



Charles County Government
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Maryland Department of Planning, Comprehensive Planning Unit
Maryland Department of Natural Resources/Program Open Space

FROM: Gregory Kernan, Chief, Parks and Grounds
Charles County Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism

RE: **ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT**
Charles County

DATE: June 30, 2016

Enclosed please find Charles County's **Annual Program Report for FY17**. Following your review, please contact me directly at 301-932-3472 should have further questions.

Thank you for your prompt attention.

ENCLOSURE

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FY17

ANNUAL REPORT - CHARLES COUNTY

Introduction

Charles County Government annually prepares a five-year Open Space/Park Acquisition and Development Plan. This Plan is designed to address solutions to citizen demand for outdoor recreational facilities. This five-year Plan consists of a park priority list developed from citizen input, public hearings, and meetings with recreation associations.

Charles County's Open Space priorities include: providing active and passive outdoor recreation opportunities for residents; preserving natural heritage areas; and protecting sensitive environmental components unique to the County.

The projects denoted within this Annual Report are consistent with the County's current Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). The LPPRP shows the demand for active recreational facilities and the increasing need to plan and develop such facilities, while remaining cognizant of the demand for more open space acquisition and recreational facilities throughout the County. Athletic playing fields and hiker/biker trails have not kept pace with the County's population growth, and more specifically, in the greater Waldorf and Bryans Road communities.

Charles County's Open Space Plan is compiled by the Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism. Priorities are determined by citizen input and are presented to the County Board of Commissioners for final approval. The Commissioners develop these priorities as result of staff recommendations, citizen input, and the fiscal impact of proposed projects.

Attached is Charles County's **Annual Program Report** for FY17.

Acquisition:

- Faulkner Park Access Point
- Popes Creek Acquisition Phase II

Development:

- Popes Creek Rail Trail Phase I
- Pinefield Park Improvements
 - ***Grant funding:***
 - Drone Recreational Park at the Pisgah Landfill
 - Friendship Farm Park
 - Waldorf Parkland

**Charles County
FY17 Annual Report**

ACQUISITION

**PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL REPORT - ACQUISITION
FISCAL YEAR 2017**

SPONSOR	Project	Acreage			Source of Funds			
		Existing	Goal	Project	Total	Local	State (POS) Local Funds	Federal
Charles County	Faulkner Park Access Point	220	894.38	6.38	\$40,900	-0-	\$40,900	-0-
Charles County	Popes Creek	220	894.38	668.00	\$5,500,000*	-0-	\$500,000	\$3,000,000

*Other Funding TBD: \$2,000,000

ACQUISITION FY17

Charles County Government

Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism

Project: Faulkner Park Access Point

Charles County has approved funding to acquire a three-mile abandoned railroad corridor for the purpose of developing a hiker/biker trail. While this property will afford our residents with a wonderful recreation facility, it does not have sufficient land for adequate parking and public access. The proposed Faulkner property is adjacent to the proposed Trail and represents a very valuable area for trailhead development. This 6.38-acre parcel would allow for public parking, event staging, and an area for interpretive displays. At present, this is the only trailhead option available to the County.

Acquisition of the Faulkner Park Access Point would be contingent upon purchase of the Popes Creek Trail property.

Total Acreage: 6.38

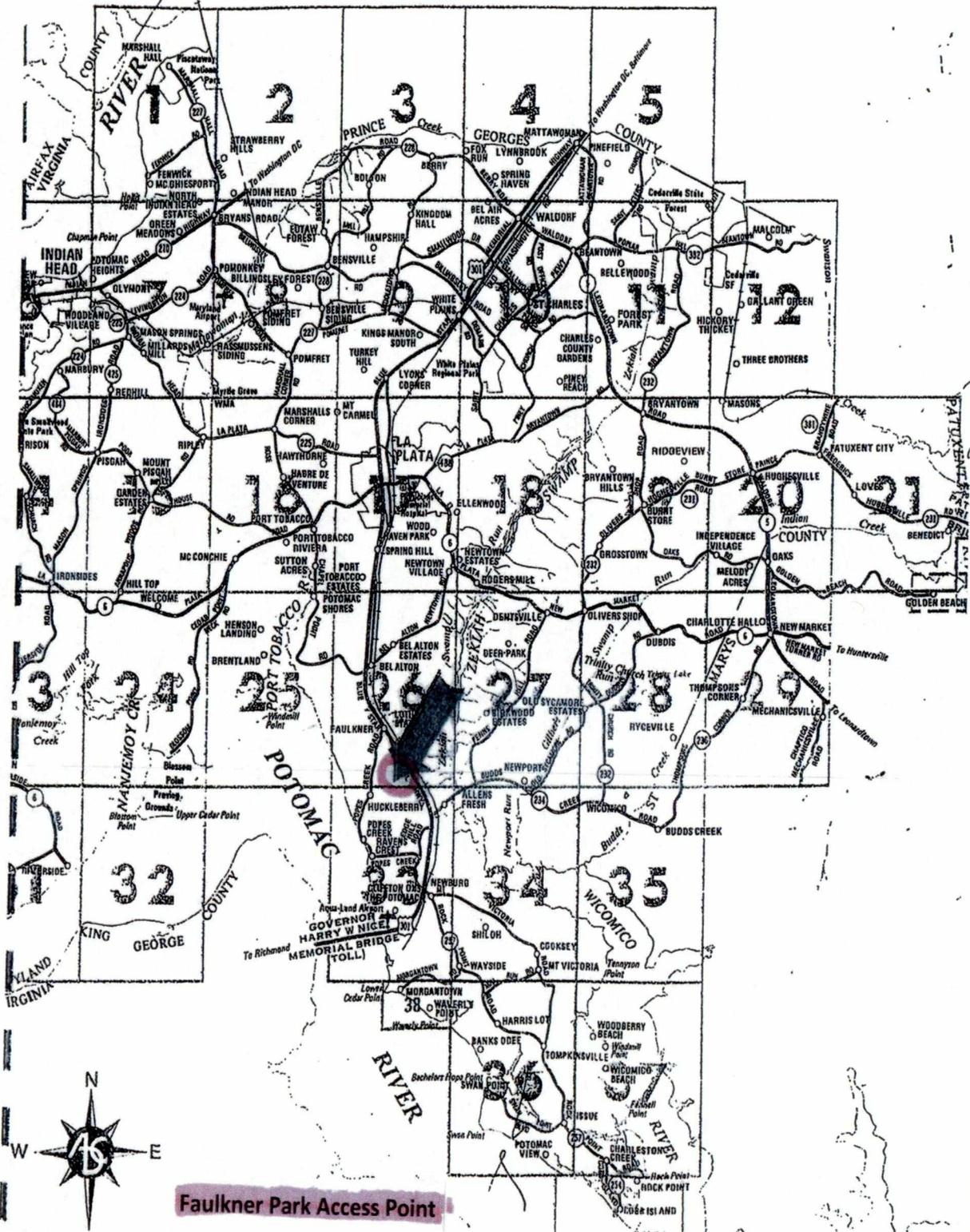
Total Project Cost: \$40,900

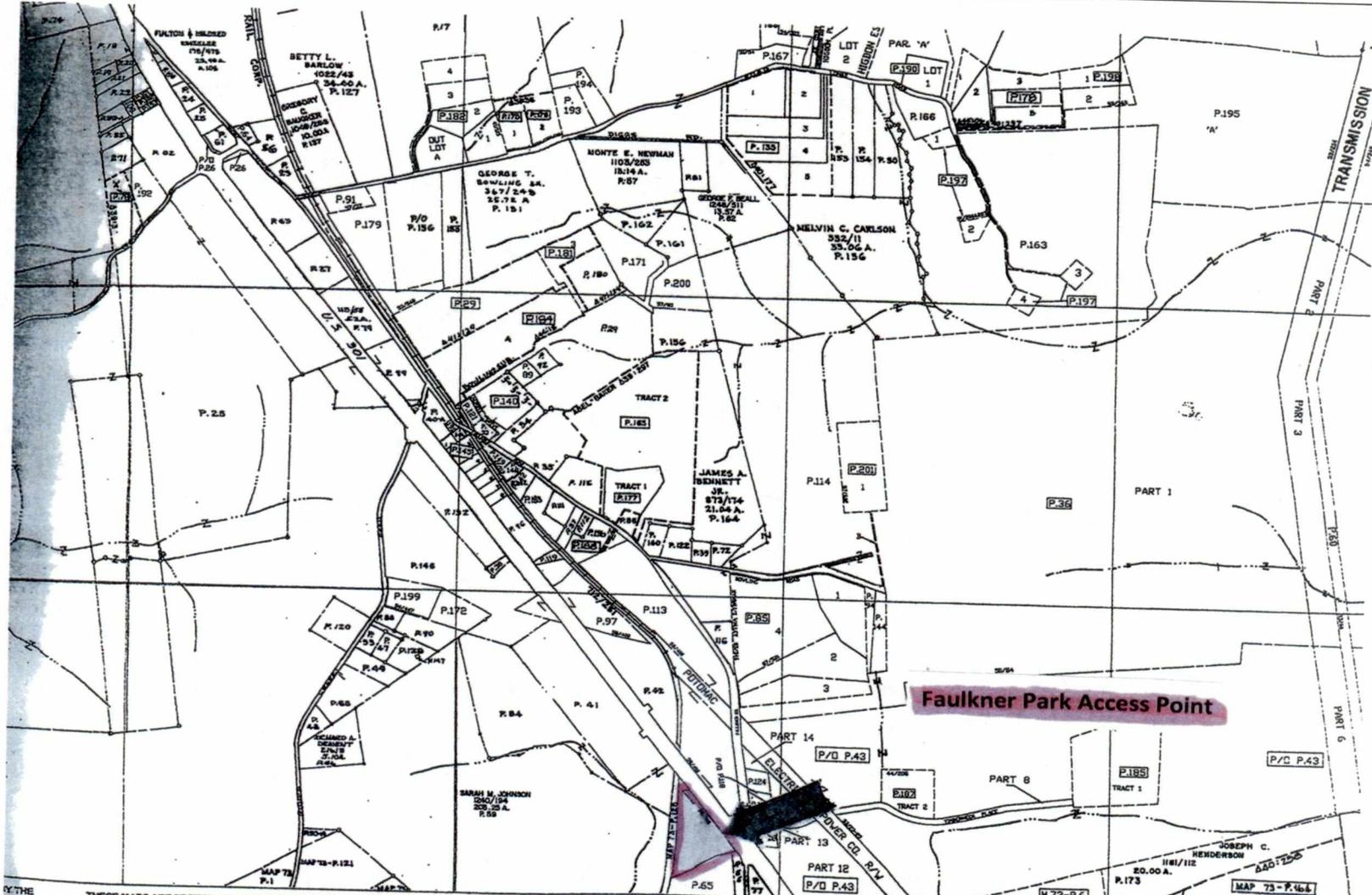
(Funding requested: 100% of POS allocation)

CHARLES CO. MD.

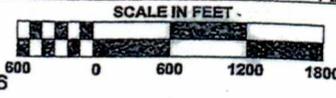
INDEX TO MAP SHEETS

For Additional Map Coverage See ADC's:
POTOMAC RIVER FISHING MAP, SOUTHEASTERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL MAP,
ST. MARYS COUNTY, MD STREET MAP, THE CHESAPEAKE BAY REGIONAL MAP,
WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE REGIONAL MAP





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COMPLIANT WITH
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
PROPERTY MAPPING SECTION

This information shown on this map has been compiled from deed documents and plans and is not an aerial survey. It should not be used for legal descriptions. Users using aerial imagery are urged to verify these 1:81,361 ft. Planon St. Baltimore, MD 21201-0286.

REVISIONS TO: 1. DATE: 11/11/12 USER: []

PROPERTY LINE
SUBDIVISION BOUNDARY
TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY
PRIVATE ROAD
STREET LINE

CONTAINING OVERLAP -
FALLS, RE-RENDERED - PARS SUBMITTED TO IDENTIFY OVERLAP. MUST BE PROVIDED BY A MAP REVISION.

SCALE 1"=800' (RP 1/12/06)

(LAYER NO.) QUANTITY-QUANTITIES (DATE OF PHOTO) USA 0102



R03

Faulkner Park Access Point

ACQUISITION FY17

Charles County Government

Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism

Project: Popes Creek Acquisition – Phase II

Charles County has acquired a three-mile abandoned railroad corridor for the purpose of developing a *Rails-to-Trails* hiker/biker facility. The Trail will be known as the Popes Creek Rail Trail.

The County has acquired additional adjacent land, which borders over 60% of our existing park property. The two (2) parcels consist of 668 acres of undeveloped land, serving as a natural buffer. This acquisition allows for the protection of 143 acres of coastal wetland, safeguards significant natural heritage areas, preserves cultural resources, and presents additional opportunities for expanded outdoor recreation.

Total Acreage: 668

Total Project Cost: \$500,000**

Local POS Share: \$3,000,000

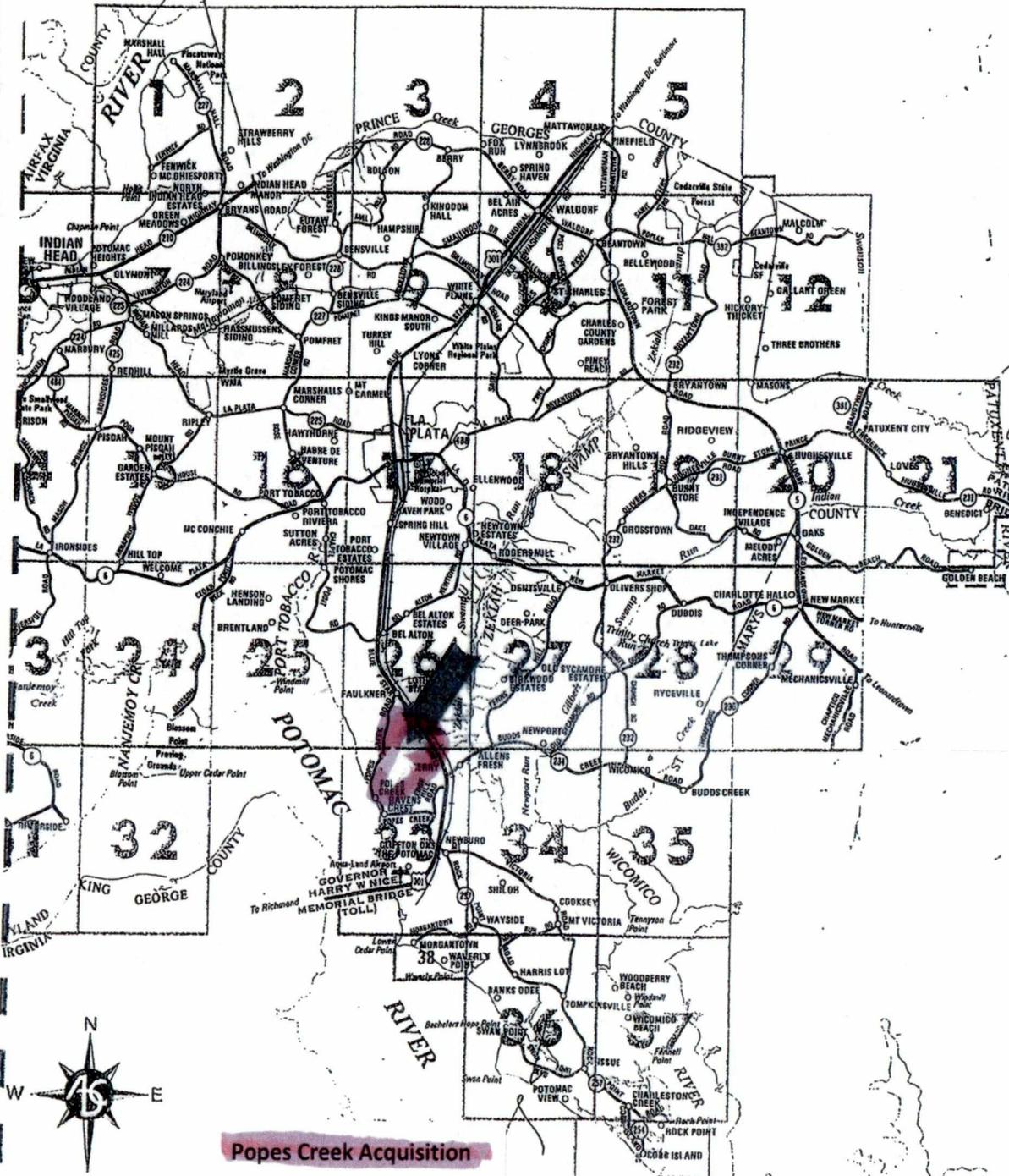
TBD: \$2,000,000

**\$519,419 encumbered from FY16 funding will be used to acquire additional property required to access the Popes Creek Rail Trail.

CHARLES CO. MD.

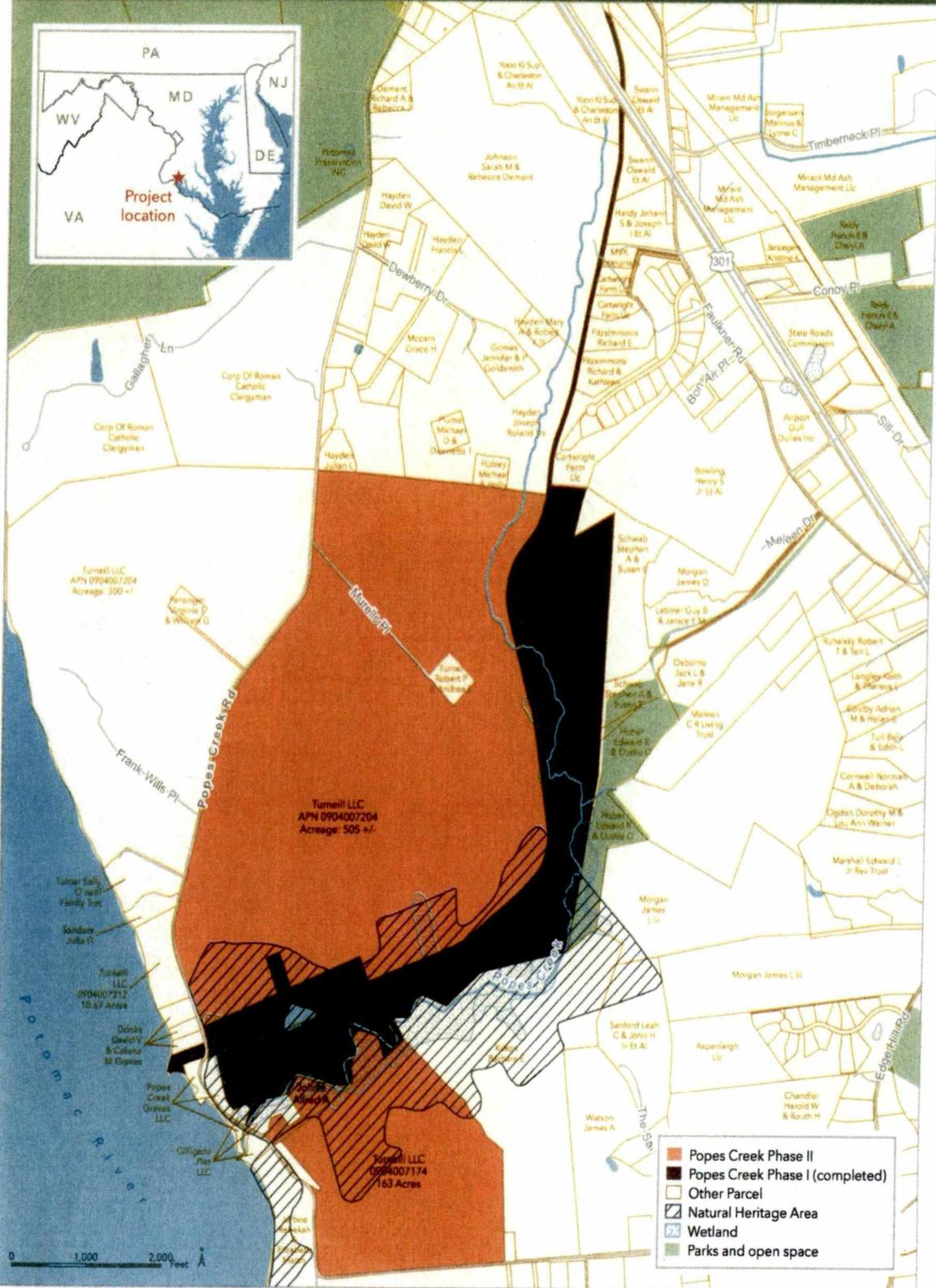
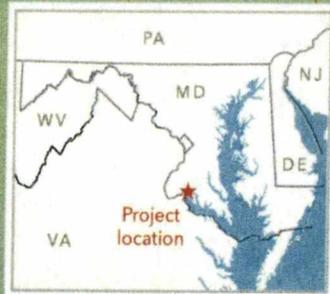
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WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE REGIONAL MAP



Popes Creek Rail Trail – Acquisition

POPES CREEK PHASE II
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND



- Popes Creek Phase II
- Popes Creek Phase I (completed)
- Other Parcel
- Natural Heritage Area
- Wetland
- Parks and open space



**Charles County
FY17 Annual Report**

DEVELOPMENT

**PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL REPORT - DEVELOPMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2017**

SPONSOR	Project	Acreage			Source of Funds			
		Existing	Goal	Project	Total	Local	State (POS) Local Funds	Federal
Charles County	Popes Creek Rail Trail - Phase II	220	220	220	\$440,000	\$240,000	\$200,000	-0-
Charles County	<u>Pinefield</u> Park Improvements	20	20	20	\$100,000	\$25,000	\$ 75,000	-0-

AP-20

DEVELOPMENT FY17

Charles County Government

Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism

Project: Popes Creek Rail Trail - Phase II

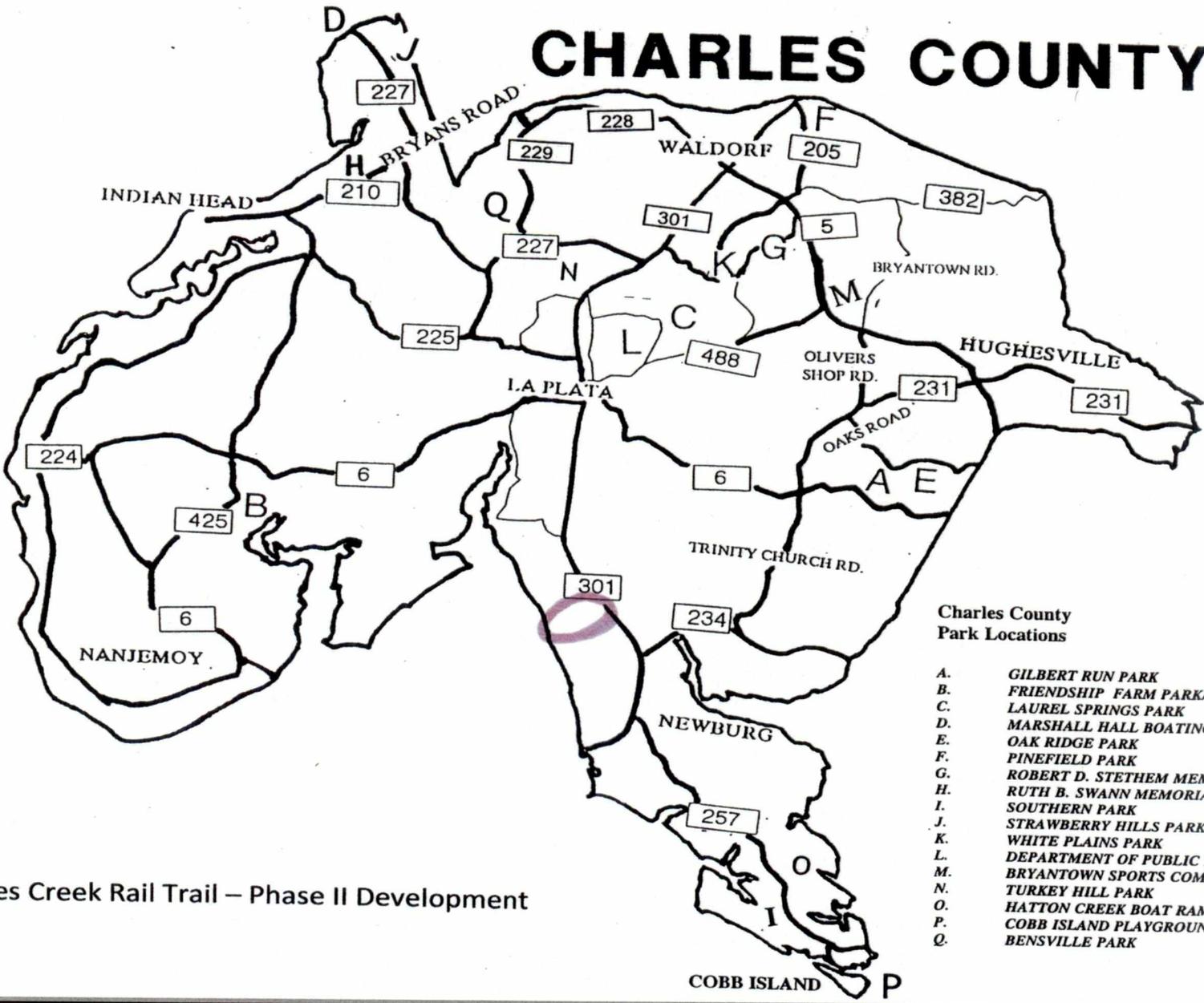
Charles County acquired 220 acres of parkland in Faulkner, Maryland, that included the abandoned Popes Creek Railroad corridor. Construction continues on what will be a 2.7 mile hiker/biker trail.

This Trail is being built on the Baltimore and Potomac Railroads' original bed, the Trail extending from Route 301 westward to the shoreline of the Potomac River. A combination of crushed stone and boardwalk, the Trail provides opportunities for hiking, cycling, bird and wildlife observation. The Popes Creek Rail Trail serves as a critical component of our regional tourism and economic development effort.

The Trail is a two-year project, now in the second year--Phase II. Additional funding is necessary in order to complete the Trail surface and associated Trail amenities.

Total Project Cost:	\$440,000
POS Share:	\$200,000
Local Share:	\$240,000

CHARLES COUNTY



**Charles County
Park Locations**

- A. GILBERT RUN PARK
- B. FRIENDSHIP FARM PARK/BOAT RAMP
- C. LAUREL SPRINGS PARK
- D. MARSHALL HALL BOATING FACILITY
- E. OAK RIDGE PARK
- F. PINEFIELD PARK
- G. ROBERT D. STETHEM MEMORIAL PARK
- H. RUTH B. SWANN MEMORIAL PARK
- I. SOUTHERN PARK
- J. STRAWBERRY HILLS PARK
- K. WHITE PLAINS PARK
- L. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES
- M. BRYANTOWN SPORTS COMPLEX
- N. TURKEY HILL PARK
- O. HATTON CREEK BOAT RAMP
- P. COBB ISLAND PLAYGROUND
- Q. BENSVILLE PARK

Popes Creek Rail Trail – Phase II Development

COBB ISLAND P

DEVELOPMENT FY17

Charles County Government

Department of Recreation, Parks and Tourism

Project: Pinefield Park Improvements

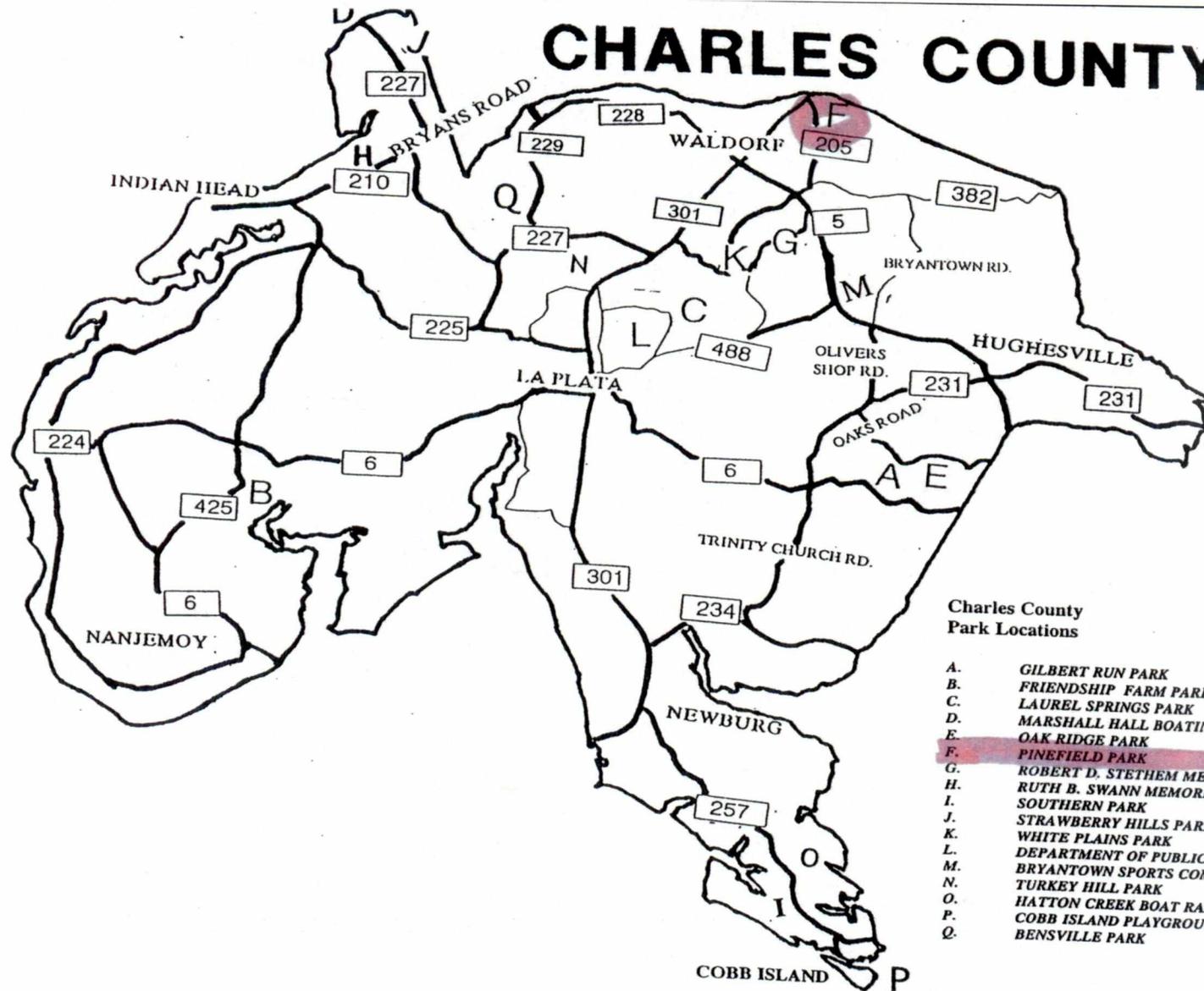
Funding is requested for upgrades and improvements at Pinefield Community Park, a 20-acre park located in Waldorf, Maryland. This is a 45-year old parcel that requires rehabilitation and enhancements in order to meet County Park standards. Improvements include: relocation of the basketball courts, rehabilitation of the two (2) baseball fields and one (1) soccer field, installation of a group picnic pavilion, general turf renovation and site enhancements.

This project will encourage increased park patronage, while addressing safety and aesthetic concerns, and community demands for improved recreational facilities.

Total Project Cost: \$100,000

(Funding requested: \$75,000 POS allocation matching \$25,000 local share)

CHARLES COUNTY



Charles County Park Locations

- A. GILBERT RUN PARK
- B. FRIENDSHIP FARM PARK/BOAT RAMP
- C. LAUREL SPRINGS PARK
- D. MARSHALL HALL BOATING FACILITY
- E. OAK RIDGE PARK
- F. PINEFIELD PARK
- G. ROBERT D. STETHEM MEMORIAL PARK
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- O. HATTON CREEK BOAT RAMP
- P. COBB ISLAND PLAYGROUND
- Q. BENSVILLE PARK



76°52'30" A B C D E F G H J 840,000 FT Joins Map 11 76°50'00" MD GRID 850,000 FT