

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

Project: North Arundel Aquatic Center Turf Field and Improvements (P570004)
Purpose: Community Meeting
Date: May 21, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

A community meeting was held in accordance with Section 17-2-107 of the Anne Arundel County Code to introduce the proposed development to the public. The meeting was held at the North Arundel Aquatic Center. There were approximately 12 persons in the audience. The following members of the development team were present:

Anthony Ricottilli – Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works
Bruce Bruchey – Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks
Michael Pieranunzi – Century Engineering, a Kleinfelder Company
Lydia Vaccare – Century Engineering, a Kleinfelder Company

This document provides a summary of questions, comments, and responses received during the in-person community meeting and after the meeting during the online comment period. The meeting minutes are provided in a separate document.

The online comment period for this meeting ended June 4, 2024 at 11:59 PM.

IN-PERSON QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Questions and answers from the in-person meeting are summarized below.

Q: We already have a flooding problem in Glen Burnie Park, on Fleagle Road, Phirne Road, Cody Drive. We have too much rainwater that is not being pushed away from our systems. It's not draining fast enough because we're in a low level area.

A: The first thing for us is to look at stormwater management for the new impervious field, new impervious parking lot. We will meet the County regulations for how much impervious area is added, and what we have to treat and hold. The goal is to not send any additional [runoff] beyond the property line for any new improvements.

Q: Will there be traffic lights to improve the site access, or a new site access point?

A: For a project of this type, we typically do traffic studies to analyze the peak traffic volumes. Parks are usually off-hours use and low volume. No changes in site access are proposed at this time.

Q: How tall will the field lights be, what kind are they, and will they be on at night?

A: The field lights will be LED focused-lights, so they will only point at the field. They will be similar to the field lights at Sunset Park on Fort Smallwood Road. They will be taller than the existing parking lot lights. For the timing, R&P programs the lights to turn off overnight or when the field is not scheduled for use. There will be about 4 poles total.

Q: At this time, is the proposed site marked? Could I tell from survey posts where it's going to be?

A: The proposed site is not marked on the property at this time.

Q: Everybody from Glen Burnie Park, we love our woods behind the swimming pool. We don't want trees cut down. Please save any tree you possibly can.

A: The minimum amount of forest clearing is proposed for the field and necessary grading. The field must be crowned, and then graded back to the existing elevation at the edges. A forest stand delineation will be conducted to assess the existing trees, and protection measures will be taken for trees that will not be removed.

Q: Will the bathrooms be open 24/7?

A: No, the bathrooms will be closed at night.

Q: Will the playground be fenced?

A: No.

Q: We love seeing the animals outside at the Aquatic Center, and we want to make sure there will be enough room left for them. The concern is they're going to go away.

A: The wooded area closest to the Aquatic Center building will not be disturbed. Only the minimum area required for the field and grading will be cleared.

The question-and-answer session concluded, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 PM.

POST-MEETING COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

The following comments were received online through the Anne Arundel County website. Responses are provided for each comment.

Q: How were the number of additional parking spaces determined? There is already plenty of parking at the aquatic center (over 120 spaces), plus the ability to parallel park on the entrance road off Old Stage Rd. The 30% design appears to add 93 spaces. This seems like overkill, especially since the existing lot is rarely full. Since pavement represents increased maintenance liability to the County (and county taxpayers) as well as contributing to runoff, the County should reduce the number of parking spaces here. Instead, consider access on foot from Terry Road and/or the elementary school. This would better connect the facility to the community and provide the opportunity for some lovely walking trails.

A: The general practice for parking a new multi-purpose field facility is approximately 75-85 parking spaces. Any new playground typically requires 6 spaces per 1000 square feet of playground. With the proposed 3,500 square-foot playground (19 spaces), the total proposed spaces for the field and playground would be 99 spaces. Our plan shows 93 spaces for both facilities. Any deviation from the standards is subject to approval by AA County Rec. and Parks. We did not account for a shared parking use with the aquatic center.