

The Play DC Master Plan is a long-range plan for the District of Columbia's parks and recreation resources. The vision framework, released today, March 27, 2014, builds upon the District's unique parks legacy and charts a course to improve DC's parks and recreation system. Below are the 7 key components, along with the target goals, of how

DPR and partners can deliver equitable access, great spaces and world-class experiences to District residents.

ELEMENTS

Parkland



Every resident will be able to access a meaningful greenspace within a 1/2 mile (10-minute walk) of home.

Every neighborhood cluster will have access to at least 4 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents (2 acres for every 1,000 residents in the downtown core).

Recreation Centers



Every resident will be able to access a DPR Neighborhood Center—or the equivalent—within 1 mile of home.

Aquatics Facilities



Every resident will have access to an indoor pool within 2 miles, an outdoor pool within 1.5 miles, and a splash pad within 1 mile.

Outdoor Facilities



80% of District residents will rate their access to desired outdoor facilities as Good or Excellent.

Develop service targets for specific types of outdoor facilities.

Programs



25% of DC residents will participate in a DPR program.

90% of participants will rate their experience in DPR programs as Good or Excellent.

Bikeways + Trails



100% of DPR parks will be accessible by foot.

90% of DPR parks will be accessible by bicycle.

Environmental Lands + Natural Areas

Increase natural features on DPR properties, such as trees, gardens, or wetlands, by 40%.

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BIG MOVES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

UPGRADE

Make the best of existing District-owned parks. Develop an enhanced maintenance and improvement schedule to upgrade the quality of passive and active spaces.

INTEGRATE

Make green space owned by District government agencies available and accessible to DC residents for recreation purposes—with an emphasis on opening DC Public School facilities to the community.

EXPAND

Acquire more parkland under District jurisdiction through strategic property transfers purchases, and private development proffers

Parklan

RECLASSIFY

Develop and consistently apply a new classification system for DPR Recreation Centers, which establishes minimum design standards based upon program needs.

REINVEST

Invest capital funds to bring all Recreation Centers up to the minimum standards of the new classification system, prioritizing those centers where gaps in the network exist.

PARTNER

Request formal proposals from private and non-profit organizations to manage select DPR Recreation Centers.



STABILIZE

Make necessary renovations and upgrades to extend the life of DPR's generous network of pools to meet growing demand.

EVALUATE

Conduct an in-depth study of each type of Aquatics Facility to refine needs and priorities.

MODERNIZE

Transform the District into an Aquatics destination by making key strategic investments that will enrich offerings for residents and draw customers from surrounding jurisdictions.



IMPROVE

Raise the bar on the condition of our existing outdoor facilities: re-invent playgrounds across the city; convert some fields to artificial turf; and add lighting, seating, and other support features.

MULTIPLY

Increase the access to high-quality outdoor facilities by building new athletic fields and courts in areas of demonstrated need.

UTILIZE

Be creative - take advantage of the rich network of urban infrastructure to meet recreational needs and promote exercise.



ORGANIZE

Develop a framework to guide DPR in the recreation programs marketplace and how to invest and prioritize funds.

ANALYZE

Collect and analyze participation data regularly, and apply to future decision-making on program operations.

DEVELOP

Develop a detailed Program Action Plan that elevates, standardizes and expands the quality of offerings of DPR programs.



LINK

Add perimeter multi-use trails within select parks that can connect to the city-wide trail system, and provide secure bike parking and trailheads.

SUPPORT

Support proposed transportation projects with recreation benefits such as the Metropolitan Branch Trail, Oxon Run Trail, and the Fort Circle Parks + Greenway.

COOPERATE

opportunities for walking and biking, such a school tracks and trail easements.



CONNECT

Provide more places for people to access the waterfront and better opportunities to experience natural areas within the DPR system.

RECLAIM

Within the larger parks, establish healthier tree cover and green landscapes. Weave plantings and other natural features into mini and pocket parks, especially in areas with inadequate open space.

COORDINATE

Work with the National Park Service and other expert providers to offer nature programs, particularly in neighborhoods where natural areas are limited.



To meet the 7 target goals for each element of the parks and recreation system, bold steps must be taken. The 21 Big Moves for the 21st Century are based on community feedback for how the District can improve over the next 15 years. Join us in achieving the Play DC Master Plan Vision. The next step is to finalize an implementation strategy that prioritizes projects, defines partnerships, and identifies funding sources. Residents are asked to read the Play DC Master Plan Vision framework to learn more about the future of DC's parks and recreation.