

## **LORTON LANDFILL QUESTIONS – FEBRUARY 2020** **SCF MEETING**

### **LORTON LANDFILL STATUS UPDATE /** **OVERLOOK RIDGE PARK CONCERNS**

#### **FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY (PA)**

**Q.** Has the PA participated in any and all meetings regarding WMI's progress towards closure of the landfill?

**A.** Yes.

**Q.** Has the PA laid out timelines for their ultimately taking control of the landfill?

**A.** PA staff, in coordination with other County agencies, has shared timelines with Waste Management (WM) on completion of County related permits for site work that would dovetail with remaining landfill closure requirements. Based on current schedule staff anticipates park could be operational in 2023 at the earliest.

**Q.** Have any funding requirements been set down?

**A.** WMI is responsible for constructing the park as shown on approved site plan. The bonds that are part of the approved site plan are established.

**Q.** What would a funding timeline be in order to open the park as soon as possible after the site being cleared for human visitation?

**A.** WM will pay for completion of park elements on the capped landfill, per the approved site plan. The Park Authority will operate the park facilities under the Park Authority's general fund operating budget. Based on the current timeline Park Authority staff will include in the FY 2022 Budget discussions a request for any additional operating costs anticipated for managing the park. Budget discussions for the FY 2022 budget will begin in the summer of calendar year 2020.

**Q.** How many years in advance of the need should funding be requested?

**A.** Assuming that this question pertains to funding of park use operations, then the Park Authority will operate the park facilities under the Park Authority's general fund operating budget. Park Authority staff will include in the FY 2022 Budget discussions a request for any additional operating costs anticipated for managing the park. Budget discussions for the FY 2022 budget will begin in the summer of calendar year 2020.

**Q.** Has the PA given any thought to how they plan to organize and manage Overlook Ridge Park?

**A.** The Park Authority will operate the park facilities as a non-staffed managed park under the management of Park Operations Area 4 Management Team. Park facilities will be maintained in accordance with park authority maintenance standards for each type of facility. Any rental facilities will be scheduled through Park Authority's Park Services Division permit and reservation system.

**Q.** Does the PA plan to form a Task Force with local resident participation to determine what the best uses are for the Park? When would the PA expect to form such a citizen TF?

**A.** The park uses are per the park facilities on the approved site plan. Post-closure requirements for the landfill include gas monitoring that will restrict park uses. Tentative park opening date would be in 2023 at the earliest. Once monitoring period concludes, the park facilities will be open to the public dawn to dusk seven days a week per park regulations for parks without lighted facilities.

**Q.** Can you provide a presentation on these issues to the community at our June 2020 SCF meeting?

**A.** Staff is willing to discuss during February 2020 SCF meeting and subsequent meetings if needed.

**Major issues SCF foresees for the park:**

**Q.** Access?

**A.** Access is depicted on the approved site plan.

**Q.** Additional parking?

**A.** Parking is shown on approved site plan.

**Q.** Time limits on visits?

**A.** The park facilities will be open to the public dawn to dusk seven days a week per park regulations for parks without lighted facilities.

**Q.** Bus transportation from peripheral parking areas?

**A.** No.

**Q.** SAFETY? LIABILITY ISSUES?

**A.** Safety and concerns over premises liability are paramount to all of the parties. These factors will continue to drive every decision moving forward. The County and WMI have already addressed the issues of any potential liability, and it is fully set forth in the Access Agreement. Any changes agreed to in the site plan will also account for safety, such as removing BMX bike paths going down steep slopes.

**Q.** Have there been any discussions with WMI regarding adding the additional parking area noted on the site plans?

**A.** Parking will be built in accordance with the site plan.

**Q.** Will these parking spaces be added? Will funding be available and if so when?

**A.** Not at this time.

**Q.** How does the PA intend to manage access? How will length of visits be managed?

**A.** See answer above.

**Q.** Has the PA considered purchasing from WMI the 9 acres directly across from the entrance as a bus staging area / parking area?

**A.** Land acquisition decisions are made by the Park Authority Board in Closed Sessions discussions that are not public information.

**Q.** What about purchasing other WMI parcels in close proximity for additional parking or returning those parcels to parkland with trails??

**A.** Land acquisition decisions are made by the Park Authority Board in Closed Sessions discussions that are not public information.

**Q.** What about special events? How will they be announced /

**A.** Special events scheduled by the Park Authority are typically announced through the Park Authority's Public Information Office over a wide variety of media such as print releases, the Park Authority's web site, onsite signage etc. The park facilities will be open to the public dawn to dusk seven days a week per park regulations for parks without lighted facilities.

Any rental facilities, weddings or use of park facilities for private events can be scheduled through Park Authority's Park Services Division permit and reservation system.

**Q.** Managed? Rentals? Weddings? Sunrise services?

**A.** See Above

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