

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 12, 2008

Town Adopts Windsor Castle Park Master Plan

One year after the Smithfield Town Council announced its intentions to acquire the historic Windsor Castle farm, followed by many productive discussions with the property owner this past year, the council voted unanimously at its meeting on February 5, 2008 to adopt the Windsor Castle Park Master Plan prepared by LandMark Design Group.

In August, 2007 the town amended its Capital Improvement Program to include this property acquisition and public park construction. The Future Land Use Plan of the town's Comprehensive Plan was amended at that time also to designate the Windsor Castle farm as a future location for a public park. Thereafter, in November, 2007 the town's project consulting engineer, currently designing all streetscape improvements within the town's National Register Historic District, was tasked to prepare a master plan for the proposed park. Input and design concepts received this past year from consultants hired by the current property owner were also taken into consideration in developing this plan.

The town's adopted master plan provides for passive recreational use on the site, being sensitive to the state historic conservation easement which has presently been placed on 42 acres of the overall property including the private home and outbuildings. Extensive trails will encompass the property affording the public the opportunity to experience the diversity of the site from woodlands, agricultural fields and marsh. The trail system also includes proposed pedestrian boardwalk connections to other areas within the historic district. A kayak and canoe launch is planned along Cypress Creek and equestrian trails are included as well on a portion of the park.

Greater details regarding the proposed design, cost estimates and phasing of improvements will be forthcoming and will be done in close coordination with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Virginia Marine Resources Commission, US Army Corps of Engineers, Isle of Wight County Wetlands Board and the town's appointed boards and citizens.

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Smithfield Town Manager



Marsh Walk Connection
To South Church Street

Trail Connection
to Jericho Road

Perimeter Trail

Old Farm House

Windsor Castle
Historic Site

Historic Interpretation /
Information Display /
Restrooms & Parking

Historic Easement /
Park Boundary

Bridge Connection
to Main Street

Open Field /
Event Area

Woodland
Trail System

Kayak &
Canoe Launch

Equestrian and
Bicycle Area

Picnic & Lawn
Play Area

Park Entrance

Overlook

Parking

Parking

Parking

Naturalized /
Buffer Plantings

Agricultural Fields &
Demonstration Area

Overlook

Windsor Castle Park
Town of Smithfield, Virginia

Master Plan
January 28, 2008

LANDMARK
DESIGN GROUP



0 200' 400'
GRAPHIC SCALE

NOTE: EXHIBIT IS TO BE USED FOR GRAPHIC PURPOSES ONLY.
SOURCES: Base map information is GIS data obtained from the Town of Smithfield Planning & Engineering Department with some property line modifications to reflect linework shown on the September 2002 "Preliminary Plan Showing Parcel 1 and Parcel 2 of the Charles S. Betts, Jr. Estate", provided by the Town of Smithfield December 2007. This information is not surveyed and is to be used for graphic references only.