



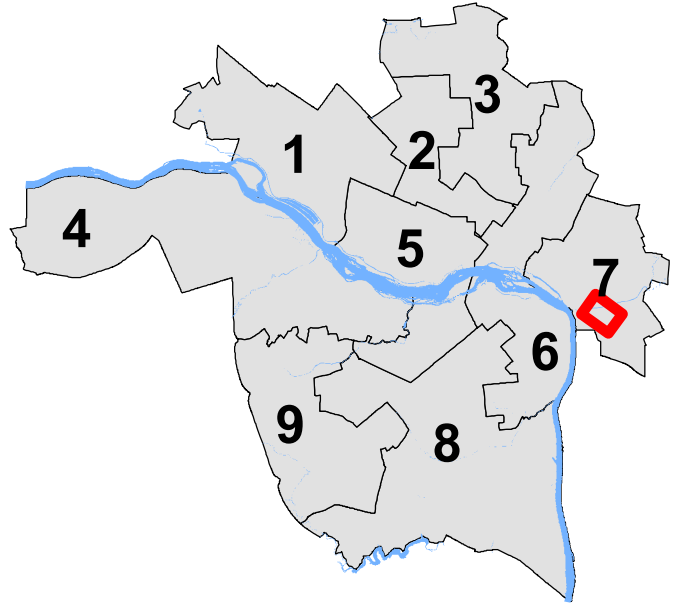
City of Richmond Department of Planning & Development Review

Location, Character, and Extent

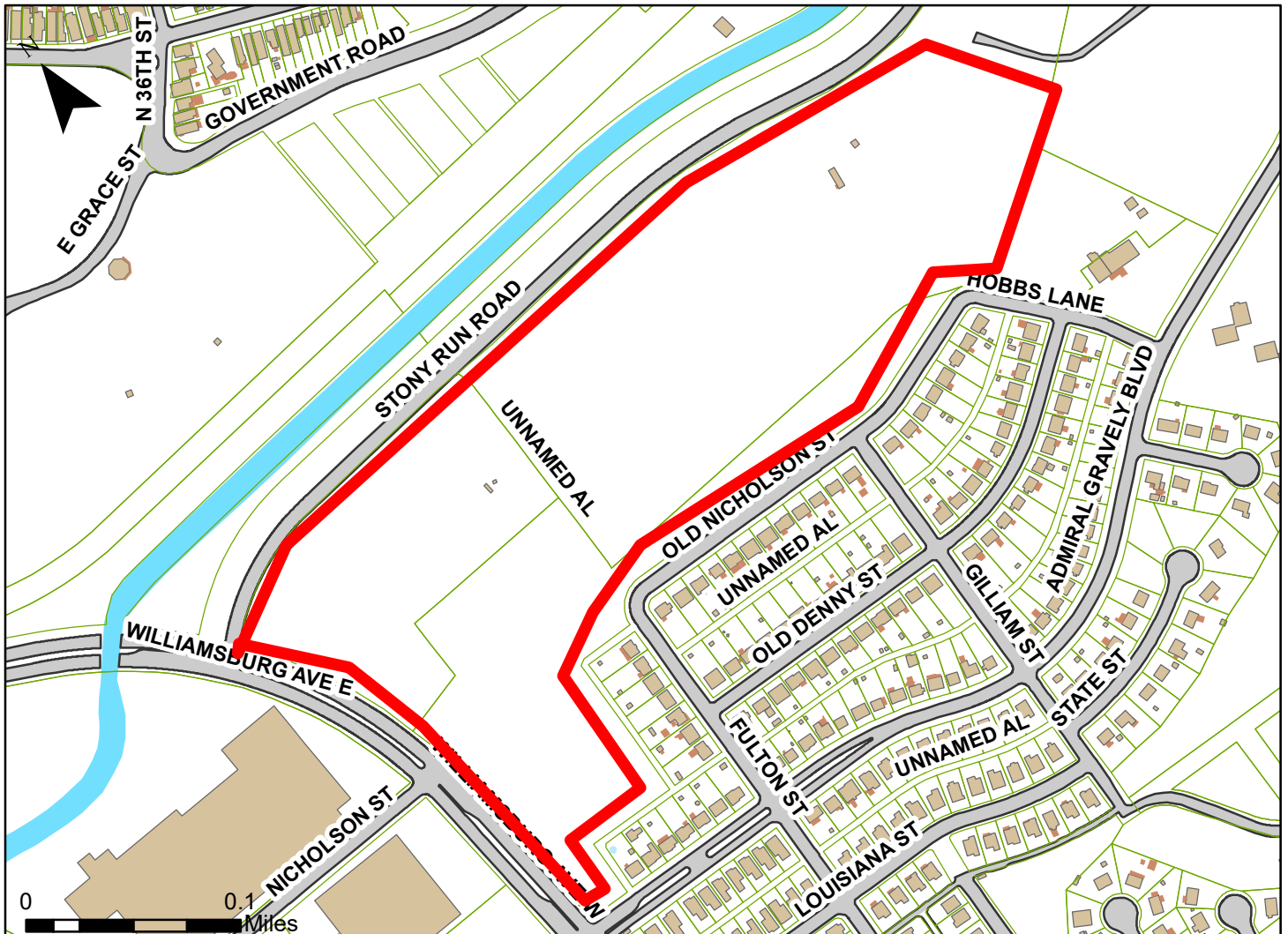
LOCATION: 4425 Williamsburg Road

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 7

PROPOSAL: Final review of Gillie's Creek picnic shelters.



*For questions, please contact Alex Dandridge
at 646-6569 or alex.dandridge@richmondgov.com*





Application for Urban Design Committee Review

Department of Planning and Development Review

Planning & Preservation Division

900 E. Broad Street, Room 510

Richmond, Virginia 23219 | (804) 646-6335

<https://www.rva.gov/planning-development-review/urban-design-committee>



Application Type (select one)

Location, Character, & Extent
Section 17.05
Other:

Encroachment
Design Overlay District

Review Type (select one)

Conceptual
Final

Project Information

Submission Date: _____

Project Name: _____

Project Address: _____

Brief Project Description (this is not a replacement for the required detailed narrative):

Applicant Information (a City representative must be the applicant, with an exception for encroachments)

Name: _____ Email: _____

City Agency: _____ Phone: _____

Main Contact (if different from Applicant): _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Submittal Deadlines

All applications and support materials must be filed no later than 21 days prior to the scheduled meeting of the Urban Design Committee (UDC). Please see the schedule on page 3 as actual deadlines are adjusted due to City holidays. **Late or incomplete submissions will be deferred to the next meeting.**

Filing

Applications can be mailed or delivered to the attention of "Urban Design Committee" at the address listed at the top of this page. **It is important that the applicant discuss the proposal with appropriate City agencies, Zoning Administration staff, and area civic associations and residents prior to filing the application with the UDC.**

Submittal Deadlines

The UDC is an 11 member committee created by City Council in 1968 whose purpose is to advise the City Planning Commission (CPC) on the design of projects on City property or right-of-way. The UDC provides advice of an aesthetic nature in connection with the performance of the duties of the Commission under Sections 17.05, 17.06, and 17.07 of the City Charter. The UDC also advises the Department of Public Works in regards to private encroachments in the public right-of-way.

Gillies Creek Park Picnic Shelters Project Narrative

Purpose and Description of the Project

Introduction

The Department of Parks, Recreation, and Community Facilities (DPRCF) has completed a plan for the Gillies Creek Park Picnic Shelters to improve access to and use of an existing picnic area on the eastern side of Gillies Creek Park. This UDC submittal is intended for Final Review of proposed improvements.

Park Location and Context

Gillies Creek Park is located at 4425 Williamsburg Avenue, and the picnic area is located on the easternmost side of the Park along Government Road, between Stony Run Road and Admiral Gravelly Boulevard. The park's BMX track and playground are located just to the west of the project area. The primary entrance to this area of the park is from Government Road via an access road that connects through the Park to Hobbs Lane. The park is located in the 7th Council District and in a residential part of the Fulton neighborhood. Gillies Creek is located just to the north. Planning is underway for development of a Gillies Creek Greenway and for improving connections between parks and neighborhoods across the greater East End; this site sits at the center of the East End planning area.

Project Background

DPRCF and the Gillies Creek Park Foundation, a community stakeholder group that helped found the park and has worked on park improvements for over three decades, have identified a need to improve upon and formalize a popular picnic area in Gillies Creek Park. The area currently has picnic tables scattered around a gravel lot surrounded by woods. There are no shelters or grill stations for visitors. There is also no access and circulation pattern for vehicles and pedestrians, and the ground is denuded from heavy use, especially from vehicles.

The main vision for site improvements is to delineate access drives and safe, orderly parking, designate specific picnic spots with shelters and grill stations, provide universal/ADA-compliant access to the shelters, and to revegetate and beautify disturbed areas.

DPRCF engaged with Timmons Group for design services in Winter 2021. The project began with an initial site visit and a separate project kickoff meeting with DPRCF staff. The design was developed in consultation with DPRCF staff and the Gillies Creek Park Foundation, which has also consulted other partner groups. DPRCF staff visited the site to talk with park users/visitors on April 8 and 14; staff shared the schematic site plan during those visits. All park users present on each visit approved of the concept and provided comments. The project team incorporated the feedback received into the design.

Project Budget and Funding Sources

This project will be fully funded by DPRCF capital projects under the "East District Park Transformation" funding stream. This account is intended to fund the revitalization of DPRCF



facilities within a district established through the East End Transformation planning process. The plan is for the DPRCF Workforce Development program to complete the construction of the parking areas and picnic facilities as well as the restoration of the green spaces. The project will be an educational and training opportunity for Workforce Development participants, with whom DPRCF works to create employment opportunities.

Construction Program

Site Plan Features

Timmons Group has prepared all necessary site planning and product selection to provide direction to the Workforce Development team to construct the improvements. The site program includes the following:

- Resurfaced gravel lot with drive aisles and parking delineated, with two-way and one-way traffic designated with signage and the gravel edged with 8 in. × 8 in. timbers
- Eight (8) picnic shelters with picnic tables and charcoal-style BBQ grills. Of these:
 - Six (6) shelters that are 8 ft. × 9 ft. and can accommodate one (1) built-in picnic table. Two (2) of these shelters are ADA-accessible. ADA accessibility includes one (1) parking space, sidewalk access, the picnic table, and the grill station.
 - Two (2) shelters that are 12 ft. × 12 ft. and can accommodate two (2) free-standing picnic tables
- Tree planting, reseeding, and mulching the site including existing wooded areas within and adjacent to the picnic areas

For preliminary planning purposes only, the following future improvements have been identified but are not included in the current project:

- Restroom facility
- A sidewalk and street tree planting along Government Road and a sidewalk along Stony Brook Road
- Stair and ramp access into the site from the sidewalks along Government Road and Stony Brook Road
- A footpath along the bottom of the slope next to Government Road

Site Furnishings Product Selection

The following site furnishings have been selected:

- Picnic Shelter
 - Six (6) 8 ft. × 9 ft. gable roof sunshelters by Poligon, model no.: SSG 8x9
 - Two (2) 12 ft. × 12 ft. gable roof sunshelters by Poligon, model no.: SSG 12x12
 - Roofs – multi-rib steel panel
 - Colors
 - Frame – Slate
 - Roof – Patina Gray
- Picnic Table – free-standing tables for all shelters
 - Eight (8) model no. CM-565 (Greensites Collection) by Victor Stanley, 6 ft. long
 - Two (2) model no. CM-565 (Greensites Collection) by Victor Stanley, 8 ft. long with 6 ft. long benches for ADA-compliant length (table will have an overhang)

- Color
 - Steel tubing – Teal
 - Recycled plastic slats – Maple

Project Timeline

After receiving UDC and Planning Commission approvals, DPRCF hopes to begin construction as soon as June 2021. The project will be phased as necessary to minimize the amount of site and user disturbance at any given time. The site improvements are being considered a maintenance project rather than new construction.

Landscaping Plan and Maintenance Analysis

Landscaping on the site will focus primarily on revegetating/reseeding the ground plane where it is currently exposed or paved in gravel. All healthy, existing trees will be preserved. Three dead trees within the project area will be removed. The ground plane of the existing wooded areas will be seeded and or mulched and some additional trees will be planted around the site. New plantings will be opportunities for community engagement and education in the fall of 2021. Specific trees for the new plantings will be selected in consultation with the City’s arborists, but may include some of the following recommended native species:

- *Acer rubrum* – Red maple
- *Amelanchier spp.* – Serviceberry
- *Betula nigra* – River birch
- *Cercis canadensis* -- Redbud
- *Cornus florida* – Flowering dogwood
- *Liriodendron tulipifera* – Tulip poplar
- *Quercus falcata* – Southern red oak
- *Quercus palustris* – Pin oak
- *Quercus phellos* – Willow oak
- *Platanus occidentalis* – American sycamore

Landscape maintenance will primarily belong to DPRCF as the property owner. Tree care of trees on City-owned property is the responsibility of the Urban Forestry division of the DPW.

Drawing Attachments

Exhibits

- Project Location and Existing Conditions (location map and photos)
- Site Plan (rendering)
- Picnic Shelters and Site Furnishings (character images)



LOCATION MAP – PROJECT AREA HIGHLIGHTED IN RED



AREA WITH PICNIC TABLES AND TRAILER PARKING



LITTLE TO NO GROUND COVER ACROSS ENTIRE AREA



FACING WEST FROM ENTRANCE TO PICNIC AREA



FACING EAST TOWARDS ENTRANCE TO PICNIC AREA



FACING NORTH – AREA WIDE OPEN

GILLIES CREEK PARK PICNIC SHELTERS

PROJECT LOCATION AND EXISTING CONDITIONS



APRIL 15, 2021



KEY

- (A) 24 FT. DRIVE AISLE WITH TWO-WAY TRAFFIC
- (B) 12 FT. DRIVE AISLE WITH ONE-WAY TRAFFIC
- (C) TRAILER PULL-THRU SPACE
- (D) PARALLEL PARKING (5 SPACES)
- (E) OVERFLOW PARKING LOT (9 SPACES WITH TWO-WAY TRAFFIC FLOW)
- (F) ADA-COMPLIANT ACCESSIBLE PARKING
- (G) ADA-COMPLIANT ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES FOR SHELTER
- (H) PARKING SPACES FOR SHELTER
- (I) 8 FT. x 9 FT. SHELTER WITH BUILT-IN PICNIC TABLE AND GRILL
- (J) 8 FT. x 9 FT. SHELTER WITH BUILT-IN PICNIC TABLE AND GRILL - ADA-COMPLIANT
- (K) 12 FT. x 12 FT. SHELTER WITH TWO PICNIC TABLES
- (L) FUTURE RESTROOM FACILITY
- (M) TREE PLANTING
- (N) GROUNDCOVER ESTABLISHMENT - MULCHED AREA UNDER EXISTING TREE CANOPY, TURF SEEDING ELSEWHERE
- (O) FUTURE PATH
- (E) FUTURE SIDEWALK
- (Q) GRTC BUS STOP
- (R) MAINTAIN VEHICULAR FLOW TO REMAINDER OF PARK AREA

GILLIES CREEK PARK PICNIC SHELTERS

SITE PLAN



SCALE 1"=20'
0 20' 40'





SMALLER PICNIC SHELTER (8. FT. x 9 FT.)
GABLE ROOF SUNSHELTER BY POLIGON
WITH ONE PICNIC TABLE



SMALLER PICNIC SHELTER (12. FT. x 12 FT.)
GABLE ROOF SUNSHELTER BY POLIGON.
WILL HAVE TWO PICNIC TABLES EACH.



GRAVEL DRIVE WITH TIMBER EDGING



CONCRETE SIDEWALK

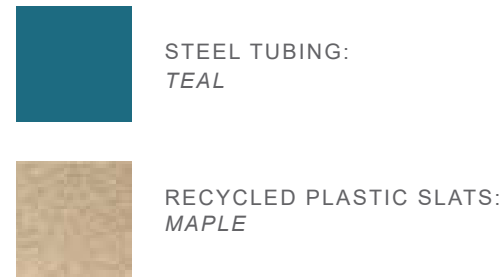
APRIL 15, 2021



PICNIC SHELTER
COLOR SELECTION



PICNIC TABLE WITH METAL FRAME AND
RECYCLED PLASTIC SLATS SHOWN
WITH ADA-COMPLIANT CLEARANCE



PICNIC TABLE
COLOR SELECTION



ADA-COMPLIANT CONCRETE PARKING FOR ADA-
COMPLIANT SHELTERS AND RESTROOMS



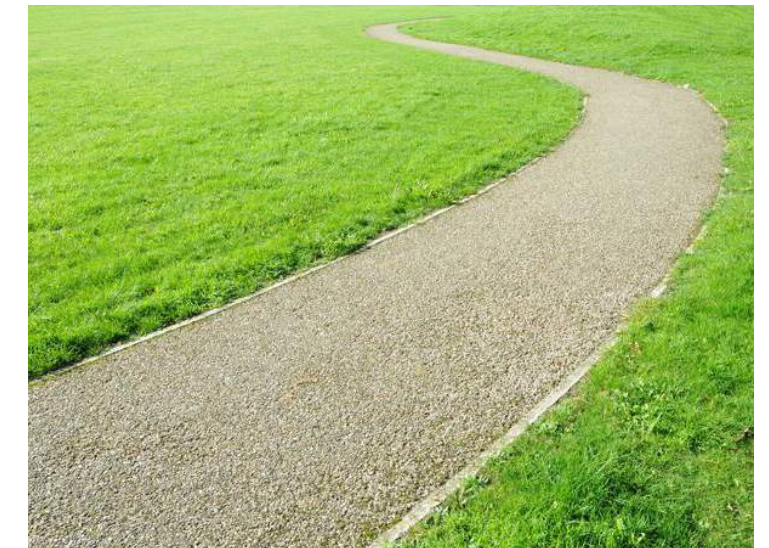
CHARCOAL GRILLS – WITH ACCESSIBLE CONFIGURATION



TREE PLANTING



GROUNDCOVER/TURF RESTORATION



GRAVEL/STONEDUST PATH

GILLIES CREEK PARK PICNIC SHELTERS

PICNIC SHELTERS AND SITE FURNISHINGS

