

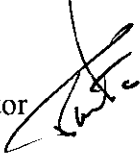


FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

M E M O R A N D U M



TO: Chairman and Members
Park Authority Board

VIA: Timothy K. White, Acting Director 

FROM: Cindy Messinger, Acting Deputy Director/COO
Director's Office

DATE: October 5, 2007

Agenda

Funding Policy and Bond Committee
Wednesday, October 10, 2007 – 4 p.m.
Board Room – Herrity Building
Chairman: George Lovelace

1. 2008 Park Bond Development Program Status – Discussion*

*Enclosures



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DISCUSSION

2008 Park Bond Development Program Status

ISSUE:

To provide a status update on the 2008 Park Bond Program and discuss categorical funding level allocations.

BACKGROUND:

At the February 14, 2007, Funding and Bond Policy Committee meeting, the Director presented a proposed approach for preparing for the 2008 Park Bond Program for the Board's consideration. The basic premise of this approach is to construct a balanced public outreach/input process early in the process prior to the determination of programmatic decisions by the Park Authority Board or funding levels by the Board of Supervisors.

While there was agreement from the Board that the approach was sound, the Committee wanted to see a more detailed program and approach. Park Bond Guiding Principles and a proposed schedule were presented to the Committee on March 28, 2007. The Board and staff team provided input and suggested changes to the Guiding Principles that are reflected in Attachment 1.

Using the guiding principles, a cross agency staff team was established to begin to define project categories, identify capital projects to be included in the 2008 Bond and design an extensive public outreach process. At the June 13, 2007, Funding and Bond Policy Committee meeting, the Committee approved bond project category definitions as shown in Attachment 2. Using these categories, the staff team has compiled a list of priority projects that will be presented to the Committee for consideration and further direction. In addition to the defined categories, staff has included deferred project needs to reestablish previous funding to projects and to complete projects with open site plans.

Beginning with FY 2008, the Park Authority Board submitted its Capital Improvement Plan request to be funded by bond referendums in 2008 and 2012 of \$150,000,000 each in order to fully fund the capital park needs identified in the 2004 Needs Assessment. County financial forecasts for FY 2008 and 2009 indicate that the maximum 2008 park bond capacity will be \$50,000,000, and that there is a possibility that the 2008 park bond may be deferred. The County will not have final indicators until February 2008.

Committee Agenda Item
October 10, 2007

TIMING:

In order to proceed with the development of the 2008 Park Bond Development Program, staff seeks Committee input on October 10, 2007.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: 2008 Park Bond Guiding Principles

Attachment 2: 2008 Park Bond Project Category Definitions

STAFF:

Timothy K. White, Acting Director

Cindy Messinger, Acting Deputy Director/COO

Dave Bowden, Director, Planning and Development Division

Miriam Morrison, Director, Administration Division

Todd Johnson, Director, Park Operations Division

Cindy Walsh, Acting Director, Resource Management Division

Charles Bittenbring, Director, Park Services Division

Sandy Stallman, Manager, Park Planning Branch

2008 Park Bond Program

Guiding Principles:

- Gain broad, but meaningful, public input on bond projects early and throughout the process.
- Include the Board of Supervisors as primary stakeholders and as co-hosts for public outreach in their respective districts.
- Plan and execute innovative public outreach through enhanced stakeholder identification and analysis, public outreach methods and technology-based communications.
- Link long range district plans with district capital needs.
- More clearly define, communicate and identify stewardship-related capital projects.
- Define projects within four broad categories: land acquisition, new facilities, renovations and stewardship.
- Use public input, needs assessment guidance, deferred project lists from previous bond periods, Park Authority Board direction and staff input and create recommended prioritized project list.
- Gain additional stakeholder and public input on recommended priorities.
- Support bond authorization of \$150,000,000.
- Ensure renovation needs are identified and addressed.
- Examine new facility needs to include park facilities not currently offered and revenue facilities to ensure the stabilization of the revenue fund.
- Link bond efforts to the agency strategic plan.
- Build constituencies and champions for project categories.
- Define stewardship for a common understanding.

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2008 BOND CATEGORY DEFINITIONS:

The following definitions are formulated to provide guidance in determining the classification of projects. It is not intended that these full definitions are provided on the referendum ballot. As specific projects are proposed, these definitions will help the agency place them in the capital project category that best aligns with its primary purpose.

Land Acquisition – Costs related to the acquisition of parkland and/or parkland rights, including easements that are obtained through a variety of methods. Examples include: Purchase of Salona easement and related acquisition costs, purchase of McCue property and related costs, acquisition of trail easements.

New Facilities – Planning, design and construction of new park facilities where none existed before to meet new demand or to provide additional functionality or enhance planned capacity to an existing facility or site. Examples include the expansion of South Run RECenter expands fitness capacity; scope, design and construction of new athletic field lighting or irrigation; conversion of natural turf field to a synthetic turf field.

Renovations – Planning, design and construction, including capital repair and replacement, to improve existing park facilities to maintain designed capacity or retrofit obsolete facilities and bring them up to contemporary standards and codes. Projects that fall into this category do not expand facility usage capacity. Renovations can extend the design life of facilities and can include infrastructure additions and modifications. Under this definition, ADA projects would be in the renovation category, as well as HVAC replacements, infrastructure repairs (such as entrance roads, parking lots, sidewalks, utilities and bridges), site amenity replacements and systems life cycle maintenance.

Stewardship – Planning, design and construction of capital projects which carry out the Park Authority's stewardship mission, supports the approved Natural and Cultural Resource Management Plans and/or County's environmental or cultural resource initiatives. Stewardship projects include capital projects that promote the protection, enhancement, interpretation and education of natural, cultural and general park resources. Improvements may include new or major renovation projects such as historic structure stabilization, preservation or rehabilitation, stewardship education facilities, historic and archaeological collections support facilities, exhibit space, museums, environmental enhancement projects (e.g. stream restorations, rain gardens, riparian buffer enhancements and habitat restoration areas), energy enhancement alternatives and resources to support the cost difference between traditional building and site work designs versus the inclusion of LID and LEED design and construction enhancements (LID/LEED delta fund).

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