

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Veterans Park at Balls Bluff

Preconstruction Meeting: April 30, 2025, 7pm-8:30pm

Location: Balls Bluff Elementary School, 821 Battlefield Pkwy NE, Leesburg VA, 20176

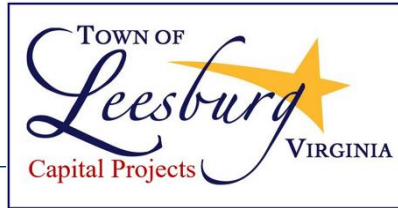
#### General:

1. Are there plans to change the access road that is currently there? And will Dry Hollow Road remain open? ***This project does not change the section of Dry Hollow Road behind the homes or the entrance point to the existing access road to the river; and yes, Dry Hollow Road will remain open. However, a new access to the park is part of the proposed project.***
2. How steep is the grade of the road from high to low point and will the pasture area be maintained? ***The pasture will be maintained. The road design was created so that limits of disturbance are minimal. The grading of the road is estimated to be roughly 9% at the entry and 11% towards the water.***
3. What was the purpose of the project? ***To provide a passive type of park with river access. No organized sport fields are included in the design.***
4. How many trees will be cut down? ***Trees have already been felled. It may be required to take a few more; however, that is uncertain at this time. Once construction begins the project team will evaluate and make that determination.***
5. Can we view the traffic studies that were conducted? ***Yes, contact the office of Capital Projects. Information is also in the Residential Traffic Commission Meeting presentation from May 6, 2024. The slide presentation is posted to the Veterans Park project webpage [www.leesburgva.gov/veteranspark](http://www.leesburgva.gov/veteranspark)***
6. Because of the increased traffic, and the speeding from Ball's Bluff Road onto Battlefield, can we get a sidewalk installed on Balls Bluff Road or a traffic light at Battlefield and Balls Bluff, or perhaps stop signs on both streets? ***These are questions you may address with the Residential Traffic Commission. You are***



**welcome to attend their meeting. The meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at Town Hall.**

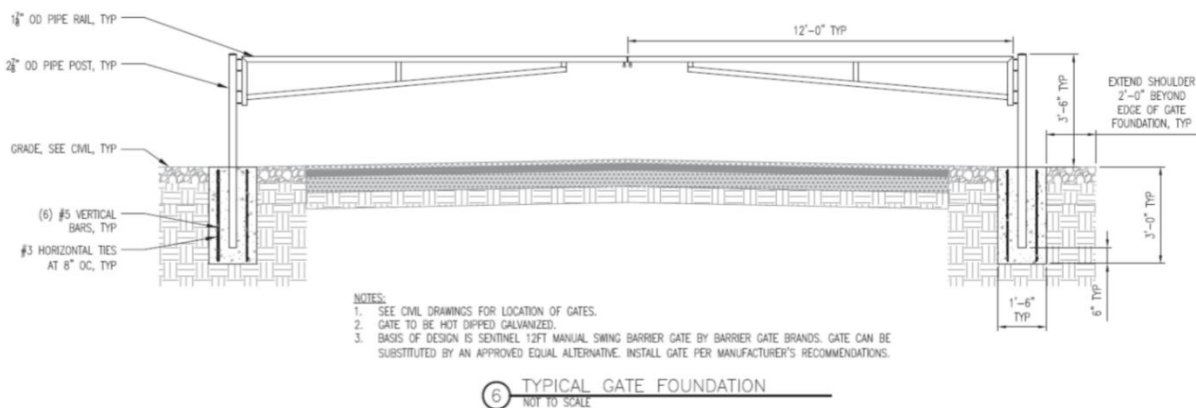
7. People currently park on both sides of the gravel road, is it possible to put up a no parking sign? **This could be a possibility, if it is not on private property.**
8. With the construction trucks coming/going, there is concern with safety especially when school is out. What should be done if construction vehicles are speeding through our neighborhood? **The drivers are required to follow the posted speed limit. If residents notice excessive speeds we ask that you contact the Veterans Park Project Manager, so they may address the concern directly with the contractor.**
9. Why is the Corn Crib being removed and not the Silos? And what will the silos be used for? **The corn crib was deemed unsafe and will therefore be removed. The Silos were not deemed unsafe, so they will undergo improvements and will most likely be used for storage, or other park operational purposes.**
10. After Phase I is complete, can cameras or emergency call boxes be installed? **No, cameras cannot be installed because there is no internet service. There is cell phone service, but no internet. Installation of emergency call boxes may be explored.**
11. Will there be staff on site during construction? **Staff will come through periodically to monitor the activity in the park, but there will not be permanent staff present. If anyone sees unusual activity, they should contact the Project Manager at the Office of Capital Projects so the situation may be addressed accordingly.**
12. Will there be police presence at the park to prevent misconduct, speeding or abuse of park rules? **Permanent police presence is not planned; however, if they receive multiple reports of excessive speeding, misconduct or abuse of park rules they may perform loiter prevention drive-byes as they would for other areas within the Town.**



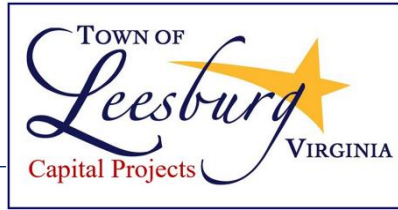
13. Will there be any traffic calming measures taken on Battlefield Parkway and Fort Evans? ***There is no intent for traffic calming at this time.***
14. How was this project funded and what is the cost? ***Most of the funding came from Loudoun County. \$205,500 came out of the Capital Improvements Program, and \$4 million came from Loudoun County. These funds will be used for project management, design/engineering, utility relocation and construction. The operating and maintenance cost of the park is estimated to be about \$50,000 per year.***
15. Is this project a done deal or can it still be terminated? ***This is an approved project and phase I will begin in May 2025.***
16. Will there be a visitors' center? ***No, not at this time.***
17. Is this still a valid plan after 25 years? ***The plan was updated in 2014.***
18. The plans show 50 parking spaces, but based on the traffic evaluation, the Town estimates 144 vehicles per day on the weekdays. Where will the 144 cars park? ***The analysis was based on multiple trips. The 144 cars are not estimated to arrive at the same time.***
19. Were there botanical/environmental studies or endangered animal studies conducted? ***A wetland study was conducted in 2002 for the original master plan. The approved master plan is available on the Veterans Park project webpage [www.leesburgva.gov/veternspark](http://www.leesburgva.gov/veternspark) and it contains the environmental inventory for this project. An updated wetland study was conducted in 2021 for the construction plan. And in 2023, an additional study was conducted to obtain information about an endangered mussel species that are known to be present in the Potomac River.***
20. Are there any storm water management ponds on the property? ***Yes, 5.***

**Operations:**

1. Can the entryway to the park be blocked off during the construction to prevent people from wandering in after hours? And how will security of the worksite and trash be addressed during construction? **The entryway to the park will be blocked during the construction. The contractor will be responsible for removing trash and they will secure their equipment near the silos. The plans also call for the installation of a manual swing barrier gate (see figure below) when the project is complete. Additionally, staff will research the possibility of installing an automatic bar gate that closes at sunset. Once completed, the park will be open sunrise to sunset.**



2. Will there be restrooms? **There will be porta potties. There is no water and sewer access.**
3. How will the public know if they have access to the park during construction? **Signs will be posted, and information will also be placed on the project web page [www.leesburgva.gov/veteranspark](http://www.leesburgva.gov/veteranspark).**
4. After the park is completed, who will oversee trash pick-up? **The Town of Leesburg's Park and Recreation staff will be responsible for this task.**

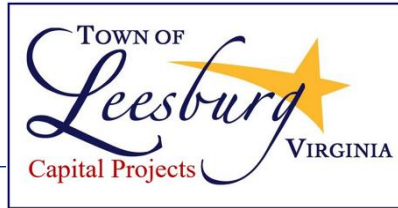


**Recreation:**

1. What will the sides of the paths (natural & paved) be made of? And will the path leading to the boat ramp be ADA compliant? ***The path leading to the boat ramp will be constructed of asphalt and will be ADA compliant. The paved portions of the trail and the trail leading from the parking lot to the boat ramp will have gravel on both sides, then it will be bushes. The sides of the natural paths will not have gravel on either side.***
2. Will Horses be allowed? **No.**
3. Will bikes be allowed? If yes, where will the bike trails be and will they be connected to neighboring parks? ***Yes, bikes will be allowed. Staff will evaluate the trail location and connectivity opportunities. The bike trails are expected to be constructed through a partnership with a local mountain bike group and will be implemented at the end of phase I.***
4. Will there be rental activities or charges for any activities? **No.**
5. Will the Veterans Park walking trails connect to the Balls Bluff Trails? **Yes.**
6. When will disc golf be added to the park? ***Disc golf is expected to be added after Phase I is complete. Phase I is estimated to be completed in spring 2026.***

**Water Access:**

1. Is the Boat Ramp ADA compliant? ***The boat ramp and the immediate parking lot will be ADA compliant.***
2. If there is an emergency in the water and we call 911. Who will respond, Virginia or Maryland? ***There is a plan in place. Call 9-1-1 and it will be coordinated appropriately.***



3. Was there a specific group that requested water access? **No specific group made the request. It was a general desire by residents that wanted water access.**
4. The entry into the water is uneven and rocky. Is it possible for you to do some grading to even it out? **The concrete boat ramp will extend about 25 feet past the shoreline. The last 5 feet is loose stone used to form a foundation (rip rap). The slopes will change from 2% to 20% once the water's edge is passed.**
5. Will a life ring (buoy) be available at the boat ramp? **No. This is something that we do not currently have, but we could add if it does not impact liability.**
6. Will large commercial boat groups carrying non-motorized watercraft, like kayaks or canoes be allowed into the park? **No, they will not be allowed. The parking areas will not accommodate large trailers. The Town does not anticipate that will happen.**
7. How will it be communicated to the public that large groups with boats are prohibited, and how will it be enforced? **It will be communicated through signs and towing will be enforced.**

**If you have a question that is not addressed here, please email**  
**[avalle@leesburgva.gov](mailto:avalle@leesburgva.gov)**