

Sayers, Margery

From: Moody, Bryan
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 11:52 AM
To: Harrod, Michelle R
Cc: Wimberly, Theo; Sayers, Margery; Sager, Jennifer; Arthurs, Maureen; Lynch, Meghan; Delerme, Raul
Subject: RE: CR112-2022
Attachments: FY22 Howard Annual Program Chart - final.pdf; FY22 Howard Annual Program Report - final.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Michelle,

The latest Annual Program is the FY22 Program Open Space Annual Program, which is attached. The FY23 Annual Program will be drafted based on the 2022 LPPRP once adopted. MDNR and MDP won't review any draft of the FY23 Annual Program until they have reviewed the 2022 LPPRP, but they won't initiate their 2022 LPPRP review until adoption. We anticipate drafting the FY23 Annual Program in August while the State is reviewing the LPPRP. County Council will be receive a copy of the final FY23 Annual Program accepted by the State, hopefully in August.

Tree canopy, forest cover, and forest conservation are referenced on pages 88-90, 96-97, in actions to address State goals on pages 100-103, and in actions to address County goals on page 105. The plan generally proposed the continuation and expansion of programs to reduce or reverse canopy loss and to protect forest ecosystems through addition planting, invasive species management, deer management, and broader conservation planning and connectivity.

Sincerely,

Bryan R. Moody, CPRP
Chief, Bureau of Parks
Dept. of Recreation & Parks
7120 Oakland Mills Road
Columbia, MD 21046
410-313-1081 (office)
410-259-2369 (cell)

bmoody@howardcountymd.gov

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/rap>

 flickr    

From: Harrod, Michelle R <mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov>

Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 8:05 PM

To: Delerme, Raul <rdelerme@howardcountymd.gov>; Moody, Bryan <bmoody@howardcountymd.gov>

Cc: Wimberly, Theo <twimberly@howardcountymd.gov>; Sayers, Margery <msayers@howardcountymd.gov>; Sager, Jennifer <jsager@howardcountymd.gov>; Arthurs, Maureen <marthurs@howardcountymd.gov>; Lynch, Meghan <mlynch@howardcountymd.gov>

Subject: CR112-2022

Raul,

As a follow up to the Public Hearing

Please send the most recent Annual Report for POS programming.

Provide details about the impact on the Forest Canopy and Forest Cover, please include reference to relevant sections of the plan.

Thank you,

Michelle R. Harrod

Howard County Government

Administrator to the County Council

410-313-3111 (office)

443-398-6013 (cell)

mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov

**PROGRAM OPEN SPACE ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR ACQUISITION
FISCAL YEAR 2022**

<u>Sponsor, Council District</u>	<u>Project Name, Project Description</u>	<u>Acreage (rounded)</u>			<u>Source of Funds (for Annual Program Only)</u>			
		<u>Existing</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>State (POS Local Funds)</u>	<u>Federal</u>
Howard County, 3	EAST COLUMBIA LIBRARY PARK - This property is a 16.59-acre parcel adjacent to the East Columbia Library at 6600 Cradlerock Way in Columbia. This parcel is currently owned by the Howard Hughes Corporation and meetings have been initiated to discuss its sale to the County. The County previously leased this property as a park, but that lease has since expired. The property is generally flat, has a restroom building, and was previously programmed as grass multipurpose fields, and is served by the same parking lot that serves the library. The County wishes to acquire and later redevelop the site into two ball diamonds with lights, tennis courts, a playground, picnic pavilion, additional parking, and pathways connecting to the community.	0	16.59	16.59	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$0
Howard County, 4	GEIS PROPERTY – This property is a 19.92-acre parcel known as 5710 Trotter Road in Clarksville. The land is located on the west side of Trotter Road opposite the parking lot for the County’s Middle Patuxent Environmental Area. This site currently has an older primary house, a newer tenant house, several old farm buildings, and slopes southward to a stream and pond that bisect the property with woods being on the other side. The property is under a Maryland Environmental Trust easement, which reduces the market value. The property has potential for passive use and heritage programming and permits the construction of trail connections between surrounding neighborhoods and the MPEA.	0	19.92	19.92	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$0
Howard County, 1 and 5	PATAPSCO GREENWAY –This project will be a continuing effort to acquire land along the Patapsco River to expand on the Patapsco Greenway in Howard County, especially along the South Branch of the Patapsco River. This project will protect the Patapsco River and create opportunities for community park facilities on upland portions of the greenway.	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$1,300,000	\$0	\$1,300,000	\$0
Howard County, 3 - 5	PATUXENT GREENWAY – This project will be a continuing effort to acquire land along the Patuxent River to expand on the Patuxent Greenway in Howard County. This project will protect the Patuxent River and create opportunities for community park facilities on upland portions of the greenway.	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$1,074,671	\$0	\$1,074,671	\$0

Howard County, 1 - 5	HOWARD COUNTY INTERIOR GREENWAYS - This project will be a continuing effort to acquire land along existing greenways throughout Howard County. This project will protect riparian/floodplain areas and create opportunities for community park facilities on the upland portions of the greenways.	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$1,400,000	\$0	\$1,400,000	\$0
Howard County, Planning	HOWARD COUNTY LAND PRESERVATION, PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN - The 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan is mandated by State Law and a prerequisite for Maryland Program Open Space funding. Comprehensive planning is a continuous process.	NA	NA	NA	\$25,000	\$0	Local \$25,000 Per Year	\$0
	PROPOSED ACQUISITION PROJECT TOTALS	TBD	>36.51	>36.51	\$5,799,671	\$0	\$5,799,671	\$0

**PROGRAM OPEN SPACE ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2022**

<u>Sponsor</u> <u>Council</u> <u>District</u>	<u>Project Name, Project Description</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Source of Funds (for Annual Program Only)</u>			
		<u>Project</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>State (POS Local Funds)</u>	<u>Federal</u>
Howard County, 2	TROY REGIONAL PARK - Design and construct a 101-acre Regional Park that includes pathways and walking trails, lighted athletic fields, pavilions, a playground, comfort stations, roads and parking. Phase 1 and Phase 2 construction are complete. The Phase 2A construction of Field #1 is complete as well. Phase 2A development continues with further design and construction of the grandstand with storage and restrooms supporting Field #1 along with the associated walkways, utilities, site furnishings, and landscaping. Design for the amenities adjacent to Field #1 began in Fall 2020, was revised in Spring 2021, and related construction will begin in Fiscal Year 2022.	101	\$1,322,179	\$330,545	\$991,634	\$0
Howard County, 1 and 2	PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECTS – Howard County intends to install four fiberglass pedestrian bridges along existing pathways in the county after being very satisfied with fiberglass pedestrian bridges recently installed elsewhere in the parks. The proposed projects include the replacement of an existing wood truss bridge in Font Hill Park, the replacement of an existing wooden pedestrian bridge along the Woodcrest pathway, and the replacement of two existing wooden-decked steel bridges along the Oakland Mills pathway. These bridges average \$50,000 each.	NA	\$200,000	\$50,000	\$150,000	\$0
Howard County, 1	CENTENNIAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS – <u>North Area</u> will be improved by a sensory trail loop with music features, sensory panels, and sensory play equipment adjacent to a recently constructed all-access playground (\$475,000). A fitness area (\$65,000), handball court ancillary structures (\$45,000), and additional parking (\$75,000) will also be constructed. <u>East Area</u> streambank stabilization to protect parking (\$60,000). <u>South Area</u> boating area improvements (\$199,000) as well as various restroom and pavilion improvements (\$65,000).	337	\$984,000	\$246,000	\$738,000	\$0
Howard County, 3	HUNTINGTON PARK IMPROVEMENTS – Huntington Park will be improved by the creation of a pathway loop within the park, pathway connections to sidewalks adjacent to the park, stormwater management features, a new playground, a new basketball court, and other ancillary improvements.	11	\$404,667	\$101,167	\$303,500	\$0
Howard County, 1	FONT HILL PARK STREAM RESTORATION – Park wetlands and stream restoration work has been completed east of Centennial Lane in Font Hill Park following damage from the 2016 and 2018 Ellicott City Floods and now work needs to continue upstream within the 130+ acres of County-owned public open space west of Centennial Lane extending up to Kiwanis-Wallas Park.	130	\$400,000	\$100,000	\$300,000	\$0

Howard County, 3 and 5	BALL DIAMOND IMPROVEMENTS – Howard County will install new ball diamond dugouts at Schooley Mill Park (\$90,000) and Hammond Park (\$40,000) as well as a new batting cage at Hammond Park (20,000).	NA	\$150,000	\$37,500	\$112,500	\$0
Howard County, 4	CEDAR LANE SECURITY GATE – Cedar Lane Park requires an electronic intermittent gate with cardkey access to prevent patrons from wondering into the maintenance yard and shop areas.	NA	\$60,000	\$15,000	\$45,000	\$0
Howard County, 3	ATHOLTON PARK ATHLETIC COURTS – Pickleball and handball courts will receive player seating with shade structures.	NA	\$52,000	\$13,000	\$39,000	\$0
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT TOTALS		579	\$3,572,846	\$893,212	\$2,679,634	\$0

FY2022 PROGRAM OPEN SPACE ANNUAL PROGRAM **HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Program for Howard County consists of six (6) land acquisition projects and eight (8) park development project areas.

In the land acquisition category, our first priority for this fiscal year is the purchase of the 16.59-acre East Columbia Library Park property. This property shares a parking lot with the East Columbia Library at 6600 Cradlerock Way in Columbia and was once managed by the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks (HCDRP) under a use agreement with the owner; however, this agreement has since expired. The County hopes to acquire and redevelop the park. The County's second land acquisition priority is the 19.92-acre Geis Property located at 5710 Trotter Road in Clarksville. This land is situated on the opposite side of Trotter Road from the Middle Patuxent Environmental Area (MPEA). Its acquisition would create the opportunity to construct trails connecting neighborhoods west of Trotter Road to the main entrance for the MPEA. Our third, fourth, and fifth land acquisition priorities will be the ongoing effort to acquire land within the Patapsco, Patuxent, and Interior Greenways, respectively, to protect environmentally sensitive areas while enhancing parkland connectivity and opportunities for recreation. Our sixth goal, which is to be grouped with our land acquisition priorities, is to request our fifth installment of Program Open Space funding to support ongoing preparation of Howard County's 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (the "Plan").

In the park development category, our first priority for this fiscal year is the ongoing Phase 2A design, construction, and equipping of the 101-acre Troy Regional Park in Elkridge. Our second park development priority is the installation of four new fiberglass pedestrian bridges along three different public pathways. The County's third park development priority is to complete a variety of improvements throughout Centennial Park in Ellicott City. The fourth park development priority will be the renovation of the 11-acre Huntington Park in Columbia. Our fifth park development priority is to continue Font Hill Park stream restoration work as progress continues upstream from the park with County-owned public open space in Ellicott City. The sixth County priority for park development will be ball diamond improvements at two County parks in Highland and Laurel. The seventh park development this year will be the replacement of the existing park gate at Cedar Lane Park in Columbia to protect patrons from frequently entering maintenance areas and risking injury. The County's final park development priority for its FY2022 Program Open Space (POS) Annual Program is to provide seating and shade structures for Atholton Park pickleball and handball courts in Columbia.

These projects will totally obligate the Howard County FY2022 allocation of POS funds and all unencumbered funds from previous years. Below please find the project selection process, a description of each project, and a discussion of how these projects address local and State planning guidelines and initiatives.

Project Selection Process:

Since there are no incorporated towns in Howard County, the County maintains total responsibility for the Project Selection Process. The projects selected for funding satisfy the following requirements:

1. Previously approved projects, that are under-funded, receive priority consideration.

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2. The project satisfies an immediate need for recreation land or facilities as outlined in the 2017 Plan and the Ten-Year Capital Improvement Program.
3. All projects must conform to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992, and the Smart Growth Initiatives.
4. POS funds are distributed throughout the various Planning Areas of the County unless alternative funding satisfies the needs of specific Planning Areas. If large projects require all or a significant portion of an annual allocation, other Planning Areas receive priority status in subsequent years.
5. If the specific project(s) is/are for park construction, the appropriation of the 25% local match must be in place.
6. The projects must be “actionable”, meaning appraisals can be secured with reasonable confidence that a sale can be consummated, or in the case of construction, the project must be in the final stages of design and progressing to, or in, the contract bidding process.
7. Willing seller of programmed acreage - if there is a willing seller of land, which has been or can be programmed for parks or preservation, these properties receive immediate attention.

The projects in the FY2022 Annual Program satisfy the above criteria and rank high for POS funding.

II. ACQUISITION

Project #1

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: East Columbia Library Park

C. Project Description: Columbia Planning Area, Council District 3

This 16.59-acre property abuts the southern boundary of the County-owned East Columbia Library Property and both properties share the same parking lot. The address for the library is 6600 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045 and the park property has an easement for access across the parking lot. This parcel is currently owned by the Howard Hughes Corporation (HHC) and had once been set aside for future school use. The school system formally declined further consideration of the property as a school site in 2019. The property had previously been maintained and programmed by the HCDRP under a use agreement with HHC; however, that use agreement has since expired. HCDRP has initiated discussions with HHC to acquire the site. The property currently has three grass multipurpose fields, pathways, and restrooms. If acquired, HCDRP would redevelop the property to have two synthetic turf ball diamonds with high-efficiency lighting, tennis courts, a playground, a picnic pavilion, additional parking, and additional pathway connections to surrounding neighborhoods. To the west of the property is a townhouse community. To the south of the property is a townhouse community and the Village of Owen Brown Village Center. To the east of the property are apartments and a Howard County elementary and middle school complex. To the north of the property is the aforementioned East Columbia Library and a future 55+ center.

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This project ranks first among our acquisition projects for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- This project is “actionable” in that the property was previously offered to the County and acquisition discussions have resumed to purchase the property.
- This site falls within the Opportunity Zone for access to parks and natural areas as identified on pages 58 and 59 of the Plan.
- This site falls within the Opportunity Zone for access to athletic fields as identified on pages 62 and 63 of the Plan.
- This site falls within the Opportunity Zone for access to playgrounds as identified on pages 64 and 65 of the Plan.
- This site was specified as a New Pavilion Opportunity site on pages 68 and 69 of the Plan.
- Although not specified as a new or improved trail on pages 70 and 71 of the Plan, acquisition of this site creates the opportunity to construct new pathways connecting neighboring communities to the park, library, nearby schools, and the Owen Brown Village Center.
- This project, as part of the previous Capital Improvement Plan, is identified on page 132 of the Plan to begin development; however, long-term use of the property and funding restrictions have prevented development of the property. County acquisition and control of the site are necessary for the level of redevelopment being proposed.
- This site, if acquired and subsequently renovated, will comply with Howard County Trail and Pathway System Improvements identified on page 137 of the Plan. The existing pathways on the property connect through the neighboring Owen Brown Village Center to the pathways around nearby Lake Elkhorn, which are part of the Spinal Pathway system through Columbia.
- This project, as part of the Parkland Acquisition Program and the previously identified East Columbia Park, satisfies numerous State and County goals identified throughout the Plan and summarized on pages 140 through 145.
- This project, located in the Planned Service Area and the southcentral region of the Columbia Planning Area, meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts. It should be noted that land acquisition funding in FY2021 was spent in the Southeast and Rural West Planning Areas. This property is in a different Council District that the County’s second land acquisition priority, Geis Property.

In addition to the Project Selection Process outlined above, this project conforms to the “Eight Visions” of the Planning Act of 1992 as follows:

- Direct growth to suitable areas – This acquisition project is already surrounded by residential and

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commercial development as well as public facilities. This property’s proximity to existing public schools, a public library, and a future public 55+ center make it a sensible park acquisition and renovation site.

- Protect sensitive areas – Any redevelopment of this property after acquisition will abide by all applicable regulations and standards for protecting sensitive areas.
- Protect the Chesapeake – Any redevelopment of this property after acquisition will abide by all applicable stormwater management regulations.
- Conserve resources – This acquisition will permit the retention of an existing, privately-owned park area as a public park and green space. Parking lot improvements will include stormwater management features and the installation of solar panels. No additional clearing of the site is required for its continued use and future redevelopment.
- Adequate facilities – This park already abuts a public library and school complex and is already serviced by public infrastructure and improvements. Subsequent redevelopment of this park will expand the accessibility and uses of the property for public leisure.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.
- Both local and State funding were authorized in the FY2022 budgets for parkland acquisition.

D. Acreage

1. Ultimate Acreage – 16.59 acres

E. Source of Funds

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Total | \$1,000,000 |
| 2. Local | \$0 |
| 3. State Local Share | \$1,000,000 |
| 4. State Side Share | \$0 |

F. Location and site maps are attached at the end of this Annual Program.

Project #2

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Geis Property (formerly)

C. Project Description: Columbia Planning Area, Council District 4

This 19.92-acre property has an address of 5710 Trotter Road, Clarksville, MD 21029. The site is located on the opposite side of the road from the MPEA and was previously owned by one of the strongest advocates for the creation of the MPEA during the development of Columbia, Albert Geis. The property is now under new ownership and encumbered by a Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) easement. Acquisition of the property would permit a variety of passive and interpretive uses under the MET

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easement. Most importantly, ownership would enable the development of trails connecting existing neighborhoods adjacent to the property to the main entrance to the MPEA. The current owner has listed the property for sale but at nearly twice the appraised value. The County will resume conversations over price in the near future.

This project ranks second among our acquisition projects for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- This project is “actionable” in that the owner wishes to sell the property and the County needs to either negotiate the price lower or utilize additional alternative funding to cover expenses above the average appraised value.
- Although not specified on pages 68 and 69 of the Plan, this site exists within an area of Columbia/Clarksville where there are no pavilions within a 10-minute drive. The existing structures on the property can be utilized similar to pavilions once restored.
- Although not specified as a new or improved trail on pages 70 and 71 of the Plan, acquisition of this site creates the opportunity to construct new trails connecting neighboring communities to the property and the nearby MPEA trail system.
- This project site includes some older farm structures and may provide opportunities to satisfy the recommendation that more heritage programming be developed outside of historic Ellicott City, as identified and discussed on pages 90, 92, and 109 of the Plan, respectively.
- This project, as part of the Parkland Acquisition Program and potential expansion of the Howard County Trail and Pathway System, is identified on page 137 of the Plan as meeting numerous State and County goals identified throughout the Plan and summarized on pages 140 through 143 and page 145.
- This project will enable and promote foot and bike traffic to one of the largest natural resource areas in central Maryland.
- The project, located in the Planned Service Area and western region of the Columbia Planning Area, meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts. It should be noted that land acquisition funding in FY2021 was spent in the Southeast and Rural West Planning Areas. This property is in a different Council District that the County’s first land acquisition priority, East Columbia Library Park.

It also addresses certain elements of the “Eight Visions” as follows:

- Direct growth to suitable areas – This acquisition project is already surrounded by residential development and is within the Planned Service Area.
- Protect sensitive areas – County acquisition of the property as parkland or open space will add an additional layer of protection to the riparian areas of the property beyond the existing MET

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easement. County ownership also creates the opportunity for funded enhancements of existing riparian, wetland, and forest areas on the property.

- Protect the Chesapeake – The section of a tributary to the Middle Patuxent River and its buffers on the property will be perpetually protected and potentially enhanced by the County, thus helping to protect the Chesapeake Bay.
- Conserve resources – Acquisition of this property, in accordance with the MET easement, will permit the conservation of the natural and cultural resources on the property through County efforts to preserve, manage, and restore these resources while also offering opportunities to educate the public about their significance and the significance of the neighboring MPEA.
- Adequate facilities – Adequate public infrastructure exists in neighboring communities and the property is already provided with access to public road, water, and sewer connections. Acquisition of this property and its subsequent improvement and/or use by the County would not burden or strain existing public infrastructure.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.
- Both local and State funding were authorized in the FY2022 for parkland acquisition.

D. Acreage

1. Ultimate Acreage – 19.92 acres.

E. Source of Funds

1. Total	\$1,000,000
2. Local	\$0
3. State Local Share	\$1,000,000
4. State Side Share	\$0

F. Location and site maps are attached at the end of this Annual Program.

Project #3

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Patapsco Greenway

C. Project Description: Patapsco Greenway; Elkridge, Ellicott City, and Rural West Planning Areas; Council Districts 1 and 5

This project will be a continuing effort to acquire land along the Patapsco Greenway, especially along the South Branch of the Patapsco River. This effort to improve the connectivity of this greenway will further protect environmentally sensitive areas and enable public enjoyment of this resource. We are requesting that future POS Local Share funds be used for this acquisition.

This project ranks third among our acquisition projects for the following reasons:

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- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- Patapsco Greenway acquisitions may fall within the Opportunity Zones for public access to parks and natural resources areas as identified on pages 58 and 59 of the Plan.
- Patapsco Greenway acquisitions may fall within an Opportunity Zone for increased public water access as identified on pages 66 and 67 of the Plan.
- Patapsco Greenway acquisitions may improve public access and connectivity to trails and pathways where such access is currently limited as identified on pages 70 and 71 of the Plan.
- This project is identified on pages 137 and 138 of the Plan as part of the Parkland Acquisition Program and the Patapsco Greenway, respectively.
- This project, as part of the Parkland Acquisition Program, is identified on page 145 of the Plan as meeting numerous State and County goals identified throughout the Plan and summarized on pages 140 through 143.
- This project will allow for the protection of natural resources along the Patapsco River.
- Located in the Elkridge, Ellicott City, and Rural West Planning Areas, this project meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds.

It also addresses certain elements of the “Eight Visions” as follows:

- Direct growth to appropriate areas – Most remaining large parcels are located outside the Planned Service Area and their acquisition prevents their development into residential or commercial use.
- Protect sensitive areas – Riparian buffers along the Patapsco River, wetlands, steep slopes, floodplain, and forested areas will be protected by this acquisition.
- Protect the Chesapeake – The Patapsco River flows directly into the Bay. Sensitive areas will be perpetually protected within these acquired parcels, thus helping the Bay recovery.
- Control sprawl – Although this park is not within the Planned Service Area for water and sewer, the park is necessary to serve existing populations. Additional growth is controlled by current low-density zoning; thus, the park will not encourage sprawl.
- Conserve resources – This acquisition will permit passive recreation while protecting sensitive areas and wildlife habitat.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.
- Both local and State funding were authorized in the FY2022 for parkland acquisition.

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D. Acreage

1. Ultimate Acreage – Trying to connect with thousands of acres of State parkland

E. Source of Funds

1. Total	\$TBD
2. Local	\$0
3. State Local Share	\$TBD
4. State Side Share	\$0

F. Locations still need to be identified and mapped.

Project #4

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Patuxent Greenway

C. Project Description: Patuxent Greenway; Rural West and Southeast Planning Areas; Council Districts 3, 4, and 5

This project will be a continuing effort to acquire land along the Patuxent Greenway in Howard County. This effort to improve the connectivity of this greenway will further protect environmentally sensitive areas and enable public enjoyment of this resource. We are requesting that future POS Local Share funds be used for this acquisition.

This project ranks fourth among our acquisition projects for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- Patuxent Greenway acquisitions may fall within the Opportunity Zones for public access to parks and natural resources areas as identified on pages 58 and 59 of the Plan.
- Patuxent Greenway acquisitions may fall within the Opportunity Zones for increased public water access as identified on pages 66 and 67 of the Plan.
- Patapsco Greenway acquisitions may improve public access and connectivity to trails and pathways where such access is currently limited as identified on pages 70 and 71 of the Plan.
- This project is identified on pages 137 and 138 of the Plan as part of the Parkland Acquisition Program and the Patuxent Greenway, respectively.
- This project, as part of the Parkland Acquisition Program, is identified on page 145 of the Plan as meeting numerous State and County goals identified throughout the Plan and summarized on pages 140 through 143.
- This project will allow for the protection of natural resources along the Patuxent River.

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- This project, located in the Rural West and Southeast Planning Areas, meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts.

It also addresses certain elements of the “Eight Visions” as follows:

- Direct growth to appropriate areas – Most remaining parcels are located outside the Planned Service Area and their acquisition prevents their development into residential or commercial use.
- Protect sensitive areas – Riparian buffers along the Patuxent River, wetlands, steep slopes, floodplain, and forested areas will be protected by this acquisition.
- Protect the Chesapeake – The Patuxent River flows directly into the Bay. Sensitive areas will be perpetually protected within these acquired parcels, thus helping the Bay recovery.
- Control sprawl – Although this park is not within the Planned Service Area for water and sewer, the park is necessary to serve existing populations. Additional growth is controlled by current low-density zoning; thus, the park will not encourage sprawl.
- Conserve resources – This acquisition will permit passive recreation while protecting sensitive areas and wildlife habitat.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.
- Both local and State funding were authorized in the FY2022 for parkland acquisition.

D. Acreage

1. Ultimate Acreage – Trying to connect with thousands of acres of State and WSSC lands spanning between the intercounty communities of Laurel and Mount Airy, Maryland.

E. Source of Funds

1. Total	\$TBD
2. Local	\$0
3. State Local Share	\$TBD
4. State Side Share	\$0

F. Locations need to be identified and mapped.

Project #5

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Howard County Interior Greenway

C. Project Description: Howard County Interior Greenway; All Planning Areas; All Council Districts

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This project is an ongoing effort to acquire land along existing greenways throughout Howard County to protect environmentally sensitive areas and provide for community parks. These greenways exist in every Planning Area and include: Cabin Branch Greenway, Cattail Creek Greenway, Deep Run Greenway, Hammond Branch Greenway, Little Patuxent Greenway, Middle Patuxent Greenway, the Long Corner Connector, and other areas. Land acquisitions will protect environmentally sensitive areas and enable passive public enjoyment of the County's natural resources while possibly permitting the development of community park facilities on non-sensitive, upland areas. We are requesting that future POS Local Share funds be used for this acquisition.

This project ranks fifth for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under "Eight Visions" below).
- Howard County Interior Greenway acquisitions may fall within the Opportunity Zones for public access to parks and natural resources areas as identified on pages 58 and 59 of the Plan.
- Howard County Interior Greenway acquisitions may fall within the Opportunity Zones for increased public water access as identified on pages 66 and 67 of the Plan.
- Patapsco Greenway acquisitions may improve public access and connectivity to trails and pathways where such access is currently limited as identified on pages 70 and 71 of the Plan.
- This project is identified on pages 137 and 138 of the Plan as part of the Parkland Acquisition Program and the Howard County Interior Greenway, respectively.
- This project, as part of the Parkland Acquisition Program, is identified on page 145 of the Plan as meeting numerous State and County goals identified throughout the Plan and summarized on pages 140 through 143.
- The project, potentially located in each Planning Area, meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts.

It also addresses certain elements of the "Eight Visions" as follows:

- Direct growth to appropriate areas – Most remaining parcels are located outside the Planned Service Area and their acquisition prevents their development into residential or commercial use.
- Protect sensitive areas – Riparian buffers, wetlands, steep slopes, floodplain, and forested areas will be protected by this acquisition.
- Protect the Chesapeake – These greenways are within the Patapsco and Patuxent watersheds and flow into the Bay. Sensitive areas will be perpetually protected within these acquired parcels, thus helping the Bay recovery.
- Control sprawl – Although several of these greenways are not within the Planned Service Area for water and sewer, the park is necessary to serve existing populations. Additional growth is

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controlled by current low-density zoning; thus, the park will not encourage sprawl.

- Conserve resources – This acquisition will permit passive recreation while protecting sensitive areas and wildlife habitat. Passive recreational facilities provided within these greenways may include properly designed trails, picnic tables, seating, and related improvements.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.
- Both local and State funding were authorized in the FY2022 for parkland acquisition.

D. Acreage

1. Ultimate Acreage – Trying to connect with thousands of existing greenways to larger greenways along the Patapsco and Patuxent Rivers.

E. Source of Funds

1. Total	\$TBD
2. Local	\$0
3. State Local Share	\$TBD
4. State Side Share	\$0

F. Locations need to be identified and mapped.

Project #6

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: 2022 Howard County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan

C. Project Description: Ongoing planning for the development of the Plan to demonstrate conformity with the latest State Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan and enable Howard County to qualify for State funding for local park acquisition and development projects. This is an ongoing, 5-year effort.

D. Source of Funds

1. Total	\$125,000
2. Local	\$0
3. State Local Share	\$25,000/year
4. State Side Share	\$0

III. DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Project #1

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Troy Regional Park at Elkridge

C. Project Description: Elkridge Planning Area; Council District 2

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Howard County owns the 101-acre Troy Regional Park at 6500 Mansion Lane, Elkridge, MD 21075. The park is east of the intersection of I-95 and Route 100 and north of the intersection of Route 100 and Route 1. This site provides both passive and active recreational opportunities to children of all ages, as well as adults, throughout the entire county and the Elkridge area. The park has pathways and walking trails, athletic fields with high-efficiency lighting, pavilions, a playground, and parking with ancillary features. The park is master planned to also include a baseball diamond with stadium seating, an indoor athletics facility and community center. Phase 1 of development consisted of the construction of the entrance road, mass grading for the multipurpose fields and related parking, the installation of two synthetic turf fields, a playground, and a paved pathway system. Phase 2 consisted of the construction of an additional multipurpose turf field, three pavilions with restrooms, one stand-alone pavilion, one stand-alone restroom, pathways and additional parking facilities. Phase 2A construction began in Fall 2018 and initially consisted of the completion of a fourth synthetic turf stadium field with lighting (“Field #1”) with bleachers and a press box. Phase 2A design and construction continues with the development of a grandstand stadium facility around Field #1 that will include storage, restrooms, utilities, walkways, landscaping, and additional ancillary improvements. Subsequent phases will include a maintenance shop, baseball diamond, further restoration of the historic Troy Mansion, pathways, additional parking, and a community center and/or indoor recreational facility.

This is our top development priority for FY2022 for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- This project falls within an Opportunity Zone for public access to parks and natural resources areas as identified on pages 58 and 59 of the Plan.
- This project falls within an Opportunity Zone for public access to a future community center as identified on pages 60 and 61 of the Plan.
- This project falls within an Opportunity Zone for public access to athletic fields as identified on pages 62 and 63 of the Plan.
- This project falls within an Opportunity Zone for public access to playgrounds as identified on pages 64 and 65 of the Plan.
- This project is identified on pages 68 and 69 of the Plan as a new opportunity for public access to pavilions. Pavilions at this site would be less than a 10-minute drive for many residents.
- This project site includes the historic Troy House and may provide opportunities to satisfy the recommendation that more heritage programming be developed outside of historic Ellicott City, as identified and discussed on pages 90, 92, and 109 of the Plan, respectively.
- Construction of this park is identified on Page 133 of the Plan as a short-term, mid-term, long-term priority.
- This project is identified on page 144 of the Plan as meeting numerous State and County goals identified throughout the Plan and summarized on pages 140 through 143.

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- This project, located in the Elkridge Planning Area and in consideration of other POS acquisition and development priorities, meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts. This project is within County Council District 2.
- This project complies with local and state initiatives as described in the Project Selection section of this Program.

It also addresses certain elements of the “Eight Visions” as follows:

- Direct development to growth areas – This park is within the County’s Planned Service (Smart Growth) Area and near the intersections of several major highways. This site is located within an industrial park and its development will not have negative impacts on neighboring properties.
- Protect sensitive areas – Riparian buffers, wetlands, steep slopes, floodplain, and conserved forest areas are excluded from and protected during construction.
- Protect the Chesapeake – Environmentally sensitive areas and storm water management will be considered and addressed throughout the ongoing design and development of this regional park. Construction is concentrated on upland portions of the site to minimize damage to the watershed. Environmentally sustainable designs and facilities are incorporated where possible.
- Control sprawl – By investing in an urban area regional park, we are enhancing the quality of life of existing residents and limiting sprawl by promoting development in an existing community.
- Conservation of resources – sensitive areas and habitats will be protected and enhanced. The County has already been very active in addressing emerald ash borer damage within the park through the removal of hazardous dead trees and understory planting of replacement trees.
- Adequate public facilities – This park is already served by existing public roads and utilities. Phase 2A improvements in the area of Field #1 will not create a burden or strain on existing public facilities.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.

D. Source of Funds – FY22 unencumbered

1. Total	\$1,322,179 Phase 2A Stadium
2. Local	\$330,545
3. State Local Share	\$991,634
4. State Side Share	\$0

E. Location and site maps are attached at the end of this Annual Program.

Project #2

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Pedestrian Bridge Projects

C. Project Description: Ellicott City, Elkridge, Columbia Planning Areas; Council Districts 1 and 2.

Howard County is fortunate to have an extensive park and pathway system; however, many of the pedestrian bridges within this system are over twenty (20) years old and have more than exceeded their functional lives. The need to replace this aging infrastructure is imminent and comes at a substantial expense per bridge. Howard County has begun replacing many of its existing pedestrian bridges with a fiberglass bridge product that does not require routine painting and maintenance to prevent rot and rust. This year the County will replace a wood truss bridge in Font Hill Park, a wooden bridge within public open space in the Woodcrest community, and two Oakland Mills pathway steel bridges in Columbia.

We have ranked this project second among development projects for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- All three sites are within Opportunity Zones for public access to parks and natural areas as identified on pages 58 and 59 of the Plan. These bridge replacements are necessary to safely preserve this access.
- Although not specifically identified for access to trails and pathways on pages 70 and 71 of the Plan, the replacement of these bridges is necessary to preserve existing access. Furthermore, some of the bridges being replaced are part of designated school walking routes.
- Trail and pathway system rehabilitation is identified on page 137 of the Plan as a short-term, mid-term, and long-term priority. The County anticipates its annual pedestrian bridge replacement costs to exceed \$250,000 for the foreseeable future.
- This project is identified on page 145 of the Plan as meeting numerous State and County goals identified throughout the Plan and summarized on pages 140 through 143.
- These bridge replacement projects, located in the Ellicott City, Elkridge, and Columbia Planning Areas and in consideration of other POS acquisition and development priorities, meet the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts as land acquisition and much of the development funding in FY21 were in other areas of the County.
- This project complies with local and state initiatives as described in the Project Selection section of this Program.

It also addresses certain elements of the “Eight Visions” as follows:

- Direct development to growth areas – These bridge replacement projects are within the County’s Planned Service (Smart Growth) Area, are already surrounded by residential development.

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- Protect sensitive areas – These fiberglass bridges will eliminate paint, rust, and other debris from entering the waterway. These projects are within the existing footprints of the bridges being replaced and will result in no new disturbance to sensitive areas.
- Protect the Chesapeake – These bridge replacement projects will prevent further bridge debris from entering the waterway and promotes the continued use of the pathway and bridges within riparian areas.
- Control sprawl – These bridge replacement projects will not promote or enable further sprawl.
- Conservation of resources – Maintaining the pathway system promotes pedestrian and bike traffic over vehicular traffic, thus conserving resources.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.

D. Source of Funds – FY22 unencumbered

1. Total	\$200,000
2. Local	\$50,000
3. State Local Share	\$150,000
4. State Side Share	\$0

E. Location and site maps are attached at the end of this Annual Program.

Project #3

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Centennial Park Improvements

C. Project Description: Ellicott City Planning Area; Council District 1

The 337-acre Centennial Park in Ellicott City is divided into four areas, each with its own entrance and address: North, East, South, and West. All four areas were developed over twenty (20) years ago and now require repairs and renovation to preserve and improve access to and use of the park. The County is utilizing Local Parks and Playgrounds Infrastructure Fund money to renovate the West Area of the Park. The County intends to use Program Open Space funding to make important repairs and renovations to the other three (3) areas. In the North Area the County will construct a sensory trail that loops off a recently constructed all-access playground. The sensory trail will include music features, sensory panels, and sensory play equipment. The North Area will also be improved by additional parking, a fitness equipment area, and ancillary structures for the existing handball court. In the East Area a stream stabilization project is required to prevent damage to a nearby parking lot should erosion continue to alter the stream channel. In the South Area the County will make necessary improvements to the existing decking and railings around the boating area as well as improvements to the restroom area and various pavilions. Renovations to the boating area will be in coordination with ongoing efforts to improve the accessibility of this area.

This is our third development priority for FY2022 for the following reasons:

- Although the size of Centennial Park and diversity of its amenities result in the park being excluded from all Opportunity Zones in the Plan, the maintenance and improvements proposed here align with most of the Plan's goals for recreation, parks and open space on pages 48 and 140, including: promoting accessibility for all people, staying at the forefront of trends in park facilities and design, adapting to community needs, have inclusive facilities, have safe facilities for all ages and backgrounds, and promoting health and wellness. Centennial Park has in one area or another amenities that would satisfy the needs and interests of most patrons.
- Centennial Park is identified on page 144 of the Plan as meeting numerous State and County goals identified throughout the Plan and summarized on pages 140 through 143; however, the scope of improvements in the Plan was centered around dredging Centennial Lake and the improvements proposed in this Annual Program are far broader and would satisfy more goals.
- This project, located in the Ellicott City Planning Area and in consideration of other POS acquisition and development priorities, meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts as Centennial Park is located at the very southwest corner of County Council District 1 where it abuts two adjoining County Council Districts as well as the Columbia and Rural West Planning Areas. It should also be noted that land acquisition and much of the development funding in FY21 were in other areas of the County.
- This project complies with local and state initiatives as described in the Project Selection section of this Program.

It also addresses certain elements of the "Eight Visions" as follows:

- Development in suitable areas – This park is within the County's Planned Service (Smart Growth) Area and is in reasonable proximity to major highways. The proposed renovations and repairs will not negatively impact surrounding residential properties.
- Protect sensitive areas – The stream restoration project proposed benefits the stream and while also preventing damage to the East Area parking lot.
- Protect the Chesapeake – The stream restoration component of this project will prevent further siltation and erosion in local waterways. Environmentally sustainable designs and facilities are incorporated where possible.
- Control sprawl – This project only proposed to redevelop and repairs facilities within an existing park that is surrounded by existing neighborhoods and should not promote sprawl in any way.
- Adequate public facilities – This park is already served by existing public roads and utilities. Some additional parking is being proposed in the North Area in anticipation of any addition visitation that may result from the playground and fitness improvements. The South Area improvements increase accessibility to the site for all, as the previous design of the boating area created some unforeseen barriers for patrons.

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- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.

D. Source of Funds – FY2022 unencumbered

1. Total	\$984,000
2. Local	\$246,000
3. State Local Share	\$738,000
4. State Side Share	\$0

E. Location and site maps are attached at the end of this Annual Program.

Project #4

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Huntington Park Improvements

C. Project Description: Columbia Planning Area; Council District 3

The 11-acre Huntington Park was recently donated by HHC to the Howard County Board of Education (HCBOE). The property had been under a use agreement between HHC and the County for the use and maintenance of the property by HCDRP. That use agreement terminated with the transfer of the property from HHC to HCBOE. A new use agreement between HCBOE and the County for the continued, long-term use and maintenance of the property as a public park is in circulation for signatures. Once the agreement is fully executed HCDRP will initiate a renovation of the park, which is already partially through design. Improvements will include an internal pathway loop, additional pathway connections to adjoining neighborhoods and existing sidewalks, a relocated basketball court, new playground, stormwater management facilities, and other ancillary features. An existing ball diamond backstop may be relocated and the park will still include open field space. Aside from accommodating the alignment and construction of some additional pathways, no additional clearing of existing forest area is proposed.

This is our fourth development priority for FY2022 for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- This project falls within an Opportunity Zone for public access to parks and natural resources areas as identified on pages 58 and 59 of the Plan.
- This project falls within an Opportunity Zone for public access to athletic fields as identified on pages 62 and 63 of the Plan.
- This project falls within an Opportunity Zone for public access to playgrounds as identified on pages 64 and 65 of the Plan.
- Although not specified on pages 70 and 71 of the Plan, Huntington Park is only 0.45 miles from the Spinal Pathway and the historic Pratt Truss Bridge by pathways leading out of the park.

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- This project would be deemed a systemic park improvement as identified on page 145 of the Plan as meeting numerous State and County goals identified throughout the Plan and summarized on pages 140 through 143.
- This project, located in the southernmost region of the Columbia Planning Area and in consideration of other POS acquisition and development priorities, meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts as land acquisition and much of the development funding in FY21 were in other areas of the County.
- This project complies with local and state initiatives as described in the Project Selection section of this Program.

It also addresses certain elements of the “Eight Visions” as follows:

- Development in suitable areas – This park is within the County’s Planned Service (Smart Growth) Area and near the intersections of several major highways. This park is surrounded by existing residential development, where it has existed for over thirty (30) years.
- Protect sensitive areas – This project will not disturb any environmentally sensitive areas.
- Protect the Chesapeake – Environmentally sensitive areas and storm water management will be considered and addressed throughout the ongoing design and redevelopment of this park
- Control sprawl – By investing in an existing urban park, we are enhancing the quality of life of existing residents and limiting sprawl by promoting development in an existing community.
- Adequate public facilities – This park site is already served by existing public road and water. This project will increase public accessibility to the park with additional pathways.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.

D. Source of Funds – FY2022 unencumbered

1. Total	\$404,667
2. Local	\$101,167
3. State Local Share	\$303,500
4. State Side Share	\$0

E. Location and site maps are attached at the end of this Annual Program.

Project #5

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Font Hill Park Stream Restoration

C. Project Description: Ellicott City Planning Area; Council District 1

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This project proposes continuing post-flood stream restoration activities in the area of Font Hill Park extending upstream and west from the park into 130 acres of County-owned open space between Font Hill Park and Kiwanis-Wallas Park to the northwest. This stream channel and Font Hill Park were destroyed by the 2016 and 2018 Ellicott City Floods and the County has been gradually moving upstream to restore the stream channel through accepted restoration techniques to prevent future destruction of Font Hill Park as well as downstream communities and property.

This is our fifth development priority for FY2022 for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- This project falls within an Opportunity Zone for public access to parks and natural resources areas as identified on pages 58 and 59 of the Plan.
- This project is not identified in the Capital Improvement Plan in the Plan; however, it satisfies and addresses the Eight Visions in the same way as noted in the Howard County Interior Greenway in the Capital Improvement Plan on page 138.
- This project, located along the western edge of the Ellicott City Planning Area and the Planned Service Area and could be argued to meet the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts as it is along the border of the Planned Service Area, which in this location separates the Rural West from Ellicott City. It should also be noted that land acquisition and much of the development funding in FY21 were in other areas of the County.
- This project complies with local and state initiatives as described in the Project Selection section of this Program.

It also addresses certain elements of the “Eight Visions” as follows:

- Direct development to growth areas – This project is within existing residential development on County-owned open space and does not promote new development.
- Protect sensitive areas – This project attempts to restore and protect riparian buffers, wetlands, and floodplains that were destroyed by flooding.
- Protect the Chesapeake – Environmentally sensitive areas and storm water management are promoted and protected through accepted stream restoration techniques that will control flooding and reduce erosion, both of which benefit Font Hill Park and the Chesapeake Bay.
- Control sprawl – This project does not promote or enable sprawl and instead further protects and restores environmental areas damaged by sprawl. It will also buffer against recent upstream development adjacent to these County-owned open space parcels.
- Conservation of resources – Sensitive areas and habitats will be protected and enhanced by the

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project. Recent, ongoing, and future stream restoration work within these existing and new residential communities will demonstrate to the neighboring public that these environmental areas have value.

- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.

D. Source of Funds – FY2022 unencumbered

1. Total	\$400,000
2. Local	\$100,000
3. State Local Share	\$300,000
4. State Side Share	\$0

E. Location and site maps are attached at the end of this Annual Program.

Project #6

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Ball Diamond Improvements

C. Project Description: Rural West and Southeast Planning Areas; Council Districts 5 and 3, respectively

Howard County wishes to use POS funding to have its requirements contractor supply and install new ball diamond dugouts at Schooley Mill Park and Hammond Park as well as a new batting cage at Hammond Park. These parks are in the Rural West and Southeast Planning Areas, respectively, and both lack the proposed amenities. Schooley Mill Park is located at 12975 Hall Shop Road, Highland, MD 20777. Hammond Park is located at 10700 Glen Hannah Drive, Laurel, MD 20723.

This is our sixth development priority for FY2022 for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- Hammond Park falls within an Opportunity Zone for public access to parks and natural resources areas as identified on pages 58 and 59 of the Plan.
- Hammond Park falls within an Opportunity Zone for public access to athletic fields as identified on pages 62 and 63 of the Plan.
- These projects can be characterized as park systemic improvements to existing ball diamonds at Schooley Mill and Hammond Parks and so appears on page 137 of the Plan as a short-term, mid-term, long-term priority.
- This project is identified on page 145 of the Plan as meeting numerous State and County goals identified throughout the Plan and summarized on pages 140 through 143.

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- This project, located in the Rural West and Southeast Planning Areas and in consideration of other POS acquisition and development priorities, meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts.
- This project complies with local and state initiatives as described in the Project Selection section of this Program.

It also addresses certain elements of the “Eight Visions” as follows:

- Direct development to growth areas – Hammond Park is within the County’s Planned Service (Smart Growth) Area and both parks are generally surrounded by the maximum permitted levels of residential development based on current zoning.
- Protect sensitive areas – These projects are generally within the existing ball diamond footprints and interference with nearby sensitives areas is unlikely. All practicable efforts will be made to protect natural resources during the installation of the proposed equipment.
- Protect the Chesapeake – These projects will not disturb environmentally sensitive areas or create additional stormwater management obligations.
- Control sprawl – These projects make minor improvements to existing park amenities within existing parks that are already surrounded by existing residential development and will not promote further urban sprawl.
- Conservation of resources – These projects will not disturb sensitive areas and habitats or prompt increased resource consumption.
- Adequate public facilities – Both parks are already served by public roads and Hammond Park is already served by public utilities. These projects make minor improvements to existing park amenities at both sites and will not burden or likely have any impact on public facilities.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.

D. Source of Funds – FY22 unencumbered

1. Total	\$150,000
2. Local	\$37,500
3. State Local Share	\$112,500
4. State Side Share	\$0

E. Location and site maps are attached at the end of this Annual Program.

Project #7

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Cedar Lane Security Gate

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C. Project Description: Columbia Planning Area; Council District 4

Howard County wishes to use POS funding to acquire and install an electronic intermittent gate with cardkey access controls to secure the park maintenance shop and yard. The current swinging gates do not provide adequate site security. Patrons are wandering into the maintenance area without realizing they have left the programmed portion of the park. The Department runs several therapeutic recreation programs in this general area of the park and there have been a couple incidents of participants leaving the program and getting into the maintenance building before staff can successfully redirect the participants back to their program. These participants end up being in close proximity to dangerous pieces of maintenance equipment and tools during these incidents, which is a situation that could be prevented by a better gate. The Cedar Lane Park maintenance shop is located in the Cedar Lane Park – West Area at 5081 Cedar Lane, Columbia, MD 21044.

This is our seventh development priority for FY2022 for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- This project can be characterized as park systemic improvements to existing facility and so appears on page 137 of the Plan as a short-term, mid-term, long-term priority.
- This project qualifies under maintaining excellence and driving innovation on page 140 and is essential for meeting County Goal #7: Use best practices to continue to provide sustainable parks, open spaces and recreation facilities that are safe and secure for users of all ages and backgrounds.
- This project, located in the Columbia Planning Area and in consideration of other POS acquisition and development priorities, meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts as land acquisition and much of the development funding in FY21 were in other areas of the County.
- This project complies with local and state initiatives as described in the Project Selection section of this Program.

It also addresses certain elements of the “Eight Visions” as follows:

- Direct development to growth areas – Cedar Lane Park is within the County’s Planned Service (Smart Growth) Area and is surrounded by existing residential development.
- Protect sensitive areas – This project is within an existing parking lot and does not impact sensitive areas.
- Protect the Chesapeake – This project will not disturb environmentally sensitive areas or create additional stormwater management obligations.
- Control sprawl – This project proposes an improvement to an existing facility within an existing park and will not promote further urban sprawl.

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- Conservation of resources – This project will not disturb sensitive areas and habitats.
- Adequate public facilities – This park is already served by public roads, water and sewer. This project will not alter public attendance of the park or burden existing public infrastructure.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.

D. Source of Funds – FY22 unencumbered

1. Total	\$60,000
2. Local	\$15,000
3. State Local Share	\$45,000
4. State Side Share	\$0

E. Location and site maps are attached at the end of this Annual Program.

Project #8

A. Sponsor: Howard County, Maryland

B. Project Title: Atholton Park Athletic Courts

C. Project Description: Columbia Planning Areas; District 3

Howard County wishes to use POS funding to have its requirements contractor supply and install new seating and shade structures at Atholton Park for the handball and pickleball courts. Atholton Park is located at 6875 Greenleigh Drive, Columbia, MD 21046.

This is our eighth development priority for FY2022 for the following reasons:

- This project conforms to the Howard County General Plan, the Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Initiative (see detail under “Eight Visions” below).
- This project can be characterized as park systemic improvements to existing facility and so appears on page 137 of the Plan as a short-term, mid-term, long-term priority.
- This project satisfied multiple County and State Goals, as identified on pages 140 and 141 of the Plan, under maintaining excellence and driving innovation.
- This project, located in the Columbia Planning Area and in consideration of other POS acquisition and development priorities, meets the Selection Criteria associated with an equitable distribution of POS funds among Planning Areas and Council Districts when you consider most of the POS funds encumbered in FY21 were in other Planning Areas and Council Districts. This project is in a different County Council District within Columbia than Blandair Regional Park and Cedar Lane Park.
- This project complies with local and state initiatives as described in the Project Selection section of this Program.

It also addresses certain elements of the “Eight Visions” as follows:

- Direct development to growth areas – Atholton Park is within the County’s Planned Service (Smart Growth) Area and is surrounded by existing residential development.
- Protect sensitive areas – This project will not impact sensitive areas.
- Protect the Chesapeake – This project will not disturb environmentally sensitive areas or create additional stormwater management obligations.
- Control sprawl – This project makes minor improvements to existing park amenities within an existing park already surrounded by existing residential development and will not promote further urban sprawl.
- Conservation of resources – This project will not disturb sensitive areas and habitats.
- Adequate public facilities – This park is already served by public roads, water and sewer. This project will not alter public attendance of the park or burden existing public infrastructure.
- Economic growth – Parks and leisure activities benefit tourism and retail sales.

D. Source of Funds – FY22 unencumbered

1. Total	\$52,000
2. Local	\$13,000
3. State Local Share	\$39,000
4. State Side Share	\$0

E. Location and site maps are attached at the end of this Annual Program.