



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

SUBJECT: Testimony for FY22 TAO #1 from C0214
Transfer Grant Funds – Local Parks and Playgrounds Infrastructure Funding

TO: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: A. Raul Delorme, Director (ACTING) 6/24/2021
Department of Recreation and Parks

DATE: June 23, 2021

The Department of Recreation and Parks supports the Transfer of Appropriations to allow transferring \$8,000,000.00 in grant funding from Capital Project C0214 – Category Contingency Fund to Capital Project N3108 – Park Systemic Improvements for the recently awarded FY2022 Local Parks and Playgrounds Infrastructure Funding grant (the “LPPIF”).

Howard County was recently awarded an \$8,000,000.00 FY2022 LPPIF grant. This grant is funded by the Maryland FY2022 Capital Budget (House Bill 590 of 2021) and is administered by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The purpose of the LPPIF is to provide funding to local governments for the design, construction and/or equipping of indoor and/or outdoor park infrastructure on County-owned and publicly accessible park property. The Department of Recreation and Parks intends to use \$700,000.00 of FY2022 LPPIF funding to replace equipment and safety surfacing at the playgrounds at Schooley Mill Park and Warfields Pond Park. The \$7,300,000.00 majority of FY2022 LPPIF funding will be utilized to renovate the Centennial Park – West Area. Proposed renovations include athletic lighting replacements and the conversion of three baseball diamonds to synthetic turf diamonds with new ancillary amenities. The extent of parking realignment and renovation that can be accommodated by the site will determine if two existing natural surface fields will be upgraded to one synthetic turf stadium field or two synthetic turf multipurpose fields with new ancillary amenities. Pathways and other features within Centennial Park -West Area would also be improved.

Fiscal Impact

This Transfer of Appropriations will allow the County to design and initiate construction of the proposed improvements supported by FY 2022 LPPIF funding by Summer 2022. LPPIF eliminates the need for:

- \$700,000.00 currently budgeted in FY22 T-Tax for the replacement of Schooley Mill Park and Warfields Pond Park playground equipment and safety surfacing;
- A portion of \$1,350,000.00 in proposed N3108 FY23 GO Bonds funding for the replacement of athletic lighting at Centennial Park – West Area; and
- \$6,000,000.00 in proposed N3962 – Centennial Park Improvements out-years GO Bonds funding for the redesign and renovation of Centennial Park – West Area facilities.

Cc: Bob Linz, Acting Chief, Bureau of Capital Projects, Park Planning, and Construction
Jen Sager, Legislative Coordinator