

# Servicewide Benchmark Facility Programming Model

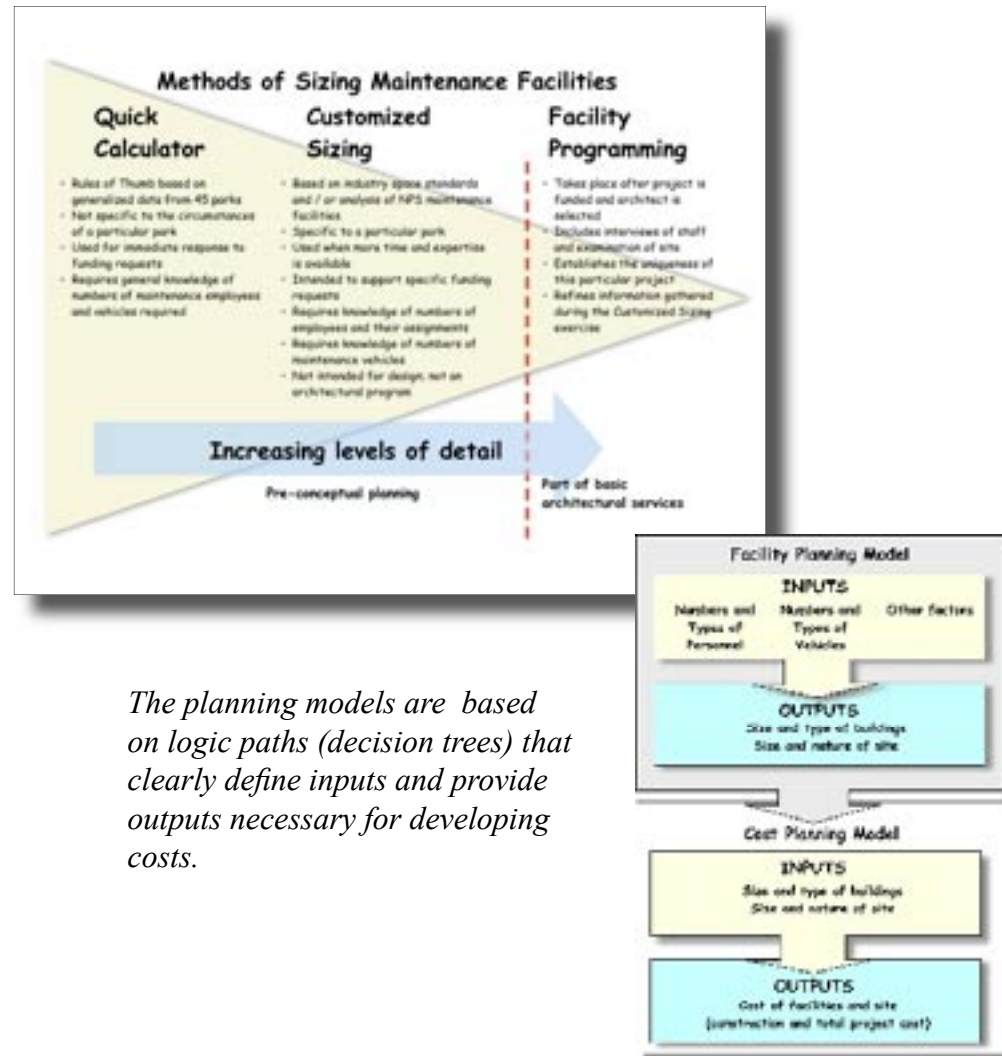
## National Park Service

NPS is developing Facility Planning Models for all common park facilities in an effort to assist park superintendents and staff, regional and support offices, the Denver Service Center (DSC), and other professionals in arriving at accurate size and cost figures for the Project Management Information System (PMIS) or early project definition. The model identifies a reference point, or benchmark, for reasonable size, function, and cost in planning a new facility; it also gives guidance for justifying deviations from the benchmark. Architectural Research Consultants, Incorporated (ARC), teaming with David N. Sloan & Associates, is the primary contractor tasked to develop these models.

Planning initially focuses on maintenance, visitor centers, curatorial and education center facilities. Upcoming efforts will address administration / comfort stations / entrance stations, sewage treatment / water treatment facilities, wildland structural fire facilities and site elements.

The computerized model will provide guidance for what is reasonable for developing a proposed facility, in terms of size/extent of facilities, as well as accurate cost estimating at the early project development stages. The NPS model asks a number of questions about prospective use and allocates space based on industry standards or common practice. One of the challenges of the NPS Facility Planning Models is to provide realistic allocation

*ARC has developed both a quick calculator and more detailed customized calculator to size NPS facilities.*



*The planning models are based on logic paths (decision trees) that clearly define inputs and provide outputs necessary for developing costs.*

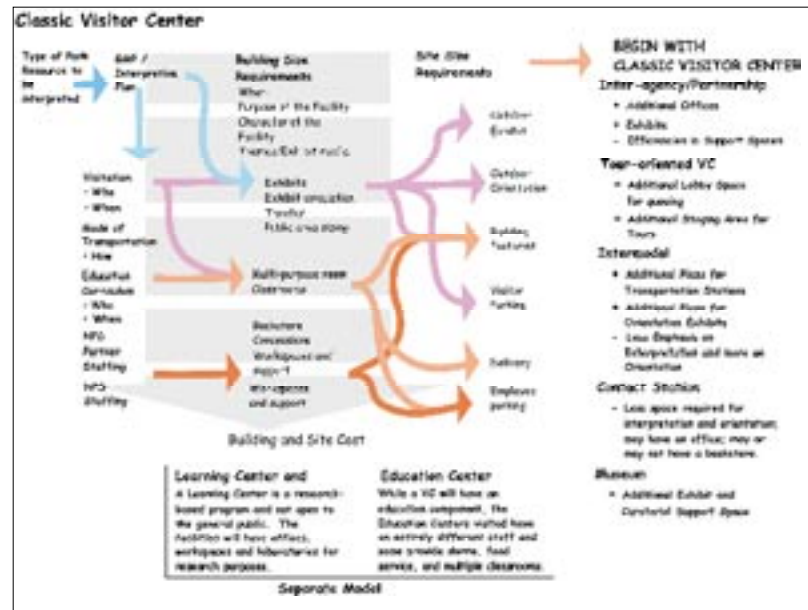
# Service-wide Benchmark Facility Programming Model National Park Service (continued)

of space that meets required functions. Additional space above the benchmark must be justified by the proposer and then becomes part of the record of the development of the project.

Upon completion of this project, NPS will have a project scoping tool that is user-friendly, applicable service-wide, accurate, and can be applied to a wide variety of facility types.

**Project Schedule:** 2001-2004

**Client:** National Park Service



Visitor Center space drivers (above)

A portion of the introductory screen for the Maintenance Facility Planning Model (right)

