



FY 2018 Community Matching Fund

Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

Park & Recreation Commission Public Hearing
May 18, 2017

Background

- RPCA established the Community Matching Fund with the approval of the FY 2017-FY 2026 Capital Improvement Budget.
- The Fund is part of RPCA's PARKnership Program, a program that oversees partnerships for the development, design, construction and operation of recreational and park facilities and/or programs.
- The Fund promotes collaborative partnerships among City of Alexandria community organizations by providing matching 1:1 dollars for groups that propose fundraising for park and recreation improvement projects.

Process

- In FY18, there are a total of \$100,000 City matching funds. RPCA will give 1:1 matching award in an amount up to \$25,000, which allows a minimum of four selected proposals. Awards may vary given in any amount between \$5,000 (for project totals of \$10,000) to \$25,000 (for project totals for \$50,000).
- Any community group that lives and/or works in the City of Alexandria can apply for the matching fund. Proposals must show that the project will:
 - Provide a public benefit, free and open to all members of the public;
 - Be located on City owned parks property or recreational facility;
 - Emphasize self-help, with project ideas initiated, planned and implemented by the neighbors and community members impacted by the project; and
 - Demonstrate the ability to raise the community match within one year.

Public Hearing Process

- Applications accepted March 1 through April 30.
- We received five applications that qualify. Senior Management reviewed the applications and sent follow up questions to the applicants, as attached. At the PRC meeting, Staff will present the proposed projects in the following order:
 - Compost Alex – Community Composting Sites (request \$12,000 City match)
 - TC Williams High School Softball Boosters – Witter Field Upgrades (request for \$15,000 City match)
 - Alexandria Little League – Brenman Field Upgrades (request \$25,000 City match)
 - Del Ray Gateway – Nancy Dunning Garden (request \$25,000 City match)
 - Del Ray Gateway – Colasanto Pool (request \$25,000 City match)

Note: if all projects awarded as asked the total would be \$102,000

- Applicants and the public will have an opportunity to speak and answer questions from the Commission after each presentation.
- RPCA will also take written comments by email at dana.wedeles@alexandriava.gov until June 1, 2017.
- Senior staff will make final recommendations to the Park and Recreation Commission members and announce the awards at the June 15, 2017 meeting.

Compost Processing Centers

- **Applicant:** Compost Alex
- **Project Description:**
 - This project will construct pilot processing sites that can process food waste material locally. These sites also act as a demonstration of the community's ability to properly compost food waste. As the number of Food Waste drop-off contributors continues to grow, they will be better informed and able to be involved in the community composting system that they directly influence.
 - Compost Alex suggests multiple City locations to consider including Chinquapin, Four Mile, and Hensley.
 - Site would be managed by Compost Alex and the manager of the existing Hammond compost site.

Hammond's Compost and Worm site:



Total Project Cost: \$26,000

Proposed City Contribution:
\$12,000

Staff Consideration: City staff recommend awarding \$12,000 and find one location on the east end and one on west end, preferably near farmer's markets.

Witter Softball Field Upgrades

- **Applicant:** TC Williams High School Softball Boosters
- **Project Description:** Enhance Witter fields to respond to growing softball program and site use. Enhancements include (shown in priority order):
 - **Dugout gutters (\$2,500)** – Redirect rain water so it does not go directly behind dugout benches (where players store equipment and bags).
 - **Press box (\$35,000)** - This structure will also provide protection for sound equipment and scoreboard controller when it rains as well as provide a sound structure where players can shelter if severe weather moves in.
 - **Permanent fencing for bullpens (\$3,500)** - Construct permanent fencing at the pitching warm-up areas, which are located outside the main playing field and are used during practice and before and during games. Currently, there is temporary netting in place.
 - **Bleacher canopies (\$8,000)** – To provide shade, similar to ones found at Barcroft park in Arlington.
 - **Dugout fencing (\$4,000)** - This will extend the fencing to the height of the back dugout and add wind screening, increasing safety and team cohesiveness during games.

Witter Softball Field Upgrades

- **Total Project Cost: \$55,000**
- **Proposed City Contribution: \$15,000**
- **Staff Consideration:**
 - City staff recommends approval but does not believe \$55,000 will cover all expenses, particularly for the press box. Staff would recommend bidding out the project with an understanding that some, but not all of the projects, would move ahead at this time based on cost.
 - Some of the projects will be subject to site plan approval, but staff would work with the applicant through the process.

Ben Brenman Ballfield Enhancements

- **Applicant:** Alexandria Little League
- **Project Description:**
 - The project includes the construction of a new scoreboard and the addition of a linear split batting cage on the first base side of the diamond outside of the fields fence line. Currently Alexandria Little league has access to only one City owned field with a scoreboard and working batting cages. In 2016, ALL purchased a new scoreboard for the Little Simpson Baseball Park and had it installed at its own expense.
- **Total Project Cost:** \$50,000
- **Proposed City Contribution:** \$25,000
- **Staff Consideration:** City staff recommend awarding \$25,000, contingent upon acquiring all City permits for a scoreboard and batting cage.

Nancy Dunning Garden

- **Applicant:** Del Ray Gateway Project/Patty Moran
- **Project Description:**
 - The Nancy Dunning Garden, located at the corner of Mt. Vernon and Commonwealth Avenues, would be a place for peace and reflection amidst the bustle and prosperity of the neighborhood.
 - Group intends to fundraise for full project build out of site, as shown.
 - The funds from the Community Matching Fund would be used to purchase the following:
 - 9 park benches @ \$2,700/ each - \$24,300
 - 1 Little Library - \$700



Long-term total project cost: \$418,452
Proposed Community Matching Fund Contribution: \$25,000

Staff Consideration: City match contribution of \$24,000 be awarded for \$48,000 in interim improvements. Funding is contingent on the group providing an interim plan which would include site furnishings and landscape improvements to activate the site, but not preclude subsequent phases.

Colasanto Sprayground

- **Applicant:** Del Ray Gateway Project/Nancy Lee-Reeves
- **Project Description:**
 - The old Colasanto Pool has been closed since 2010. Since then, the pool has remained a visual eyesore and dead space at the intersection that welcomes people into Del Ray. There is currently \$450k in the FY18-27 CIP to demolish the pool in FY 2022 with the intention of turning it into a spray park.
 - The group, working with Cole & Denny Architects, completed a conceptual design for the spray park. They propose community match funds to pay for the following items which are part of the conceptual design and outreach. These items would remain on the site after the spray ground conversion is complete.
 - \$9,000 for bike racks
 - \$4,000 trash can
 - \$1,000 for gates
 - \$1,000 for banners/signs for the spray park
 - \$9,250 for fence
 - \$750 for tree
 - **Total \$25,000**



LPDA

Cole&DennyArchitects

Long-term total project cost: \$900,000

Proposed Community Matching Fund

Contribution: \$25,000

Staff Consideration: City match contribution of \$24,000 be awarded for \$48,000 in interim improvements. Funding is contingent on the group providing an interim plan which would include site furnishings and landscape improvements to activate the site, but not preclude subsequent phases.



Questions?