

PARK PROBLEMS

Community Parks

Bruce Park. Homeless apparently are staying in one picnic pavilion. Tennis court in bad shape and apparently unused. Caboose needs repainting.

Sunny Acres Park. Bent post in baseball field backstop should be replaced. Repair section of broken sidewalk by basketball court. Dilapidated wooden shed should be torn down. Community building appears to be unused. Swimming pool is unused and bathhouse and toilet facilities are wide open and deteriorated. These should either be restored to use or torn down. Field on south side of pond is mowed, but has no apparent use. Erosion problem on east side of picnic pavilion needs to be addressed.

Southside Estates Elementary School Park. Entrance road on south end and parking lot in bad shape. Many potholes in both and the parking lot is unstriped. A repaving job is needed. A lot of trash on ground. A swing set at this location, which has no swings, either needs to be removed or repaired.

Huffman Boulevard Park. Exterior of restroom needs to be pressure washed. Parking lots need restriping. Drinking fountain needs cleaning and repainting. What appears to be a baseball field shows no signs of use. Either use or repurpose.

Roundette Park. Pressure wash entrance sign. Stripe small parking lot at end of entrance road. Consider adding pavilion, picnic tables and play equipment. There is none at present.

Victory Park. Restripe parking lots. Remove trash from southeast corner of east parking lot. Repair or replace wooden benches. Many bench slats are rotten and loose. Replace tattered wind screens in tennis courts.

Warrington Park/Woodland Acres. Restripe parking lots and pick up trashes. Paint rusty posts on swimming pool chin-link fence. Put nets on basketball stands and repaint markings on the basketball court. Resurface tennis courts and put windscreens on the court fences. Either find a use for the old Health Center building and make necessary repairs or tear it down. Pressure wash entrance signs at pedestrian entrance on the north side. Make repairs, particularly to the soffit, and remove trash from back of building at this entrance. This building appears to be unused. If no use can be found for it, it should be torn down. Repair deteriorated shuffle board courts (2) or remove them. They obviously have not been used for years. Clean up the metal plaque dedicated to the park founders. It is barely readable.

Victoria Park. Put in a regular parking lot and open a vehicle entrance for park users with a road leading to the lot. Replace damaged south side of double vehicle entrance gate on west end of park. Replace damaged metal picnic table in the first pavilion at the southwest pedestrian entrance. Treat with sealant wooden posts supporting the second pavilion. Pressure wash tennis court floor and install new wind screens. Consider consolidating the entire park with the well-equipped adjacent school playgrounds at the north end of the park.

Brookfield Elementary School Park. Post a sign identifying the park at the vehicle entrance. Restripe the parking lot. Replace the rusted-out gate between the parking lot and the park, proper. Clean and restore batting cage nearest the entrance. Replace all missing or rotten wooden boards on bleachers. The wooden second- story of the building that houses the restroom facilities in bad shape with rotten siding and eaves and a broken light fixture. The masonry first floor has graffiti on the front and needs pressure washing and painting. A steel door on a second masonry building is rusted through at the bottom and should be replaced. The basketball court needs resurfacing, painting and basket nets. Replace the damaged steel door on a small masonry building near the west perimeter fence. There is a large electrical cable running into this building and the door is so bent that a small person could get in despite the chain and padlock. Repaint the concrete posts that bar vehicles from entering the south side of the park from the west.

Leonard Abess Park. Clean drinking fountain by tennis court. Repaint bench beside tennis court. Replace wooden rotting posts supporting bike rack and paint rusty metal bike rack. Paint wooden bridge with sealant. Pick up trash on either side of the bridge. Pick up trash under bleachers at soccer field. Replace bent piping on perimeter fence along Kernan Road. Repaint steel doors to restroom facility. Repaint wooden tops of five picnic tables.

Replace window and clean up double-wide residence at far northwest corner of park. Pick up trash at this location and remove what appears to be an abandoned truck.

Arlington Lions Club Park. Repaint wooden picnic tables and the wood tops of other picnic tables. Paint metal frames of benches and use sealant or paint on the wooden seats. Put sealant on wooden supports of the pavilions.

Repair the wooden walkway along the river. Pressure wash the restroom facility. Repave the worn-out section of the path leading to the south picnic pavilion. Either put in a nature trail or correct the sign at the south end of the south parking lot.

Tidewater Acres Park. Repaint rusty interior of pavilion roof. Repair (shingle and paint) or remove wooden structure at southeast corner of park.

Holiday Road Park. Change classification from “neighborhood” to “undeveloped.” The gate was padlocked and there is no equipment or facilities in the park.

Gerrie’s Park. Pressure wash sign showing park rules.

Alimacani Elementary School Park. Repaint handball courts walls and refinish floors. The park is classified as a residential park. Given its size and array of features, it would be more appropriately to classify it as a community park.

REGIONAL PARKS

Patton Park. Restripe parking lots. Repurpose enough of the twelve soccer fields to provide another pavilion with picnic tables, a double basketball court, a baseball field and a field for flying model planes, drones and kites.

Blue Cypress Park. Repaint concrete posts along road at south end. Fill and level triangular piece of ground at south end. Restripe parking areas. Clean up and repair golf pro shop at north end. Replace rusted-out doors on the north end restroom facility and pressure-wash the lower half of that facility.

Ed Austin Regional Park. Restripe all parking lots where lines are absent or barely visible. Clean and repaint standing drinking fountain along trail at north east of park. Repair or replace the faucet of the dog-wash at the same location.

The section for large dogs needs holes filled and gravel graded so that it does not get onto the sidewalk. Bare areas need dead leaves and grass clippings as coverage.

At the baseball complex: Put in new Astroturf in the batting cages; replace the door to women's restroom; replace the doors to the bulletin board on the southside of the restroom; pressure wash the equipment storage building and replace the broken wood trim around the doors; and repair the sidewalk on the south side so that it is protected against breakage from heavy trucks. Suggest that truck crossings of the sidewalk be established at strategic locations and the new sidewalk there be reinforced with rebar and made thicker (6" to 8") so that it can handle the heavier loads without breaking.

Repaint the west end of the Senior Center.

Pressure wash the restroom facility near the west playground and repaint the facility doors.

Repaint the big maintenance shed at the far northwest corner of the park.

Dog park users say they would like a perimeter gravel or crushed stone path around the inside of the big dog section, a 250' extension of the west big dog section water line and a fixed metal trash container near the south-end of the small dog section and the west end of the big dog section. The gravel near the entrance of the big dog section needs to be graded so that it stops spreading over the concrete walkway. Users also would like a shelter pavilion in the small dog and the big dog sections.

Boat Ramps

Fulton Road Landing. This landing is really unimproved. Suggest either dredging out a portion of the river and constructing a ramp that would allow launching of <20' boats or a small pier from which kayaks and canoes could be launched without the users having to wade in the river.

Planning District Two Park Inspections

COMMUNITY PARKS

Bruce Park. 6549 Arlington Road. The park appears to cover about 5-6 acres. Parking is limited. A lot at northwest corner will hold eleven cars. There is also parking to the west on the opposite side of Sprinkle Drive in front of an apartment complex. The park surrounded by chain link fence. There are two pedestrian entrances, one on Rogero Road and the other on Arlington Boulevard. A sign on the Arlington Road side gives name of park.

Coming in from the west side, there is a basketball court with five basket stands and a 20' four-tier bleacher, and two bike stands. Going eastward, there is a combination roofed picnic pavilion/rest room facility with two tables. The restrooms were locked. Next is a second roofed picnic pavilion with two tables. There were a couple of shopping carts with filled plastic bags at this location. It appears to be used by homeless people. To the south is another basketball court with two basket stands; two tennis courts and what appears to be a court that would accommodate two volley ball games. To the north is another tennis court which is in bad shape and apparently unused.

For young children, there is a kiddy playground with a slide and jungle gym. The equipment looks fairly new. Further on, on the Arlington Road side, there is an old SCL caboose that needs painting. (Get after CSX?) At the far east end is a doubled-ended baseball park with stadium lighting. It is in good repair and apparently is being used.

There are three newly painted metal benches and a sufficient number of trash cans distributed throughout the park. Sidewalks are located in all heavy traffic areas and are in good repair. There was a good number of middle school children in park

Sunny Acres. 9424 Ft. Caroline Road. There are two road entrances; one on Ft. Caroline and the other on Merrill Road. There are parking lots at either end that can accommodate perhaps fifty cars each.

Proceeding south from the Fort Caroline entrance, there is a single-wide dwelling which does not show any signs of occupancy; a baseball field with a backstop fence that has a bent post on the left side that needs repair and a basketball court. A section of sidewalk by the basketball court is badly broken and needs replacing.

Continuing south, to the right there is a kiddy playground with two slides and swings. These look fairly new. There are two storage sheds in good condition. Further to the southeast, there is a dilapidated wooden shed that should be torn down. Next is a community building about 75' x 25' that looks in fairly decent shape, but which I have never seen in use. (I bring my dog here for exercise). To the immediate south of the building is a picnic pavilion with five tables, three grills and three trash cans. (These are the only trash cans I saw in the park.) There is an erosion problem on the east side of the pavilion slab that needs attention.

Next is a fenced swimming pool and bath house. There is water in the pool, but I have never seen it in use. Pool equipment is housed in the bath house, and I could hear an electrical motor running. The bath house is a substantial, but does not appear to have been maintained. There is trash and broken junction boxes on the west side. The women's washroom was locked, but the doors to the men's washroom were wide open. Two of the four fluorescent lights in that room were on.

There is a sidewalk leading from the southeast side of the community building to a pond of perhaps an acre located about 150 yards to the southeast. The sidewalk terminates at the pond on a wooden walkway and observation desk. Both have a 3.5' fence and are in good repair. The pond is surrounded by a high chain link fence. Around the pond and inside the fence is an informal pathway.

There is an opening on the south side of the fence that leads directly into a field of about 1.5 acres. The field is mowed, but has no apparent use.

I saw an accumulation of trash on the west side of the pond fence between it and the picnic pavilion.

The overall impression was that this park receives little use and that some of it is poorly maintained.

Southside Estates Elementary School Park. 9827 Jupiter Court North. This, in essence, is two separate parks, one north and one south. The southern one appears to be the oldest. The entire park is surrounded by a perimeter fence.

There is a small parking lot just to the left of the southern entrance. It will hold about fifteen cars. The road leads to a base ball field that is equipped with night lights. To the right of the field is a large parking lot which will hold fifty-plus cars. Between the field and the parking lot is a swing frame, but with no swings. The road and parking lots have many holes and need repaving. There is a lot of trash on the ground in this area.

The north entrance is reached from the parking lot of the Southside Estates Elementary School which is located on Ivey Road. At this end there is a basketball court with four basket stands that appear to be little used. There is play ground equipment. The two slides and eight swings appear relatively new. The jungle gyms and climbing bars are made of steel piping and are rusty and need repainting. There were three metal benches that have been recently painted. There was one trash can. Playground areas around swings and slides have been newly mulched.

Fort Caroline Club. 4131 Ferber Road. The facilities consist of a large, well maintained masonry clubhouse, a fenced swimming pool and a kiddy playground near the river. Everything was in good shape and the clubhouse had lighted Christmas trees in the lobby and a list of up-coming activities for January. It appears to be used regularly. Parking is limited to about 10-12 cars. Concrete sidewalks connect all of the activity areas.

Huffman Boulevard Park. 2775 Huffman Boulevard. The park is located on the east side of the street just beyond a traffic circle. The park entrance is a road. It is flanked by two masonry pillars and a 6' high black aluminum fence. The other boundaries of the park are enclosed by a 6' chain link fence.

Upon entering the park there is a parking lot ahead that will hold about 20 cars. To the immediate right, there is a masonry restroom facility. It could do with pressure washing on the lower portions. Proceeding south, there is a kiddy playground with two jungle gyms. The larger has five slides and for other, two slides. Further to the left (east) is a swing set with 6 swings. At the far east end is a pavilion with two steel-frame picnic tables. There is a sidewalk circling the kiddy playground. Four painted steel benches are distributed at intervals on the sidewalk. The playground area, proper, is mulched.

The sidewalk branches off to the right by the restroom. About 50' to the west is a concrete 8' path that circles the park at a distance of 30-40 feet from the boundary perimeter fence. Most of the area between the path and the boundary is wooded and the path itself is shaded. There are two or three steel-frame picnic tables located on concrete pads to the right of the path. Metal fixed trash cans are at strategic locations around the path. The path is illuminated by street-type lights.

Going east on the path, I noticed a stack of six metal 20' pipes lying next to the boundary fence. They appear to have been forgotten.

Looking to the north are two soccer fields. One has a 40'5-tier bleacher at each goal end. The north side of the path parallels the soccer fields. Turning west, there are two parking lots, one behind the other. The westernmost lot has a sidewalk around it with two fixed metal trash cans and a drinking fountain that could do with some cleaning and repainting. The lots also need restriping. Looking south towards the middle of the park, there are two tennis courts with windscreens. Each has a wooden bench. Continuing west, there is a double basketball court. Down the middle on a strip separating the courts, are three painted metal benches.

The whole northeast quadrant of the park has stadium-type lighting.

Beachwood Park. 11758 Marina Drive. There is a sign at the entrance identifying the park and a short entrance drive with parking on either side. The parking area, which is unpaved, will handle about fifteen cars. Fencing on either side of the road was painted 6' aluminum. At the north-east corner was a porta-potty

To the right (south) is a 60'x 60' building with a few covered windows. There is a sign in front reading, "Office of Economic Self-Sufficiency" and language indicating that SNAP stamp applications and Medicaid registration was handled there. Although the sign seemed relatively new, the building had an unused look about it. In the rear was junk which should be removed

Going to the left (north) through a pedestrian gate which had a stucco waste container on either side, there was a playground with a jungle gym with two slides and a climbing apparatus. The playground

was mulched. Continuing north, there was a pavilion with three metal picnic tables, a grill and a plastic trash can. To the immediate west was a basketball court with two basket stands. The court was flanked by two tall, stadium type lights. There were two metal benches facing the basketball court and a little beyond, a swing set with four swings. The ground under the swings was mulched.

Further north to the left was what appeared to be a ball field. It was surrounded by an 8' chain link fence and had the usual high chain link back stop. However, there were no other signs that it has been actually used as a ball park. There was not the usual clay infield. There was no home plate and the grass growing in what would be the infield was indistinguishable from that in what would be the outfield.

El Faro at Dames Point Park. 9101 Dames Point Road. The park has an identity sign at the entrance. Inside, to the left is a double-wide residence. It does not appear to be occupied. There is a small parking lot. To the left (east) there are two pavilions, each with a picnic table. In the same area there is a plastic trash can, a bike rack and to the north, a restroom facility. South, toward the river, there is a memorial to the crew of the El Faro which sank in a hurricane in 2017. The park is quite small, but it is in good shape

Roundette Park. 3500 Roundette Lake Road. The entrance to the park is on Fort Caroline Road. The identity sign at this location needs pressure washing. The entrance road goes about a quarter of a mile through a wooded (and apparently unused) to a parking area for parallel parking. It has no striping. All of the park facilities lie to the east. Further south is a large parking lot. The striping is in good condition. At the northeast corner of the lot is a truckload of red clay, apparently for the ball fields. At the far south end of the parking lot is an occupied double-wide residence.

Going toward the west, the walkway passes between two ball fields to the south and three to the north. Each ball field has two 20' five tier bleachers two covered structures with benches for the playing teams. One has a large score board. The fields all have stadium lighting. Located along the walkway towards the middle is a concession stand/storage building restroom facility and a drinking fountain.

Continuing west beyond the ball fields, there is a large, roofed building about 100' x 50', open to all sides, with the sides covered by chain link fence to the outside and netting to the inside. The inside is divided into three or four compartments by netting and the floor is of Astroturf. As near as I can tell it is a batting cage. Toward the south there is a second cage that would accommodate two batters, but has only fencing at the top and sides. It has an Astroturf floor. A third, one batter, cage is located further south.

I saw no pavilions, picnic tables or playground equipment. The park is entirely oriented towards baseball.

Victory Park. 3781 University Club Boulevard. The driveway from the road passes through several small parking lots. All could do with striping. There is a pile of trash at the southeast corner of the east parking lot.

Beginning at pedestrian entrance at far east end and going north, there is a wide sidewalk 5-6'. Ahead is a bike rack. Further, there is a masonry men's rest room to the right and a similar women's rest room to the west. There is a drinking fountain mounted on the side of the men's rest room. Next is a pavilion with seven steel frame picnic tables. Beyond the pavilion there is a mulched playground on either side of the walk. Each has a jungle gym with two slides and a separate smaller slide.

The side walk goes in a circle back to the rest rooms. At regular intervals, to the outside of the walk, are benches with steel frames, but wooden slats. The slats look as if they have been newly painted. However, several of the benches have loose slats; the wood appears to have rotted where the slats are attached by bolts to the frame. In my opinion, the all of the slats should be replaced. The sidewalk splits into a T with the restrooms on the east side, and some metal bars and climbing apparatus and a loop trail through a grove of trees to the west.

Returning to the east parking lot and proceeding west, there is a large field (600' x 200') that has been plowed recently. This might be the soccer field. To the right is a baseball field with two roofed structures and wooden benches for the teams. Further on, to the left are two tennis courts. The courts themselves look in pretty good shape, but the windscreen netting is in tatters.

Warrington Park/Woodland Acres. 325 Bowlan Street. Beginning at the east side entrance, there is a large unstriped parking lot. It has trash on it. To the immediate north is a large, well-kept swimming pool. However, the posts for the 8' chain link fence that surround the pool are rusty and need painting.

The sidewalks inside the park are wide (5'-5.5') and in good shape. Continuing west, toward the north, there is a basketball court with two basket stands. The baskets need nets and the floor markings are badly faded and should be repainted. Ahead is a jungle gym with slides that is enclosed by a perimeter sidewalk. Two picnic tables are located on pads toward the outside of the perimeter walk. Six fixed metal trash cans are distributed along the walk.

Looking north, there are two tennis courts with stadium type lighting. They need pressure washing and restriping and probably should be resurfaced. There is grass growing in cracks in the court floors. The courts also need wind screens.

Continuing west, there is a pavilion with five metal picnic table. At the far end of the park is a large masonry/glass building. It is in poor condition and looks abandoned. The address plate read 465. On the north side there was a sign reading, "Woodland Area Health Center, City of Jacksonville."

Returning east to my car along the north side, there are two small parking lots. Both need striping. Next is a pedestrian entrance leading a short distance to a large masonry building with a sign reading Warrington Park. The sign needs pressure washing. The building looks abandoned but not in as bad shape as the first building. Walking around on the southside I noticed several pieces of soffit that had come loose from the roof. Other pieces of junk lay about. On the east side of the building were two shuffle board courts. They have not been used in years. Grass is growing in the cracks and the board markings are indistinguishable. Proceeding eastward, I saw two metal picnic tables located on pads near the basketball court. Further on, at the far northeast end of the park, was a small monument dedicated to the founders of the park. The metal plaque can barely be read and needs to be pressure washed.

Victoria Park. 2948 Knights Lane West. This park is bound on the west side by Lovelace Park, on the north side by two schools and on the east side by Drew Park. The schools have fairly elaborate playgrounds suitable for everyone from kindergarten to middle school. Drew Park is referred as a "soft ball complex" in park literature. Lovelace park is a really nice residential park.

I circled this Victoria Park three times, but found only one vehicle entrance. This was on the west side across the street from Lovelace Park. The entrance has a double gate. The one on the south side is broken and needs to be replaced. This entrance has a gravel road that went east perhaps 100' and then

ended. There is a east-west fence about 50' north of the road which, apparently, marks the extreme north boundary of the park.

I saw three pedestrian entrances, two on the south side and one on the west side. I could not find any formal general-purpose parking areas anywhere in the park although the area on the southside between the sidewalk and the park fence might accommodate ten cars. In addition, there was a three -car parking lot for the disabled next to the southeast pedestrian entrance.

Beginning at the southeast pedestrian entrance, the gate is padlocked. Immediately inside are restrooms and a sidewalk headed north. Next is a picnic pavilion with two picnic tables and six plastic trash cans. To the right (east) is a small ball field. It looks too small for adults—Little League perhaps?

Beginning at the southwest pedestrian entrance, which was open, are two pavilions. The first has one metal picnic table which has been damaged by vandals who bent both ends down, a grill and a plastic trash can. The second pavilion had two metal picnic tables. The roof of the second pavilion was supported by four pressure-treated 4' x 4'. These were weathered and should be painted with sealer. To the north was a ballpark with stadium-type lighting and roofed bullpens. The perimeter fences had windscreens. There were two 20' five tier bleachers.

Next was a tennis court. There is a plastic trash can at the entrance. The court looked in fair shape, but the floor needs pressure washing and the fencing needs a new windscreen. At present only two-thirds of the west fence has a windscreen and it is tattered.

In my opinion the school playgrounds should be consolidated with the park and a substantial parking lot provided with a vehicle entrance.

Brookfield Elementary School Park. 10441 McAleer Road. This park is difficult to access, perhaps because of the construction of the 295 Beltway.

The parking lot is located at the entrance and will hold about thirty cars. It is unstriped. There was no park sign visible. There was part of an elevated sign by the park fence at the southeast corner. Half of the sign and a post was laying on the ground inside the fence. The entrance to the park is through a one-piece vehicle gate. The bottom corner of the gate is rusted through and the gate should be replaced. At the northeast corner of the lot was a pile of dirt—approximately two truck-loads

Inside the fence, to the right (north) is a batting cage. There were vines growing in it. Continuing to the west, there is a ballpark with stadium lighting (all ballparks here have stadium lighting) and two roofed bullpens. There is a bleacher frame, 20' four-tier, with wooden seats, several of which are missing. Next is a two-story building, the lower half is masonry, the upper, wood. The lower half is a restroom. The front wall is covered with graffiti. The upper half of the building needs repair. Several of the siding board and part of the eaves are rotted out. On the back (south side) is a broken light fixture hanging out of the wall and the remains of an air conditioner. A more serviceable-looking air conditioner is on a wooden platform. After the repairs are finished, the whole structure including the platform should be painted.

Next, to the left is a 20' five-tier metal bleacher and five plastic trash cans. Further west and to the left is another masonry building. It has a steel door that is rusted through at the bottom. To the right is a double batting cage. Ahead is a jungle gym with slides and a climbing net. Behind It is a swing set with

four swings. The play area, which is mulched, is surrounded by a low concrete curb. To the north is a basketball court with four baskets. The floor has grass growing in the cracks and the markings have faded away.

There is a ballpark west of the playground with roofed bullpens and wind screens on the perimeter fences. This field has a 20' five-tier bleacher with wooden planks for seats. At least one plank is rotten and loose. There is what appears to be a T-ball field in the northwest corner. It has roofed bullpens and a metal 20' five-tier bleacher.

There is a sidewalk running north and south along the west perimeter fence. There is a masonry building about 20' x 10' without windows whose function is unknown. Further south is a small masonry building into which a heavy electrical cable runs. The steel door to the building is badly bent. It is chained and padlocked, but there is enough room for a small person or child to get in. This is a definite safety hazard.

At the far southwest end of the park there is a padlocked vehicle gate. The park continues to the east outside the gate. There are several painted concrete posts to the east that block vehicular movement. The posts need repainting.

Leonard Abess Park. 12743 Abess Road. The park lies to the north of Abess Road. There is a park sign at the entrance. Inside is a parking lot that will hold about thirty-five cars. To the west is a basketball court with four stands. It is well-marked. North of the basketball court is a tennis court equipped with wind screens. A drinking fountain (that needs cleaning) is at the southeast corner of the tennis court. Continuing north down the west side, is a metal bench and a bike rack. The bench needs painting. The bike rack is rusty and at least one of the two wooden posts on which it is mounted is rotting,

There is a 5' sidewalk going north on the east side of the parking lot. At the end of the parking lot there is a masonry restroom facility on the west side. The metal doors of the facility are scratched and faded. They need to be repainted. An eastern branch springs off the sidewalk. It leads to a 150' wooden bridge that crosses a small stream and ends at a soccer field. The bridge, which is of pressure treated wood, needs to be painted with sealant. There is trash on the ground on either side of the bridge which should be picked up.

There is a sidewalk that runs down the west side of the field for a distance of about 50' beyond the goals.

A 20' five-tier bleacher is located half-way down the west side of the field. A considerable amount of trash has accumulated under the bleacher.

The soccer field is separated from the roads by a 8' fence. On the northeast side part of the fence has been bent considerably, probably as the result of an automobile accident.

Returning across the bridge to the sidewalk by the restroom, to the left there is a kiddy park with a jungle gym, climbing net, hobby horse and a set of four swings. This area is mulched and enclosed by a concrete strip.

To the right (east) there are four picnic tables with wooden tops and a metal bench. The tables need to be repainted. A fifth table, further east, also needs painting. Passing through a gate to the west, there is

a ballfield to the right (north). It has two roofed bullpens, two 20' five-tier metal bleachers and four plastic trash cans. It has stadium lighting and a parking lot.

At the far northwest corner of the park was a residential double-wide. It had some rust stains on the side, a back window with a sheet of plywood on it and a considerable amount of leaves on the room. However, there was a SUV and a pickup truck parked in front, so it may be occupied. The pickup, however, appears abandoned. It has a flat left rear tire and no license plate. Leaves have accumulated on the hood and between the hood and the windshield.

Arlington Lions Club Park. 1 Richard Denby Gatlin Road. Entering the park there is on the left (south) a double-wide residence. It is occupied and appears to be in good shape. Next, on the right are two benches with wooden seats and metal stands and a kiddy playground with three play apparatus—slides, ladders, etc.—all relatively new and in good shape. The benches need paint and sealant.

The 8' chain link perimeter fence to the right (north) needs substantial repairs. It was damaged by falling trees during the 2017 hurricanes.

Continuing west, is Pavilion 3, supported by wood pillars, has 2 grills, 3 picnic tables with wooden tops and metal bottoms, 1 metal picnic table and two masonry trash containers. The pillar supports and the wood table tops need sealant.

Further west, there are to the right a number of back-in trailer parking places for boat trailer. Next is pavilion 2 which is similar to pavilion 3. It has one grill, 2 wood tables with metal frames, 1 metal table and one all wood table. The wooden portions of the tables and roof supports need sealant or paint.

Next is the boat complex which consists of a large concrete parking lot for cars and trailers, two piers and a concrete ramp. Lighting is provided by three stadium-type fixtures. To the right is Pavilion 1 which is somewhat smaller than the others and has only one wooden picnic table. The table and wooden roof supports need sealant/paint and the trim on the roof edges needs paint. To the left is an elevated wooden walkway that runs along the river all the way to Blue Cypress Park. It was damaged by the hurricanes and is closed. Excepted as just noted, the boat complex is in fine shape.

Returning to the west there is a road branching to the south which leads to a parking lot with a small masonry restroom on the left and a drinking fountain. The bottom area of the restroom needs pressure washing but is otherwise in good shape.

Continuing to the south is a trail and sign which indicates that a nature trail is to the left(south) and a picnic area to the right. There is absolutely **no nature trail**. The trail is paved with asphalt and in good shape for about 400' to a point where there is to the right (north) an entrance to the wooden walkway paralleling the river. Beyond that point the asphalt on the path is in terrible shape. At the end of the path is a large octagonal pavilion (4) with wooden supports and one wooden picnic table. The supports and the table need sealant/paint.

The pavilion is encircled by 6 benches located about 75' distance. Five benches have wooden seats mounted in metal frames and the sixth is metal. The metal frames need paint and the wooden seats need sealant or paint. Incidentally, this area appears little used.

West of the pavilion, a short distance through the woods is the wooden walkway. Here about 100' of it has been destroyed by the hurricane.

BOAT RAMPS

Lonnie Wurn Boat Ramp. 4131 Ferber Road. The boat ramp is located immediately adjacent to the east side of Fort Caroline Club and shares the same address. This facility is large and well-maintained. There is a concrete walkway along the river bank between it and the kiddy playground next door and a wooden fishing pier/dock that extends about 100' into the St. Johns River. The pier/dock has ample exterior lighting for night operation. Painted metal benches are located along the walkway. The parking lot, which is paved, will accommodate 9-10 cars and trailers.

Fulton Road Landing. The landing is located on the St. Johns River at the end of Fulton Road. The 50' between the end of the road and the river is unpaved. There was a truck load of dirt piled on the right (east) side. There is signage with the name of the landing at the entrance to the landing and one trash can near the river.

The river at this location is quite shallow and in my judgment, the landing is adequate only for canoes and kayaks.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Tidewater Acres Park. 7140 Berry Avenue. This park is located on the street corner and measures approximately 150' x 150'. It is surrounded by a 3.5' aluminum fence. There are two pedestrian entrances, one on the north side and the other on the east side. Starting at the north side of the park, there is a picnic pavilion with four tables, two grills and 2 metal trash cans. The four metal uprights supporting the roof need repainting. There rust spots on the interior of the pavilion roof. This portion should also be repainted. Next is a kiddy playground with a jungle gym/double slide and a swing frame with four swings. This area is mulched and the equipment is in good condition.

The park has a concrete sidewalk which runs from the north to the east entrance and circles the kiddy playground. It is in good condition. There is a wooden structure at the southeast corner. It looks like a large dog house and is padlocked. It is in poor condition and needs to be repainted and the shingles on the roof replaced.

No parking is available within the park. However, there is little traffic on the street and park goers can park there.

Holiday Road Park. 6798 Holiday Road North. The park is accessible off the driveway of the Holiday Hill Elementary School. It is surrounded by a 6' chain link fence. The entrance gate was padlocked. From the outside, the park measures about 300' x 300'. The grass was short and apparently is mowed regularly. There is a grove of pine trees toward the rear, but absolutely no equipment.

This park is classified as "neighborhood" in the list of parks. However, it is classified as "undeveloped" in the park website. The latter is the more appropriate classification.

Gerrie's Park. 6629 Ft. Caroline Road. This park is located on the south side of Fort Caroline. The lot measures 300' x 300 and is surrounded by a 3.5' black aluminum fence on all but the north side. The north side has a 6' chain link fence. There are two pedestrian entrances, one on the east side and the other on the south side. There is parallel parking available on the east side of the—I estimate it would hold about 20 cars. From the entrance, there is a plastic trash can on the left. Then, again on the left, there is a picnic pavilion with a grill, three tables and a fixed metal trash container. Ahead is a stand that will accommodate three bikes, an upright drinking fountain and a metal-frame table.

Next is the playground area, proper. There is a perimeter concrete sidewalk around the central part with two metal-frame tables on pads adjacent to and outside of the walk. The central playground area has a jungle gym with two slides. On the right side are two swing frames, one with two swings and the other with six swings. On the left is a wooden jungle gym. The playground area is mulched.

There is a historical plaque at the Ft. Caroline entrance that gives some information about the early owners and plantations in this part of Arlington.

The park is shaded. I counted eight large oaks and two palm trees. It is in good condition and I did not see any items that needed maintenance except perhaps for the sign showing park rules. The sign has an accumulation of algae and could be pressure washed.

Alimacani Elementary School Park. 2051 South San Pablo Road. This park is adjacent to the south end of the school. The pedestrian entrance (which appears to be the only public entrance) is on the northwest corner. Parking is in the school parking lot. The sign at the entrance identifies it as "Council Park." The park is enclosed by 6'-8' chain link fencing

This is a large park. I would estimate it to be 300' x 900'. From the entrance: To the left, playground equipment—two swing frames with two swings each; a small trampoline; two small spring riding toys; two metal benches; two jungle gyms both with two slides each and one with a rope climbing net; a separate small slide; two more metal benches; two basketball courts with a total of seven baskets; and a large picnic pavilion with nine metal-frame picnic tables and two fixed metal trash containers. The playground is mulched.

Going south—a soccer field dead ahead; to the left (beyond the playground equipment) two tennis courts; a baseball field, and what appears to be a volley ball court; and to the right a

tree-shaded double handball/racket ball court with two metal benches. At the far southwest corner there is a small pavilion with one picnic table. There is an asphalt running/walking track around the park perimeter south of the playground equipment.

The park is generally in good shape. The handball court could do with repainting of the wall and some resurfacing and restriping of the floor.

The park is classified as a residential park. Given its size and array of features, I think it would be more appropriately classified as a community park.

Cesery Park. 2601 Cesery Boulevard. This park is approximately .75 acres. Jungle gym with twin slides are located toward the south end. There is a pavilion with three metal frame picnic tables and two trash containers. There is a concrete sidewalk from the entrance that lead is to the pavilion and then circles the playground. The playground is mulched. Three painted metal benches are located on concrete pads abutting the outside of the sidewalk that circles the playground. The perimeter fence consists of 3.5" painted aluminum. There are seven sizable oak trees in the park. Car parking is on the street. The park was in good condition.

Buck Park. 11128 McCormick Road. This a large park—perhaps five-six acres. There is a parking lot in front of the entrance that will accommodate 20 cars. The entrance has a side walk flanked by brick columns and a 6' painted aluminum fence. The kiddy playground has one large and one small jungle gyms connected by a bridge. Each has two slides. There is swing set with four swings. The playground is mulched, but the area under the swing needs more mulch. The sidewalk forms the perimeter of the playground and there are three metal benches on concrete pads abutting the outside of the sidewalk. At the south end of the playground is a water fountain that needs cleaning and general refurbishing.

There is a pavilion with four metal frame picnic tables, two grills, two metal and one plastic trash cans. This area has street-type lighting fixtures and a rack that will accommodate seven bikes.

Continuing south there is a double (four basket) basketball court. Further on is a baseball field with a 20', five-tier bleacher. There is a roofed area with benches for ball team members. The wood trim around the roof and the benches need painting.

The ball field has 8' chain link fence and a double gate at the northwest end on the road on which the Holly Oaks Forest Community complex is located. The gate was open and the west leaf was badly bent. It needs to either be repaired or replaced and locked.

REGIONAL PARKS

Patton Park. 2850 Hodges Boulevard. This is a large park, but practically all of the space is taken up by twelve soccer fields. There is also supposed to be a football field, but I couldn't find it.

At the entrance, immediately to the north is a park "enclave." Entering it, to the left is an occupied doublewide. Ahead is a mulched kiddy park with a two-slide jungle gym. The side

walk surrounds this park and to the left is a pavilion with one metal framed picnic table and a metal trashcan. There are two painted metal benches on pads abutting the outside of the perimeter walk. The sidewalk continues north and then branches to the west. The west branch loops around soccer fields 11 and 12 and returns to have to the starting point.

Returning to the entrance road and proceeding west—to the right are multiple soccer fields and one field with night lighting, 100' five tier bleachers and an enclosed, elevated observation cabin. This may be the football field, but I saw no goal posts. One other field has two prefab structures that appear to be locker rooms. Another has two 20' five tier bleachers. There was nothing of note at the others. The fields are connected on their south ends by a broad sidewalk and road. Metal benches are located at intervals along the side walk. There is a large parking lot and to the right there is a masonry restroom with open, roofed picnic ports at either end. There are two steel frame picnic tables under the east port and four under the west. At the far west end of the road there is a circular turnabout. This turnabout area is also used to store park equipment and material.

There obviously is no need for twelve soccer fields. I suggest, instead, that all but three or four be used for other purposes. This should include one or two baseball field with at least one with night lighting, basketball courts, a Frisbee course and a field for flying kites, model planes and drones. The parking lots also need striping.

Blue Cypress Park. 4012 University Boulevard North. There are two highway entrances to this park. At the southern entrance, there is to the north a large masonry community center building with parking along the north side of the road and in a sizable lower lot. The road winds around the park to the far north, but is currently blocked by locked gates. Concrete posts along the road need repainting.

To the immediate west of the parking lot there is a triangular piece of ground about 300' on each that is and enclosed by roads. It has holes, mud and standing water in various places and should be filled, leveled and landscaped.

There is a large retention pond between. the north and south entrances.

The north entrance is roughly one-half mile from the south entrance. This is where the usual park facilities are located. There is a nine-hole golf course with a pro shop. The pro shop was closed and the building needs fresh paint and a general cleaning. There are two tennis courts with wind screens, asphalt walking paths; a kiddy park with a jungle gym and slides, a picnic pavilion with two metal frame tables. The parking lot needs striping.

There is a masonry restroom facility with metal doors. The doors have rust holes at the bottom and should be replaced. The lower portion of the building should be pressure washed.

Ed Austin Regional Park. 11751 McCormick Road. There are three vehicle entrances to the park; one on McCormick Road and two on Monument Road. Beginning on the north entrance on Monument Road, there is a 6' wide asphalt path circling the park. To the left (north) there is a standing drinking fountain

and a washing area for dogs. The water fountain needs cleaning and painting. The facet in the washing area is broken and needs to be repaired or replaced. Further north, there is a dog park which is divided into two sections, one for large dogs and the other for small dogs. It covers about four acres.

The section for large dogs needs holes filled and gravel graded so that it does not get on sidewalk. Bare areas need dead leaves and grass clippings as coverage.

To the right of the north Monument Road entrance is a parking lot and, beyond that, a baseball complex consisting of four fields and associated structures. The parking lot needs to be restriped. Informal pathways between the lot and the north section of the park need to be paved. There are three batting cages in the baseball complex. Each has AstroTurf floors that are torn or worn out. The door to the women's restroom facility is damaged and will not lock. Looking inside, the floor needs to be painted. The transparent doors to the bulletin board on the south side of the restroom are missing. Going further south, there is a masonry equipment storage building that needs to be pressure-washed and the broken wood trim around the doors replaced.

The sidewalk which goes around the south side of the baseball complex is broken in several places. It is obvious that heavy trucks are to blame.

There is an erosion problem in the drainage area to the southeast of the PAL building. Something needs to be done to hold the soil. The PAL parking lot needs to be restriped.

The west end of the Senior Center building has several bare spots that need to be painted.

The restroom facility near the west end playground needs to be pressured washed and its doors repainted.

Repaint the big maintenance shed at the far northwest corner of the park.

The restroom near the playground needs to be pressure-washed and the doors repainted. The parking lots in this area need to be restriped.