

Northam Park Use Study

July 17, 2023



PARKS & REC
City of Upper Arlington

What is the area being studied?





What uses are being considered?



Upper Arlington Level of Service Standards

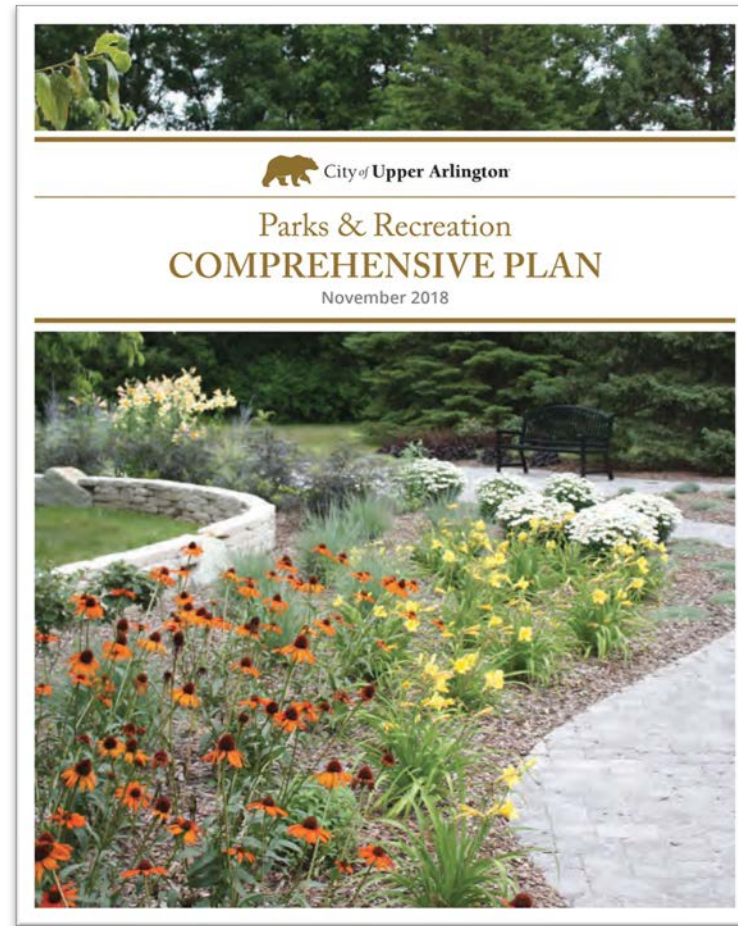
2017 Inventory										2022 Facility Standards		
Item	UA System	Schools	Total Inventory	Recommended Service Levels; Revised for Local Service Area			Current Service Level based upon population			Meet Standard/ Need Exists	Additional Facilities/ Amenities Needed	
Park Type:												
Pocket Parks	0.42		0.42	0.01	0.00	1,000	0.01	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	-	Acre(s)
Neighborhood Parks	18.54		18.54	0.75	0.00	1,000	0.52	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	9	Acre(s)
Community Parks	156.39		156.39	5.00	0.00	1,000	4.37	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	30	Acre(s)
Specialty Parks	7.14		7.14	0.20	0.00	1,000	0.20	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	0	Acre(s)
Total Park Acres	182.49	-	182.49	5.96	acres per	1,000	5.10	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	40	Acre(s)
Outdoor Amenities:												
Shelters/Pavilions	9.00		9.00	1.00	site per	3,500	1.00	site per	3,977	Need Exists	2	Sites(s)
Dedicated Multi-Purpose Fields (Soccer, Football, Rugby, Lacrosse)	13.00	0.18	13.18	1.00	field per	2,000	1.00	field per	2,716	Need Exists	5	Field(s)
Overlay Multi-Purpose Fields (Soccer, Football, Rugby, Lacrosse)	8.00		8.00	1.00	field per	4,500	1.00	field per	4,474	Need Exists	0	Field(s)
Ball Fields	15.00	0.09	15.09	1.00	field per	2,000	1.00	field per	2,372	Need Exists	4	Field(s)
Basketball Courts	1.00	2.00	3.00	1.00	court per	20,000	1.00	court per	11,931	Meets Standard	-	Court(s)
Tennis Courts	21.00	0.72	21.72	1.00	0.00	5,000	1.00	court per	1,648	Meets Standard	-	Court(s)
Playgrounds	8.00	2.00	10.00	1.00	site per	2,500	1.00	site per	3,579	Need Exists	5	Site(s)
Dog Parks	-		-	1.00	0.00	40,000	1.00	site per	-	Need Exists	1	Site(s)
Skate Park	-		-	1.00	0.00	50,000	1.00	site per	-	Need Exists	1	Site(s)
Sand Volleyball	2.00		2.00	1.00	0.00	10,000	1.00	site per	17,897	Need Exists	2	Site(s)
Pickleball Courts	-		-	1.00	0.00	10,000	1.00	court per	-	Need Exists	4	Court(s)
Paved Multi-Use Trails	7.42		7.42	0.40	miles per	1,000	0.21	miles per	1,000	Need Exists	8	Mile(s)
Outdoor Pools	3.00		3.00	1.00	0.00	40,000	1.00	site per	11,931	Meets Standard	-	Site(s)

2022 Estimated Population = 37,311



Potential Uses (Based on 2018 Comprehensive Plan)

- Asphalt Tennis Courts
- Basketball
- Dog Park
- Open Shelter
- Pickleball Courts
- Playground
- Sand Volleyball
- Skate Park



How are the different uses being evaluated?



Weighted Evaluation Criteria

Weighted Evaluation Criteria	Scoring Weight
Does the use fit within the available space?	8
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	8
Does the use enhance the offering of other existing uses in the park?	8
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	6
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	6
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	6
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	4
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2
Available Scoring Weight	50

Amenity Evaluation	Scoring Value
Yes	2
Maybe	1
No	0

Available Scoring Weight (50) x Amenity Evaluation (2) = 100 Possible Points





Open Shelter



Open Shelter

	Base Score		Factor	=	Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, a 30'x30' shelter can be accommodated with room left for other potential uses, shelter size is similar to those in Burbank and Northwest Kiwanis Parks
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, location is centrally located in the park with reasonable access to the parking area
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, the shelter would serve pool, tennis and athletic users in addition to casual park use
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Goal 2.3 specifically recommends the addition of a park shelter near the tennis complex
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study recommends 1 to 2 additional shelters
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, several other parks already feature an open or enclosed shelter
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	2	x	4	=	8	Yes, during the 2020 Northam Park Vision Plan process, several residents requested an open air shelter
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 2 shelters would be needed to meet national benchmarking standard of 1/3,500 residents
Total Score:					100	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No





Pickleball



Pickleball Courts

	Base Score		Factor	=	Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, 7 courts would require ±15,000 SF and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, area provides sufficient space for the proposed use, courts would be more than 600' from the nearest residence
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	1	x	8	=	8	Use would provide another option for paddle sport participants, some noise will be noticeable at adjacent uses
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Goal 1.2 recommends pickleball as a desired amenity, 2.4 recommends addressing needs based on the growth
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study indicates a need for 4 pickleball courts
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Northam provides more than 600' of separation from adjacent residences to minimize noise impacts, this is the greatest distance of any potential park locations
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	2	x	4	=	8	Yes, the City has received consistent inquiries since 2018 requesting dedicated pickleball courts
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost, color coat will need maintenance every few years.
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 4 courts would be needed to meet national benchmarking standards of 1/10,000 residents
Total Score:					92	





Asphalt Tennis



Asphalt Tennis Courts

	Base Score		Factor	=	Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, 2 courts would require ±13,000 SF and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, area is easily accessible and provides sufficient space. Consistent with current use.
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	2	x	8	=	16	8 or 9 courts meet needs in Northam, but additional courts could open up opportunities elsewhere and may help address peak demand at Northam
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	1	x	6	=	6	Though not specifically addressed, the use generally supports 2.4 maximizing the use of City sport facilities
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study does not show a need for additional tennis courts
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	1	x	6	=	6	There are not many opportunities in other parks to provide additional tennis courts without changing uses
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	1	x	4	=	4	Desire for additional hard court tennis expressed during 2023 Conceptual Design due to pickleball use, but no prior inquiries
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost, color coat will need maintenance every few years.
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	0	x	2	=	0	No, current Level of Service exceeds both national benchmarking standards of 1/5,000 residents
Total Score:					68	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No

*Note: If asphalt tennis courts are installed at Northam Park, staff would likely recommend that some tennis courts in other parks be converted to dedicated pickleball courts to meet community demand.





Basketball



Basketball

	Base Score		Factor	=	Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, 2 courts would require ±13,200 SF and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	1	x	8	=	8	Use is complimentary to the swimming pool, but a location with better visibility would be more desirable
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	1	x	8	=	8	Use may be attractive to pool users, but may have less interest for tennis and casual park users
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, Goal 1.2 recommends basketball as a desired amenity
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, the 2018 Level of Service Study does not show a need for additional basketball courts at 1/20,000 residents
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	0	x	6	=	0	No, other parks could provide opportunities for outdoor basketball, especially if set up as half courts
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	0	x	4	=	0	No, the City rarely receives inquiries for additional outdoor basketball courts
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost, color coat will need maintenance every few years
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 6 basketball courts would be needed to meet higher national standard of 1/7,000 residents
Total Score:					52	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No





Sand Volleyball



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	Sand Volleyball					
	Base Score		Factor	=	Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, 3 courts would require ±12,000 SF and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	0	x	8	=	0	Location is centrally located in the park but lacks visibility, sand could blow into the pool and tennis
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	1	x	8	=	8	Sand volleyball could be attractive to pool users, but would add minimal benefit to other park features
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, 2018 Comprehensive Plan goals do not specifically address sand volleyball
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study recommends 2 additional volleyball courts
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	0	x	6	=	6	No, other parks would offer better locations
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	0	x	4	=	0	No inquires received regarding additional volleyball courts
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	1	x	2	=	2	Some increased maintenance cost to replenish sand on a regular basis
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 2 courts would be needed to meet national benchmarking standard of 1/10,000 residents
Total Score:					48	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No





Playground



	Playground					
	Base Score		Factor	=	Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, area could accommodate a large playground similar in scale to the Miller Park playground and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	1	x	8	=	8	Area is located near restrooms but poor visibility and proximity to tennis makes the location less desirable
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	0	x	8	=	0	No, since a playground already exists in the park, adding another would not enhance the existing use
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	1	x	6	=	6	Goal 1.3 recommends updating existing playgrounds, but does not address new ones
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	1	x	6	=	6	Yes, the 2018 Level of Service Study indicates a need for 4 to 5 playgrounds, but in other locations
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	0	x	6	=	0	No, other parks are further away from existing playgrounds and would be better locations for a new one
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	1	x	4	=	4	Some inquires have been received but are usually related to specific locations
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, maintenance need would be similar to other playgrounds
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 7 playgrounds would be needed to meet national benchmarking standard of 1/2,500 residents
Total Score:					48	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No





Skate Park



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	Skate Park					
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	2	x	8	=	16	Yes, a skate park similar in size to the Tuttle Park facility can fit within the available area and would still leave room for an open shelter
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	0	x	8	=	0	No, poor visibility, limited access and proximity to other uses makes the an inappropriate location
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	0	x	8	=	0	No, use would not add appeal to the other existing park uses
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, 2018 Comprehensive Plan goals do not specifically address skate parks
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study recommends 1 skate park
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	0	x	6	=	0	No, other locations would be more appropriate for the use with better visibility and larger area
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	1	x	4	=	4	Occasional, limited inquires are received requesting a skate park
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, there will be minimal operating and maintenance cost, but features may need repaired on a regular basis
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	2	x	2	=	4	Yes, 1 skate park would be needed to meet national benchmarking standards of 1/32,000 residents
Total Score:					40	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No





Dog Park



	Dog Park					
	Base Score		Factor		Weighted Score	
Does the use fit within the available space?	0	x	8	=	0	No, area is not sufficient to accommodate a dog park
Is the location appropriate to the proposed use?	0	x	8	=	0	No, size, location and proximity to other uses make this location not appropriate for this use
Does the use enhance the offerings of other existing uses in the park?	0	x	8	=	0	No, use has the potential to deter from existing park uses
Does the use support the goals of the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	0	x	6	=	0	No, 2018 Comprehensive Plan goals do not specifically address dog parks
Does the use fulfill an unmet need from the 2018 Comprehensive Plan?	2	x	6	=	12	Yes, the 2018 Comprehensive Plan Level of Service Study indicates a need for one dog park
Is the use better accommodated in Northam than other City parks?	0	x	6	=	0	No, a larger location with better access would be more desirable
Does use address inquiries received since the Comprehensive Plan was finalized?	2	x	4	=	8	Inquires have been received requesting a dog park
Is there a reasonable maintenance and operation impact?	0	x	2	=	0	No, dog parks tend to be very maintenance intensive to establish and maintain turf
Is the use consistent with national benchmarking?	1	x	2	=	2	Dog parks are not specifically addressed in national benchmarking standards
Total Score:					22	

2 = Yes, 1 = Maybe, 0 = No



What are the opportunities in other parks?



Five Year Capital Improvement Plan

- Thompson Park Playground (2024)
- Devon Toddler Feature (2025)
- Fancyburg Park Improvements (2027-28)
- Thompson North Shelter (2028)



What are the next steps?



Next Steps

- **Provide Feedback on Uses and Scoring - Tonight**
- **Online Community Engagement - July 18 to August 18**
- **Community Events**
 - **Summer Celebration - July 20**
 - **Northam Park Playground and Tremont Pool - July 21**
 - **Farmers Market - July 26**
 - **National Night Out - August 1**
- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting - August 29**
 - **Summary of Public Input Received**
 - **Staff Recommendation**

