

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Athletic Field Lighting Proposal Community Meeting #3 September 21, 2022

Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities
Jack Browand, Deputy Director, Park Services



Topics for Discussion



- Project Need
- Proposed Locations
- Fiscal Impacts
- Implementation Schedule
- Community Engagement
- Community Concerns
- Questions & Discussion

Project Need



- Provide additional capacity to accommodate current and increasing scholastic and community program needs within the City's fixed field resources.
 - Athletic field lighting combined with synthetic turf provides for up to approximately 1,100 additional hours of use per field annually.
- Support the City Council 2022 Community Priority to Support Youth and Families by expanding for capacity for youth programs.
- Support City's goal of Providing Equitable Access to facilities and services.

Proposed Locations



1. Francis C Hammond Middle School
4646 Seminary Road
2. Patrick Henry K-8 School & Recreation Center
4643 & 4653 Taney Avenue
3. Jefferson Houston K-8 School
1501 Cameron Street
4. George Washington Middle School *
1005 Mt. Vernon Avenue
5. Eugene Simpson Stadium Park
426 East Monroe Avenue



International Dark-Sky Association
5049 E. Broadway Blvd., #105,
Tucson, AZ 85711 USA
tel +1.520.203.3198

Dear Mr. Carter

June 15, 2022

Congratulations! The lighting designs for City of Alexandria Hammond Middle School soccer project has been reviewed and found to be in compliance with IDA's Community Friendly Outdoor Sports Lighting program. This Letter of Certification confirms your successful application of Phase I and allows you to apply for the Phase II Field Verification process.

We are proud to have you join this community of outdoor sports lighting facilities working to reduce light pollution and improve the environment in localities across the nation. By adopting the IDA criteria for Community Friendly Outdoor Sports Lighting, your community will:

- Minimize neighborhood lighting nuisance by greatly reducing local spill and glare.
- Manage high angle light pollution, thus dramatically decreasing off-site light trespass and sky glow.
- Mitigate neighborhood light pollution and sky glow, which will benefit the environment, the astronomy community, and others impacted by poorly designed outdoor sports facilities.
- Minimize lumen densities, thereby reducing energy consumption.

Sincerely,
Pete Strasser

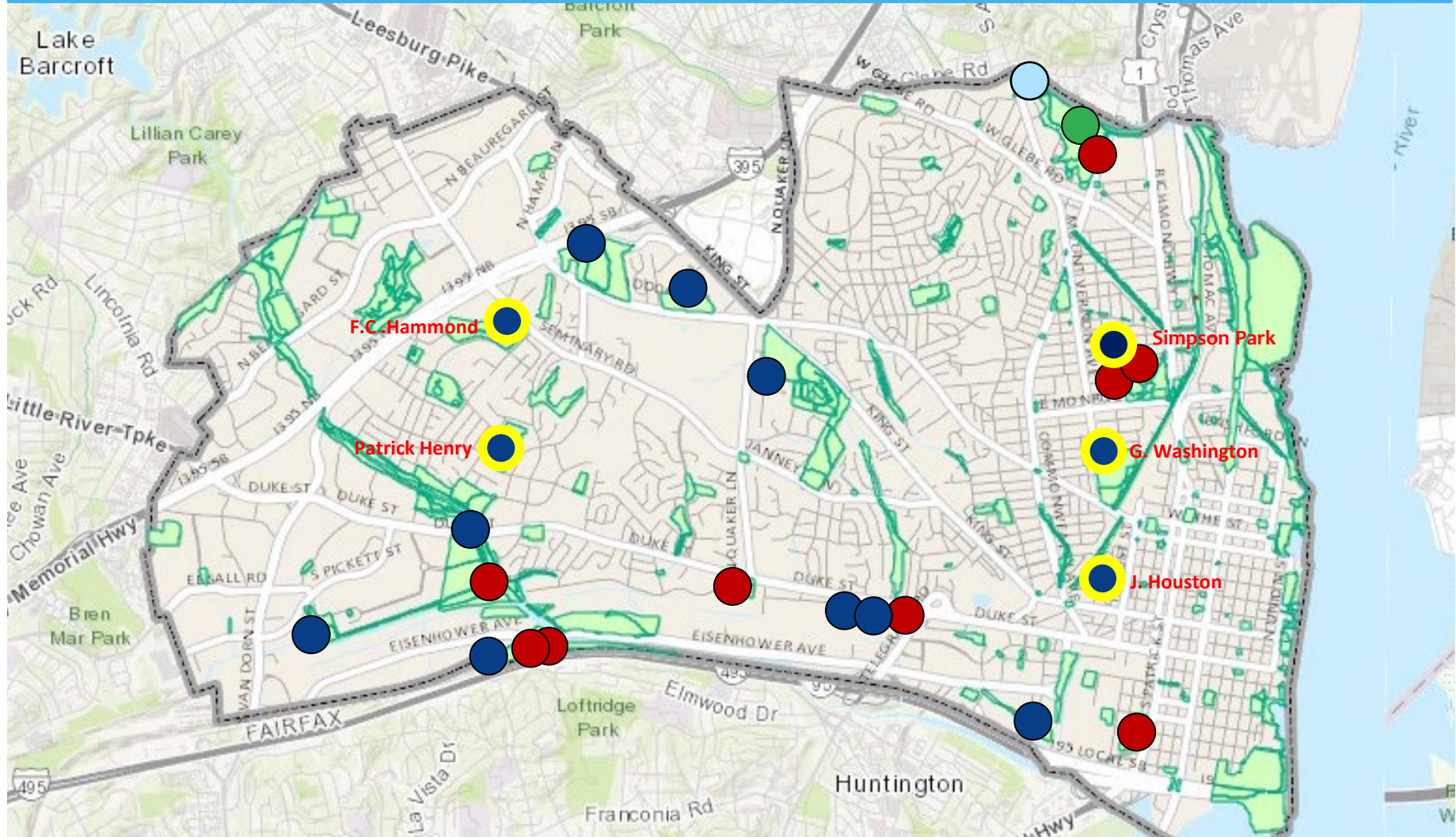
Technical Director
pete@darksky.org

Executive Director: Ruskin Hartley
Emeritus Director: David L. Crawford, Ph.D.
Board of Directors: Diane Kinnison, President, USA • Kellie Pendoley, Vice President, Australia • Kim Patten, Treasurer, USA • Ken Katmer, Secretary, USA • Laurel Alyn Forest, USA • Alejandro Sanchez Miguel, Spain

Note: All locations compliant with the International Dark-Sky Association's Community Friendly Outdoor Sports Lighting Program

* Addition to ACPS project to convert one of the two existing fields to synthetic turf

City Athletic Field Lighting Distribution Map

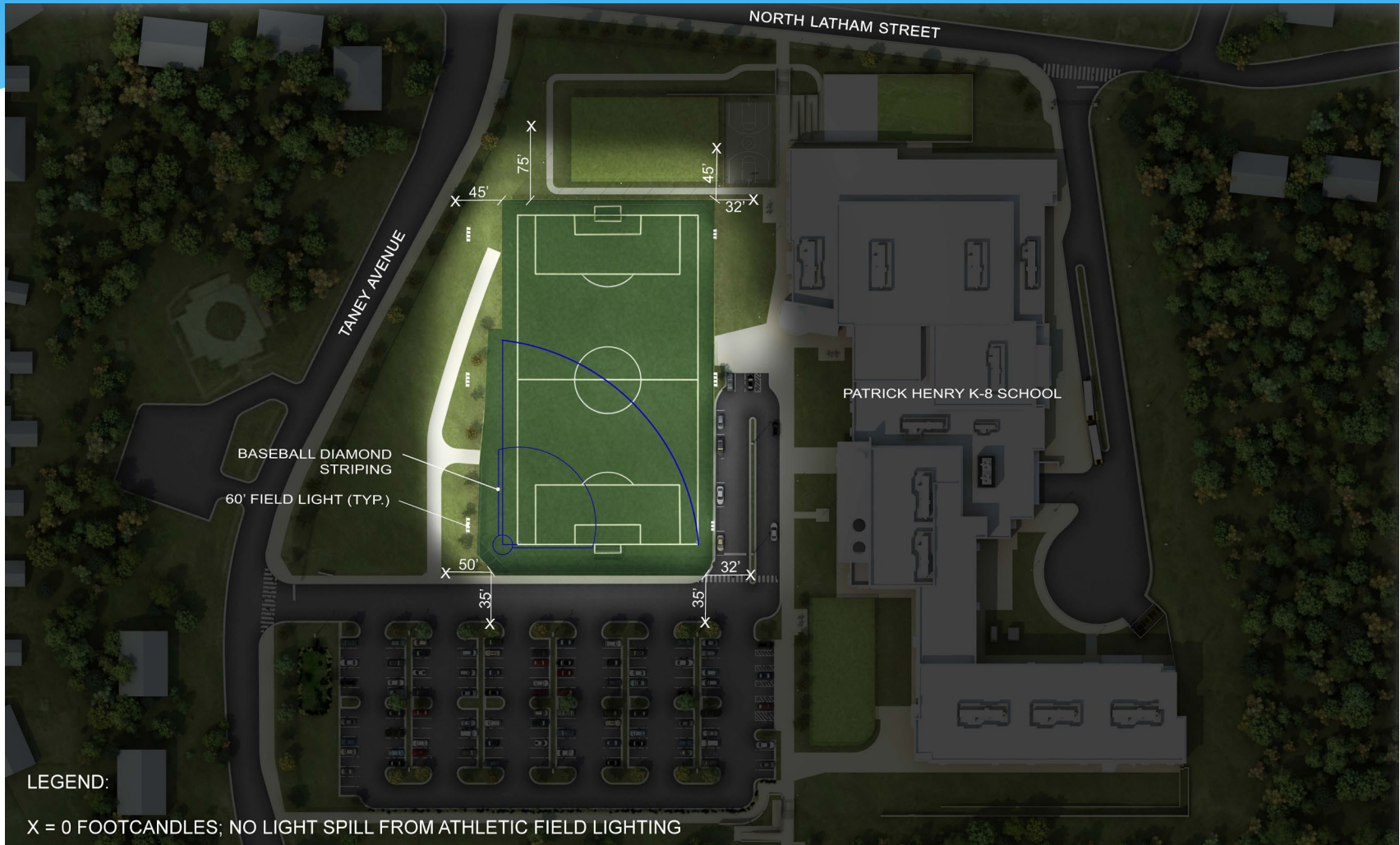


- Shared Use
- Diamond
- Synthetic Rectangle
- Natural Turf Rectangle
- Proposed

FC Hammond Lighting Exhibit



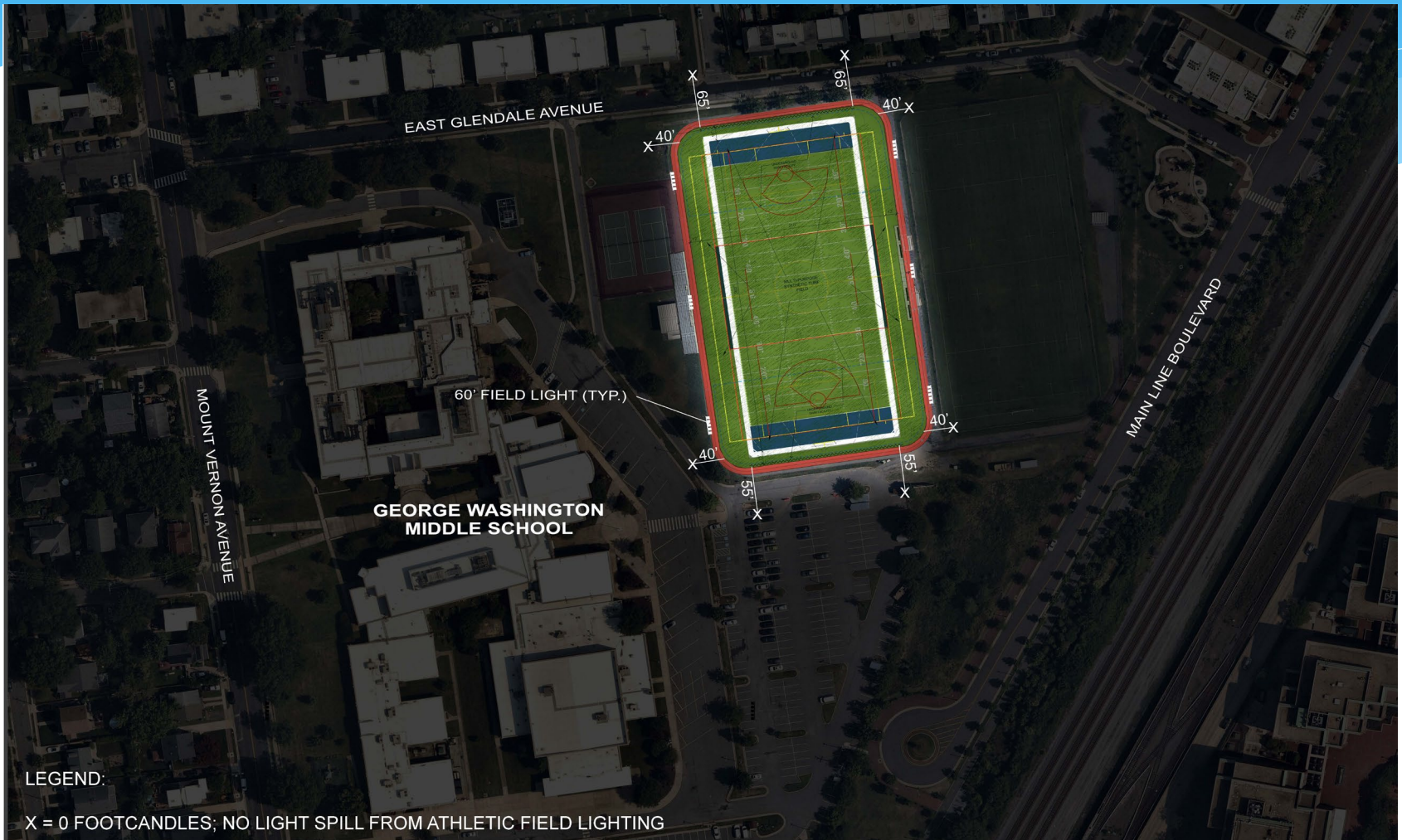
Patrick Henry Lighting Exhibit



Jefferson Houston Lighting Exhibit



G. Washington Lighting Exhibit



Simpson Park Lighting Exhibit



Fiscal Impact



- **FY 2023 Project Funding:** \$804,000
City Council approved funding for two (2) rectangular field lighting *
- **Additional Funding Requests:** \$402,000 per field (FY 2023 dollars) *

* Pending SUP approval

Implementation Potential *



- FY 2023 (up to two funded)
 - Francis C Hammond Middle School
 - Jefferson Houston K-8 School
 - George Washington Middle

- FY 2024
 - Patrick Henry K-8 School & Recreation Center

- FY 2025
 - Eugene Simpson Stadium

* Pending SUP approval & City funding

Community Engagement



- **May 16 - June 30:** Individual Community Group Meetings (invitation)
 - **June 2:** ACPS Schoolboard Update (**completed**)
 - **June 8:** Community Meeting #1 (**completed**) - meeting recording available
 - **June 9:** Seminary Hill Civic Association (**completed**)
 - **June 13:** Youth Sports Advisory Group (**completed**)
 - **June 16:** Park and Recreation Commission (**completed**)
 - **June 21:** Community Meeting #2 (**completed**) - meeting recording available
 - **June 29:** Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations (**completed**)
 - **July 21:** Park & Recreation Commission Public Hearing (**completed**)
 - **September 14:** Del Ray Civic Association (**completed**)
 - **Oct 6:** Planning Commission Public Hearing
 - **Oct 15:** City Council Public Hearing
-
- Comments will continue to be received through the scheduled Planning Commission Public Hearing on October 6 and City Council Public Hearing October 15 at Jack.Browand@alexandriava.gov
 - Additional Information is Available on the Project Website: [2022 Athletic Field Lighting Proposals](#)

Community Engagement



Civic Association Distribution List ([Community Association Viewer](#))

1. Seminary Hill Civic Association
2. Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association
3. Seminary Ridge Civic Association
4. Strawberry Hill Civic Association
5. Wakefield Tarleton Civic Association
6. Del Ray Citizens Association
7. Rosemont Citizens Association
8. Braddock Metro Citizens' Coalition
9. Braddock Station Civic Association
10. West Old Town Citizens Association
11. Upper King Street Neighborhood Association
12. Old Town Civic Association
13. Potomac Yard Civic Association
14. Northeast Citizens Association

Community Engagement



Community Concerns



- Impacts to Neighboring Residents
 - Trash
 - Noise, Traffic & Parking
 - Unauthorized Use of Lights
- Synthetic Turf Use is Dangerous & Contributes to Flooding
- Property Ownership & Project Funding

Community Concerns



■ Impacts to Neighboring Residents

– Trash Management

- Monitoring is adjusted consistent with permitted use
- Collection is performed daily before 8 a.m.
- Permit Holders are encouraged to assist
- Additional Recycle Containers Provided

– Traffic & Parking

- Proposed locations have designated off-street parking
- Lighting will reduce concentrated use of fields
- Report Parking Violations to Traffic Enforcement at 703.746.4444

– Unauthorized Use of Lights

- Lighting at all fields is by permitted use only
- Lighting Systems are Programmed
- Field Use is monitored by Rotating Field Ambassadors

– Permits Can be Revoked



Community Concerns



- **Synthetic Turf Use is Dangerous & Contributes to Flooding**
 - Health & Safety
 - City of Alexandria discontinued use of recycled infill materials in 2016
 - New fields and turf replacement for life-cycle maintenance are piloting natural infill material to reduce field surface materials
 - Additional Information may be found by visiting [Synthetic Turf Use in Alexandria](#)
 - Contributes to Flooding
 - Synthetic Turf Fields are required to contain stormwater
 - Synthetic Turf Fields have comprehensive underdrain systems
 - New Fields are designed as a Stormwater BMP

Community Concerns



- **Property Ownership & Project Funding**
 - On September 8, 2022, the Alexandria City Public School Board adopted a **Resolution** in support of the City’s applications to install athletic field lighting at four school locations
 - On May 4, 2022 City Council approved **Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Funding** (pages 12-13) for RPCA to install up to two fields
 - Pending SUP approval, funding requests for additional athletic field lighting will be considered in RPCA annual budget approval process



**ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD
RESOLUTION REGARDING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATIONS
FOR ATHLETIC FIELD LIGHTING**

WHEREAS the City of Alexandria, through its Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA), in order to meet current and increasing scholastic and community needs for lighted athletic field space, and to better provide equitable access to recreational facilities to all City residents, has filed applications for a special use permit (SUP), set forth below, to allow for the installation of athletic field lighting at several school sites operated by the Alexandria City School Board (School Board); and

WHEREAS those SUP applications, and school sites, include the following:

2022-00042, for Francis C. Hammond Middle School

2022-00043, for George Washington Middle School

2022-00044, for Jefferson Houston PreK-8 School

2022-00045, for Patrick Henry K-8 School; and


WHEREAS the foregoing school properties are titled in the City of Alexandria, but under Section 22.1-125 of the Code of Virginia, are operated by, and subject to the official care and authority of, the School Board; and

WHEREAS the School Board concurs that the aforementioned projects will benefit both the students and school communities at these respective schools, as well as the community generally; and

WHEREAS the aforementioned projects will be constructed entirely with funding provided by the City;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board hereby consents to the SUP applications set forth above.

Adopted by the ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD
this 8th day of September, 2022

By: 
Jacqrita E. Greene, Vice Chair



Questions & Discussion

Jack.Browand@alexandriava.gov

2022 Athletic Field Lighting Proposals Project Page