



DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS

AIRPORT | BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & FACILITIES | HIGHWAYS | PARKS & RECREATION | TRANSIT

June 25, 2025

Ms. Kate Mayberry
Land Acquisition and Planning
Department of Natural Resources
Program Open Space
580 Taylor Avenue, E4
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Washington County FY26 Annual Program - Program Open Space

Dear Ms. Mayberry:

Enclosed please find Washington County's Annual POS Program for FY 2026 which identifies projects for both the County and its municipalities. All project requests were presented by the applicants before the County's Recreation and Parks advisory Board. The program was recommended by the Recreation and Parks Board and approved by the Board of County Commissioners and anticipates spending \$2,041,000 for development projects in FY 2026. No acquisition requests were received for FY26 and since Washington County has met its land acquisition goal, the County will exercise the option to apply all of its POS funds to development projects after October 1, 2025. The project descriptions are included and costs shown in the attached program schedule which includes funding from the FY26 allocation as well as a large amount from the existing unencumbered balance. The Ag Center Multipurpose Building included in several years of annual POS program schedules will not be constructed and is the primary source of the additional funds above the FY26 allocation.

The site locations for the various projects are shown on the attached maps with a numerical identifier. Copies of the Annual Program will be sent to all municipalities and Maryland Department of Planning.

Thank you for your assistance with the Program Open Space program and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Andrew Eshleman, P.E.
Director Public Works
100 West Washington Street
Hagerstown MD, 21740
240-313-2252

cc: Deborah Herr Cornwell, Maryland Department of Planning

FY 2026 Program Project Descriptions

The Program Open Space (POS) projects support the County's Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) through Public Investment, Resource Protection, Social Integration, and promoting Health and Wellness. Project priorities support Maryland's growth management policies and the 1992 Planning Act eight visions. Project requests were reviewed relative to the County's 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan priorities and goals including maximizing general public access and use. Some projects requests were cut or reduced due to limited available funding and prioritizing projects that aligned with the County's LPPRP priorities and goals.

Development

Funkstown

Project #1

Jerusalem Park – Park Development
20 West Poplar Street
Funkstown, MD 21740

The park site contains 2.34 acres of land along the Antietam Creek and is under development. In FY23, \$202,500 in development funds were provided for park construction including the 40' round octagon pavilion. Additional funds are required to complete the park's construction which include ADA paved parking, kayak/canoe access, picnic tables and grills. The Town was also successful in receiving a \$275,000 FY26 Community Parks and Playground Grant from the State and the FY26 POS recommended award was reduced to account for the redundant electrical work.

The project supports the County's goal of providing facilities that support the holistic health and wellbeing of the community.

Hagerstown

Project #2

Greens at Hamilton Run – Hole 5 Reconstruction
2 South Cleveland Avenue
Hagerstown, MD 21740

The Greens at Hamilton Run is a public 9-hole golf course located at the intersection of Dual Highway. The City recently completed a stormwater stream restoration project on Hole No. 2 that restored the flow of Hamilton Run across the fairway. As part of that design effort, the City planned to rebuild Hole No. 5 on the east side of the course. The green is built on inadequate materials that makes it a challenge to keep grass established. The material is not conducive to providing the proper soil nutrients needed to provide a proper greens surface. The hole is also too far east and a design has been completed to relocate the entire hole further to the west with suitable soils to improve maintenance and quality of the hole.

The project supports the County's goal of maintaining the existing park infrastructure in a manner that considers future user needs and service upgrades.

Project #3

City Park – Train Museum Roof Replacement
501 Virginia Avenue
Hagerstown, MD 21740

The Train Hub is located in the southwest corner of the 65-acre City Park. The Train Hub includes the Train Museum, a pavilion, playground equipment, restrooms and Steam Locomotive Engine 202. The Train Museum includes numerous train artifacts used to educate visitors on Hagerstown's train history. Artifacts include tools, equipment, photos, and other displays. The building was originally used for storage but was converted in the early 2000's into a museum. The roof is currently covered with asphalt shingles that are deteriorating and need to be replaced. The Train Hub's pavilion and restrooms currently have metal roofs. A metal roof would be installed on the Train Museum to protect the museum's artifacts, provide a long-term useful life and match the aesthetics of the surrounding facilities.

The project supports the County's goal of maintaining the existing park infrastructure in a manner that considers future user needs and service upgrades.

Washington County

Project #4

Woodland Way – Playground Equipment Replacement
108 Belview Avenue
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Woodland Way is a 4.4-acre park located in a residential neighborhood in north Hagerstown. This project consists of replacing existing playground equipment that is 20+ years old. The playground equipment is outdated, and replacement parts are unavailable. The metal deck surfacing, stairs, and equipment edges are worn and coating cracking. Additional improvements include seating, connecting pathways and landscaping.

This project specifically supports Washington County's goals of providing facilities that support the holistic health and wellbeing of the community and maintaining the existing park infrastructure in a manner that considers future user needs and service upgrades.

Project #5

Pen Mar Park Interpretive Museum and Vending Machine Kiosk
14600 Pen Mar High Rock Road
Cascade, MD 21719

Pen Mar Park is a 43-acre park formerly established as a popular amusement park and resort on South Mountain near the Mason-Dixon line established by the Western Maryland Railroad in 1877 to encourage train travel to the area. The Appalachian Trail crosses through the park. The County owns an interpretive museum showcasing the area's history and artifacts. The project consists of renovating the existing interpretive museum building to provide HVAC, lighting, and building signage. The proposed work will

provide a conditioned space for the interpretive center. The existing building is located along the primary paved pathway and signage will be added to improve the identification and to draw patrons into the building.

The existing concession building is no longer used as Sunday Concert series attendance and user preferences have changed towards the flexibility of providing services through food trucks and mobile vendors. There still exists a demand for services outside of events for park users and Appalachian thru hikers. The existing concession building will be modified to a vending machine kiosk shelter.

This project specifically supports Washington County's goals of maintaining the existing park infrastructure in a manner that considers future user needs and service upgrades and protecting and enhancing natural and cultural resources.

Project #6

Pleasant Valley Park – Playground Equipment Replacement
3199 Gapland Road
Rohrersville, MD 21779

Pleasant Valley Park consists of 8.14 acres and located in the rural village of Gapland. This project consists of replacing existing playground equipment that is 20+ years old. The playground equipment is outdated, and replacement parts are unavailable. The metal deck surface, stairs, and equipment edges are starting to wear and crack. Additional improvements include lighting and improving the ADA accessible pathways and facilities to the equipment.

This project specifically supports Washington County's goals of providing facilities that support the holistic health and wellbeing of the community and maintaining the existing park infrastructure in a manner that considers future user needs and service upgrades.

Project #7

Marty Snook Park – Playground #2 Equipment Replacement
17901 Halfway Blvd
Hagerstown, MD 21740

This park consists of 2 parcels, 40.34/31.53 acres. The project scope includes replacing existing playground equipment in Marty Snook Park that is 20+ years old.

The new equipment would replace the two existing playground structures near pavilion #2. The wheelchair accessible structure does not meet current ADA standards for slope and fall protection. The poured in place rubber surfacing is failing. The red, white, and blue tower structure is worn, and outdated and replacement parts are unavailable. Previously, broken plastic parts were replaced with salvaged parts when old equipment was replaced.

The proposed design would create an inclusive play area for all children as well as designated areas for children ages 2-5 and 5-15. The new facility would provide ADA compliant facilities and pathways to restrooms. Additional amenities include seating, covered picnic and viewing area and an enclosed surround to contain children who are flight risks. The playground would have a bonded rubber surface for fall protection and accessibility standards.

This project specifically supports Washington County's goals of providing facilities that support the holistic health and wellbeing of the community and maintaining the existing park infrastructure in a manner that considers future user needs and service upgrades.

Project #8

Marty Snook Park – Pool Renovation
17901 Halfway Blvd
Hagerstown, MD 21740

This park consists of 2 parcels, 40.34/31.53 acres. The project scope includes renovating the pool and supporting facilities. Marty Snook Park pool is over 35 years old and in need of a facility renovation and an amenity update. The kid pool is underutilized, the bathrooms, concessions and staff/check-in buildings are outdated, and the buildings and pool equipment need to be updated.

The pool white coating was replaced in 2025. Additional improvements include bathroom renovations, roof replacements, mechanical systems and equipment. Installation of splash park equipment in the kid pool, expand the pool side fenced in area, provide additional shaded areas and awnings.

This project specifically supports Washington County's goal of maintaining the existing park infrastructure in a manner that considers future user needs and service upgrades.

Project #9

Regional Park – Walking and Hiking Trail
20025 Mt. Aetna Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742

This project consists of creating approximately two miles of multi-use trails for walking, hiking and biking at Washington County Regional Park and a new trailhead parking lot on Landis Road opening new access to the park. The trail network will cross varied terrain and habitat and offer vistas of South Mountain, farmland, established woodlands, emerging forests, and the golf course. The nearby Robinwood and Mt. Aetna corridor is largely residential but lacks these facilities. The project will develop facilities on currently underutilized park land. The project received POS funds in FY22, and additional funds are anticipated to complete the project. The project has also received a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant of \$458,000.

This project specifically supports Washington County's goal of providing facilities that support the holistic health and wellbeing of the community and designing parks and recreation facilities to preserve, protect and enhance natural and cultural resources.

Project #10

Mt. Briar Wetlands Preserve Trails and Conservation Area
19822 Millbrook Road
Keedysville, MD 21756

Mt. Briar Wetland Preserve is a 30.3-acre park in the Mt. Briar Rural Village and one of the few non-tidal wetlands of its size in Washington County. The park has an elevated boardwalk trail built over the wetland. There is, however, no vehicle parking or connecting walking/biking trails to the rural preserve and public access to the property is limited. There are approximately 3.5 acres of swampy former pasture

field grass. The project would establish a small parking area, connect the existing boardwalk trail with an upland trail network on the remaining areas of the property. The existing monoculture grass pasture field would be converted with tree plantings and portions as a native species lowland meadow. Wayfinding and natural resource information signage would be provided throughout the park. The park is intended to remain as a natural resource conservation area and not a developed community park.

This project specifically supports Washington County's goal of designing parks and recreation facilities to preserve, protect and enhance natural and cultural resources and providing facilities that support the holistic health and wellbeing of the community.

Project #11

Washington County Public Schools

Clear Spring Elementary School – Playground Equipment Replacement
12627 Broadfording Road
Clear Spring, MD 21722

The project will replace outdated playground equipment at the elementary school. The playground equipment is outdated, in poor condition and replacement parts are unavailable. The school is in town and within a walkable community and close proximity to the town library. The playground will be available for public use from sunrise to sunset during periods when not in use by the school's students.

WASHINGTON COUNTY
FY 2026 POS PROGRAM SCHEDULE
FINAL DNR VERSION

SPONSOR	PROJECT	PROJECT ACRES			TOTAL PROJECT	LOCAL SHARE POS FUNDS	LOCAL POS FUNDS	POS FUNDS RECOMMENDED	FEDERAL FUNDS	PROJECT AND MAP NUMBER
		Existing	Ultimate	Project						
FUNKSTOWN	Jerusalem Park	2.34	2.34	2.34	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	10.0%	\$ 110,000.00	\$ -	1
					\$ 150,000.00	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 110,000.00	\$ -	
HAGERSTOWN	Hamilton Run Golf Course - Hole 5 reconstruction	41.9	41.9	1	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	10.0%	\$ 112,500.00	\$ -	2
	City Park - Train Museum	50	50	0.03	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	10.0%	\$ 13,500.00	\$ -	3
					\$ 140,000.00	\$ 14,000.00		\$ 126,000.00	\$ -	
WASHINGTON COUNTY	Woodland Way - Playground Replacement	4.41	4.41	0.75	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	10.0%	\$ 180,000.00	\$ -	4
	Pen Mar Interpretive Museum and Vending Machine Kiosk	43	43	0.1	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	10.0%	\$ 36,000.00	\$ -	5
	Pleasant Valley - Playground Replacement	8	8	0.5	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 17,500.00	10.0%	\$ 158,000.00	\$ -	6
	Marty Snook Park - Playground #2	78	78	0.75	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	10.0%	\$ 831,000.00	\$ -	7
	Marty Snook Park - Pool Renovation	78	78	0.8	\$ 1,200,000.00	\$ 975,000.00	81.3%	\$ 225,000.00	\$ -	8
	Regional Park - Walking and Hiking Trail	49	105	4	\$ 1,051,100.00	\$ 211,100.00	20.1%	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 458,000.00	9
	Mt. Briar Wetland - Trails and Conservation Area	30.3	30.3	30.3	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	10.0%	\$ 135,000.00	\$ -	10
					\$ 3,816,100.00	\$ 1,342,600.00		\$ 1,715,000.00	\$ 458,000.00	
WCPS	Clear Spring Elementary - Playground Replacement	9	9	0.5	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	10.0%	\$ 90,000.00	\$ -	11
					\$ 100,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	10.0%	\$ 90,000.00	\$ -	
TOTAL					\$ 4,206,100.00	\$ 1,381,600.00		\$ 2,041,000.00	\$ 458,000.00	

POS Program FY26 Allocation

\$ 544,413

As of May 1, 2025 funding letter

POS Development apportionment 7/1/25

\$ 408,310

Unencumbered Development 5/7/25

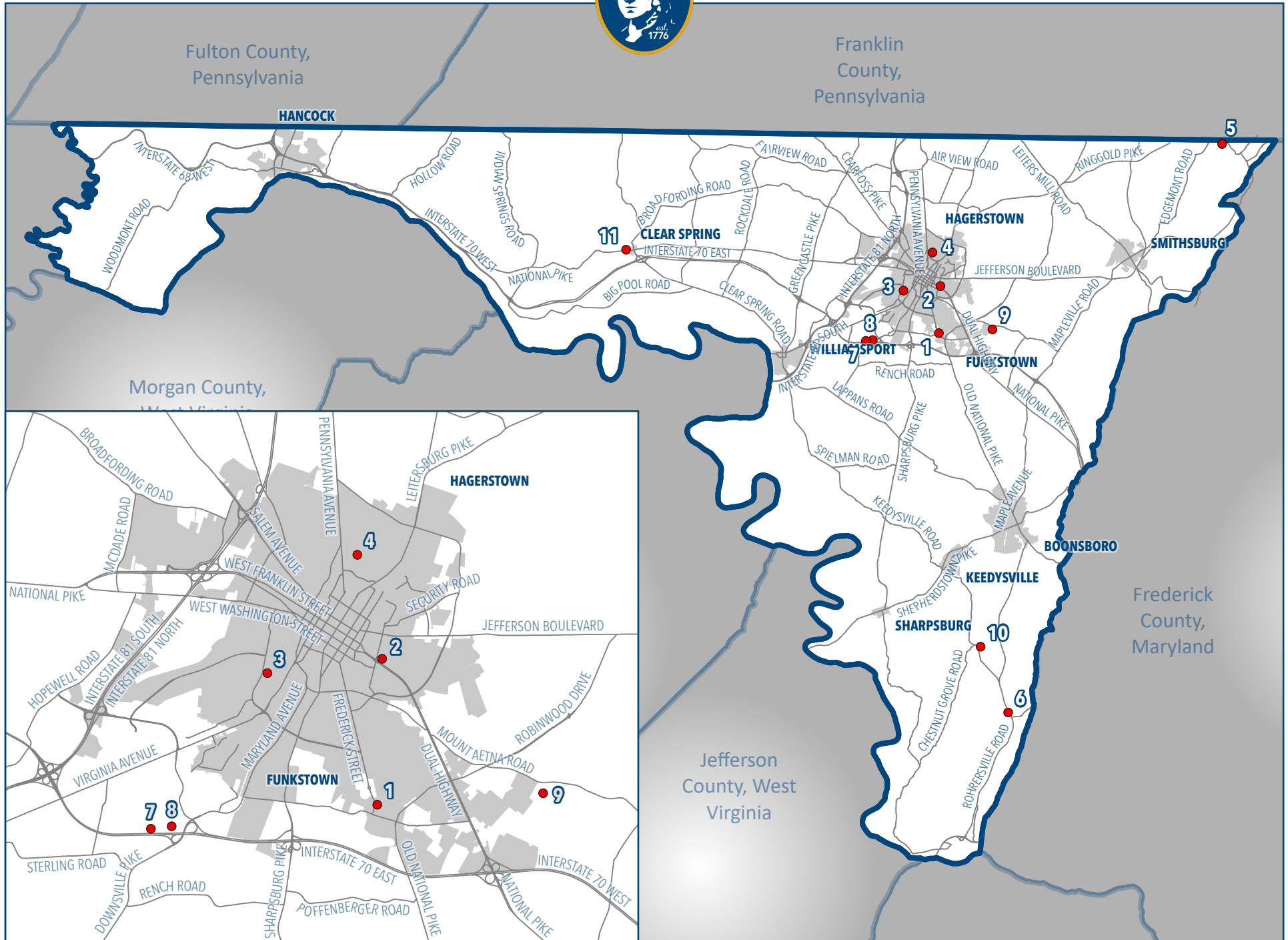
\$ 1,868,661

Total

\$ 2,276,971

POS Program FY26 Total

\$ 2,041,000 Proposed FY26 schedule does not exceed 7/1/25 balance





#1 - JERUSALEM PARK - PARK DEVELOPMENT

Project Location: 20 WEST POPLAR STREET, FUNKSTOWN, MD
Project Sponsor: TOWN OF FUNKSTOWN
Fiscal Year: 2026

 Municipalities
 Program Open Space Project Location





#2 - HAMILTON RUN GOLF COURSE - HOLE RECONSTRUCTION

Project Location: HAMILTON RUN GOLF COURSE
Project Sponsor: HAGERSTOWN
Fiscal Year: 2026

-  Municipalities
-  Board of Education Properties
-  Program Open Space Project Location





#3 - TRAIN MUSEUM ROOF

Project Location: HAGERSTOWN CITY PARK
Project Sponsor: HAGERSTOWN
Fiscal Year: 2026

 Municipalities
 Program Open Space Project Location





#4 - WOODLAND WAY PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT

Project Location: Woodland Way
Project Sponsor: WASHINGTON COUNTY
Fiscal Year: 2026

-  Municipalities
-  Board of Education Properties
-  Program Open Space Project Location





#5 - INTERPRETIVE MUSEUM AND VENDING MACHINE KIOSK

Project Location: PEN MAR PARK
Project Sponsor: WASHINGTON COUNTY
Fiscal Year: 2026

 Program Open Space Project Location





#6 - PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT

Project Location: PLEASANT VALLEY PARK
Project Sponsor: WASHINGTON COUNTY
Fiscal Year: 2026

 Program Open Space Project Location



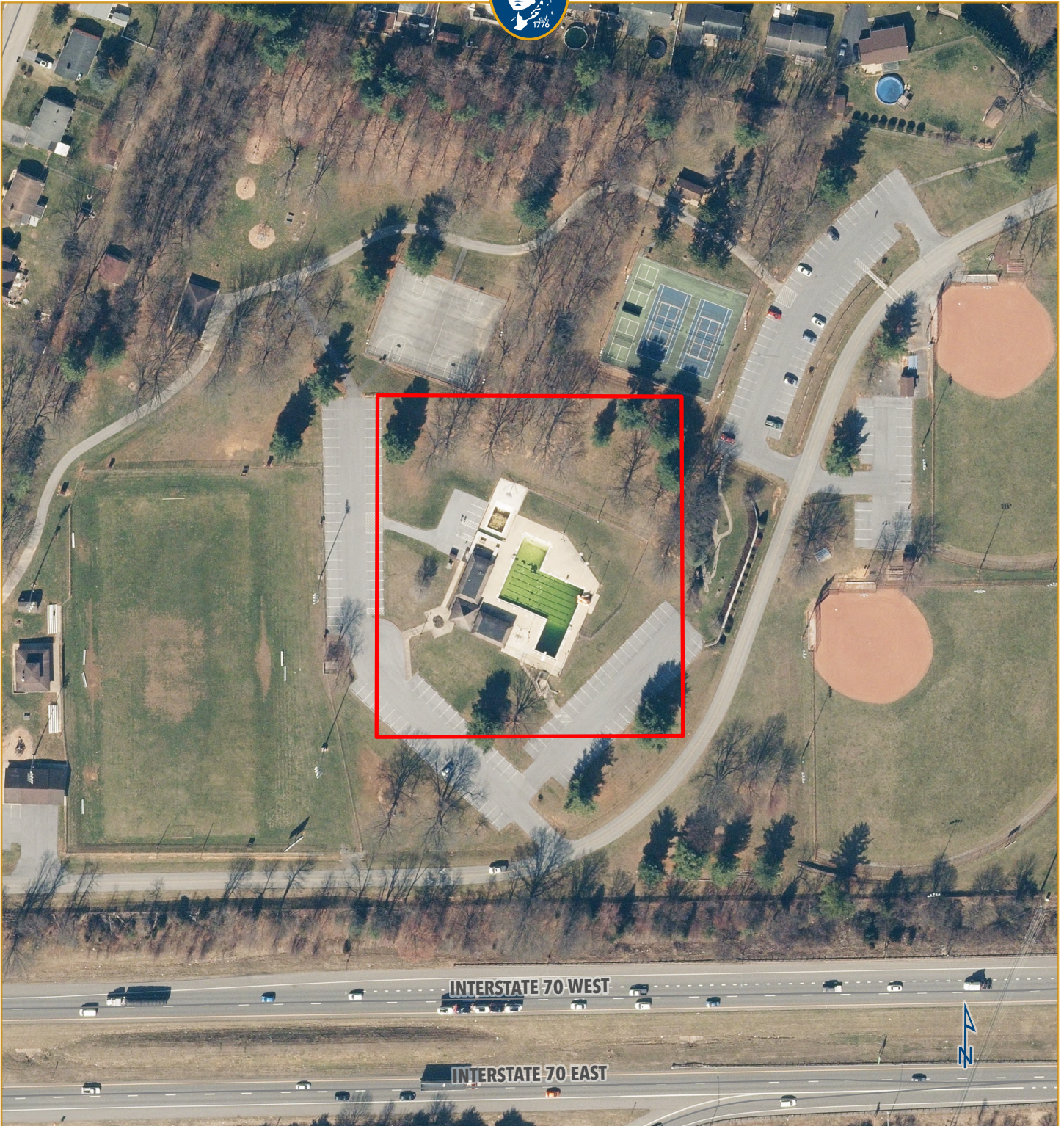


#7 - PLAYGROUND NO. 2 REPLACEMENT

Project Location: MARTY SNOOK PARK
Project Sponsor: WASHINGTON COUNTY
Fiscal Year: 2026

 Program Open Space Project Location





#8 - POOL RENOVATION

Project Location: MARTY SNOOK PARK
Project Sponsor: WASHINGTON COUNTY
Fiscal Year: 2026

 Program Open Space Project Location



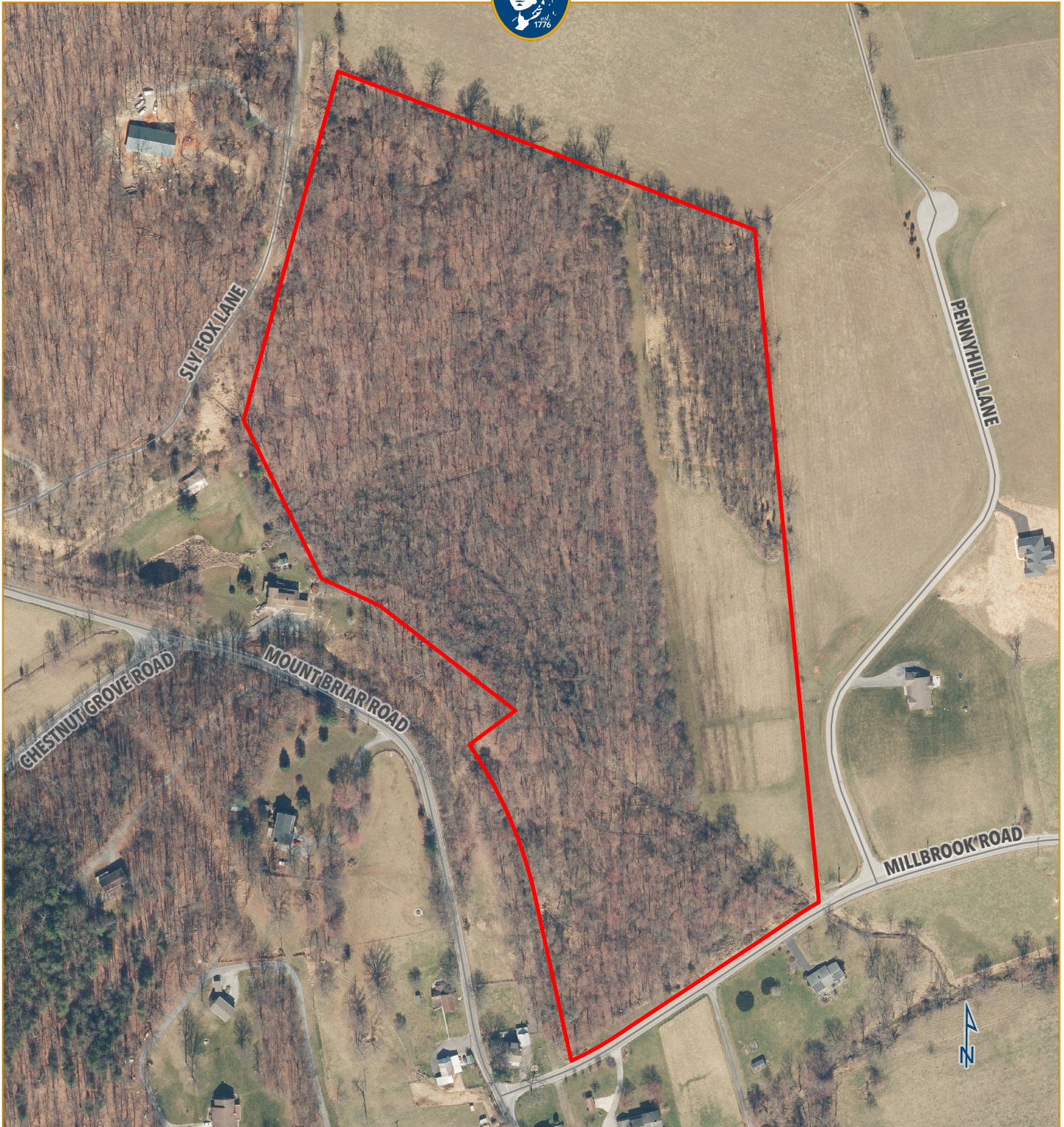


#9 - REGIONAL PARK WALKING TRAIL

Project Location: REGIONAL PARK
Project Sponsor: WASHINGTON COUNTY
Fiscal Year: 2026

 Municipalities
 Program Open Space Project Location





#10 - TRAILS AND CONSERVATION AREA

Project Location: MT BRIAR WETLAND
Project Sponsor: WASHINGTON COUNTY
Fiscal Year: 2026

 Program Open Space Project Location





#11 - PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT

Project Location: CLEAR SPRING ELEMENTARY
 Project Sponsor: WASHINGTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS/WASHINGTON COUNTY
 Fiscal Year: 2026

-  Municipalities
-  Board of Education Properties
-  Program Open Space Project Location

