

CITY OF BALTIMORE
BRANDON M. SCOTT,
MAYOR



**DEPARTMENT OF
RECREATION AND PARKS**

REGINALD MOORE, *Executive Director*
Dr. Ralph W. E. Jones, Jr. Building
3001 East Drive - Druid Hill Park
Baltimore, Maryland 21217
410-396-7900

Friday, August 1, 2025, Revised October 27, 2025

Attn: Ms. Katelyn Mayberry, *Administrator III*, Program Open Space
Land Acquisition and Planning
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Tawes Office Building, E-4
580 Taylor Ave
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: FY2026 Baltimore City Consolidated Annual Program Grant Application

Dear Ms. Mayberry,

Please find the attached Baltimore City consolidated grant application for Fiscal Year 2026 Program Open Space Appropriations with a total project budget of \$17,744,103.43. Included in this total are the prior year allocations that were reallocated on the FY26 POS Local Share Appropriations letter dated May 1, 2025 as well as some additional prior year projects that were not earmarked that we would like to reallocate to current active projects and close the original grant. Below is the breakdown of the reallocated funds. Thank you for your continued support of Baltimore City's Local Land Preservation and Recreation Plan.

\$1,125,000 from POS 6707-26-208 Herring Run Park: Athletic Fields to Clifton Park: Athletic Fields
POS 6705-26-206

\$300,000 from POS 6704-26-205 Druid Hill Park: Trailhead to Druid Hill Park: Tennis Courts

\$100,000 from St. Charles Park to Northwest Park

\$50,000 from Warwick Park to Wilber H. Waters Park

\$21,400 from POS 7036-26-235 Bond St. Park to POS 7185-24-325 Patterson Park Masterplan Implementation: Boat Lake

\$550,000 from POS 7355-26-249 Clifton Park: Maintenance Facility to POS 7191-26-242 Carroll Park: Maintenance Facility

\$771,847 from POS 6702-24-307 Druid Hill Park: Reptile House to POS 6838-24-309 Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory

\$23,376.34 from POS 6284-26-198 Druid Hill Park: Community Service Center to POS 6838-24-309 Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory

\$450,000 from POS 7197-24-331 Herring Run Rec/Athletic Center to POS 6838-24-309 Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory

\$95,856.84 from POS 7027-24-319 Athletic Field Renovation to POS 6838-24-309 Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory

\$56,432.25 from POS 7186-24-326 Myers Soccer Pavilion to POS 6838-24-309 Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory

\$488,201 from POS 6840-24-311 Clifton Park: Mansion Site Improvements to POS 6838-24-309 Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory

In the event additional information is required feel free to contact Adam Boarman, *Chief of Capital Development* with any inquires, comments and/or concerns via email at Adam.Boarman@BaltimoreCity.Gov or at 410-396-7948. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Dr. Reginald Moore
Executive Director
City of Baltimore, Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP)

Attachments Enclosed

Cc: Jacia T. Smith, Esq., *Chief of Staff*, BCRP
Adam Boarman, *Chief of Capital Development*, BCRP
Valerie McGuire, *Design Planner Supervisor*, BCRP
Chris Ryer, *Director*, Department of Planning

Baltimore City

Consolidated Annual Program Grant Application

Introduction

Baltimore City relies on Program Open Space to supplement the Recreation and Parks budget for planning, design and operations as well as fund specific capital improvement projects. Several programs support the planning and design process necessary to implement the State's Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Program. Baltimore has also developed several "long-term" Capital Development programs that allow us to remain focused on the goals of the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. These programs were developed to ensure steady progress on all aspects of providing open space and recreation opportunities in Baltimore City. They support care, operation, and improvement of general neighborhood recreation facilities, special recreation facilities, and our citywide network of open space. The 7 programs for capital development are:

Recreation Facility and Park Building Modernization

Pool Facility Modernization

Park Rehabilitation and Development

Baltimore Playground Program

Athletic Field and Court Rehabilitation and Development (including lighting)

Park Plazas, Fountains and Medians – including street tree planting

Park Land Acquisition

Baltimore City's Annual Submission includes individual projects selected from the 7 Capital Development Programs. Suggestions of sites for improvement projects come from many sources: Recreation and Parks staff, Planning Department staff, the Baltimore Office of Neighborhoods, private citizens and community organizations. Several factors are considered as each site is evaluated:

1. Contribution to departmental (Land Preservation and Recreation Program) goals.
2. Contribution to goals or programs of other City agencies or Non-profit Partners
3. Value of the facility or resource in relation to the entire park system with priority for sites with at least one of the following factors:
 - A. High attendance and use
 - B. Multi-use facilities
 - C. Proximity to neighborhood with special needs (such as communities with a high percentage of low-income and at-risk populations)
 - D. Special needs groups (senior citizens, teens, children, or disabled populations)
 - E. Historical significance
 - F. Local regional landmark
 - G. High scenic or aesthetic value
 - H. Wildlife habitat enhancement value
 - I. Environmental quality improvement value
4. Evidence of strong community support or the potential for community involvement and partnerships
5. Critical needs of repairs/Safety issues
6. Budget constraints such as capital costs of project, operating cost of project and the potential for funding.

Each fall, the capital budget is submitted by the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks to the City's Department of Planning. After revisions are made to meet citywide goals, the Planning Department submits the Recreation and Parks capital budget to the City's Planning Commission for public review and the formal acceptance process. This year, we propose utilizing Program Open Space funding to support individual projects within four of our seven established programs of capital development:

*Recreation Facility and Park Building Modernization
Pool Facility Modernization
Park Rehabilitation and Development
Athletic Field and Court Rehabilitation and Development*

Fiscal Year FY26 Projects supported by Program Open Space Funding:

Recreation Facility and Park Building Modernization

Carroll F. Cook Recreation Center
Wilber H. Waters Park Field House
Carroll Park Maintenance Facility
Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory

Pool Facility Modernization

City Springs Park Improvements – Phase I

Park Rehabilitation and Development

Easterwood Park Improvements
Patterson Park Masterplan Implementation (Boat Lake)
Northwest Park Improvements

Athletic Field and Court Rehabilitation and Development

Druid Hill Park: Tennis Courts
Clifton Athletic Field Renovation

As in the past years, Program Open Space funding also will be used to support park planning as well as the daily care of the city's park system:

Baltimore City Operations and Management Grants
FY26 Baltimore Park System

Shaded Areas for State Use Only

Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Capital Grants and Loans Administration
Program Open Space

**Consolidated Annual Program Grant Application
And Project Agreement**

Acquisition

Development

Baltimore City Consolidated Annual

1. PROJECT NAME: Program Grant for Fiscal Year 2026

POS PROJECT #:

Baltimore City Department of

2. APPLICANT: Recreation and Parks **Consolidated Annual Program Grant of FY 26**

3. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$17,744,070.43

4. **TOTAL GRANT REQUESTED:** \$ 16,089,302.43

5. CONSOLIDATED GRANT APPLICATION PROJECT COORDINATOR:

Ms. Valerie McGuire, Design Planner Supervisor
(Name and Title)

410-396-7948

(Telephone Number)

2600 Madison Ave

Baltimore

MD

21217

410-396-0928

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

(Fax Number)

6. PLANNING REVIEW CERTIFICATION:

The consolidated acquisition/development project described herein and specified in the attached component applications, has been reviewed by the Local Planning Authority listed below and was found to be consistent with the following:

- A. The Local Land Preservation and Recreation Yes
- B. The County's Comprehensive Master Plan Yes
- C. The State Land Preservation and Recreation Yes
- D. The Maryland Economic Growth, Resource Protection and Planning Act of 1992 Yes

Chris Ryer

(Signature)

Mr. Chris Ryer

(Print Name)

08/01/2025

Director

(Print Title)

(Date)

7. DOCUMENTATION:

Individual applications, with respective associated documentation must be attached to this cover sheet. One original plus twelve (12) complete copies of this Consolidated Annual Program Grant Application and the attached component applications are required to initiate state review.

8. COUNTY LIAISON OFFICER'S AGREEMENT TO TERMS OF THE GENERAL PROJECT CONDITIONS AND FUNDING AUTHORIZATION:

As the County Liaison Officer (CLO) designated by _____ County (or Baltimore City) for the purpose of dispensing Program Open Space and Land & Water Conservation Fund apportionments for this Political Subdivision, I hereby certify that the applicants/local officials appearing as signatories on the individual projects attached and listed below as components, have received my approval to apply for the POS/L&WC Funds specified on each component application as part of this consolidated grant. The sum of individual projects eligible for reimbursement from local apportionment of POS funds, upon state approval shall not exceed \$_____.

Dr. R. Moore

(Signature)

Dr. Reginald Moore

(Print Name)

Director

(Print Title)

08/21/2025

(Date)

rev 10/27/25

9. SUMMARY OF COMPONENT PROJECTS:

Item #	Component Title	Acres if acquisition	Estimated Cost
1	Easterwood Park Improvements		\$1,200,000
2	Carroll F. Cook Recreation Center		\$800,000
3	Patterson Park Masterplan Implementation (Boat Lake)		\$28,534
4	Druid Hill Park: Tennis Courts		\$300,000
5	Clifton Athletic Field Renovation (reallocating from 6707-26-208 to 6705-26-206)		\$1,125,000
6	Northwest Park Improvements		\$100,000
7	Wilber H. Waters Park Field House		\$50,000
8	Carroll Park Maintenance Facility (reallocating from 7355-26-249 to 7191-26-242)		\$550,000
9	Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory		\$3,847,617.43
10	City Springs Park Improvements – Phase I		\$2,742,919
11	Baltimore Park System FY26		\$7,000,000
	Consolidated Annual Program FY26		\$17,744,070.43

10. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR) – PROGRAM OPEN SPACE REGIONAL REVIEW:

This project has been reviewed and inspected by POS staff and reviewed by appropriate agencies within the DNR. Based on the information attached for the individual components, this consolidated project complies with existing laws, regulations and policies governing the use of POS Funds.

(Signature)

(Print Name)

(Print Title)

(Date)

11. STATE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW Date _____ Number _____

12. POS FUND SOURCE ASSIGNED _____ AMOUNT \$ _____

13. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES – PROGRAM OPEN SPACE APPROVAL:

(Director's Signature)

BPW Approval
Date

Agenda Item No.

PROGRAM OPEN SPACE ANNUAL PROGRAM SUMMARY FY26

Sponsor: Baltimore City	Project Name & Sites	Project Total	Local Funds	POS Apportionment	POS Direct	Other
1	Easterwood Park Improvements	\$ 1,200,000.00			1,200,000	
2	Carroll F. Cook Recreation Center	\$ 800,000.00			800,000	
3	Patterson Park Masterplan Implementation (Boat Lake)	\$ 28,534.00	7,134.00		21,400	
4	Druid Hill Park: Tennis Courts	\$ 300,000.00			300,000	
5	Clifton Athletic Field Renovation (reallocating from 6707-26-208 to 6705-26-206)	\$ 1,125,000.00			1,125,000	
6	Northwest Park Improvements	\$ 100,000.00			100,000	
7	Wilber H. Waters Park Field House	\$ 50,000.00			50,000	
8	Carroll Park Maintenance Facility (reallocating from 7355-26-249 to 7191-26-242)	\$ 550,000.00			550,000	
9	Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory	\$ 3,847,617.43	961,904.00	1,862,337.09	1,023,376.34	
10	City Springs Park Improvements - Phase I	\$ 2,742,919.00	685,730.00	2,057,189.00		
11	Baltimore Park System FY26	\$ 7,000,000.00			7,000,000	
	Total	\$ 17,744,070.43	\$ 1,654,768.00	\$ 3,919,526.09	\$ 12,169,776.34	\$ -
					\$ 16,089,302.43	

Baltimore City Consolidated Annual Program Fiscal Year 2026



Baltimore City Consolidated Annual Program Grant Applications

Fiscal Year 2026 – Project Descriptions

1. Easterwood Park Improvements \$1,200,000

Design and construction of ADA accessible walking loop, fitness equipment and basketball court at Easterwood park.

1522 N. Bentalou St., - Legislative Dist. 40

2. Carroll F. Cook Recreation Center..... \$800,000

The existing Carroll F. Cook Recreation center was attached to a Baltimore City Public School (BCPS). BCPS is currently constructing both the new School and the attached Rec Center as part of the 21st Century School initiative as the facility was beyond its useful life. The FY2026 funding will support the construction of the new Recreation Center portion only and will be open to the public once completed.

5061 E. Eager St. – Legislative district 45

3. Patterson Park Masterplan Implementation (Boat Lake) \$28,534

Patterson Park is a 133-acre park located in East Baltimore. An updated community participatory master plan for the park was completed and approved by the City Planning Commission in March 2016. The plan recommends high priority to maintenance, improvements and to establishing a maintenance plan including aquatic vegetation control. The lake is in desperate need of sediment removal. It has been 19 years since it was completely renovated and over the years, sediment has caused a mass aquatic vegetation problem. The youth fishing program has been cancelled for the last two years due to unfishable conditions from June through late Fall. Not only is the lake unsightly, but the smell detracts park users and has resulted in fish death. Trash accumulates on the mass of floating vegetation, which despite monthly clean ups, gives the appearance of neglect. Funds will be used to reduce sediments and nutrient input, and to clean and repair inlets, outlets, and utility piping within the drainage area. Invasive plants will be removed, the lake will be dredged, and sediment and debris will be removed from adjacent walkways. Improvements will address aerator issues, replace the Boardwalk decking, and repair the brick wall and picket fence. Previous funding is for park entrances, lighting, and the superintendent's house.

100 S. Linwood Ave – Legislative Dist. 46

4. Druid Hill Park: Tennis Courts..... \$300,000

Funds will be used to renovate tennis courts in Druid Hill Park. Improvements will include new asphalt surfacing and fencing. All renovations will include related ADA improvements.

Druid Hill Park - 2700 Madison Ave – Legislative Dist. 40

5. Clifton Athletic Field Renovation..... \$1,125,000

Funds will be used to renovate the multipurpose field in Clifton Park. Multipurpose fields in parks are in high demand for adult and youth athletic leagues for football, soccer, and lacrosse. The field in this location has not been renovated in over 30 years and will include a complete transformation. In Clifton Park (265 acres), the existing field next to the REACH school will be renovated to include an artificial turf multipurpose field

with new sport lighting, 8-lane running track, scoreboard, fencing, ADA pathways, bleachers, and landscaping. The field will be programmed by Rec & Parks and also used in partnership with the Reach School/Baltimore City Public School System who is also partnering with the construction of the field as well.

Clifton Park - 2801 Harford Rd – Legislative Dist. 45

6. Northwest Park Improvements \$100,000

Redesign and improve the section of the park along W Rogers Ave to include pedestrian circulation, community garden access, an expanded playground, plaza, stormwater management, and additional trees. Northwest Park contains several popular athletic fields, a golf driving range and a community garden. Recently completed, a new section of the Jones Falls Trail traverses through the park and brings new users to this destination. Improvements to this passive section of the park are needed to link amenities, properly separate cars/pedestrians, and provide a formal respite/ stopping area along the JFT. Grading, improved circulation, and enhanced planting will make the space ADA accessible and more flexible for community events and programs. The need for improvements to this section of the park were identified as part of the Northwest Master Plan (2013) and these funds would supplement funding from prior years to allow for continued implementation of the park master plan. These planned improvements would complete the upper or “front” side of the park.

2101 W. Rogers Ave – Legislative Dist. 41

7. Wilber H. Waters Park Field House \$50,000

Renovate existing field house. Install new roof, windows and doors.

1600 N. Dukeland St – Legislative Dist. 40

8. Carroll Park Maintenance Facility \$550,000

Park maintenance crews are based in 5 maintenance yards. Funds would support renovations at the Carroll Division park maintenance yard. The current building is uninhabitable due to rodent infestation and electrical wiring throughout the building is outdated and a fire hazard. The locker room and office are crumbling, inefficient, and violate building health codes. It does not have required showers and dressing areas, it needs safe storage facilities as well as ADA updates. Currently the park staff share facilities with the Carroll Park Golf Course. The maintenance facility needs to support modern day maintenance needs and to provide a safe work environment. The new facility would utilize energy-efficient heating and lighting systems as well as energy efficient windows and doors. Additional storage capacity (pole barns) along with dumpster storage and access are also needed. FY2026 funding request will support the design of a new facility and demolition of the existing facility. The design will consider new alternative locations as well as a cost estimate for the construction. Future funding will be requested for the construction in FY 2027.

1500 Washington Blvd – Legislative Dist. 40

9. Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory..... \$3,847,617.43

The Howard ‘Peters’ Rawlings Conservatory has structural deterioration below the orchid room and the window frames of the palm house are rotting to the point where large gaps are appearing. Funding is needed to prevent the building from potential collapse.

Druid Hill Park - 2700 Madison Ave – Legislative Dist. 40

10. City Springs Park Improvements – Phase I \$2,742,919

Create design development, construction documents and Phase I of Site Improvements for City Springs Park. This project, along with renovation of the Chick Webb Recreation Center, is a component of HABC/DHCD's planned redevelopment efforts in East Baltimore of Perkins, Old Town, Somerset Homes. Improvements to City Springs Park will replace the existing outdoor pool in a new location, add support facilities, improve park access and circulation. The project coordinated with HABC/DHCD community participation processes. City Springs pool was built in the early 1970s and does not meet current design standards and recreation needs. A facility assessment of the pool has been completed. While the park contains a recently renovated athletic field and has a community garden, it lacks clear entrances and circulation between facilities. The Housing Authority of Baltimore City was awarded a \$30-million-dollar CHOICE grant from HUD for a mixed income housing plan for a defined area including the Perkins, Old Town and Somerset Homes. Chick Webb Fitness and Wellness Center and City Springs Park are part of the redevelopment scheme. These facilities will serve the existing residents in addition to incoming residents of the planned new mixed income housing. A public process to create conceptual and schematic designs for City Springs Park has been completed and construction documents are underway for phase I. The requested funds will allow for the design and construction of Phase I improvements to include: a new relocated pool facility, a restroom/ storage structure, a new central entrance plaza, relocated garden, and corner park entrance.

1600 E. Lombard St. – Legislative Dist. 46

11. FY26 Baltimore Park System \$7,000,000

These funds will be used to continue the maintenance, planning, volunteer support and operations of the Baltimore City Park System. The park system includes such large parks as Carroll Park, Clifton Park, Cylburn Arboretum, Druid Hill Park, Herring Run Park, Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park, and Patterson Park, as well as hundreds of smaller parks and play areas. The system contains over 5,700 acres of park land. This park land includes woodlands, playgrounds, picnic groves, and many athletic fields which have ongoing maintenance, operational and planning needs. The perpetual maintenance program including mowing, trash pickup and general park care will protect the Baltimore Park System's natural and recreational resources which have been purchased or improved utilizing Program Open Space funds in the past.