

**Fairfax County Park Authority  
Summer Entertainment and Performing Arts Support**

<b>NON-RECURRING</b>	
Revenue	\$0
Expenditure	<u>\$50,000</u>
<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

On July 25, 2017, the Board of Supervisors approved a consideration item for the *FY 2017 Carryover Review* regarding funding to support the Performing Arts Summer Entertainment Series. Over the last several years the program has experienced rising artist and production costs and a reduction in funding received from sponsors, resulting in a 50 percent reduction in the number of concerts and events. In 2005, the number of events offered was approximately 200; and in 2017, with the current funding level, the number of events able to be offered was approximately 100. Currently, 100 percent of the cost of paying performers is funded by sponsorship donations, which vary from district to district. This is a critical component of the program as the community is supporting the artists as part of a partnership. The technical support costs (sound system, etc.) have been increasing significantly. Several years ago, the County agreed to fund the cost of the showmobile program through Fund 40030, Cable Communications. The showmobile provides the stage for venues without a permanent stage, but does not provide sound and other technical support (approximately \$62,000 for 100 shows). The County could explore the option of using the Cable Communications Fund to cover the technical costs of the series as well. The County's Cable Communications Fund is supported by revenue received from local cable operators through franchise agreements and supports the administration of the County's cable communications ordinance and franchise agreements, the operation of Fairfax County Government Channel 16 and the Fairfax County Training Network, and cable-related consumer and policy services. If the County and Park Authority can reach agreement on this revised funding formula, then in partnership with continued private sector sponsorship of artists' fees, the summer series could begin to rebuild to previous levels. It is anticipated that it will take several months to develop this new funding formula, including a review of the flexibility within the Cable Communications Fund, resulting in implementation as part of the FY 2019 budget to be passed next spring. However, the Park Authority must book artists for the Summer 2018 series this fall. Funding provided as part of the Carryover Review would be non-recurring as it would bridge the gap for one year until the new funding formula is in place.