



Memorandum

TO: City Council

FROM: Alfred Lott, City Manager

SUBJECT: Approval of Letter to Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in Reference to Allen Pond Park Regional Amenity Budget Support

DATE: 04/28/2022

ATTACHMENTS: 1. 20220502 - MNCPPC Budget Request - Allen Pond Park FY 2023

May 2, 2022

The Honorable Peter Shapiro, Chairman
Prince George's County Planning Board
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

RE: Allen Pond Park Regional Amenity Budget Support

Dear Chairman Shapiro:

Allen Pond Park is the City of Bowie's premier park and is the City's largest active park serving the community with a wide variety of amenities. The City Council is respectfully requesting the consideration of a larger annual contribution from M-NCPPC to maintain the park which serves the recreational needs of Bowie residents, but is open to and receives many residents of Prince George's County.

The City of Bowie currently receives \$101,700 each year from M-NCPPC to support the costs of maintaining Allen Pond Park. We appreciate your recognition of this asset as a regional amenity. For the City of Bowie, it annually spends just under \$500,000 in operational costs in Allen Pond Park. Capital expenses for synthetic turf, field lighting, amphitheater, irrigation, pump station, turf management, playgrounds, and other infrastructure add another \$800,000 to \$900,000 per year. In Bowie's proposed budget there is just over \$9.5 million in infrastructure in the Capital Improvement Plan for Allen Pond.

In a June 2018 survey of organized recreational sports groups in the City of Bowie, it was learned that Bowie resident participation in field sports is 47.5%. The remainder are regional users. This data indicates the strong draw of Bowie recreational amenities for meeting regional recreation needs. Please let this letter serve as the City of Bowie's request that M-NCPPC annually contribute 50% of the operational expenses, this year \$250,000. In addition, an annual contribution be made to the City of Bowie for Capital expense of \$425,000.

With M-NCPPC's goals of providing an award winning system of parks and creating recreational experiences that enhance quality of life of all individuals, the City of Bowie appreciates your consideration of this funding request in helping Allen Pond Park in meeting them.

Sincerely,

Bowie City Council
Timothy J. Adams
Mayor

cc: The Honorable Calvin S. Hawkins, II, Prince George's County Council