July 14, 2021

Ms. Carrie Lhotsky  
Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
Program Open Space  
580 Taylor Avenue, E-4  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Ms. Lhotsky:

Please find the updated Talbot County Program Open Space Annual Plan for fiscal year 2022. Maps are included for each project for your reference.

Should you have any questions, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Preston Peper  
Talbot County Parks and Recreation Director
Program Open Space
Annual Program FY 2022

The Talbot County Parks and Recreation Department has spent significant time developing a strategy for improving access to public lands as part of the Talbot County Comprehensive Plan (TCCP) and the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). Talbot County currently provides its residents with many opportunities to pursue recreational and leisure activities. Some of these opportunities are available through a variety of recreation programs offered by the County's Department of Parks and Recreation. Other opportunities exist in a variety of parks ranging from large County-wide park facilities to small neighborhood play areas.

The Annual Program is consistent with the goals established in Talbot County's Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. All projects are submitted to the Talbot County Parks Advisory Board for approval before being presented to the Talbot County Council for final approval. The projects in the 2022 Annual Program, presented below, have been approved by the Parks Advisory Board and County Council for this fiscal year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Project Name, Project Description</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Source of Funds for Annual Program Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Existing</td>
<td>Ultimate</td>
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<tr>
<td>LPPRP 2022</td>
<td></td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
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Talbot County proposed to secure a consultant to work with the Parks & Recreation and Planning & Zoning departments to complete a comprehensive LPPRP. The consultant work will include, but not limited to: assessing current inventory of parks and amenities, identify needs and/or gaps in recreational services while outlining goals to meet current or future goals and strategies for improvement of Talbot County's recreational, natural resources and agricultural lands, conduct public meetings and surveys and complete any map updates. These are additional funds for the LPPRP.
Development Project – Irrigation & Bermuda Seeding
The playable areas at the Talbot County Community Center for sports and tournaments are no longer holding up for acceptable playing due largely to lack of consistent watering, turf type (fescue vs. Bermuda) and overuse. TCPR had to move field hockey to the community center fields and have had travel baseball and adult softball being granted heavier uses. Soccer and flag football have also increased usage at the park. Irrigation in conjunction with Bermuda seeding would greatly alleviate burn marks, over use and provide a better, safer surface. The estimated price for this project is $125,000.

Development Project – Pickleball Courts
Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the world, almost 28% increase in participation during the COVID pandemic. There are currently no designated pickleball courts in Talbot County as these would be outdoor courts located on the northeast side of the Community Center property,
currently an agricultural field. This location is not suitable for youth sports and the close proximity to the north parking lot makes it ideal for parking and walking for user groups. There would be six courts, fenced in with a pavilion. The estimated price for this project is $225,000.

**Development Project – Concession Stand/Bathroom Replacement**
The existing building is 30 years old, roof and wood walls are failing, too large for practical use. The concession stand and storage area would be greatly decreased while the bathrooms would be upgraded. Without a replacement, this structure will soon be unsafe and/or unusable; currently user groups to the athletic fields utilize the concession stand while all users of the park and property use the restroom facility. The estimated price for this project is $75,000.