(Future) Biscuit Run Park

5th & Avon Community Advisory Committee Meeting
October 21st 2021

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“Our **vision** is to create unparalleled outdoor and recreation experiences right here at home.”

“Our **mission** is dedicated to providing a unique system of parks, trails, and recreational experiences, while being superior stewards of the environment.”
Presentation Outline

• Introductory Comments
• Biscuit Run Park: Introductory Overview
• Biscuit Run Park: Status Updates
• Biscuit Run Park: Park Planning Info
• Discussion / Q&A
• Introductory Comments
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(Future) Biscuit Run Park Location Map

Legend
Points of Interest
• COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
• SCHOOL
• CHURCH
• FIRE/EMERGENCY"
• POLICE STATION
• GOVERNMENT
• LIBRARY
• POST OFFICE
• RECREATION/FITNESS
• BOAT LAUNCH

Water Features
• Major Water Bodies
• Ponds
• Other Streams

Location
**Property Ownership & Management**

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### Table 1: Line Table

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### Table 2: Curve Table

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**Surveyor's Certificate**

[Certificate text]

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**Boundaries**

[Boundaries diagram]

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[additional content if available]
Property Ownership & Management
Current Status: Public Access & Use

(Future) Biscuit Run Park is not open to the general public at this time.
(Future) Biscuit Run Park is not open to the general public at this time.

- **Resource Management:**
  - No County staff are performing routine maintenance of park property (litter cleanup, trash/waste removal, regular trail maintenance)
  - No bathrooms or other facilities/amenities

- **Public Safety:**
  - No signage and no maps in a relatively wild, undeveloped landscape
  - Incomplete cell phone coverage
• Traditional use by Monacan Indian Nation (hunting grounds)
• Agricultural history (19th + 20th centuries) has resulted in current forest types and existing land cover patterns
Green Infrastructure + Ecosystem Services:

- Predominantly forested land cover = "carbon sink" that cleans air and sequesters carbon dioxide
  - (supports Climate Action Plan goals)
- Wildlife habitat = green infrastructure "core"
  - (supports Biodiversity Action Plan goals)
- Water resource protection and watershed conservation
  - (supports Stream Health Initiative goals)
• **Ongoing Challenges:**
  
  • No public access and no developed facilities has contributed to unauthorized parking on private property and in public ROWs…
  
  • County has taken action to address unauthorized parking (ex: Mill Creek South)
• **Ongoing Challenges:**
  - No public access and no developed facilities has contributed to unauthorized parking on private property and in public ROWs…
    - County has taken action to address unauthorized parking (ex: Mill Creek South)
  - **Invasive species** are spreading…
    - Autumn Olive, Multiflora Rose, Oriental Bittersweet, Japanese Stiltgrass, more
  - Opportunity (urgent need) for multi-department, multi-agency coordination and volunteer participation (TBD)
Presentation Outline

- Introductory Comments
- Biscuit Run Park: Overview
- **Biscuit Run Park: Status Updates**
- Biscuit Run Park: Park Planning Info
- Discussion / Q&A
Park Development: Phase 1A
Trail Network:
Trail Planning

- Evaluate existing trails:
  - Re-use?
  - Re-route / modify?
  - Close?
Trail Network:
Trail Planning

- **Trail construction:**
  - New trail segments
  - Re-routes
  - Closures
Trail Network:
Trail Planning

- **Phased Trails by Area:**
- Western and southern areas cannot currently be safely / conveniently accessed
Trail Network: Trail Planning

- **Phase 1A Trail Plan:**
  - Complete a multi-use loop trail in central portion of park, with connections to new trailhead
Trail Network: Trail Planning

- **Phase 1B Trail Plan:**
- Enhance and expand multi-use trails throughout central and northern portions of park
Trail Network:

Trail Building & Maintenance Achievements

- Completed new section of multi-use loop trail
- Closed and re-routed existing sections of multi-use loop trail
Park Development Partnership with CAMBC

- Multi-use trail building in collaboration with ACPR
- Multiple volunteer work days (following COVID-19 protocols)
Park Development Partnership with CAMBC

- Planning development of single-use areas (MTB only)
- Located and planned in accord with adopted Park Master Plan

MTB-Only Area 1: Downhill + Skills Park
MTB-Only Area 2: Flow Trails
Stream Restoration Analysis & Planning

- Lead: Albemarle County Facilities & Environmental Services Department (FES)
- Consultant: Ecosystem Services
Stream Restoration Analysis & Planning

- Lead: Albemarle County Facilities & Environmental Services Department (FES)
- Consultant: Ecosystem Services
Connectivity Plans: Biscuit Run Connector Greenway

- This planned/proposed greenway would create bike/ped connectivity between Biscuit Run Park, 5th Street Station, the existing Rivanna Trails along Moores Creek (and beyond), and City of Charlottesville.
Connectivity Plans: 5th Street Trails Hub

- **Project status:**
  - Fully funded project through VDOT Smart Scale (2021)
  - Total estimated project cost: $9,841,290

- **Project scope:**
  - New 10' wide shared use paths along multiple portions of Moores Creek
  - New 10' wide shared use path from Moores Creek to 5th Street Station
  - (2x) new 14' wide bike/ped bridges across Moores Creek Sidewalk improvements along 5th Street Station Parkway to meet ADA specs
  - ROW acquisitions and utility relocations
(Future) Biscuit Run Park is not open to the general public at this time.
  - (resource management and protection)
  - (public safety)

Unauthorized trail building is strictly prohibited.

Authorized park development and trail-building activities are underway…please:
  - DO NOT remove flags, stakes, or other surveying or planning materials / equipment
  - DO NOT remove County signage
  - DO NOT re-open trail corridors that have been closed
  - DO NOT open new trail corridors
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Future & Developing Partnerships

- Invasive species management
  - Invasive Species Task Force (?)
- Additional trail network development and greenway connections
- Habitat for Humanity + Southwood
  - Trail connections to increase equitable access
  - Monacan Nation Park
- 5th Street Station
  - Development of trailhead amenities per ZMA proffers
Planned & Proposed Future Phases

- **Trail network expansion + enhanced access:**
  - Bike/ped bridges across streams to provide access to additional portions of park property
  - Expanded multi-use trail network
  - Bridges and trail connections to surrounding neighborhoods

- **Athletic fields complex:**
  - Extended park access road and parking
  - 4x athletic fields with lighting
  - Bathrooms and park facilities/amenities

- **ACPR maintenance building:**
  - Management and maintenance services for Biscuit Run Park
  - Countywide HQ for ACPR Trails Crew
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