in 2024, is an example of a park that provides diverse opportunities including: a rope course, zip line, and an inclusive destination playground.

Address parking shortages during tournaments:

Athletic complexes frequently face parking shortages during tournament events. Consider developing strategies to add parking, other than paved lots. Surface lots are a single-use amenity that will predominately be unused between tournaments. Alternative solutions could include structural soil grass fields that can double as overflow parking, constructing paths or sidewalks to adjacent underutilized parking lots at locations such as schools, or arranging event shuttles to offsite parking. Each facility and potentially each event will need a tournament parking solution developed to fit the circumstances.

Establish a Natural Resources Team that will develop a Natural Resources Management Plan for implementation at all park sites:

A Natural Resources Management Plan should be developed by certified arborists and horticulturalists in conjunction with maintenance professionals to provide optimal growing conditions, enhance ecological health, and present a landscape of outstanding quality for visitors. The plan should set standards for management and maintenance of park landscapes, including classifications of management; standards for tree trimming, mulching, and replacement; invasive species management; a palette of native landscaping plants; native meadow creation and management; soft trail conditions and maintenance; and wildlife management.

Convert underused areas in parks into environmental improvements:

Underused spaces within parks should be for environmental benefit, like flood control, stormwater management, water quality improvement, habitat creation, and public demonstration areas. These features should be treated as amenities to the site and integrated into its programming. Existing parks can be enhanced through targeted upgrades, dedicated environmental redevelopment, or as part of an overall park redevelopment process. New ones should be designed to have dual functions as a park and provide environmental amenities. Converting

underutilized spaces within these sites will provide infrastructure services (e.g., flood control, protect pipes/roads/bridges) and health benefits (e.g., cleaner air and water, pollinator habitat), as well serve the Department's goal of environmental stewardship. One example would be to identify large unprogrammed lawns (not used for play areas, events, or overflow parking) and convert them to managed meadows. The Natural Resources Management Plan should identify appropriate goals and standards for these areas system-wide, and where appropriate, develop site-specific management plans.

Install ornamental landscaping in high visibility areas:

Ornamental landscaping is provided predominately only at newer parks. The Natural Resources Management Plan should identify opportunities for decorative infill landscaping at all parks, focusing on high-visibility and high-impact areas like entrances, high-use areas, property buffers, and internal buffer spaces. Priority should first be given to retrofitting county, community, and athletic complex facilities because of higher visitor numbers, and then to neighborhood and specialty parks. Maintenance staff and budget should be allocated for any expanded landscaping to continue the current high level of maintenance.

Update master plans for older parks:

Older parks are well-established assets, but some of the provided facilities may not align with recreational trends or the needs of the surrounding communities. They may also have crime and safety concerns. The county should identify parks with master plans that are 15 years old or greater and update them to bring them into alignment with county-wide recreational goals and current and future recreational trends. Public engagement is essential for the site master planning process, so that the needs of the surrounding community are met.

Upgrading these parks with amenities and programs tailored to the needs of the community would increase their usage and enhance



Fishing pier at Tuckahoe Creek Park. (Source: Henrico County)

safety through increased visibility and engagement encouraging "eyes on the park."

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEW PARKS AND FACILITIES

PARKS AND AMENITIES

Construct loop trails within parks:

Trails of every type are the most visited facilities in the county. Henrico should integrate these systems into every park, which could be developed as walking paths, a paved, multi-use trail, or hiking trails. A variety of experiences should be provided in Henrico's trail system, with different surfaces, length of walking time, experiences, and level of accessibility. Wide, paved shared-use paths for walking and biking were the type most preferred in the Recreation and Park Survey (2022), closely followed by "variety of trail types." The county has been implementing this best practice into recent park development: Taylor Farm Park has a paved mile loop path, and Glover Park will have three miles of gravel trails and one mile of paved connection trails.

Construct an outdoor amphitheater:

The Department should consider constructing an outdoor amphitheater to host concerts, events, and ceremonies and to be available for public rental. The Department must ensure that parking, restrooms, and other facilities are adequate at the park site to support the events at the site. A geographically accessible location for the amphitheater is preferable, considering factors like a centralized location within the county, proximity to population centers, and access feasibility.

Construct outdoor fitness facilities:

The public expressed a strong need for additional fitness and exercise facilities. Outdoor fitness equipment is a rising trend, providing accessible opportunities for fitness, as well as increasing park usership. There are a wide variety of options, from static bodyweight and machines to cross fit and obstacle courses. The

equipment can be clustered or spaced along a trail. It is recommended that the county develop two outdoor fitness facilities, located to provide equitable access. Potential access factors include distance, quantity of population, historical investment patterns, and vulnerable populations.

Construct additional basketball courts:

There is high public demand for basketball courts, and the current inventory is below the existing and future targeted level of service, requiring eight additional courts to meet current demand and ten to meet 2033 demand. Basketball courts may be integrated into new park construction, as well as included in expansions.

Construct additional multi-use fields:

The county currently has a shortfall of nine rectangular multi-use fields, which is expected to rise to a shortfall of 13 by 2033. It should construct additional fields to address this deficit and consider the construction of additional athletic complexes to meet this need.

Provide at least one ADA accessible fishing site:

It is recommended that there is at least one ADA-accessible fishing location within the county. This could be a new fishing access point or the redevelopment of an existing site.

Construct disc golf courses:

The county should construct two additional disc golf courses to address a current shortfall of one which expands to a shortfall of two by 2033.

Construct additional playgrounds:

The county has need for four additional playgrounds in 2024, which rises to a projected need for nine by 2033. Playgrounds may be integrated into new park development or included in expansions. Themed playgrounds or unique equipment would diversify experiences. They should be designed for inclusive and universally

accessible play. All playgrounds should be designed for 5- to 12-year-olds, with additional toddler play as appropriate.

Construct a cricket field:

The county should construct an additional cricket field to meet current and projected future shortfalls.

Construct additional softball fields:

The county has sufficient softball fields but is projected to have shortfall of two fields in 2033 and should construct one additional.

Develop undeveloped park sites as appropriate to site conditions and context:

Henrico has five undeveloped neighborhood, community, and county park sites, and three undeveloped specialty parks sites. Henrico should create master plans for their use and develop them as appropriate for the sites' conditions and context. It is recommended that the county prioritize the development of Highland Springs Park as a neighborhood park, to address a gap in park access in a densely populated and socially vulnerable part of Henrico.

Provide access to Neighborhood Park-level amenities in priority gap locations:

Based on a population LOS analysis, the county has sufficient acreage of neighborhood parks, but a geographic analysis reveals that there are several gaps in distribution of neighborhood parks across the county. Using an analysis of other park site locations, population density, and the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index (a composite of 16 different demographic factors), seven priority areas are identified for expansion of neighborhood park-level services (e.g., playground, picnic shelter, open play lawn, hard courts, paths/trails). This can be accomplished through multiple methods, including developing an access agreement with an existing private or semi-public facility, adding neighborhood park-type amenities to

an existing county facility, or purchasing and developing a new parcel as a neighborhood park. Refer to the previous Map 9 for the recommended area for new park access provision.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Construct new recreation centers:

Based on the LOS analysis and public feedback, additional recreation center space is needed to serve all generations. The county currently has a shortfall of 47,800 square feet of indoor recreation space, which grows to a 60,000-square foot shortfall in 2033. This is equivalent to constructing two comprehensive recreation centers (25,000 - 30,000 square feet each) and expanding one to two existing centers. A separate feasibility study should be conducted to determine location and features of the new recreation centers. The Recreation and Park Survey (2022) indicated a need for indoor gymnasiums, fitness areas, and walking tracks, but a more comprehensive analysis should be conducted.

Facilitate access to a new aquatic center:

The only public aquatic center in the county is the Frank J. Thornton YMCA Aquatic Center. There is a strong need for an additional one, reflected in the Recreation and Park Survey (2022) results and in the LOS analysis. The county should facilitate development of a new aquatic center for the public, potentially constructing and/or operating it in a public-private partnership, similar to the Frank J. Thornton YMCA. It is recommended that such a facility be in close proximity to a recreation center, as a consolidated destination.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Implementation planning takes recommendations made in earlier sections and converts them into tangible results. The plan includes prioritization of these actions. The goal of the plan is to identify the most efficient way to sequence recommendations in order to balance resident needs with county resources.

IMPLEMENTATION PHASING

Phasing is determined by overlaying the public need priorities, order of repairs, and construction feasibility findings on the list of recommendations for sustaining the recreational system. For example, a facility that addresses safety, code nonconformities, or access could be implemented easily, and/or is a high public priority, would be rated as a short-term project to be completed within the next five years. Long-term priorities involve recommendations that require in-depth consideration, compilation of larger funding amounts, projected demographic shifts, and long-range planning, and should be completed within the next 5 to 10 years. Ongoing efforts are implementation items that can be done on an as-needed basis, should be done on a periodic (seasonal, annual, or other cycle) basis, and as funding becomes available.

Phases are divided into the following categories:

- **Short-term - Complete within the next 5 years (by 2029):**

Improve existing facilities and practices; build out to the capacity of existing facilities; set groundwork for long-term actions

- **Long-term - Complete within the next 5-10 years (by 2033):**

Expand operations of the Department

- **Ongoing:**

Complete as ongoing effort, as issues arise, or as land or funding becomes available

The order of recommendations should be reviewed every year to reflect budgets, staffing levels, new policies, usage trends, and resident demand. Phasing may shift if opportunities arise to implement recommendations sooner than listed in this plan. To track and stay on top of changing priorities and needs the Recreation, Parks, Open Space, and Cultural Resources Master Plan should be updated every five years and coordinated with other county departments and planning documents.

10-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The recommendations for park and facility improvement, new development, programming, and operations and maintenance procedures are categorized below in a 10-Year Implementation Plan.

SHORT-TERM (0-5 YEARS)

Existing Facilities

- Address safety issues at all county-maintained sites by correcting tripping hazards, broken railings, standing water, and others to ensure a safe environment.
- Enhance ADA-accessibility by regularly reviewing and addressing deficiencies identified in the Department's ADA Transition Plan.
- Construct appropriate stormwater management facilities and erosion control measures by adhering to CBPA and VSMP regulations in new park developments and retrofits.
- Create a database to track equipment age, schedule routine maintenance, and plan for equipment replacement.
- Improve linkages to adjacent neighborhoods in neighborhood, community, and county parks.
- Increase access to shade in community and county parks.
- Implement a consistent signage system across all parks by commissioning a standardized sign package to enhance user experience and reduce confusion.
- Address parking shortages during tournaments by exploring alternative solutions such as overflow parking on grass fields, connecting to nearby underutilized lots, and arranging event shuttles, with tailored strategies for each facility and event.

New Facilities

- Plan for and expand recreation access in seven priority areas by developing public-private partnerships, partnerships with other organizations, or adding neighborhood park-type amenities to existing county facilities.
- Construct a new county park.
- Construct eight new basketball courts.
- Construct a new cricket field.
- Construct a new disc golf course.
- Develop a new ADA fishing site through the construction of a new fishing access point or redevelopment of an existing site.
- Construct two new outdoor fitness facilities.
- Construct four new playground areas in high-use areas.
- Develop nine new multi-use fields.
- Develop a new outdoor amphitheater to host concerts, events, and ceremonies.
- Construct one new recreation center.
- Expand a recreation center in one to two existing centers, guided by a feasibility study to determine optimal locations and features based on community needs and feedback.
- Conduct a recreation center feasibility assessment to determine location of new facilities.
- Facilitate access to a new aquatic center by exploring the construction and operation of a facility through public-private partnership, ideally located near a recreation center to create a consolidated destination.
- Conduct an aquatic center feasibility assessment to determine location and operation method potential of a new facility.

Land Acquisition

- Determine action plans for providing neighborhood parks in the seven priority gap areas.

LONG-TERM (5-10 YEARS)

Existing Facilities

- Improve linkages to adjacent neighborhoods in special-use and athletic facilities.
- Increase access to shade in special use and athletic facility parks.

New Facilities

- Build out neighborhood parks as required to meet the need for the amenities they provide.
- Develop Highland Springs Park to address a gap in park access in a densely populated and socially vulnerable part of the county.
- Develop all undeveloped park sites. (If funding is available could be accelerated to short-term implementation.)
- Construct two new basketball courts.
- Construct a new baseball field.
- Construct a new disc golf course.
- Construct five new playground areas.
- Construct four new multi-use fields.
- Construct two softball fields.
- Construct one new recreation center to address the current and projected shortfalls for indoor space.

ONGOING

Existing Facilities

- Increase quantity of universally accessible amenities and design elements.
- Plan for equipment replacement by setting aside budgeted funds for future replacements of aging park and facility equipment, considering the need for eventual replacement rather than repair.
- Enhance historic sites by improving visitor amenities, adding features such as signage, picnic areas, and recreational access to enrich the experience.
- Add new infill amenities at existing parks to diversify recreational opportunities, especially in single-use parks, including features like dog parks and fitness areas to engage a broader range of users.
- Convert underused areas in parks into environmental improvements.
- Update master plans for parks older than 15 years to align with current recreational trends and community needs, incorporating public engagement and addressing safety concerns through redevelopment.
- Install ornamental landscaping in high-visibility areas at all parks, prioritizing high-use and entrance zones, and ensure maintenance staff and budget are allocated for upkeep.

New Facilities

- Construct loop trails within every park to offer diverse trail experiences, including walking paths, multi-use trails, and hiking routes, reflecting public preferences for varied trail types and surfaces.
- Create connections between existing shared use path routes, like the Fall Line Trail and Capital Trail, as well as between existing trails and parks. Refer to the future Henrico County Bicycle and Trails plan for additional details.