



DEPARTMENT OF  
RECREATION AND PARKS

*Arthur Shepherd, Director*

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Mike Alderson, Jr., Commissioner  
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Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner  
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December 12, 2022

Monthly Status Report for November 2022

**ADMINISTRATION – PARK & FACILITY DEVELOPMENT**

**CHAPTICO PARK PHASED DEVELOPMENT**

This project (RP1704) proposes to continue development of park facilities at Chaptico Park per the master plan adopted by the CSMC in 2002. Additional recreational amenities include: basketball courts, picnic areas and shelters, parking, one baseball field and one softball field. The award was made to A. Morton Thomas on May 17, 2017, and the post award/kick-off meeting and site visit was held on May 31, 2017. Due to constraints with surveying the densely wooded property, the contractor has asked to be allowed to begin work in December 2017. A change order reflecting the new delivery date was processed. The project's timeline was discussed during the budget work session of February 6, 2018. Following discussion, project construction funding is indicated in FY2021.

A multi-purpose game field project was proposed for Chaptico Park, in lieu of the original project scope, during the December 4, 2018, CIP Budget Work Session.

On February 12, 2019, the CSMC revised the Chaptico Park Phased Development project to multi-purpose synthetic fields with lighting at Chaptico, Lancaster and Chancellors Run Parks and to be included in the FY2020 CIP. This project was approved in the FY2020 CSMC Budget.

A contract has been awarded to Field Turf for the synthetic turf field. The site plans were submitted to LUGM on December 9, 2019. Once the storm water comments and approvals have been addressed and permits received construction will begin. A synthetic turf field will also be installed at Chancellors Run Regional Park and Lancaster Park. The project received approval from Soil Conservation District on March 13, 2020, and Department of Public Works and Transportation on March 19, 2020. An approved Notice of Intent was received MD Department of Environment and construction began at all three sites during the month of April. Estimated date of completion is June 15<sup>th</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup> at each of the sites. The field turf installation was completed at each of the sites: CRRP & Chaptico – June 15<sup>th</sup> and Lancaster – June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Three (3) additional fields are funded in FY21. The Park locations indicated in the budget are Chancellors Run Regional Park field #2; Chaptico Park field #2; and Lancaster Park field #7. Plans have been submitted to LUGM, DPW&T and Soil Conservation. Cost quotes have been received from Field Turf.

Approval from Soil Conservation has been obtained and Notice of Interest regarding Storm Water Activity has been submitted to MDE. Construction should begin the second week of January. Grading Permits were received, and construction has begun at Chancellors Run Regional Park and Lancaster Park. The athletic

field lights have been installed at Chaptico Park.

**Program Space Funds have been allocated for the construction of a new restroom adjacent to the turf fields.** A perc test has been scheduled for March 9<sup>th</sup>. A perc test was passed on March 22, 2022. Initial storm water, site development and building plans were submitted to LUGM May 26<sup>th</sup>. Comments have been received and staff is awaiting updated plans from Little Silences Rest. The last review for permitting is being prepared at Soil Conservation.

**The grading permit has been received. A purchase order has been processed to Centennial to provide construction. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 12<sup>th</sup>. Construction has begun with the installation of the block walls and roof.**

### **ELMS BEACH PARK IMPROVEMENTS**

Project RP1601 includes master planning for improvements at Elms Beach Park. Items needed at this waterfront park located on the Chesapeake Bay include additional/improved parking, public restrooms, and picnic areas. The draft plan was approved by the Elms Advisory Committee on April 24, 2017; the plan was approved by the R&P Board on June 29<sup>th</sup>. The final draft plan was approved by the CSMC on August 29, 2017, subject to sufficient appropriations. Staff asked State representatives if the lease could be extended (possibly by another 15 years); response received was “Conceptually, it would be feasible, but there would be a number of approvals involved at our end, and it might take a while.” The CSMC sent a letter to the State on October 17<sup>th</sup> making the formal request to extend the lease to May 31, 2044. The request is under review by DNR (follow up emails were sent on January 5<sup>th</sup>, February 20<sup>th</sup>, April 5<sup>th</sup>, May 8<sup>th</sup>, and July 5, 2018). **A fifteen (15) year lease extension through 2044 was signed by Commissioner President Guy on January 8, 2019. Design and Engineering funding will be utilized in Spring of 2022 to solicit and select a design firm.**

**A draft scope of work is complete and the MD Parks Service Project Information form has been sent to DNR. The solicitation for design and engineering has been posted..**

### **LEONARDTOWN PARK**

This project (RP1202) calls for the construction of a community park on the former Hayden Farm property in Leonardtown. The construction funding for the park project is now programmed for FY2020. All required reports and testing are done on the areas originally outlined for park development. Following discussion on December 4, 2019, budget work session, construction funding is indicated in FY2021.

The CSMC removed the Leonardtown Park project from the CIP during the February 26, 2019, budget work session.

**R&P Program Open Space funding in the amount of \$125,000 is being utilized as a funding source for the pickle ball courts at the Garvey Center.**

### **LEXINGTON MANOR NORTH PARCEL PLANNING**

County staff, Community Development Corporation (CDC) staff, and Unified Committee for Afro-American Contributions (UCAC) representatives have been meeting to discuss improvements such as completing bicycle trails and pedestrian walkways on the former Lexington Manor property in Lexington Park. Local Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) staff, with stakeholders from the UCAC, CDC & R&P staff, conducted research on the availability of funding to cover master planning efforts at the site (through the Unified Planning Work Program).

The CSMC, on October 16, 2018, indicated their satisfaction with the planning to date and looks forward to a formal plan of action in February/March.

Funds are proposed in the FY20 CIP Plan to provide upgrades to the Passive Park concept. (FY20- \$350k FY21- \$250k)

The Landscape Architect firm Lardner Klein was awarded the Master Plan design for the property, funded through the CS-MPO. The first public input meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 21, 2019, during the R&P Advisory Board meeting.

The Master Plan was reviewed with the CSMC on Tuesday June 11<sup>th</sup>. Comments from the commissioners were made regarding lighting, a public restroom on site and partnering with a non-government organization to from stewardship of the environment at the site.

The Lexington Manor Passive Park Master Plan was approved by the CSMC on July 9<sup>th</sup>. An onsite visit with staff from Wallace Montgomery (WM) was scheduled for August 2<sup>nd</sup>. They were awarded the contract for storm water management design and permitting. A preliminary demo and site plan have been submitted to R&P. A meeting was held with WM staff and County staff for October 31, 2019, to discuss the permit submittal process. The scope of work was extended with WM for design of a public restroom on site. The submittal for plans reviews and permits was made by WM on Friday February 7, 2020. As of June 30, 2020, the plans are still in the review process.

The director of R&P has signed the grading permit application. Dead trees have been removed in the disc golf area and design for renovating the course is underway. The director held an on-site stakeholder meeting at the Lexington Manor Passive Park (LMPP) on Thursday September 24, 2020. The majority of stakeholders were in attendance. Cost quotes have been received from the contractor for demolition and asphalt work. Weather permitting, construction is scheduled to begin the week of January 18, 2021.

Improvements have been made to the disc golf course. Two (2) new holes have been designed and dead trees have been removed. Sixteen (16) new concrete tee pads will be installed later this spring as well as three (3) new foot bridges. Replacement of the chain link fence on the Rt 235 portion of the course is also scheduled.

Construction began on the street improvements on the northern parcel. Concrete sidewalks, curbing and storm drainage have been removed.

Completed portions as of October 31, 2021

- On site SWM
- Demolition and asphalt overlay on streets
- New Entrance on East Rennell and Rt 235
- New parking lot lights installed
- 3 phase electric installed with electric service for Arts Park, restroom, and streetlights
- Restroom 90% complete
- Disc golf course improvements
- Removable bollards installed
- Exercise and play equipment funded through recent POS funding source have been installed.
- Asphalt overlay within the disc golf area is complete.
- Partnerships are being strengthened regarding the Community Gardens and Arts Park designated for completion in Spring 2023.
- **SMECO installed street lights on Coral and E Rennell in November**
- **Areas for food trucks have been installed**
- **The pavilion installation has been scheduled for December 12, 2022**

## **MONITORING FY2019 NON-PROFIT COUNTY GRANTS**

**Non-profits with R&P Department oversight (9):** Unified Committee on Afro-American Contributions (UCAC); Seventh District Optimist; SMC Arts Council; Historic Sotterley; Summerseat Farms; Rotary Club of Lexington Park; SMC River Concert Series; and Historic St. Mary's City Foundation. The St. Mary's Historical Society was added to R&P oversight by the CSMC on October 2, 2018. The UCAC was not recommended for funding during the original budget submittal process. UCAC representatives appealed the decision during the April 23<sup>rd</sup> Budget Hearing.

Funding for the UCAC in the amount of \$4,000 was approved on May 21, 2019.

### **Monitoring FY19 Monitoring has been completed**

Greater than \$25,000 Historic Sotterley & Historic St. Mary's City

1 site visits scheduled for February 2020

Less than \$25,000 UCAC, Seventh District Optimist, SMC Arts Council, Summerseat Farms, Rotary Club of Lexington Park, SMC River Concert Series

1<sup>st</sup> site visits scheduled for February/March 2020

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic site visits have not been completed

FY21 1<sup>st</sup> payments or final payments (due to level of funding) were made to 7<sup>th</sup> District Optimist, Historic Sotterley, Historic St. Mary's City Foundation, St. Mary's Arts Council, St. Mary's College of Maryland, Summerseat Farms, Unified Committee for Afro Americans (UCAC), and SOMD Community Resources. The UCAC returned the funding due to the 2020 Juneteenth event being cancelled.

An email was sent to on October 21<sup>st</sup> to each of the (9) non-profit organizations requesting information regarding their use of funds during this COVID 19 pandemic period.

**The departments received thirteen (13) applications for funding. R&P staff will review and submit to Finance no later than Friday February 25, 2022. The scoring was completed and submitted within the February 25<sup>th</sup> deadline. Staff reviewed the FY2024 guidelines in October 2022.**

## **MYRTLE POINT PARK INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL PLAN**

A multi-phase invasive plant removal plan was developed for Myrtle Point Park by Straughan Environmental of Columbia, Maryland. The scope of work for the vine removal work was completed, as was the scope of work to hire a project manager. The work is now anticipated in spring 2018, as the project should be undertaken when leaves are on the vines. A contract modification was issued to Straughan Environmental on February 1<sup>st</sup> for project management administration for the invasive plant removal project. A purchase order was issued to the County's landscape contractor for the work to remove the vines and work began on June 11<sup>th</sup> and a Special Projects Facebook page was added for citizen updates. The project is now nearly complete; a rapid response and early detection plan (RREDP) will be put in place to help keep the invasive vines from the trails. Funding for this project comes from the Critical Area Planting project which is administered by the Department of Land Use and Growth Management (LU&GM).

Design and engineering for park improvements was approved in the CSMC FY2020 Budget on May 21, 2019. The CSMC approved the plan for temporary parking at the site during their regular meeting on February 4, 2020. The approved funding amount is \$60,000. Trail signs were constructed and installed at the MPP as an Eagle Scout project. They are a great addition to the park.

New Park signage is designed for each of the three (3) waterfront and the three (3) turf field sites.

The purpose is to 1) minimize sign litter 2) develop a consistent sign design for easy read 3) attractiveness within the park and

## PINEY POINT LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM IMPROVEMENTS

FY2017 funding was approved to complete interior renovations of the second floor of the museum, exhibit design, fabrication, and installation of exhibits. The interior renovations for the second floor of the museum are now complete. The contract was awarded in January to First Floor Graphics for design of the museum exhibits. The final panel designs have been received and proofed by staff; final edits were sent to the designer. The pier at Piney Point is unusable due to soil erosion. DPW&T is working with R&P staff to solve the usability of the pier. Staff is also working with DPW&T and DNR regarding a soil erosion project at the site. Funding in the amount of \$24,995 was approved by the CSMC for boardwalk repair. Southern Maryland Resource Conservation and Development has begun the repair work on the pier. The pier work and temporary erosion plan via bio-logs was completed during the week of December 2, 2019. County staff met with Lighthouse residents on February 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the long-term effects of the soil erosion project.

**DNR awarded coastal resiliency Grants Gateway funds to the Piney Point Lighthouse Museum. The funding amount is \$60,000. Grant funds have been awarded to the project and a kickoff meeting was held on Friday November 6, 2021**

A meeting with the community that includes staff from R&P, DPW&T and DNR was held on Thursday August 19<sup>th</sup> at the PPLM to discuss the upcoming improvements of the shoreline. Cindy Greb of RC&D, John Deatruck of DPW&T, Arthur Shepherd of Recreation and Parks and DNR & Museum Division staff attended to highlight the process and answer questions. There were twenty community citizens in attendance.

Several concepts and associate costs have been proposed by RC&D. Once concept plans are developed the revised cost estimates will be updated and sent out to appropriate County staff for review. A community meeting is scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup> allowing them to review two (2) options proposed by RC&D and county staff.

**In lieu of going forward with a grant funded project a stone relocation project began on September 29, 2002 and was completed in mid October 2022.**

## SHANNON FARM PARK

FY2019 funding was approved to develop a master plan for this 212± acre property located on the Chesapeake Bay. Design and engineering are programmed for FY2020, and park development is proposed for FY2024. Amenities envisioned at this new park include but are not limited to hiking and nature trails, kayaking and canoeing, fishing, educational and cultural activities, picnicking and beach access. R&P anticipates undertaking the public input portion of the project in fall 2018 with meetings with the R&P Board, Navy, and citizens. Staff has drafted the scope of work for the master plan and the design and engineering of park improvements which was approved on May 21, 2019, in the CSMC FY2020 Budget. A pre-bid meeting for master planning and design and engineering was held on Wednesday September 18, 2019. Answers to questions have been submitted to the prospective vendors. The revised RFP due date is October 24, 2019. The Master Plan and Architect & Engineering work was awarded to A Morton Thomas. A kick-off meeting was held with A Morton Thomas staff on March 12, 2020. Arthur Shepherd, Lori Tyer Ellis, Donna Sasscer, and Sue Veith were also in attendance. A site visit with A Morton Thomas staff was held on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Following this meeting advertisement was sent out for those interested in serving on a master plan community ad hoc team. Five (5) citizens have agreed to serve in this capacity. A meeting was held with the ad hoc team and the R&P Director of August 6, 2020, and an additional meeting was held with the ad hoc team and A Morton Thomas staff on August 18, 2020. Discussion centered on three (3) potential access routes to the shoreline, waterfront amenities, park management and parking. A concept drawing was presented by A Morton Thomas. A meeting has been scheduled with the design firm for Thursday October

15<sup>th</sup> to discuss revised concept plans. The CSMC received a status email on October 30<sup>th</sup> that included the current concept plan and projected costs.

A concept plan has been discussed with the CSMC that provides access from the Home-Grown Market located on Rt 235. The recommended FY23 construction cost listed in the FY22 CIP budget is now \$2.5m dollars. A Morton Thomas staff is communicating with the DNR, the US Navy, REPI and Critical Area Commission regarding the proposed concept plan. The center line for access to the shoreline has been staked and the wetlands have been flagged. MDE staff has been on site to review the location of the access trail and its impact on the streams and wetlands. The A Morton Thomas survey team was on site the week of April 5<sup>th</sup>. A revised concept and cost proposal that included a 5% trail slope and a portion for a bridge to mitigate a steep incline was submitted on to R&P on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

**The project is at 65% design and new cost estimates are included in the FY 2023 CIP Budget recommendation. Discussions have been initiated with the Swash Bay subdivision regarding and easement to access a portion of their property which leads to a trail/road for maintenance trucks and emergency vehicles to the shoreline. The draft Master Plan is complete will be scheduled for review was approved by the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board at an upcoming meeting. Due to the relocation of the boardwalk based on the Navy's wetland mapping, additional Geotech services have been approved and will begin next month. Additional costs will be included in the FY24 CIP budget. A Master Plan Brief was scheduled with the CSMC for December 6, 2022.**

## **SNOW HILL PARK**

FY2019 funding is approved for determination of eligibility (DOE) for historic resources. A purchase order was issued to Retrospect Archeological Research, LLC for the DOE to be completed by mid-November; work is underway. Funding is programmed in FY2020 for master planning (may include archeological study); FY2021 for design; and FY2023 and FY2024 for construction. This new park property is located on South Sandgates Road, along the Patuxent River, and consists of 163± acres. This County Park is envisioned to include public boating access (motorized and non-motorized), picnic areas, beach access, natural resource areas, educational interpretation, nature/multi-use trails, athletic fields, park office and restrooms. A Determination of Eligibility has been conducted and the vendor considers the structures on the property as not eligible for the National Register listing which means the current structures may be removed if desired. Funding was approved in the CSMC FY2020 Budget for master planning. Design and Engineering funding is included in the FY 21 Recommended Budget for a total two (2) year funding amount of \$575,000. Staff is working with Procurement regarding a bid solicitation for a design firm. The solicitation has yet to be awarded. A Waterway Improvement Fund grant in the amount of \$500,000 was reviewed by DNR on Tuesday November 10<sup>th</sup>. These funds are for design and construction of a dual boat ramp at Snow Hill.

The Master Plan solicitation was distributed to appropriate vendors and are scheduled to be returned for subsequent award on January 14, 2021. Several questions needed to be answered and the award should take place within the first two (2) weeks of February.

A Morton Thomas was awarded the design and engineering service. A Notice to Proceed has been initiated and a proposal for the boat ramp and kayak area has been submitted. The archaeological work has begun, and the final report should be submitted to R&P in May/June. A Community Stakeholder Group has been formed and their first meeting with the A Morton Thomas design team is scheduled for July 1, 2021.

An initial concept was reviewed by the Community Stakeholder group and AMT is preparing revisions. A parking lot concept for boats and cars has been developed. The boat ramp and parking concept has been submitted to DNR for review.

Following a 2<sup>nd</sup> stakeholder meeting a final concept plan was submitted. This will be reviewed with the public in a public meeting scheduled for October 12, 2021.

Following comments from the October 12<sup>th</sup> public meeting a draft master plan has been submitted by the design team A Morton Thomas. Following staff review it will be sent to the CSMC for comment.

A boat and kayak launch and parking site plan have been submitted to Land Use and Growth Management.

**A Master Plan Draft has been developed and was presented to the CSMC on May 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**A public meeting was held on Tuesday June 28<sup>th</sup>. Six (6) public comments were made and most centered on entrance road improvements and sightlines exiting the park onto Sandgates Road. The Department of Public Works was instructed to conduct additional studies based on this citizen feedback. Boat and kayak launch plans are undergoing modification based on suggestions made by the Department of Natural Resources regarding pervious surfacing options in parking areas.**

**The Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department has begun training on site in the old manor house. The oil tanks have been removed from the site. The unused fuel oil was delivered to the Leonard Hall Recreation Center.**

**Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department continues to schedule training inside the manor house. A burn permit will need to be approved by the CSMC prior to having the manor house being burned as a source of demolition which is outlined in the master plan.**

## **SPORTS COMPLEX**

Funding is approved in FY2019 for a feasibility study with regard to construction of a state-of-the-art multi-phased sports complex (RP-1904) on county owned property. The complex is envisioned to include synthetic sports turf and natural grass playing fields to support youth soccer, lacrosse, field hockey and football games and tournaments. The new facility will address the needs of the local youth sports community and provide economic benefits to the County associated with sports tournaments and events. project also proposes design and engineering in FY2021; Phase I construction in FY2023; and Phase II construction in FY2025.

During the December 4 CIP Budget Work Session, the CSMC tentatively moved the project construction funds into FY21.

The CSMC approved funding for a market and economic study regarding the construction of a sports complex in St. Mary's County. This is in partnership with the MD Stadium Authority. The Stadium Authority has approved a study for St. Mary's County. The CSMC approved the MOU on Tuesday October 8, 2019. A conference call with MD Stadium Authority staff, Crossroads Consulting LLC and R&P staff was held on November 20, 2019. Kick-off meetings were held on January 13 and 14, 2020. Several community stakeholders, youth sports leaders and private business attended during their scheduled time. It is estimated the process will take 5-6 months following the January 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> meetings (June/July 2020). Arthur Shepherd, R&P Director, received a phone call from the consultant staff and was informed that the plan continues to move forward without challenges that may/would cause a delay in the final report. Plans are for the first draft to be available in July 2020 and the final draft in September 2020.

**The Director received a draft copy of the report and provided input to the consultant staff and Mr. Gary Mc Guigan. A final draft was received in August. Mr. Gary McGuigan, vice president of Capital Planning for MD Stadium Authority reviewed and discussed the market and economic study with the CSMC on Tuesday October 27<sup>th</sup>. A Bond grant has been submitted to the MD Legislature for costs related to a potential project.**

**The funding has been approved and the appropriate application has been authorized by the CSMC.**

## **ST. CLEMENT'S ISLAND MUSEUM RENOVATIONS**

This multi-phased project (RP1401) will address museum building renovations, overflow parking, public access, health, and safety issues as well as update exhibit and interpretive spaces at the St. Clement's Island Museum. FY2017 funding includes professional services to produce a conceptual design that updates the interior museum exhibits and public spaces. The Museum Division Manager began work with the Museum Board of Trustees, DNR and DPW&T on moving this project forward. DPW&T continues to assist R&P with this project. Survey work for the improvement location, flood elevation certificate and property boundary were recently completed. DPW&T has recently finalized the scope of work for assessment of the existing museum building. The actual consultant RFP that includes exhibits, terms and conditions, any phasing, and the fee proposal form, is still under development, and has received price quotes. The final plan includes a new two-story building on the original facility footprint which will increase the overall cost by \$620,000 which is reflected in the revised FY21 CIP Budget. A meeting was held with the design team on June 18, 2021. Arthur Shepherd, Karen Stone, and both Gary Whipple and Jeff Reed of DPW&T along with Johnson, Mirmiran and Thompson (JMT) staff were in attendance.

An initial concept plan has been submitted. There are three layouts showing different arrangements of the entrance, stairs, elevator, offices, shop, and exhibit space. Staff is looking into what elements work best for your display layout and design.

**The Planning Commission approved the project on Monday September 26<sup>th</sup>.  
DNR has approved the plan.**

**Construction solicitation is schedule for submittal to Procurement in Jan/ Feb 2023.  
Anticipated construction award is scheduled for June/July 2023**

## **ST. INIGOES LANDING BULKHEAD REPLACEMENT**

This project (PL-1703) will replace 300' of existing wooden bulkhead with a new bulkhead. The existing bulkhead has deteriorated due to age and insect infestation. Staff obtained pricing from the firms under County contract for the design and engineering for the project. The design contract was awarded to A. Morton Thomas and Associates. The final design plans have been approved and all local and state permits have been received. The engineer has completed work on the bid specification documents and a purchase requisition for the solicitation is in process. **The work is COMPLETE.**

**A Waterway Improvement Fund grant application was approved by the CSMC on Tuesday September 10, 2019, for an additional project at St. Inigoes landing. The \$250,000 grant request funds are for improving the finger piers and the dock wall.  
The \$250,000 grant has been awarded and is scheduled to be accepted by the CSMC during their August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

## **THREE NOTCH TRAIL**

**Phase VII** – This 3.33-mile section from Wildewood to Hollywood is programmed for design and engineering in FY15 and construction in FY19 (RP1501). The design and engineering contract for the project was awarded to A. Morton Thomas in February 2017 and the project is currently at **40%** design. The project was included on the Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) agenda on December 27<sup>th</sup>. A

meeting with DPW&T to discuss storm water management comments was held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>; meetings with Metcom and SMECO were also held on that day. No adverse impact letter was received from the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Forest Conservation exemption was addressed. However, wetlands, topography and addressing the comments from SMECO with regard to working in their utility corridor have proven to be very challenging. Due to this, a plan to shift the trail into the SHA ROW in areas of utility corridor constraint was suggested and preliminary conversations with District 5 SHA on this have been positive. A briefing on the plan was presented to the CSMC on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and the associated Plan of Action was approved on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The CSMC also approved a budget amendment to allow for additional surveying and engineering work for the realigned areas. The updated plans, with alignment changes, were sent to LU&GM staff for submission back out to TEC agencies on September 10<sup>th</sup> for comment. The Governor/MDOT announced on September 26<sup>th</sup> that St. Mary's County was awarded funding from the Maryland Bikeways and Transportation Alternatives programs to assist with construction of Phase Seven of the trail. The award totaled \$4,135,743 (\$624,940 Bikeways and \$3,510,803 TAP).

A meeting to discuss the terms and conditions for the grants will be held with SHA/MDOT officials on October 11<sup>th</sup>. R&P staff attended this meeting to discuss the grant guidelines and timelines.

Letters have been sent to adjacent property owners and to date three (3) landowners have requested alignment exhibits. The trail design firm A Morton Thomas continues to work on offsite storm water management options. The 65% design submittal has been sent to the two grant funding sources Bikeways and SHA-MDOT. A Morton Thomas staff is scheduling reviews with the TEC and SHA. Water level boring locations have been selected to assist with determination of the SWM plan. Design approvals are scheduled to be completed in April 2021.

**Right of way/easement discussions continue with SMECO, Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad and Finmarc Properties. Per a newly reported SHA requirement, a phase one archeological study has been procured for the area of disturbance on the St. Johns property. The study revealed there is no historical significance thus the project is moving forward.**

## **RECREATION FACILITIES AND PARK IMPROVEMENTS**

Infield Improvement Project began March 2022	# Parks Approved/Completed	# Fields Approved/Completed
	7      7	19      19

## **MONTHLY STATUS REPORT BY DIVISION**

### **Museum Division**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DIVISION OVERALL**

- Holiday Open House at Piney Point was well attended in spite of the weather (106; 141 in 2021)
- Trustees signed the 5-year Strategic Plan
- Division continued to staff the USCT Interpretive Center on Wednesdays from 10am to 2pm

### **Recreation Division**

1. **FY24 Budget Planning** – Recreation Division staff have been working on developing FY24 budget plans and recommendations. Overall, expenditures have increased for consumables, staffing and utilities. Several improvements, new programs and smaller special events are being considered for approval.

2. **Hourly Employee Recruitment** – Recruitment strategies are being used to attract new employees to fill several vacancies across all programs and facilities. The department will hold a pop-up Job Fair on Friday, December 2. Future in person events are planned at least quarterly moving forward through the Spring season and will rotate around the various department facilities.
3. **Certified Parks & Recreation Professional** – The Leisure & Wellness Coordinator earned her CPRP certification. This achievement demonstrates a focus and mastery of parks and recreation principals to deliver quality programs and services. Congratulations to Marva Kumpf for this distinction. Marva becomes the 6<sup>th</sup> active staff to earn the designation.
4. **CIP – Leonard Hall** restroom renovations have been completed. Both men’s and women’s rooms have new flooring, toilets, partitions, sinks and dispensers.

### Parks Division

- **Combo-planed** and dragged ballfield infields at Country Lakes Athletic Field and several public schools
- **Overseed** multipurpose athletic fields and baseball/softball fields at several county parks
- **Graded** the entrance road at Snow Hill Park and the gravel parking lot at Wicomico Shores Landing
- **Placed** large rocks across the entrance road and side road at Myrtle Point Park to the Beach parking area to block vehicle access for the winter season leaving the straightforward parking area open for park users. This will allow the park entrance gate to remain open during the winter season.
- **Installed** cable fencing on the Waring property next to Great Mills Pool to prevent people from driving on the property and illegally dumping trash and debris.
- **Removed** floating pier at Wicomico Shores boat ramp and took to Stauffers Machine Shop for repairs.
- **Monitored** contractor work on the Ballfield Renovations project.
- **Worked** with contractor installing cameras at Nicolet Park, Chancellors Run Regional Park, and Fifth District Park.
- **Worked** with IT Department to install wi-fi at Myrtle Point Park.
- **Vacuumed** and groomed all synthetic turf fields.
- **Staff** meets with skate park volunteers bi-monthly and inputs athletic field reservation in RecTrac.

### Wicomico Shores Golf Course

#### Total Rounds of Golf

<b>November 2022</b>	<b>November 2021</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
1,685	1,385	1,962

#### Rounds Summary

	<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>REGULAR</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<b>November 2022</b>	459	516	710	1,685
<b>November 2021</b>	449	831	105	1,385
<b>November 2020</b>	532	1,370	60	1,962
<b>November 2019</b>	576	630	55	1,261

There was inclement weather for 3 of the 4 Fridays, one of those was Veterans Day and the other, was the day after Thanksgiving. These are normally busy days, yet we still increase rounds.

<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
<b>Avg high 58</b>	10 days well above average/6 days well below
<b>Avg rain 3.59</b>	Actual 3.9 inches
<b>Avg snow 0</b>	Actual 0