



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Pamela Dunn, Senior Legislative Analyst
Purpose: preliminary decisions – straw vote expected
Keywords: #M-NCPPC, Parks, CIP

AGENDA ITEM 4
 May 6, 2020
Worksession

SUBJECT

FY21-26 Capital Improvements Program: Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Ballfield Initiatives Capital Project

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

Carl Morgan, CIP Manager, Park Development Division
 Casey Anderson, Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board
 Michael F. Riley, Director of Parks
 Mary Beck, Manager, Office of Management and Budget
 Brett Magellan, Fiscal & Policy Analyst, Office of Management and Budget

FISCAL SUMMARY

FY21-26 (amended) versus Amended FY19-24 Expenditures (in 000's)

	Six-Year Total	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
FY19-24 Amended	243,720	42,610	59,405	39,899	33,340	36,885	31,741		
FY21-26 Agency Request (Amended)	255,108			46,575	62,098	37,451	37,054	36,635	35,295
change from FY 19-24 amended	11,388 4.7%			6,676	28,758	566	5,313		
FY21-26 CE Rec (Amended)	232,575			41,492	57,404	35,255	34,128	32,768	31,528
change from FY 19-24 amended (\$,%)	(11,145) -4.6%			1,593	24,064	(1,630)	2,387		
change from Agency Req (\$,%)	(22,533) -8.8%			(5,083)	(4,694)	(2,196)	(2,926)	(3,867)	(3,767)

- On March 16, 2020, the County Executive (CE) recommended \$1.2 million in Current Revenue: Community Use of Public Facilities (CUPF) Fund for athletic field renovations at school sites; \$600,000 in FY21 and FY22, respectively.
- In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, on April 22, 2020, the CE recommended deferring any decision on whether to fund ballfield renovations from the CUPF fund balance until the full effect of the extreme social distancing on CUPF’s budget is known.
- On April 23, during its review of the CE recommended amendments to the FY21-26 CIP for M-NCPPC, the Council decided to defer any decision on ballfield funding until after its review of the CUPF operating budget.
- The CUPF operating budget worksession immediately precedes this item; the Council’s Legislative Analyst for the CUPF budget concurs with the County Executive’s April 22 recommendation.

Council Staff Recommendation: To avoid delay in renovations, fund the Ballfield Initiatives capital project \$600,000 in both FY21 and FY22 through GO Bonds, evaluating the level and source of funding at the next biennial CIP.

This report contains:

Staff Report

Pages from the Eighth Report of the Infrastructure Maintenance Task Force

Pages 1-2

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MEMORANDUM

May 4, 2020

TO: County Council

FROM: Pamela Dunn, Senior Legislative Analyst

SUBJECT: **M-NCPPC FY21-26 Capital Improvements Program (CIP)**

PURPOSE: Worksession: Amendment to the FY21-26 CIP: Ballfield Initiatives Capital Project

On March 16, 2020, the County Executive (CE) recommended \$1.2 million in Current Revenue: Community Use of Public Facilities (CUPF) Fund for athletic field renovations at school sites, \$600,000 in FY21 and FY22 respectively in the Ballfield Initiatives (P008720) capital project. Then, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, on April 22, 2020 the CE recommended deferring any decision on whether to fund ballfield renovations from the CUPF fund balance until the full effect of the extreme social distancing on CUPF's budget is known.

On April 23, during its review of the CE recommended amendments to the FY21-26 CIP for M-NCPPC, the Council decided to defer any decision on funding the Ballfield Initiatives capital project until after its review of the CUPF operating budget. The Council's worksession on the CUPF operating budget occurs immediately prior to this agenda item.

Background

The ambitious program to increase the availability and improve the condition of athletic fields at both school and park properties began in FY 2000, due to the growth in sports league participation that was outpacing the capacity of public athletic fields. An interagency group of stakeholders was formed and recommended that the Parks Department take the lead in renovating and maintaining MCPS fields due to its expertise. Nearly \$3 million was spent during FY 2000-2003 renovating athletic fields at parks and schools for the purpose of adding capacity and improving the quality of playing fields.

The program for renovating school fields went into hiatus after this initial surge due to lack of funding as a result of the recession. The program to renovate school fields resumed in FY17, with \$1.25 million from FY17-FY19 in CUPF enterprise funds being transferred to the Parks CIP. At the December 9 joint

PHED/E&C briefing, Parks recommended a plan¹ to renovate all remaining MCPS school fields that have not previously been improved. The joint committee indicated strong support to implement the plan.

Funding the Ballfield Initiatives Capital Project

As noted above, the Parks Department requested CIP includes \$600,000 per year over the next four years to complete renovations at the remaining schools, with the CUPF enterprise fund balance as the funding source. Ms. Yao, Legislative Analyst for the CUPF budget, concurs with the Executive’s recommendation to defer the use of CUPF funds until the full impact of the COVID-19-related restrictions is known. She notes it appears unlikely that operations will resume normally by May 25 given that the County has not reached the peak in COVID-19 infections, and it seems likely that CUPF revenue will be lower than originally projected as some COVID restrictions will likely continue even as services and facilities reopen.

Not knowing the Council’s intent with respect to the CUPF budget at the writing of this report, below are options the Council may want to consider:

1. Concur with the CE and delay use of CUPF funds for the renovation of school ballfields until the full impact of COVID-19 restrictions is known. This ensures no potential overcommitment of the CUPF fund; however, the financial impact of COVID-19 may not be fully known for several months. This could result in delaying renovations for a full year and may ultimately result in the need to shift to another funding source.
2. Fund the Ballfield Initiatives capital project through GO Bonds. This would allow the project to proceed without delay and could be approved as follows:
 - a. fund at \$600,000 a year FY21-FY24 as requested by Parks;
 - b. fund \$600,000 in both FY21 and FY22 as initially recommended by the CE; or
 - c. fund at a lower amount for FY21-FY22 or FY21-24.
3. Delay funding of the Ballfield Initiatives project until the next CIP. This would significantly delay field renovations at the remaining elementary schools. These schools are located primarily in the eastern portion of the County, with a handful located in Gaithersburg, Rockville, and Germantown.

Council Staff Recommendation: To avoid delay in renovations, fund the Ballfield Initiatives capital project \$600,000 in both FY21 and FY22 through GO Bonds, evaluating the level and source of funding at the next biennial CIP. While there are many competing needs for GO Bond funds, the Council has consistently voiced its support for the renovation of school fields. The Eighth Report of the Infrastructure Maintenance Task Force (February 2020) lists a \$25 million backlog in ballfield renovation and maintenance. The remaining elementary school fields needing renovation are primarily in districts with lower than average median incomes and higher proportions of minority residents. As the lingering impact of COVID-19 may require limited use of indoor facilities, the pressure on outdoor areas for recreation will likely increase – further hastening the need for safe, quality athletic fields.

¹ The order of the remaining schools was determined through several criteria, including an equity lens that considered both percent area median household income and predominant race and ethnicity. The six schools proposed for renovation in FY21 are: Oak View ES in Long Branch, Harmony Hills ES in Aspen Hill, Stedwick ES in Montgomery Village, Rock Terrace ES in Rockville, Highland ES in Wheaton, and College Gardens ES in Rockville.

1	Capital Project	Major Element	Notes	Acceptable Life Span (Years)	Inventory	Units	How much/many should be replaced annually	Average Cost	Acceptable Annual Replacement Cost	CIP			Backlog	Credibility Rating	
										FY20 Approved	FY21 Request	Future Funding Level			
135	PLAR: Park Buildings: Local & Non-Local	HVAC	Chillers	25	25	each	1	\$15,795	\$15,795	\$2,985	\$4,478	\$4,254		5	
136		HVAC	Distribution System	30	725,000	sf	24,167	\$18	\$432,613	\$81,759	\$122,639	\$116,507		5	
137		HVAC	Boilers	25	40	each	2	\$78,975	\$157,950	\$29,851	\$44,776	\$42,537		5	
138		HVAC	Package DX Units	20	80	each	4	\$31,590	\$126,360	\$23,881	\$35,821	\$34,030		5	
139	Subtotal: PLAR: Park Buildings								\$3,174,783	\$600,000	\$900,000	\$855,000	\$15,448,701	4	
140	PLAR: Minor Renovations	Pedestrian Bridges	Work may include replacement of bridge, abutments, and footings	25	395	each	5	\$200,000	\$1,000,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$3,600,000	4	
141	Subtotal: PLAR: Miscellaneous Minor Renovations: Non-Local		Includes maintenance costs related to park amenities not included in this list.						\$1,600,000	\$1,764,000	\$2,600,000	\$2,600,000	\$18,434,000		
142	PLAR LP: Resurfacing Lots and Paths	Resurfacing of Parking Lots, Roads and Paths	Life cycle replacement includes milling, patching and resurfacing	25	11,907,374	sf	476,295	\$3	\$1,428,885	\$800,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,393,000	\$3,773,310	3	
143	Trails - Hard Surface Renovation	Boardwalk & Pavement		25	83	mi	3.3	\$200,000	\$660,000	\$450,000	\$550,000	\$700,000	\$1,260,000	3	
144	Ballfield Initiatives: Diamond Fields	Backstops	Replace backstop, fencing, and benches	25	181	fields	7.2	\$32,000	\$230,400	\$54,206	\$92,710	\$102,572		3	
145		Infields	Reconstruction including grading and new infield soil	10	181	infields	18	\$28,000	\$504,000	\$135,514	\$231,774	\$256,431		3	
146		Turf	Replacement, spot grading, improving root zone soil and drainage, re-seeding or sodding	10	181	fields	18	\$38,000	\$684,000	\$254,088	\$434,576	\$480,808		4	
147		Bleachers	Replacement		25	118	bleachers	4.7	\$14,000	\$65,800	\$33,878	\$57,944	\$64,108		3
148		Lights (Baseball)	Replacement		30	13	light systems	0.4	\$145,000	\$58,000	\$20,468	\$35,008	\$38,732		3
149		Lights (Softball)	Replacement		30	45	light systems	1.5	\$125,000	\$187,500	\$82,343	\$140,835	\$155,817		3
150	Lights (rectangle)	Replacement		30	36	light systems	1.2	\$95,000	\$114,000	\$53,641	\$91,744	\$101,504		3	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	Capital Project	Major Element	Notes	Acceptable Life Span (Years)	Inventory	Units	How much/many should be replaced annually	Average Cost	Acceptable Annual Replacement Cost	CIP			Backlog	Criticality Rating
2										FY20 Approved	FY21 Request	Future Funding Level		
151	Ballfield Initiatives: Rectangle Fields	Turf	Replacement; re-crown; spot grading, improving root zone soil and drainage, re-seeding or sodding	10	161	fields	16	\$125,000	\$2,000,000	\$529,351	\$905,367	\$1,001,683		4
152		Turf	Renovation, overseeding and aeration	3	161	fields	54	\$34,000	\$1,836,000	\$188,214	\$321,908	\$356,154		4
153		Perimeter fencing	Replacement	25	16	fields	1	\$81,000	\$81,000	\$9,909	\$16,948	\$18,752		2
154		Bleachers	Replacement	25	16	bleachers	1	\$32,500	\$32,500	\$12,387	\$21,186	\$23,439		3
155		TOTAL EXPENDITURES (Note: The Ballfield Initiatives PDF funds renovations to park athletic fields renovations, some school renovations, as well as funding improvements that add field capacity such as field lighting and synthetic turf. The breakdown between renovation and new construction is approximately 50% / 50% over the six-year program.								\$5,793,200	\$1,374,000	\$2,350,000	\$2,600,000	\$25,515,200