Community Matching Fund
FY 2018 Application Review and Endorsement

Park & Recreation Commission - June 15, 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

• Applications accepted March 1 through April 30.

• We received five applications that qualify:
  • **Compost Alex**
    • Community Composting Sites (request for $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 ($25,000 city match)
  • **Del Ray Gateway/Kate and Patty Moran**
    • Nancy Dunning Garden (request for $25,000 city match)
  • **Del Ray Gateway/Nancy Lee-Reeves**
    • Colasanto Pool (request for $25,000 city match)

• Presented to PRC and held public hearing on May 18. Staff then met with each applicant to clarify questions raised at the 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 bettered informed and able to be involved in the community composting system that they directly influence.
- **Total Project Cost:** $26,000
- **Proposed City Contribution:** $12,000
- **Question from May PRC Mtg:**
  1. Where would the processing sites go?
Compost Processing Centers

Site #1 in Brenman Park within maintenance fence near Farmer’s Market
Compost Processing Centers

Site #2 in Four Mile Run Park, between soccer field and Conservatory building with easy access from Farmers Market
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
- Question from May PRC Mtg:
  Can all these projects be done and at what cost?
  Staff met on site with the applicant and now has a better understanding of the site needs
  - Dugout gutters ($2,500) – This can be achieved but the price will depend upon stormwater considerations.
  - Permanent fencing for bullpens ($3,500) – Will require an SUP because of height, but can be done.
  - Bleacher canopies ($8,000) – Achievable but there are many styles with varying costs to choose from.
  - Dugout fencing ($4,000) - Achievable.
  - Press box ($35,000) – This is the most expensive and will depend on the style. The recommendation is to do all other projects first and come back to this one if it can be accomplished with remaining funds or in another year.
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
- **Question from May PRC Mtg:**
  1. Was a batting cage and scoreboard in the Brenman Park Plan?
     - No, these were not specifically called out in the park plans, however, staff do not believe it contradicts or precludes anything in the plan.
  2. Will the batting cages fit on the site?
Ben Brenman Ballfield Enhancements

Two 12 x 60 batting cages will fit tandem on first base line.
Nancy Dunning
Garden/Colasanto pool

- **Applicant:** Del Ray Gateway Project
- **Project Description:**
  
  - The Nancy Dunning Garden, located at the corner of Mt. Vernon Ave and Commonwealth, would be a place for peace and reflection amidst the bustle and prosperity of the neighborhood.
  
  - The old Colasanto pool has been closed since 2010. Since then, the old 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 could remain on the site after the spray ground conversion is complete.
  
  - **Question from May PRC Mtg:**
    1. What is planned for a “phase 1” to activate the site?
    2. How will this project not preclude subsequent phases and the pool demolition?
Nancy Dunning Garden/Colasanto pool

• Funds towards the Nancy Dunning Memorial will go towards the renovation of the pavers around the tree and park benches and little library.

• Funds towards the Colasanto site will be used towards ping pong table, bollard removal, fence realignment, chairs/hammock, shade structure, and tricycle track.
Discussion and Action Item

• Discuss and make a motion on staff recommendation to approve FY18 community matching funds as follows:

  • **Compost Alex** - $12,000 City match

  • **TC Williams High School Softball Boosters**
    - $15,000 City match

  • **Alexandria Little League** - $25,000 City match

  • **Del Ray Gateway/Kate and Patty Moran**
    Nancy Dunning Garden - $24,000 City match

  • **Del Ray Gateway/Nancy Lee-Reeves**
    Colasanto Pool - $24,000 City match