

**The Arlington County
Park and Recreation Commission and
Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources**

**PEG APPLICATION FORM
Fiscal Year 2012**

I. Location of Proposed Project:

Park Name (if applicable): N/A

Street Address: Intersection of I-395 and So. Arlington Ridge Road

Other County facilities or open space in proximity to the project (e.g. nearby park, school or other facility): N/A

II. Sponsoring Group or Individual: Arlington Ridge Civic Association (ARCA)

Contact Person: Bonnie Flynn

Address: 1914 So. Arlington Ridge Road, Arlington, VA Zip 22202

Home Phone: 703-920-1157 Work/Cell Phone: 703-989-6171

III. Community Support (where applicable, list groups from the community which support the project, e.g. citizens, associations, PTA, service clubs, etc. ; supply letters of support):

Arlington Ridge Civic Association –ARCA is the sponsoring activity for this PEG. See **Attachment A** for Letter of Intent.

Aurora Highlands Civic Association – See letter of support **(Attachment B)**.

Pentagon Ridge Civic Association – See letter of support **(Attachment C)**.
Letter requested but not yet received.

IV. Community Served and Neighborhood Conservation Area:

This area services the communities of Arlington Ridge, Aurora Highlands and Pentagon Ridge, as well as the thousands of people who use the Ridge Road I395 exit to enter or exit the area.

Neighborhood Conservation Area: Arlington Ridge. This area is a gateway into the neighborhood and the County Neighborhood Conservation Program has provided a neighborhood sign.

V. Population Served (e.g. age group(s) served, approximate number served, etc):

This is a beautification project which is at the very entry to our neighborhood. Working with Arlington County Parks and Recreation, neighborhood volunteers

have recovered the land and created a beautiful entry to our neighborhood. The county helped by providing tons of fill dirt and neighborhood volunteers purchased and planted trees and shrubs. Twice a year volunteers under the auspices of Friends of Hume School weed and mulch the planting beds at this intersection and trim back the invasives from the hill behind the area. Approximately 14,171¹ vehicles and a large number of pedestrians see this area on a daily basis when they either enter or exit Ridge Road or when they walk through the neighborhood.

VI. Project Specifics:

a. Describe the project and attach a simple sketch and site photos:

This area currently is comprised of garden beds and approximately 1200 SQFT of lawn. The lawn is in very poor condition. ARCA pays a contractor to mow this space 18 times a year at a cost to the association of \$450.00. This project would eliminate the lawn and replace it with Big Blue Liriope (Muscari). The cost includes bed preparation, weed barrier and mulching the new plants. It also includes options for a barrier between the liriope and the garden bed, as well as options for watering and maintenance for the first two years. The project includes the same treatment for the adjacent traffic island.

Replacing the grass with liriope would achieve several goals: (1) it would be much more attractive; (2) it would require less maintenance and create less yard waste as liriope only needs to be mowed once a year and is much more drought tolerant than grass; (3) liriope does not require frequent fertilizing so it would result in less fertilizer and other chemicals potentially flowing into the local sewer and drainage systems; and (4) it would be less costly to maintain.

This PEG will build upon an ongoing partnership with the County to improve the appearance of this gateway to the community, while reducing the amount of maintenance that is required.

See **Attachment D** for details and pictures of the project.

b. Purpose/justification for project (e.g., does it fulfill unmet needs, provide improved services, etc):

As indicated above, this project will beautify a heavily traveled area, as well as result in less costly and manpower intensive maintenance.

c. Estimate the cost (equipment, installation, shipping, warranty) Include specifications if applicable (e.g. manufacturer's name, catalog number, etc.):

¹ Arlington County Study 2011 – vehicles per day on S. Arlington Ridge Road between I-395 and 23rd St S

This project would be implemented by Denison Landscaping, Inc., the County's contractor for these types of projects. A copy of their proposal is provided as **Attachment E**. A summary of the anticipated costs is as follows:

	<u>Community Entrance</u>	<u>Traffic Island</u>	Total
Big Blue Liriope (one gallon) @ \$7.50 each	\$ 4,185.00	\$ 862.50	\$ 5,047.50
Bed preparation @ \$0.37 per SF	\$ 444.00	\$ 79.55	\$ 523.55
Weed barrier @ \$0.25 per SF	\$ 300.00	\$ 53.75	\$ 353.75
Mulching planting beds @ 3" depth	<u>included</u>	<u>Included</u>	<u>Included</u>
Subtotal	\$ 4,929.00	\$ 995.80	\$ 5,924.80
<u>Option 1:</u>			
12" Root Barrier between garden bed and liriope 70 LF @ \$5.75 LF	\$ 402.50	N/A	\$ 402.50
Recommended Funding:	\$ 5,331.50	\$ 995.80	\$ 6,327.30
<u>Option 2:</u>			
One year Maintenance (weekly watering between April 1 And Oct 1, if <1" rain, pruning, fertilization, periodic weeding & re-mulching (6 times - monthly) @\$654	\$ 3,924.00	Incl w/ Community Entrance	\$ 3,924.00
Second year Maintenance (6 X - monthly) @ \$698	<u>\$ 4,188.00</u>	Incl w/ Community Entrance	<u>\$ 4,188.00</u>
Total Option 2:	\$ 8,112.00	\$ -	\$ 8,112.00
Grand Total with all options	\$ 13,443.50	\$ 995.80	\$ 14,439.30

NOTE: Maintenance and Watering option was added at the County's recommendation. We do not recommend funding Option 2 as it is very expensive. Recommendation is to plant in early spring 2012 to allow for plants to become established before summer heat, to avoid the cost of watering. Maintenance to be performed by neighborhood volunteers.

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$14,439.30

RECOMMENDED FUNDING (includes Option 1): \$6,327.30

FUNDS TO BE PROVIDED BY ARCA: \$ 450.00

TOTAL SMALL PARKS FUNDS REQUESTED: \$5881.30

d. Sources of matching funds (if applicable):

Arlington Ridge Civic Association has funded the mowing of this area at a cost of \$450 per year for several years. The membership voted unanimously in July 2011 to fund the 2011 mowing cost of \$450 and approved an additional \$450 in 2012 to help defray the cost of this project.

e. Sources of donated services, materials, labor (if applicable):

Friends of Hume School have maintained this area for several years. Twice a year, in the fall and in the spring, between 50 and 60 volunteers meet at Hume School to work on both the Hume gardens and the intersection of I395/Ridge Road. The volunteers are from a variety of groups including the local Mormon's singles group, the Aurora Hills Women's Club, the Crystal City Rotary Club, the Green Manor Garden Club, the Arlington Historical Society, and local neighbors. This group of volunteers was recently awarded the 2010 Bill Thomas Park Service Award (group award) for their efforts at Hume, I395/Ridge Road and other locations in the community. The County Parks and Recreation staff has been of invaluable assistance in these efforts– routinely providing the tools and mulch needed to beautify these areas. As indicated earlier, the County also provided the fill dirt to create the community entrance we want to beautify with this project.

f. Suggestions for maintenance (e.g. adopt-a-park, etc.):

As indicated in g. above, the Friends of Hume School have already adopted this area. In addition to their twice annual volunteer days, neighbors also provide periodic weeding, trash pickup and spraying to control invasives.

g. Ownership of Land:

This land is owned by the State of Virginia. Since the area has been landscaped by our group and it is an existing condition we can make the improvements without a written VDOT permit. This go ahead is based on the fact that we are not introducing any tall plants that would reduce visibility of the corner, the work is done without obstructing traffic, and work is performed carefully so that people stay safe during the project installation. (See **Attachment F**).

** If the project is located on Arlington Public School's property, please include a statement from the APS Facility Division approving installation of the equipment on school property and a commitment from APS to maintain the equipment once installed.

** If the project is located on private property, please include a statement from the property owner stating willingness to provide a recordable plat and deed of temporary easement to the County for the life the improvements.

FOR STAFF USE ONLY:

Commission Member Assigned to the Project: _____

Date Completed Application Received: _____

Approved Funding Level: _____



ARLINGTON RIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION
2206 SOUTH KNOLL STREET
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202

June 16, 2011

Mr. Paul Holland, Park and Recreation Commission Chair
c/o PEG – Diane Probus
Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 414
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Mr. Holland:

This "letter of intent" from the Arlington Ridge Civic Association (ARCA) is to notify you of our intention to submit a proposal for a FY 2012 Park Enhancement Grant (PEG).

ARCA requests PEG funding to replace the grass at the I395/So. Arlington Ridge Road intersection with lirioppe. Even though this area is owned by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), our community has worked with the Arlington County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources (PRCR) over the years to make improvements to this area. It started as a jungle, with bushes and invasives literally covering the area up to the road. The community removed brush and invasives during volunteer days and PRCR provided tons of dirt to fill it in. The community also purchased and planted a number of trees and bushes to beautify the area. Community volunteers assumed all maintenance responsibilities for the past several years and have always followed through on their commitments. The one section that has been difficult and expensive to maintain is the grass. It needs more routine cutting than can be managed by our volunteer workforce and funding it from ARCA resources has become too expensive. Replacing the grass with lirioppe would not only reduce the need for mowing it would also be good for the environment, reducing the amount of fertilizers and other chemicals going into the local sewer and drainage systems. It would also result in a significant reduction in yard waste as lirioppe only needs to be cut once a year. This area is a gateway into the neighborhood and the County Neighborhood Conservation Program has provided a neighborhood sign. This PEG will build upon an ongoing partnership with the County to improve the appearance of this gateway to the community, while reducing the amount of maintenance that is required by volunteers.

Bonnie Flynn will be our main point of contact for purposes of the application. She can be reached at:

1914 So. Arlington Ridge Road, Arlington, VA 22202
Home Phone: 703-920-1157
Cell Phone: 703-989-6171
email: bflynn1914@verizon.net

We would appreciate some feedback on whether or not this PEG request would be considered before moving forward with the total application process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the PEG program to improve our community.

Sincerely,

Andrew Smith
Vice President, Arlington Ridge Civic Association



24 August 2011

Mr. Paul Holland, Parks and Recreation Commission Chair
c/o PEG Diane Probus
Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
2100 Clarendon Blvd. Room 414
Arlington, VA 22201

Mr. Holland:

This is a letter of support from the Aurora Highlands Civic Association (AHCA) for the three FY2012 Park Enhancement Grants (PEG) submitted to you by our sister organization Arlington Ridge Civic Association (ARCA)

The close proximity of our neighborhoods promotes sharing of our parks and roadways. Fort Scott Drive is a walking destination for many and its safety is paramount. Prospect Park provides a wonderful vista view for both DC and Arlington and is a destination spot for many. The Arlington Ridge Road entrance to ARCA from I395 provides the initial impression of Arlington to many and as such its upkeep is vital.

Attached for reference are the letters of intent for these three proposals.

We believe these improvements will be of value to our neighborhood and we support their approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Dowell'.

Michael Dowell, President
Aurora Highlands Civic Association

Placeholder for letter from PRCA

Attachment C

**PEG Proposal:
Intersection of I-395 and So. Arlington Ridge Road**



Sign installed by County NC Program



May 2011 – after volunteer day



August 2011

This project would:

- Eliminate the lawn (mostly weeds) and replace it with Big Blue Liriope (Muscari), including bed preparation, weed barrier and mulching the new plants

Options:

- Install barrier between the liriope and the garden bed
- Water and maintain for 2 years

Benefits:

- **Much** more attractive
- Less maintenance and less yard waste
- Reduce fertilizers and other chemicals flowing into sewer and drainage systems
- Less costly to maintain.

Traffic Island at I-395 and So. Arlington Ridge Road



The traffic island is at the same intersection of I-395/Ridge Road



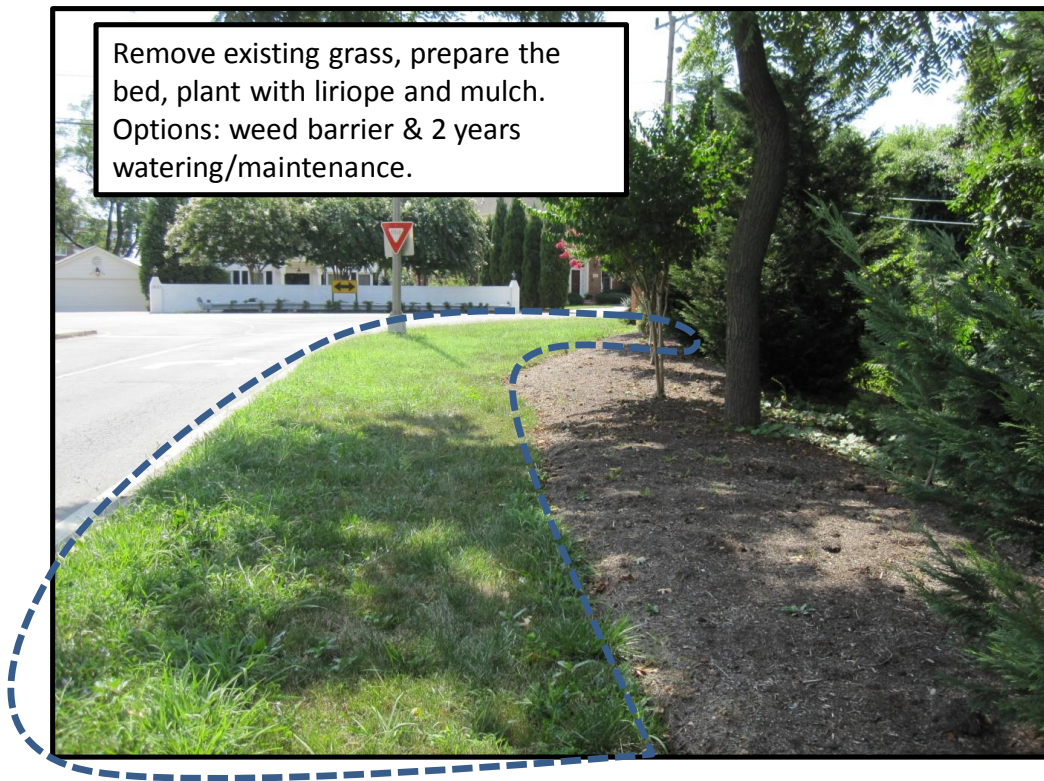
I395/Ridge and Traffic Island May 2011...
after volunteers work their magic



Same area August 2011

This area would receive the same treatment as the grassy area. We would keep the holly bush and the informal slate walkway which was purchased and installed by an ARCA neighbor. We would also keep the yellow site poles which have helped reduce the numbers of vehicles driving over the triangle.

These areas, particularly the traffic island, actually feel dangerous for volunteers to maintain. There is a tremendous amount of traffic coming off I-395 and down Ridge Road – over 14,000 vehicles per day. While we put out traffic cones on volunteer days, when individual neighbors work to help keep it maintained, it is risky at best. Having it filled in with low-maintenance liriope would significantly reduce the required maintenance. Also, beautifying the area should help to reduce traffic speed as drivers slow down to look at a more appealing landscape.



Approximately 1200 Square Feet



Approximately 215 Square Feet

Maintenance:

Friends of Hume School volunteers would continue to maintain these areas at their twice yearly volunteer days. Additionally, neighbors will do some periodic weeding between volunteer days.



Volunteers at I395/Ridge May 2011



Friends of Hume School – Oct 2010



DENISON LANDSCAPING, INC.

MAIN OFFICE
8911 OXON HILL ROAD
FORT WASHINGTON, MD 20744
OFFICE: (301)567-0210

EASTERN SHORE OFFICE
35811 PROVIDENCE CHURCH ROAD
DELMAR, DE 19940
Fax: (301)839-9138

DATE: July 25, 2011
TO: Arlington Ridge Community Association
RE: Arlington Ridge-Enhancement Grant
Arlington, VA (395/S. Arlington Ridge Road)
ATTN: Bonnie Flynn

Our proposal for the above referenced project is as follows:
PROPOSAL NUMBER: 431-08 (extension of Master)
DENISON PROPOSAL NUMBER: 11-409

P R O P O S A L

Denison Landscaping, Inc. proposes to furnish and install all equipment, labor and material necessary to landscape the two (2) areas as defined within these documents. The area to be enhanced is located at the intersection of I-395 and S. Arlington Ridge Road, approximate size is 60' x 20'. The second area is the triangel traffic island at teh previously mentioned location. All areas to recieve plantings will be prepared, planted and mulched.

I-395 & S. ARLINGTON RIDGE RD (Community Entrance-RIGHT SIDE)

QTY	DESCRIPTION	SIZE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
558	BIG BLUE LIRIOPE (LIRIOPE MUSCARI 'BIG BLUE')- @18" o/c	1 GAL	\$ 7.50	\$ 4,185.00
1,200	BED PREPARATION	SF	\$ 0.37	\$ 444.00
1,200	WEED BARRIER	SF	\$ 0.25	\$ 300.00
11	MULCH PLANTING BEDS @ 3" DEPTH	CY	INCL	INCL
TOTAL:				\$ 4,929.00

I-395 & S. ARLINGTON RIDGE RD (Community Entrance-Traffic Island)

QTY	DESCRIPTION	SIZE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
115	BIG BLUE LIRIOPE (LIRIOPE MUSCARI 'BIG BLUE')- @18" o/c	1 GAL	\$ 7.50	\$ 862.50
215	BED PREPARATION	SF	\$ 0.37	\$ 79.55
215	WEED BARRIER	SF	\$ 0.25	\$ 53.75
3	MULCH PLANTING BEDS @ 3" DEPTH	CY	INCL	INCL

MAIN OFFICE
8911 OXON HILL ROAD FORT WASHINGTON, MD 20744
301-567-0210 FAX 301-839-9138

ACCEPTED BY: _____

TOTAL:	\$ 995.80
---------------	------------------

GRAND TOTAL:	\$ 5,924.80
---------------------	--------------------

ADD/ALTERNATE #1

QTY	DESCRIPTION	SIZE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
70	PLASTIC ROOT BARRIER-12" DEPTH	LFT	\$ 5.75	\$ 402.50
TOTAL:				\$ 402.50

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE (OPTIONAL-1 YEAR)

QTY	DESCRIPTION	SIZE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
6	ONE-YEAR MAINTENANCE (TO INCLUDE-WEEKLY WATERING BETWEEN APRIL 1 AND OCTOBER 1, IF LESS THAN 1" OF RAIN IS RECORDED BY THE NWS, PRUNING, FERTILIZATION, PERIODIC WEEDING AND RE-MULCHING AT THE CONCLUSION ON THE MAINTENANCE PERIOD) **MAINTENANCE WILL BE CONDUCTED EVERY OTHER WEEK DURING THE CONTRACT PERIODS	MONTHLY	\$ 654.00	\$ 3,924.00
TOTAL:				\$ 3,924.00


LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE (OPTIONAL 2ND YEAR)

QTY	DESCRIPTION	SIZE	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
6	ONE-YEAR MAINTENANCE (TO INCLUDE-WEEKLY WATERING BETWEEN APRIL 1 AND OCTOBER 1, IF LESS THAN 1" OF RAIN IS RECORDED BY THE NWS, PRUNING, FERTILIZATION, PERIODIC WEEDING AND RE-MULCHING AT THE CONCLUSION ON THE MAINTENANCE PERIOD) **MAINTENANCE WILL BE CONDUCTED EVERY OTHER WEEK DURING THE CONTRACT PERIODS	MONTHLY	\$ 698.00	\$ 4,188.00
TOTAL:				\$ 4,188.00

If you have any questions regarding this proposal, please call our Estimating Department at (240)493-1351.

SUBMITTED BY:

Denison Landscaping, Inc.


Jason C. Smith

V.P. Sales and Marketing

ACCEPTED BY:

MAIN OFFICE
8911 OXON HILL ROAD FORT WASHINGTON, MD 20744
301-567-0210 FAX 301-839-9138

ACCEPTED BY: _____

----- Original Message -----

From: [Diane Probus](#)
To: [Bonnie Flynn \(bflynn1914@verizon.net\)](#)
Cc: [Kurt Louis](#) ; [ctmarshall85@gmail.com](#) ; [Elizabeth Diggs](#)
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2011 1:29 PM
Subject: PEG Project - VDOT Permit

Hi Bonnie,

I spoke with a VDOT planner and she told me that since the area has been landscaped by your group and it is an existing condition that we can go ahead and make the improvements without a written VDOT permit. This go ahead is based on the fact that we are not introducing any tall plants that would reduce visibility of the corner, also that the work is done without obstructing traffic and of course carefully so that people stay safe during the project installation.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Have a good weekend!

*Diane G. Probus, Open Space Planner
Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 414
Arlington, VA 22201
703-228-0787*

Attachment F