ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
Brian M. Loewe, Director

COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
James R. Guy, President
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Tom Jarboe, Commissioner
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

June 20, 2016

Ms. Margaret Lashar
Regional Administrator
Program Open Space
Tawes State Office Building, E-4
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Ms. Lashar:

Attached please find one (1) original and one copy of the Fiscal Year 2017 Program Open Space Annual Program for ***St. Mary's County.*** The projects are as follows:

Acquisition Project

1. Patuxent River Public Landing Acquisition

Development Project

1. Ball Field / Parking Area Lighting – John Baggett Park at Laurel Grove

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (301) 475-4200, Extension *1812.

Very truly yours,

Brian M. Loewe
Director

BML:mu

Attachments

P.O. BOX 653 • 23150 LEONARD HALL DRIVE, LEONARDTOWN, MD 20650
PHONE 301.475.4200 X 1800 • FAX 301.475.4108 • www.stmarysmd.com

St. Mary's County

Annual Program for Proposed POS Acquisition and Development Projects

Fiscal Year 2017

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St. Mary's County

P.O.S. Annual Program

INTRODUCTION

St. Mary's County's Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Program includes one acquisition project and one development project. The proposed acquisition project, Patuxent River Public Landing Acquisition will enable the county to acquire property in the central part of the County for a motorized boat launch and related amenities.

The development project in the Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Program is for funding to assist with the purchasing and installing costs of a new lighting system for one 90' baseball field and parking area at Laurel Grove's John V. Baggett Park located in Mechanicsville, Maryland.

The projects proposed in Fiscal Year 2017 are all consistent with goals identified in the County's Comprehensive Plan and the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. All are also included in the County's Fiscal Year 2017 capital budget program. The process used to select the projects included:

1. Staff review and recommendation to the Recreation and Parks Board.

2. Recreation and Parks Board adoption and recommendation to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

3. Planning Commission review and recommendation to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

4. Commissioners of St. Mary's County adoption.

St. Mary's County POS Annual Program

Acquisition Project Description

1. **Patuxent River Public Landing Acquisition**

The County is proposing to use $950,000 in Fiscal Year 2017 to assist with the acquisition of approximately 150 acres on the Patuxent River in the central part of the County for both passive and active recreation to possibly include:

Passive Recreation

1. Pavilion, parking and restrooms
2. Hiking and nature trails
3. Forested / conservation areas / nature interpretation
4. Canoe/Kayak launch area

Active Recreation

1. Motorized boat ramp with parking
2. Picnic area
3. Two or more flexible use practice fields for youth sports, parking and restrooms

A potential park property acquisition has been identified in the Sandgates area and appraisals have been obtained for the property. The County has initiated negotiations with the property owners at this time. The estimated cost of the property is $1.8 million. Funding will consist of Federal, Program Open Space – Local and Stateside Program Open Space funds. In the event the property is not acquired by the County, the Department will continue to search for suitable land along the Patuxent River for public waterfront access.

Acquisition of this property is consistent with the 2012 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) to provide increased shoreline and boating access. This goal has been identified in the LPPRP since the 1990s. To strengthen the County as a destination for tourists, boating and fishing interests in line with the Comprehensive Plan goals. Along with other park amenities, consideration may be given to stewardship education depending on the type and size of amenities ultimately planned. The project is further identified on page III-19, table 10 as a short - mid-range land acquisition and development recommendation for FY2012 – FY2021 and long-range acquisition and development recommendation for FY2022 and beyond.

PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR ACQUISITION

FISCAL YEAR 2017

Sponsor	Project Name, Project Description (Project Description Attached)	Acreage			Source of Funds (for Annual Program Only)			
		Existing	Ultimate	Project	Total	Local	State POS (Local Funds)	Other - **Federal / State-Side POS**
St. Mary's County	Patuxent River Public Landing Acquisition	0	150+	150+	$1,850,000		$950,000	*$900,000

April 1, 1996

* - $900,000 in Federal and Stateside Program Open Space Funds

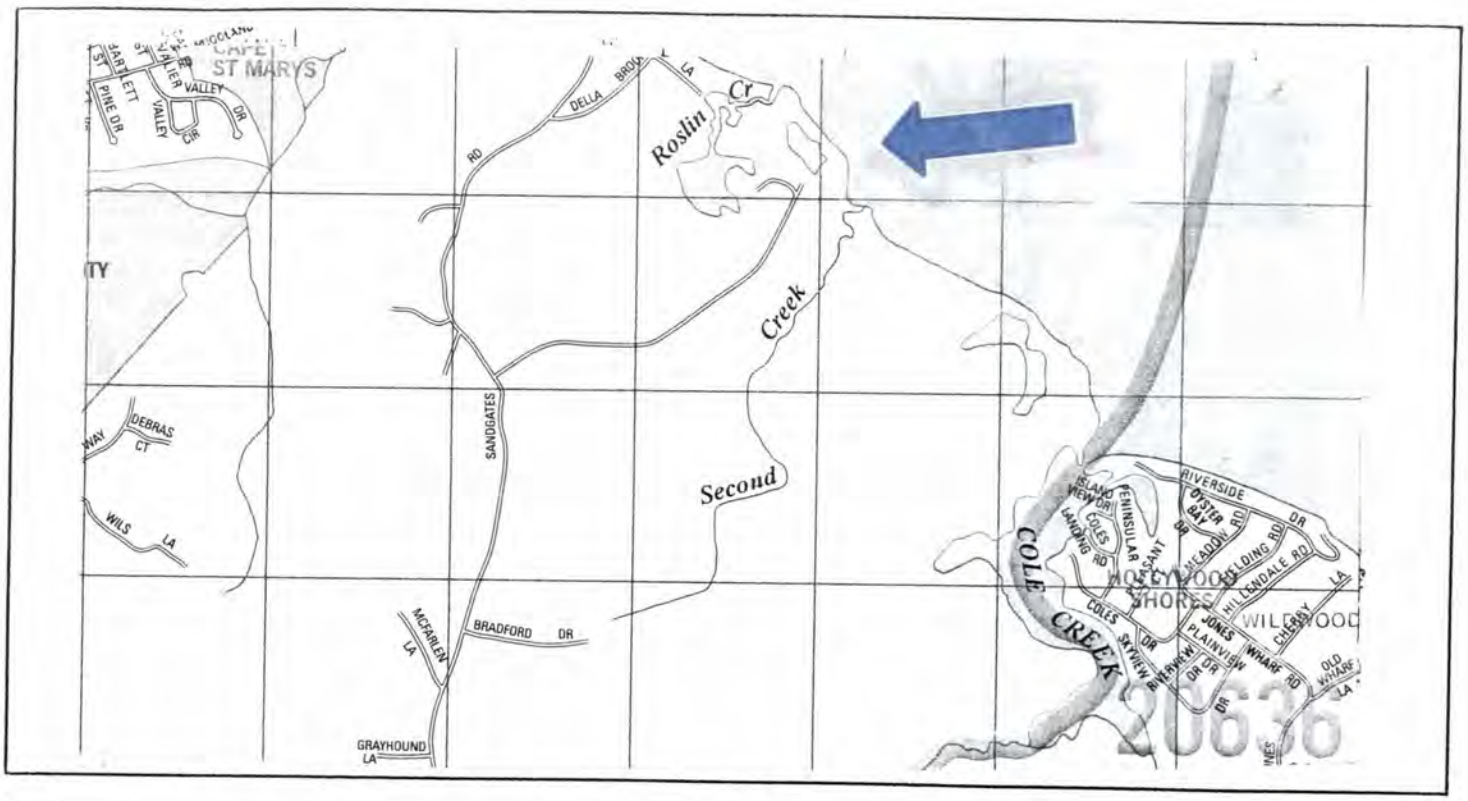
-3-

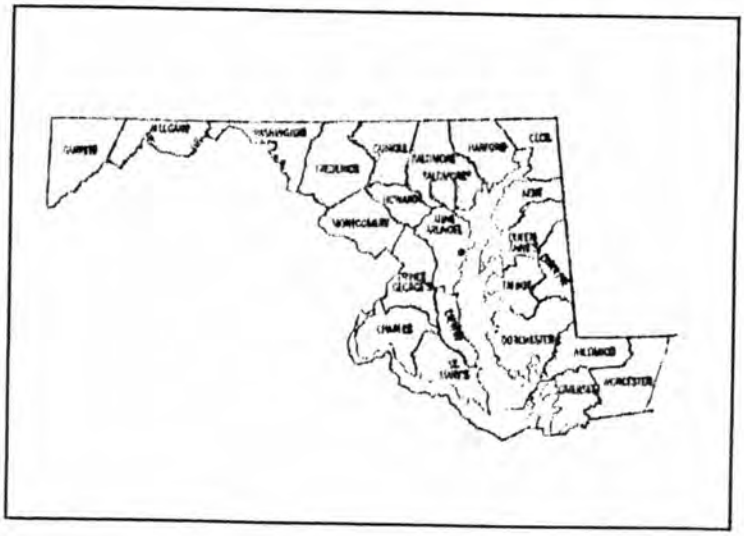
LOCATION MAP

Legend

Acquisition
1 - Patuxent River Public Landing Acquisition

Development
A - Ball Field/Parking Area Lighting - John Baggett Park





Program Open Space

Project: Patuxent River Public Landing Acquisition
Applicant: St. Mary's County

Funding Authorization

June 20, 2016
Date

Director, Program Open Space
Department of Natural Resources
Tawes Building, E-4
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Patuxent River Public Landing Acquisition
(Complete Project Title)

Dear Director:

As the official designated by St. Mary's County for the purpose of dispensing the Program Open Space and Land and Water Conservation Fund apportionments for this political subdivision, I hereby certify that **St. Mary's County** (Applicant) may apply for the following funds on the above referenced project.

Name of Grant Program	Amount
Program Open Space - Local POS Funds	$950,000
Land and Water Conservation Fund	
*Other (specify) – Federal and Stateside Program Open Space	$900,000
Total	$1,850,000

Signature – County Liaison Officer

Brian M. Loewe

Type Name of County Liaison

St. Mary's County POS Annual Program

Development Project Description

A. **Ball Field / Parking Area Lighting – John Baggett Park**

The County is proposing to use $143,500 in Program Open Space - Local funds to assist with the cost of purchasing and installing of a new lighting system for one 90' baseball field and parking area at Laurel Grove's John Baggett Park located in Mechanicsville, Maryland. The benefits of a new lighting system will include: safety of the participants and spectators and more flexible scheduling for games and/or practices on the field. The John V. Baggett Park at Laurel Grove is a forty-three (43) acre park with twenty-three (23) acres developed and twenty (20) acres undeveloped due to wetlands and steep slopes. The park (formerly known as Laurel Grove Park) was reopened after park renovations in 2002 and was dedicated in honor of former Recreation and Parks Director, John V. Baggett. The estimated cost of the lighting project is $300,000 and will consist of County and Program Open Space – Local funds.

The project is consistent with the 2012 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP), in which priorities for recreational land acquisition, facility development and rehabilitation are derived from the supply and demand needs analysis, input from the Recreation and Parks Board and consideration of identified needs in the context of State and County goals.

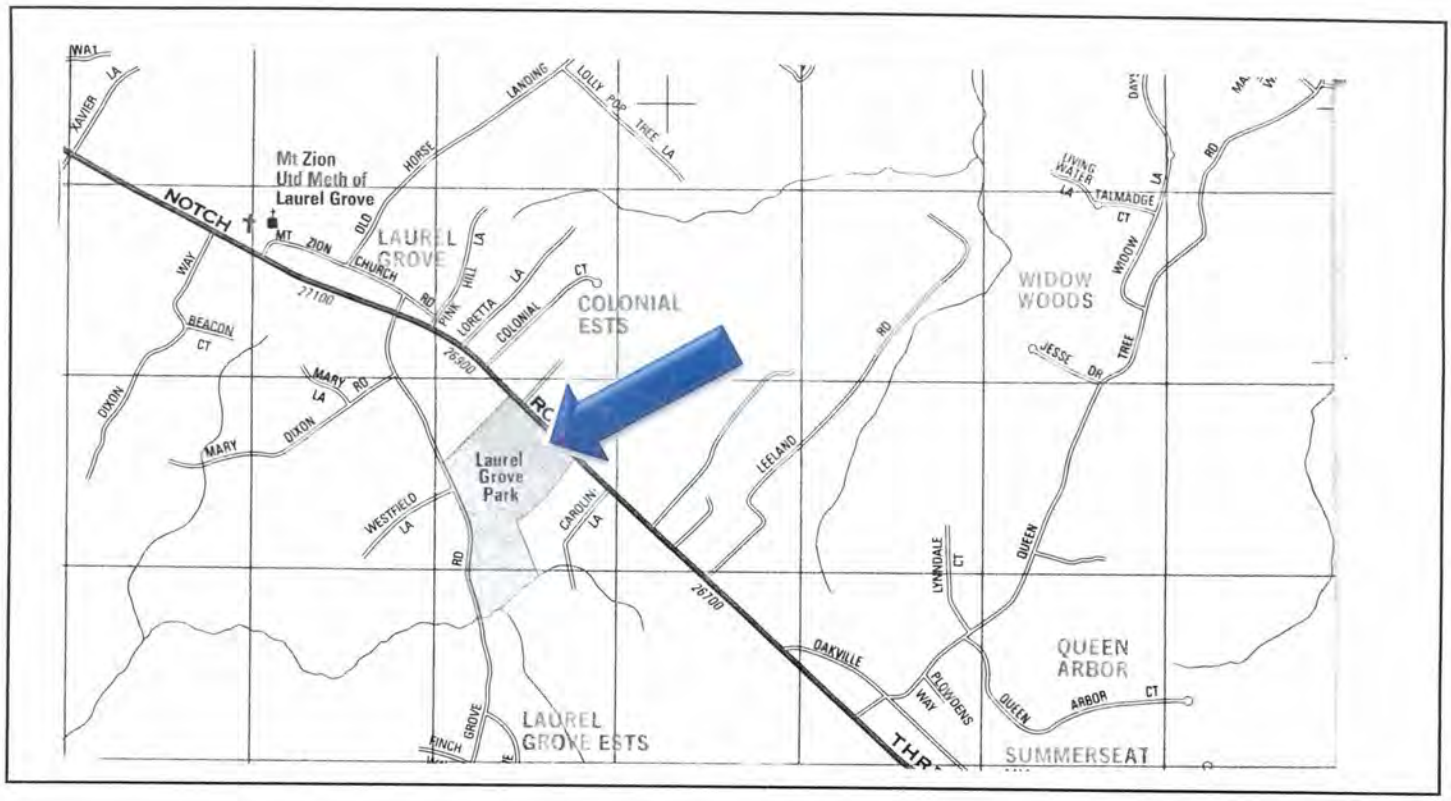
It is also consistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan to "Create new and enhanced parks and recreation facilities" that link existing parks and communities to provide expanded recreational opportunities while preserving environmental, aesthetic, and cultural quality (page 10-5).

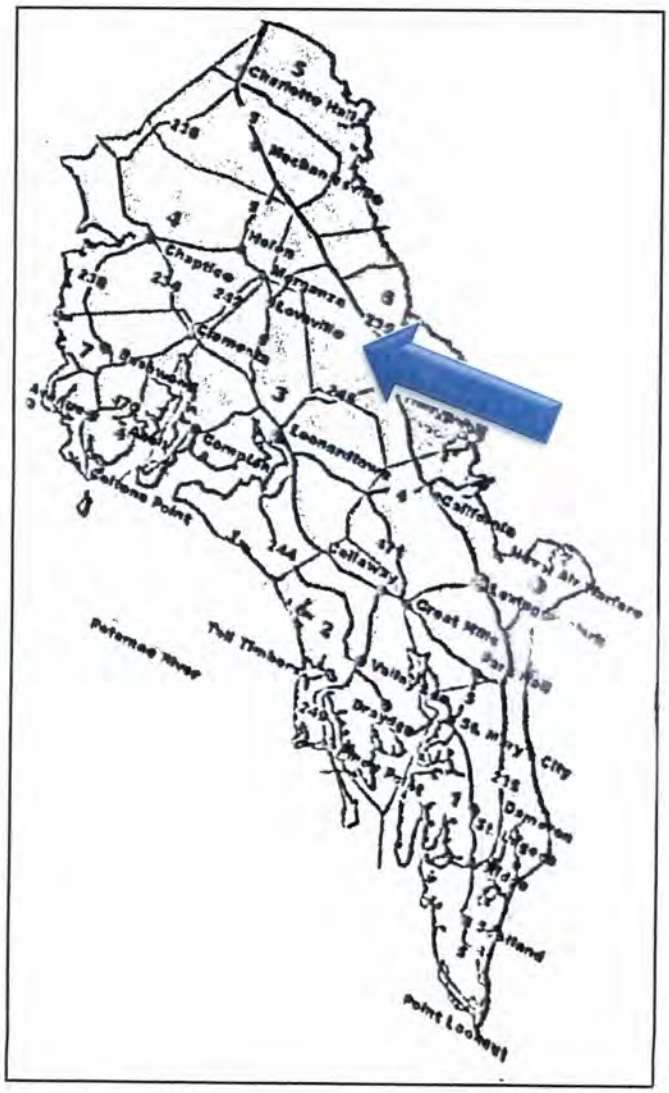
PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT

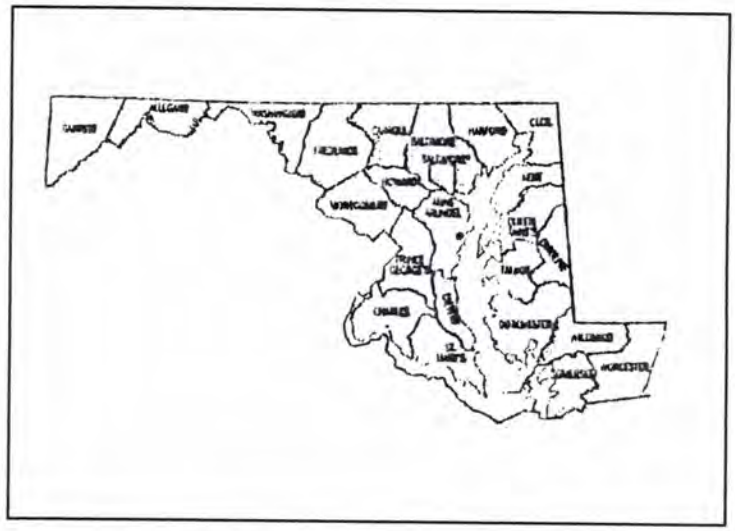
FISCAL YEAR 2017

Sponsor	Project Name, Project Description (Project Description Attached)	Acreage			Source of Funds (for Annual Program Only)			
		Existing	Ultimate	Project	Total	Local	State POS (Local Funds)	Other -
St. Mary's County	Ball Field / Parking Area Lighting - John Baggett Park	43	N/A	N/A	$300,000	$156,500	$143,500	

April 1, 1996







Program Open Space

Project: Ball Field / Parking Area Lighting - John Baggett Park

Applicant: St. Mary's County

Funding Authorization

June 20, 2016
Date

Director, Program Open Space
Department of Natural Resources
Tawes Building, E-4
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Ball Field / Parking Area Lighting – John Baggett Park
(Complete Project Title)

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Name of Grant Program	Amount
Program Open Space - Local POS Funds	$143,500
Land and Water Conservation Fund	
*Other (specify) – County Funds	$156,500
Total	$300,000

Signature – County Liaison Officer

Brian M. Loewe

Type Name of County Liaison