

State Of Maryland

2021 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Damascus Recreational Park		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Zucker	Kaiser	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Montgomery County	\$225,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the installation of athletic field lighting at Damascus Recreational Park		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements:	Type:	
Grant		
8. Special Provisions		
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title	Contact Ph#	Email Address
Senator Zucker		craig.zucker@senate.state.md.us
		emily.mitchell@montgomerypar ks.org
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>The Montgomery County Department of Parks is a key agency of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), the proud steward of over 37,000 acres of parkland. Our mission is to protect and interpret the county's valuable natural and cultural resources; balance the demand for recreation with the need for conservation; offer a variety of enjoyable recreational activities that encourage healthy lifestyles; and provide clean, safe, and accessible places for leisure-time activities.</p>		

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit length to visible area)

The purpose of this project is to install athletic lighting at Damascus Recreational Park to extend use of the baseball and softball fields beyond sunset. Currently, the fields are limited to use only during daylight hours. This extension of playable time doubles the amount of premium after-school programming available during the week and extends it by 25% on the weekends. In addition to prolonged field access into the nighttime, the amenity also delivers a unique under-the-lights experience kids would not otherwise have access to in this northern area of the county. As our community recreational requirements continue to expand for youth sports and recreation, lighting facilities are the most efficient and cost-effective way to increase our programming ability.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 12 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 13 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	
Design	\$20,000
Construction	\$680,000
Equipment	
Total	\$700,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources - (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Damascus Recreational Park State Aid	\$225,000
CIP Program: Ballfields	\$475,000
Total	\$700,000

14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
2022	2023	2023	2024
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised	16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete	
0.00	13,500	19,000	
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
2020	\$100,000	Fairland Recreational Park	
2020	\$200,000	Olney Family Neighborhood Park	
2019	\$200,000	Columbia Local Park	
2017	\$50,000	Good Hope Local Park	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Montgomery County Department of Parks 2425 Reddie Drive 11th Floor		Damascus Recreational Park 23723 Kings Valley Road Damascus, MD 20787	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	14 - Montgomery County		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
[X]	[]	[]	[]
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Adrian Gardner	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	301-495-2460		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Montgomery County Department of Parks 2425 Reddie Drive 11th Floor Wheaton, MD 20902 Attn: Emily Mitchell, Senior Division Support Specialist			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
2	3	4000.00	11000.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Own
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			No
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
N/A			
E. If property is leased by grantee - Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
N/A			
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	N/A		
Space to be Renovated GSF	N/A		
New GSF	N/A		

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion

N/A

28. Comments

Our county park system has focused on providing youth with a variety of engaging outdoor recreation opportunities for several decades, but recent world events related to the pandemic have underscored these recreational facilities as a critical need. As such, improving and expanding access to outdoor recreation activities throughout the county has never been so important.

The athletic fields at Damascus Recreational Park are very popular within the community, but due to a lack of field lighting, the available play time is limited by daylight hours and excludes the ability to host games after dark. The project proposed for this Capital Grant would install athletic field lighting at two ballfields within the Park, allowing youth sports to be offered to the community without the dependency on daylight. Currently, the ballfield facilities require play to stop around 7 p.m. at sunset. However, with the proposed lighting, the fields could be permitted until 11 PM. This extension of playable time doubles the amount of premium after-school programming available during the week and extends it by 25% on the weekends. In addition to prolonged field access into the nighttime, the amenity also delivers a unique under-the-lights experience kids would not otherwise have access to in this northern area of the county.

Given the history of lighting other Montgomery Parks fields, these improvements typically transform these athletic sites into a gathering place for our communities, and due to their popularity, create a destination for tournaments. These facilities in turn contribute toward increased tourism revenue generation for local businesses creating a win for the local community, the parks, the county, and the state.

The lighting project in Damascus Recreational Park was identified as a critically needed improvement for the community over two decades ago. However, due to the high cost, the necessary funding has not yet been available. With a Capital Grant from the State, this project could finally come to fruition. Once installed, these lights will shine down on the ballfields at Damascus Recreational Park, increasing access to a safe, community gathering place and expanding the time these fields are able to be used. This project will be a much-loved asset within the community and promote outdoor recreation and healthy lifestyles to the citizens of District 14 and beyond.