Justice High School Addition and Parking Update

Webinar Q&A

1. What's the current regulation or law about how many parking spaces Justice HS should have when the renovation is complete? Does that differ by section of the county?

No, this does not differ by section of the county. Please see the zoning ordinance language copied below:

School, High School, Public or Private School of General Education:

Based on a review by the Director of each proposal including such factors as the occupancy load of all classroom facilities, auditoriums and stadiums, proposed special education programs, and student-teacher ratios, and the availability of areas on site that can be used for auxiliary parking in times of peak demand; but in no instance less than three-tenths (0.3) space per student, based on the maximum number of students attending classes at any one time.

My son and daughter were going to speak to the group about this, but there is both a Volleyball game and band practice at Justice, so they cannot attend. I would like to speak on their behalf.

This attendee posed several questions during the open Q&A.

3. FEA / FCFT Statement on Justice Parking

The teachers at Justice high school encourage FCPS to do whatever they can, within their power, to ensure that there is adequate parking for students, staff, and visitors at Justice High School. With the proposed loss of the back parking lot, many of us will have to park on the streets of the neighboring community. Given that many teachers, food service workers, and students already park on the street due to inadequate parking options, we see this problem only getting worse. When deciding on our parking lots, please consider the implications that limited parking will have on staff and student morale, the loss of visitors and decreased revenues at sporting events.

Acknowledged.

4. Can you tell us how many trailers are at Justice, how many are expected in future years until the renovation is complete, and how many kids per trailer?

There are no trailers at Justice.

5. Why did FCPS not engage the community in a serious dialog when considering the initial proposal so that it could have been identified much earlier that the initial proposal was not acceptable to many in the community and allow FCPS to course correct earlier and keep this closer to on track.

Comment received. FCPS held multiple public meetings.

6. Has there been a study that shows we need the additional spaces?

There has not been a formal parking space study.

7. The Fairfax County Land development Services rejected the site plan for the addition back in January and no new revisions have been submitted. How could you have started bid and construction without an approved site plan?

No new revisions were submitted due to the request for additional community input. Bid and construction were delayed to gather additional input.

8. Have these new plans been vetted by Land Development Services?

Not at this time.

9. Why did FCPS choose to limit community input by sending the 2232 initial proposal as a "Feature Shown" despite no parking lot being shown in park land? Such a move seems to have deliberately cut off the ability for the community to provide input on the record in a public hearing.

Fairfax County manages the 2232 application process.

10. Do we need to resubmit any questions we sent by email to the email address used to send the Zoom webinar invite?

No. Responses will be posted on the website. https://www.fcps.edu/node/43388

11. The marching band uses the back parking lot for band camp and practices. There are no fields to use because the athletes are using them. Going across the street to a park is not viable - it takes a 26 ft truck to move all the equipment. Right now, they can take it out of the shed in the lot, and up a ramp to the back parking lot from the band room. What plans are focusing on where the JHS marching band will practice 4 weeks in August band camp and the after-school practices & prior to football games if there is a giant building on the lot they are dependent on?

An analysis of the site has been completed to find large areas for the marching band to practice. These spaces include the front parking lot, baseball outfield, and football field. All school activities must be properly scheduled with the school.

12. Will the presentation be made available to the public soon after this meeting? Please advise how to see it/get it, if so.

It is currently posted on the FCPS website. https://www.fcps.edu/node/43388

13. How are teachers accommodating the current 116% and soon 126% overcapacity without trailers?

Schools work with space utilization staff to maximize use of available space.

14. Approximately how many people are present today at this webinar?

As of 7:18pm, there are 95 participants. At the end of the webinar there were 98 participants.

15. Will all the slides be available online?

All are posted on the FCPS website now. https://www.fcps.edu/node/43388

16. Where is the presentation on the FCPS website?

https://www.fcps.edu/sites/default/files/media/pdf/2021-10-12%20JHS%20Community%20Meeting.pdf

17. Can any classrooms be built on top of the existing school building?

Vertical construction on top of the existing school building may be possible in certain locations but would be much more costly and impactful due to roofing, utilities, equipment, and major systems and structure currently in place. This would also require interruption and displacement of staff and students during construction.

18. Has there been a study to determine that the "required" parking, required by FCPS, is needed?

There has not been a formal parking space study.

19. Please post the link to the slides.

https://www.fcps.edu/sites/default/files/media/pdf/2021-10-12%20JHS%20Community%20Meeting.pdf

20. How is parking on Peace Valley now being included in the numbers of spots available?

There is currently no designated (striped) parking on Peace Valley Lane. This proposed project will formalize the parking with striped spaces.

21. During construction, is it possible to create a temporary lot for displaced faculty?

FCPS is exploring the possibility of temporary parking locations during construction.

22. Will there be any lactation room for breastfeeding students and/or faculty?

Yes, and there should be one identified currently. Please reach out to the Principal.

23. Will there only be one way into the addition for the students? The "I" hallway is severely overcrowded - will this help that?

The first and second stories of the proposed addition will each have a connection point to the existing building, as well as multiple exterior doors. The hallway will be extended and may help with overcrowding.

24. I do not understand what you are saying about rezoning.

Acknowledged. Discussed during the meeting.

25. What is the projected FAR of the site as it stands now for this new design?

Current design will require 0.373 FAR.

26. Is the goal start date of construction now fall of 2022?

It is FCPS's tentative schedule, pending all required approvals.

27. Please go into greater detail why angled parking is not feasible along peace valley lane. Under what conditions would angled parking work? Angled street parking is in Falls Church and Arlington. I don't understand why FCPS can't do it here.

Geometric constraints at this location. The road is not wide enough to safely accommodate angled parking while maintaining two-way traffic.

28. I didn't see anything on expanded bicycle parking on the slides. And I assume scooter parking would also be an additional consideration?

Justice High School currently has two existing bicycle racks at the front of the school that hold up to 75 bicycles. FCPS is looking at adding additional racks to the addition. There currently are no requirements for scooter parking.

29. Right now, handicapped persons use that back parking lot to attend athletic events and other school activities. Also, there are special parking needs for concessions and boosters to assist the teams and band. Where are all these special needs folks park? Just those few spaces left in the back hardly cover the handicap needs. There are many sheds and other odd storage items back in that parking area. Are they going to stay? If not, where will those sheds, etc. go?

The rear parking lot by the addition will have 18 spaces and 2 of those spaces will be ADA accessible parking. FCPS will coordinate with the school to relocate any existing storage containers.

30. So, there will be no improvements in the park with this plan?

Correct.

31. Isn't there already parking on Peace Valley Lane by students and staff?

Yes. Not designated (no striped spaces).

32. How long does a rezoning application take?

Answered in the webinar by a panelist. See recording of webinar for the full answer.

33. So, the lack of getting Justice Park land for parking created the need for this rezoning?

The Fairfax County Park Authority adjacent property was needed for FAR. The proposed lease agreement for this space was denied by FCPA. This resulted in the need for the rezoning.

34. Did you reduce the size of the addition to accommodate extra parking in the back?

No, the size of the addition remained the same.

35. I heard repeatedly tonight that having parking spaces in the park was "not something that the community wanted to see". However, has the Facilities office, and/or Citizen Advisory Committee, and/or School Board, and/or FCPA completed any type of community survey at all (google form, online app, door-to-door, etc.) to determine the views of as wide a swath of the community possible?

Acknowledged. Comment under consideration.

36. So, this will convert some existing parking spaces on Peace Valley Lane into designated school-only parking spaces?

Yes, during school hours on the portion of Peace Valley Lane on School Board property located between the school and the park.

37. It is my understanding that in March 2021, Fairfax County Land Development Services identified 23 deficiencies in the FCPS plan for the addition to Justice High School. Some were minor - others, such as storm water runoff, were more significant. Why does it take so long to address these deficiencies in the plan and when will it be resubmitted to Land Development Services?

The resubmission of the site plan was contingent upon having agreement with the Fairfax County Park Authority for utilizing property at Justice Park.

38. Has anything been changed to the addition plan, or is this just to rezone and have less parking? Has there been any thought into using the roof space to plant green space to get closer to the FAR number?

No change to the plan for the addition.

39. Can a part of the school land be zoned a higher R, like R-8 for the area of the addition, or even higher like the adjacent apartment buildings, and the remainder of the land R-3, to reflect part of the school that sits so close to single family homes? Can schools request a variance or exception or some sort of waiver for the floor area ratio? It seems like we ought to get this R- change or a variance or exception done quicker - can the process be moved along more quickly than what we have seen in the past?

No, split zoning the property is not possible. A Variance is not an appropriate procedure in this situation.

40. Will you be addressing our questions on the webinar? It would be good for others to hear.

The questions and answers will be posted to the website by the end of this week. https://www.fcps.edu/node/43388

41. Will the rezoning delay the addition?

Yes.

42. But using Peace Valley parking that is already being used is double counting in essence, then?

No. Fairfax County only includes designated parking (i.e.- striped spaces) in the count for plan approval.

43. Are the invasive vines that are overtaking justice park and around the perimeter of justice track going to be addressed?

The invasive vines will not be addressed by FCPS as the plan was not approved.

44. How quickly can the proposal be placed on the Land Use Committee to begin the process for rezoning?

The MDLUC will not hear this application until it is filed by FCPS and accepted by the county. The scheduling of the presentations before the MDLUC is dependent on when the Planning Commission public hearing is scheduled for.

45. Since FCPS owns PVL (Peace Valley Lane) - can't the school just zone the street for only staff and student parking 7-3:30pm and with hang tags, limit speed to 15 MPH and then allow parking perpendicular on the school side and dig into school grounds for that and also allow parallel parking on the park side?

The required space to widen this section of Peace Valley Lane was not available due to a conservation easement on the school grounds. The widening would also require a retaining wall and costly impacts.

46. Are you going to make Peace Valley by the park one way then?

Current plan is to maintain two-way vehicular traffic.

47. To clarify, are the described zoning modifications related to parking new, and were not part of the originally proposed parking plan?

Correct.

48. Will the parking on Peace Valley be numbered and students will be charged to park there, so they have a guaranteed space?

Parking assignments on the property will be determined by the school.

49. So, there will be 20 additional parking spaces for 600 more students and an unknown number of additional staff. Do you feel that will be adequate?

20 additional on-site spaces is the estimated maximum number achievable.

50. Comment to previously asked question:

There is an ongoing volunteer-led invasive removal program at Justice Park, and Park Authority staff met and is also funding some invasive removal as well as replanting. As you can imagine, invasives are an issue at many county parks, so the funds for Justice

Park will not address the entire problem. And invasives are a significant issue at the edge of the forest, as shown in a report done by the county a number of years ago.

51. You noted that angled parking on Peace Valley Lane could not be done because of safety issues. However, if you look at the footnotes of the parking analysis for Peace Valley Lane, it assumed that the speed limit was 35 MPH. If the speed zone were dropped to a typical school zone speed of 15 MPH - would that change the analysis?

There are geometric constraints resulting in issues not allowing Fairfax County to support angled parking.

52. Since the increased parking on peace valley lane, we in the Ravenwood Park neighborhood have had a big increase of both school buses & cars speeding through our neighborhood higher than the speed limit. Your school safety officer told me this was not the school's jurisdiction. How are you going to alleviate this?

Residents should report those concerns to the Fairfax County police non-emergency number.

53. Wasn't there an application to LDS submitted in March? March 11? Could you please describe that?

FCPS submitted a Minor Site Plan.

54. Where do you propose that the band will practice since they practice in the back parking lot? They cannot practice on Peace Valley Lane.

An analysis of the site has been completed to find large areas for the marching band to practice. These spaces include the front parking lot, baseball outfield, and football field. All school activities must be properly scheduled with the school.

55. Why didn't you widen Peace Valley Lane to allow parking on both sides of the street?

The required space to widen this section of Peace Valley Lane was not available due to a conservation easement on the school grounds. The widening would also require a retaining wall and costly impacts.

56. So, there will now be parking on both sides of Peace Valley? And it also still remains a two-way street?

There will be parking on one side of Peace Valley Lane and it will remain a two-way street.

57. Will students have to parallel park then? Or will that be staff. This type of parking is not taught in Virginia for a driver's license.

Parking assignments on the property will be determined by the school.

58. There is a possibility that the softball field renovation 2007-2009 timeframe done by the school contributed to some increase in invasives near the field by that forest edge, so possibly the school can look into that for helping with remediation.

Acknowledged.

59. Do any other high schools use street parking for their student/staff parking?

Yes, some do.

60. Was/is any overflow or additional school parking considered for Mansfield Road?

No.

61. To clarify, are the described zoning modifications related to parking new, and were not part of the originally proposed parking plan?

Correct.

62. The original plan would also have required rezoning, would it not, since it proposed adding to the built space on the site?

No. The original plan was for Fairfax County Park Authority to lease property to account for FAR which allows for additional square footage.

63. You mentioned that working students need cars, and with the increased capacity of the school which isn't proportionally related to the increase (20 spots) of parking, will these students' parking needs be met? Is there already a stress on parking availability and is there a way to decrease that need through promoting other transit options (shuttle buses to metro or other locations, etc.?) for either students or faculty?

Yes. Acknowledged.

64. Not a question but this is so disappointing. The potential for this project could have been a huge improvement for the community. The parking on Peace Valley is already bad and this will make it unusable to families trying to use the park during school hours.

Acknowledged.

65. Please go back to explain why the number of parking spaces is not adjusted from rural to suburban schools.

Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance.

66. How big of a waiver of parking does Justice have now? How many are required with its current size vs how many it has now?

The waiver (modification) comes into effect when a project goes through regulatory review, which it is doing at this time.

67. Would it be possible to go back and do the Justice Park parking solution, and if so, would it speed things up?

Returning to the original proposal would need to be brought back to FCPA.

68. Regarding going to Mason District Land Use Committee - You went as an Information Item. You did NOT receive an endorsement.

Acknowledged.

69. Does this mean the sidewalk that was previously funded independently of the school expansion can move forward?

This project is on hold until FCPS finalizes its plans for the site.

70. With the new zoning and additions what will be the actual reduction in parking? Rough percentage?

There will be a net gain of 20 spaces.

71. Comment from attendee on community engagement:

Dr. Anderson, we also had several open community events in the park to educate, the most recent one on hidden Black history, and we also had our table at the primary election day, to educate what we found. We used the school science board method along with talks and walks in the park.

72. Didn't the original design fail because it did not in fact account for the required parking spaces using just the land belonging to the school?

No.

73. What is the next plan if the land use is not approved?

FCPS anticipates approval of the rezoning. There is not another option at this time.

74. Response to question #9:

This never came back a second time, because it came through as a feature shown.

75. Since all of the land managed by FCPS and the Park Authority is owned by Fairfax County - why can't the Fairfax County land managed by the Park Authority be used when calculating the FAR for the Fairfax County Property managed by FCPS?

FCPS, Park Authority, and Fairfax County are three different legal entities. The Park Authority rejected the request to utilize its property for FAR calculation for the FCPS property.

76. I am a current Justice HS and Glasgow MS parent and I support this revised proposal. It does not pave any part of Justice Park AND lets the expansion continue.

Acknowledged.

77. So, to clarify, are the described zoning modifications for parking new, or were they also part of the originally proposed parking plan?

The rezoning application is new. The parking modification was part of the original plan and now must be resubmitted for an even lower number.

78. Will there now be parking on both sides of Peace Valley? And it is still a two-way street? Is this a traffic/congestion issue?

Proposed parking is on one side of Peace Valley.

79. Can more of Peace Valley Lane on the VDOT part on the school side be used, with striping and signs for school use only, to count?

The VDOT portion of Peace Valley Lane is part of a Residential Permit Parking District and cannot designate school-only parking.

80. Did FCPS look at possible interim solutions for student parking that would have allowed the construction to move forward in a more timely manner? For example, utilizing nearby offsite parking (but not the park).

The parking is overall parking required by the Zoning Ordinance and is not specifically assigned (i.e.- student parking).

81. Was any consideration taken into account during this process that we were in the midst of a Pandemic? Mr. McGranahan alluded to this and hindsight, but Dr Anderson makes a good point that many people did not know about the proposal

for the park use. Families who would normally have gotten engaged in this issue were home helping our families with virtual school, etc.

Acknowledged.

82. Has making Peace Valley Lane one way been analyzed to allow for more parking?

Yes, there are geometric constraints resulting in issues not allowing Fairfax County to support angled parking.

83. Could we clarify who owns Peace Valley Lane? FCPS or VDOT?

FCPS owns the portion of Peace Valley Lane between the school and Justice Park. VDOT owns the other side between the school and the houses.

84. Thank you for having this meeting and for undertaking to be more effective at engaging the community in decision-making in the future. The revised plan appears much better than the original to me - seems that community feedback improved the plan substantially.

Acknowledged.

85. So, because FCPA rejected the FCPS plan there will now not be any park improvements? And the number of spaces being counted includes the parking already being used on the street?

Correct.

86. Will the new labs be state of the art? and how will the school manage overcrowding until the addition is built?

The new labs have been designed in accordance with the approved Educational Specifications. The school will continue managing overcrowding until the addition is built.

87. How will the Mason District land use committee meetings be publicized?

Agendas and meeting links will be posted on the Mason District Website.

<u>Mason District Land Use and Development | Board of Supervisors - Mason</u>
(fairfaxcounty.gov)

88. Has there been consideration for adding diagonal parking to Peace Valley Lane to allow for even more spots on the street?

Yes.

89. Do I understand that the portion of Peace Valley in front of the school is owned by FCPS?

Yes, the portion in front of the school across from Justice Park.

90. Posted response to question #59 by Julie Strandlie, Mason District Planning Commissioner.

Annandale HS has parking on the street for teachers, I believe that street is owned by FCPS. The Planning Commission's Schools Facilities Committee is currently working with the county and FCPS to clarify and improve the 2232 process and outreach. We met on Sept. 23 and will meet again tentatively on Nov. 18.

91. Confusion. If FCPS "owns" Peace Valley Lane - why are not both sides of Peace Valley considered in parking spot numbers.

The spaces must be designated (i.e.- striped) to be included on the plan. Parking is proposed for one side of Peace Valley Lane.

92. Has there been any thought given to building a parking garage?

Yes, and it was determined not to be feasible.

93. County board members even said at the meeting for renewing the memo between the park and the board that the Park Authority exists to provide an extra layer of protection on the land. So, while an appointed board, they still have an obligation to protect the land. The Virginia Park Authorities Act even uses language to adopt rules and regulations "as will tend to the protection of such property and the public thereon.

Acknowledged.

94. I hope your outreach will be to EVERYONE, not just the loudest. Especially those students who would benefit the most - those in Culmore.

Continued community engagement opportunities will be explored and communicated with the entire community.

95. Follow up to question #87:

The Mason District Land Use Committee meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month. We will meet in person starting in October.

96. In adding up acres from the deeds for the school and the park and looking at the tax assessments data, there are differences. And apparently a survey was never

done when the land was acquired by the schools (1950's) and the park (1960's). Might FCPS consider doing a land survey? With the Park Authority?

Acknowledged.

97. Currently there IS parking on both sides. Parallel - not diagonal. Please figure out how to include those.

The portion of Peace Valley Lane owned by the School Board is located between the school and Justice Park. Parking is limited to one side of the road and not permitted on the park side of the road.

98. Comment from attendee: it is unfortunate that the construction has now been indefinitely delayed and park improvements removed due to a proportionally small number of people given such a large community. I appreciate that the process will change in the future, but I think it is important to still now complete a survey to understand the interests of the community going forward (not just meetings).

Acknowledged.

99. Is the sidewalk that will go in the park along Peace Valley Lane going to go forward now since it is funded?

This project is on hold until FCPS finalizes its plans for the site.

100. Can Peace Valley Lane be slightly expanded (towards the school) and have its use changed (one way) to accommodate angled parking?

This has been evaluated and there are constraints.

101. Please include ways to survey and engage students. This could be done as part of their school day and even integrated into their lessons as real-world issues and local government etc.

Continued community engagement opportunities will be explored and communicated with the entire community.

102. Dr Anderson - Be aware the Park Authority board had a number of violations of the VA Freedom of Information Act in dealings with Justice Park, based on our discussions with the VA FOIA Advisory Council and the Authority FOIA officer, as we too tried to determine how decisions were made. So, we look forward to what you will be told.

Yes - thank you.

QUESTIONS SENT TO FCPS VIA EMAIL

103. Has there been any delay (in the Justice construction timeline)? When is the construction of new classrooms scheduled to begin? During what season/school year do you expect to have students in the new room?

Yes. The current schedule, pending zoning and plan approval, starts construction in Winter 2022/2023. Students would tentatively be in the new room in Fall 2024.

104. Will Fairfax County Public Schools request that the Fairfax County Park Authority owner consent statement dated November 12, 2020 and the county memo FS-M20-8 dated November 13, 2020 be rescinded?

No.

105. Are there any plans to address stormwater from the existing Justice High School runoff into Justice Park's stream, where decades of runoff have caused problems, with examples as shown in the attached. And any possibilities for a joint venture between the Park Authority, FCPS, and county stormwater to address the stream in the park?

Acknowledged.

106. Is there still no timeline for the high school addition?

FCPS will submit a rezoning application to Fairfax County. Once regulatory plans are approved, the high school addition may be scheduled to start construction in Winter 2022/2023.

107. If the Park Authority attends, are there any plans for the Park Authority to fund the Justice Park master plan to address installation of the bridge and improvement of the trails shown in 1986 and 2009 master plans? It has been at least 35 years since 1986.

Questions should be addressed to the Fairfax County Park Authority.

108. Does the community know the Westfield High School property, which includes the Park Authority Cub Run Recreation Center, has 33 acres of land in Resource Protection Areas and 54 acres of 2015 tree cover—both by far higher than any FCPS property except Liberty Middle School's tree cover. Instead of swapping land for Cub Run to put surface runoff heat island parking lots in Justice Park, shouldn't FCPS be looking to have the Park Authority, the experts on forests and streams and rec centers, manage and own even more of this Westfield High land?

Acknowledged.

109. Per documents from the county's Land Development Services, the plans specifically for Justice High School's expansion and separately for the parking expansion were disapproved on 23 different points each back in January. According to a representative from LDS, no further plans have been submitted. How do these disapprovals affect the timeline for the expansion? Why were no follow up plans submitted specifically for the expansion?

The follow up plans were contingent on Park Authority approval to utilize its property.

110. In the May 6 presentation, the presenter brought up 9 acres of the park being used for FAR. I understand in theory what this means, but I'm wondering if this land is turned over to FCPS, does FCPS now own the land? *Can* they develop on it in the future? Someone I spoke with said they knew someone who built a green roof to offset the FAR requirement. Is something like this possible?

The land remains under Fairfax County Park Authority ownership. FAR is a ratio of a building's floor area to the lot size.

111. If FCPS does come up with an agreement with the FCPA for sharing the park, who is responsible for managing and maintaining the park? Once the invasive plants are cleared, who is responsible for making sure they don't come back?

FCPA.

- 112. What are some ways that FCPS could create an eco-friendly parking lot?

 Acknowledged.
- 113. One neighbor suggested re-striping the front parking lot and moving the bus drop off to take care of parking.

Acknowledged.

114. If we cannot figure out the parking and the plans need to be redrawn, how much will this delay the addition? Will we have to do another bond vote?

The proposed plan resubmission is anticipated to meet regulatory requirements.

115. For the additions at Justice High School. In your original proposal FCPS was planning to lease up to 9 acres of Justice Park to achieve the needed FAR for the construction of the additions. How will this be achieved in your new proposal?

Yes. The new proposal will include a rezoning application to increase the FAR.

116. Do you plan to conduct open and public negotiations with the Park Authority about any lease of Justice Park so that the community will understand and be made aware of what this means for parkland "borrowing"?

There are currently no plans for lease of Justice Park.

117. Please explain your plans – and any opportunities for the public to weigh in about your 'leasing' of any land within Justice Park.

There are currently no plans for lease of Justice Park.

118. What will this mean for Justice Park improvements? It would seem there needs to be some renumeration/ benefits to the park for such a negotiating advantage with use of the parkland.

Questions should be addressed to Fairfax County Park Authority.

119. The Tripps Run tributary located in Justice Park has been greatly compromised/degraded over many years by the runoff from the existing impervious surfaces at Justice HS. How will your design address stormwater runoff affecting Tripps Run?

Designs are in accordance with regulatory requirements and are reviewed, approved, and permitted by Fairfax County.

Notes: Names and email addresses of webinar attendees who asked questions during the session have been removed from the above Q&A. A full record of all questions and answers, including names and email addresses, are on file. Questions that were not related to the topic have also been removed from this document.