

2016 Park Bond At A Glance Understanding the Park Authority Bond Program

The Fairfax County Park Authority administers over 23,000 acres of parkland and 425 parks. These provide spaces throughout the County for play, picnics, walking, jogging and hiking, sports of all sorts, health and fitness, golf, camping, ice skating, skateboarding, boating, and exploring nature in all its many forms, a working farm, public gardens, historic sites and archaeology.

Parks are free for the public to use and enjoyed by about 90% of the County's population. Some specialty facilities, such as RECenters and golf courses, charge fees to support operating costs. Park fees cover approximately 60% of all park operating costs. The remaining operating funds are appropriated by the Board of Supervisors from the County's General Fund derived from taxpayer contributions. The park system operating costs are supported by less than one penny of the tax rate.

The Park Authority, like other public agencies, faces the challenge of updating aging facilities while providing new facilities to meet the park and recreation demands of residents. To accomplish this, a Needs Assessment is conducted every decade and a schedule of capital project needs is maintained. Capital investment needs exceed the available funding and must be balanced across the park system and funded in a prudent manner. The capital improvement costs for renovations of existing facilities and development of new facilities are funded primarily through general obligation bonds which require voter approval. Bonds ensure that current users are not burdened with the full cost of improvements. Projects are completed more quickly and the bonds spread the costs over an extended period of time.

The completion of a Needs Assessment in 2016 identified key areas of importance and unmet needs for Fairfax County residents. It also examined certain facility conditions, community input, sport and leisure trends and projected demographic changes which form the basis of a Capital Improvement Framework with recommendations for critical, sustainable and visionary investments in the park system for the next decade. Park system needs of over \$900M were identified to address lifecycle replacements, facility upgrades, natural resource area and historic site restorations, as well as new facilities to address unmet needs, emerging trends and population growth.

Implementation of the 2016 Needs Assessment begins with the authorized 2016 Park Bond in the amount of \$94.7M for Fairfax County Park Authority and an additional \$12.3M for Nova Parks. Projects fall into one of four categories:

- · Park Renovations and Upgrades
- · Land Acquisition
- Natural and Cultural Resource Stewardship
- New Park Development



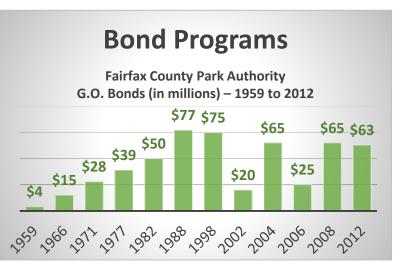






The project list balances priority needs, reinvestment in aging facilities, investments in land, natural and cultural resource protection, advancement of phased projects and improving the park experience. If approved, the bonds will be spent in accordance with the bond referendum question posed to the voters. While specific projects may be modified or changed, and bond funds may be reallocated to other capital improvements, the currently proposed program will include the following categorical allocations:

8.12%, 7.39%, Natural and Cultural Resource Stewardship Copen Space Preservation 28.32%, New Park Development Development



Priorities for a Balanced 2016 Park Bond Program

Park Renovations and Upgrades

- · Address critical system-wide renovation and facility lifecycle needs
 - · Playground replacements
 - · Lighting and irrigation systems
 - · Picnic shelters
 - · Roof replacements
 - · Infrastructure Parking, roadways, entrances and support facilities
 - · Trails and bridges
- Renovate Hidden Oaks Nature Center (built in 1969)
- Lakefront Parks General Park Improvements at Burke Lake and Lake Accotink
- RECenters System-wide lifecycle replacements
- Energy Management Enhancements
- Area 1 Maintenance Facility Replacement
- Park design to advance park redevelopments at multiple parks and RECenters
- Mount Vernon RECenter renewal/replacement
- Mastenbrook Grant Funding to leverage partnerships

Natural and Cultural Resource Stewardship

- · Repairs and restoration to Colvin Run Mill Miller's House and Millrace
- Funding to support Historic Structures Curator Program to prepare historic structures treatment plans, connect utilities and support infrastructure needs
- Advance History and Archaeology Collections Facility to properly curate and store County history and archaeology collections
- · Archaeology conducted as part of capital improvements
- · Natural resource/ecological restorations
- · Sully Historic Site restoration projects

Land Acquisition and Open Space Preservation

 Land Acquisition to expand parks, protect resources and enhance park service delivery in underserved areas of the county.

New Park Development

- · Add new athletic field on leased property in Mount Vernon/Lee high unmet need
- Develop new local park in Baileys an area of park service level deficiency
- Clemyjontri add parking and infrastructure
- Redesign and expand Langley Fork per approved master plan (pending)
- Park Development at Laurel Hill Park
- · Picnic Shelters at Lee District Family Recreation Area
- Add 90' Baseball Diamond Complex to support countywide use/tournaments









For more information, call the Park Authority Public Information Office at 703-324-8662 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/2016bond.htm

