



Comments of the Friends of Accotink Creek

regarding the

[Kamp Washington Small Area Plan - Kutner Park](#)

March 28, 2022

To: City of Fairfax Planning Commission
Dear Planning Commission Members,

The Friends of Accotink Creek applaud most elements of the Kamp Washington Small Area Plan. From our perspective of watershed and environmental stewardship, this almost entirely paved area devoted to the automobile can only be improved by the enhanced green space, stormwater features, and improved non-motorized transport envisioned by the plan.

However, the section "Opening Up Kutner Park" from the February 24, 2022, public meeting presentation is ominous. This small patch of forest among our dwindling supply of forests in the City, is already entirely open to visitors and merits our protection, instead of exploitation.

Concept designs in this presentation section indicate features such as "Sustainability Program + Education Center" and "Stormwater and Educational Design" within the wooded area of Kutner Park. These imply clearing and construction in the woods, which must be avoided, if we hope to retain what little remains of the natural community here. By contrast, the east-west "New Trail" shown in Kutner Park could safely bypass wooded areas.

Also concerning are some graphics of a red arrow pointed into the heart of the Kutner Park forest. We hope these graphics are meant only to indicate the concept of access, and not as a placeholder for future paving.

When natural areas are to be included in small area plans, perhaps we can ask, not what those natural areas can do to serve us (for they already have given so much), but what we can do to preserve them from further harm.

Features added to already developed areas adjacent to Kutner Park, such as "Linear Green Connector" and "Green Space with Stormwater Management" are laudable.

The presentation section "Stitching the Neighborhood Together", proposing "shared use paths, better crossings, more green" is an excellent example of how the need for non-motorized transport should be developed, by making our streets welcoming for people, rather than paving our few remaining natural areas.

Thank you for your consideration,
[#SaveFairfaxTrees](#)



A jagged red arrow into Kutner Park's woods?

Friends of Accotink Creek

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