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Carroll County Department of Recreation and Parks

Carroll County Government 300 South Center Street Westminster, MD 21157

Wednesday, September 14, 2023

Tiffany R. DePaoli Program Open Space Grants Maryland Department of Natural Resources Tawes State Office Bldg., E-4 Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: FY 2024 Program Open Space Annual Program Submission

Dear Tiffany,

Attached is the revised FY 2024 Program Open Space (POS) Annual Program summary for Carroll County and its municipalities. Maps showing the location of each project as well as a county wide map showing all projects is included for your reference.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ashley Caltrider at acaltrider@carrollcountymd.gov.

Attachment: Carroll County FY 2024 POS Annual Program

I. INTRODUCTION

The Carroll County Land Preservation, Park and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) continues to serve as a guide determining funding priorities for the Carroll County Department of Recreation and Parks. The plan uses previously collected input to help determine priorities for both land preservation and park development. Over the Department's 53 + year history, Program Open Space has played a vital role in providing recreational opportunities to Carroll County's residents and visitors. The FY 2024 Annual Program focus on maintaining and improving existing park infrastructure to ensure continued safe usage as well as address new and growing needs expressed by residents.

II. PLAN OBJECTIVES

Projects included in the FY 2024 annual program pursue goals/objectives previously stated in the Land Preservation, Park and Recreation Plan including:

- Direct funding towards designated growth areas when possible to serve largest number of residents
- Provide recreational opportunities for all citizens
- Address aging park infrastructure to ensure continued safe usage of existing facilities
- Address increased demands from citizens as county demographics continue to change for facilities such as trails, especially in areas that do not currently feature these opportunities

III. PROJECT PRIORITY AND SELECTION PROCESS

Proposed capital project requests are developed annually after receiving input from the public, volunteer recreation councils and the County's eight (8) municipalities. Requests are presented to the County's Recreation & Parks Advisory Board, an 11-member citizen board with representation from each of the County's five (5) Commissioner districts. During project evaluation, factors such as consistency with the County's LPPRP and department goals, available funding, and costs/benefits are all given consideration.

New recommended county projects are typically added in the County's 6-year capital improvement plan's outermost year and work their way forward as funding support allows. In addition, Carroll County annually accepts projects from the municipalities with four (4) towns typically receiving funding each year on a rotating basis. All recommendations are forwarded to the County Commissioners for their approval and projects are ultimately added to the department's capital improvement plan.

PROGRAM OPEN SPACE ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT

FISCAL YEAR 2024

Sponsor	Project Name, Project Description				Ac	Source of Funds for Annual Program Only			
	LPPRP GOAL		Existing	Ultimate	<u>Project</u>	<u>Total</u>	Local	State (POS Local Funds)	Federal
Carroll County	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Cape Horn Park Field Lighting Phase II - This project provides funding to add LED lighting fixtures at Cape Horn Park, located in Hampstead.	57.51	57.51	2.3 acres	\$188,889.00	\$18,889.00	\$170,000.00	N/A
Carroll County	2	Piney Run Park Paving - This project provides funding for 64,000 square feet of paving at the park entrance and north parking lot at Piney Run Park, located on Martz Road in Sykesville.	831.23	831.23	1 acre	\$355,000.00	\$35,500.00	\$319,500.00	N/A
Carroll County	2, 3, 5	Tot lot replacement/Salt Box Park – This project includes funding to replace the tot lot at Salt Box Park, located on Gillis Falls Road in Woodbine. This tot lot has exceeded its useful life and the project will include the purchase and installation of new play equipment and related amenities	118.48	118.48	.1 acre	\$92,000.00	\$9,200.00	\$82,800.00	N/A
Carroll County/Town of New Windsor	3, 4, 5	Atlee Ridge Walking Path Basketball Court- Create a 50 x 50 half court basketball court for Atlee Ridge Community.	15.46	15.46	.5 acre	\$78,000.00	\$7,800.00	\$70,200.00	N/A
Carroll County/Town of New Windsor	1, 3, 4, 5	New Windsor Skate Park Lighting- Enhance usefulness of the existing skate park by installing dark sky compliant LED lighting at key points along the perimeter of the park.			.5 acre	\$48,722.00	\$4,872.20	\$43,849.80	N/A
Carroll County/Town of New Windsor	1, 2, 3	Sulphur Springs Park Spring House Improvements- Replace the existing drainage pipe and inlet to allow water to flow away from the structure as one of several phases to restore the historical spot to a place of proud prominence for tourist.		.86	.1 acre	\$40,500.00	\$4,050.00	\$36,450.00	N/A
Carroll County/City of Taneytown	1, 2, 3, 5	Taneytown High School Park Field Lighting- To install 5 LED light poles with LED lights on two of the existing three softball fields at Taneytown High School Park.	6.86	6.86	2.5 acres	\$60,000.00	\$8,914.50	\$51,085.50	N/A
Carroll County/City of Taneytown		Taneytown Memorial Park Tot Lot Replacement- Removal & replacement of playground structure at the city's oldest & most used park. The new	57.33	57.33	.25 acres	\$110,925.00	\$11,092.50	\$99,832.50	N/A

		structure will integrate features to provide opportunities to children with and without disabilities.							
Carroll County/Town of Union Bridge	2, 3, 5	Union Bridge Community Center Improvements- This project will upgrade and repair the community center used for celebrations, tributes, and everything in between.	8.73	8.73	1 acre	\$167,686.00	\$16,768.60	\$150,918.00	N/A
Carroll County/ City of Westminster		Westminster City Park Improvements – renovation of City Park restroom facilities interior and exterior improvements, will not change public access but will certainly enhance the amenities available to the public.	5.54	5.54	.6 acres	\$170,000.00	\$19,082.00	\$150,918.00	N/A

2022 Carroll County LPPRP Goals:

Carroll County's goal for park and recreation is to provide affordable, coordinated, and comprehensive system of public and private parks, recreational facilities and programs, and open space that will enhance its communities. The department's stated mission is to connect people, parks, and programs in support of a strong, healthy community and natural environment. While most of the emphasis is placed on public facilities, the presence of privately owned facilities such as swimming pools and indoor sports arenas help to supplement public facilities, providing additional options to residents. Furthermore, recreation councils offer affordable programs such as indoor lacrosse and soccer that take place in private facilities using rented space.

Consistent with State goals, the County goals, policies, strategies, and funding emphasize providing recreational opportunities for all citizens while at the same time, directing most of the effort to provide these opportunities towards those which have the greatest population concentration. These are the county's designated growth areas, planning for which is done through individual comprehensive plans. Parks, recreational facilities, and open space are recognized in the goals of these plans, as well as those of the county Master Plan, as essential components of quality living environments, just as they are in the State goals. Accordingly, funding for recreational projects primarily is directed towards projects in these designated growth areas to fulfill the goals of the plans and serve the greatest number of people while also addressing needs identified by proximity and equity analysis.

In addition to the county goals stated above, several additional goals included in the department's most recent strategic plan related to this LPPRP and are included below:

- 1- Promote awareness and good stewardship of the environment through educational programs and "green" initiatives.
- 2- Maintain a vibrant park system by protecting and reinvesting in capital asset replacement that addresses life-cycle replacements of existing park infrastructure (pavilions, trails, playgrounds, parking areas, roofs, etc.)
- 3- Promote healthy, safe communities that are supported by well-rounded recreational opportunities.
- 4- Secure funding to complete development of currently owned parkland that is under or undeveloped to create additional amenities for public use and enjoyment.
- 5- Expand recreation and parks programs and facilities to meet current and future needs.

