


11
6-9-09

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 29, 2009

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF A NON-COMPETITIVE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, LITTER PREVENTION AND RECYCLING PROGRAM, FOR FUNDING FOR THE ADOPT-A-PARK LITTER CONTROL PROGRAM

ISSUE: City Council consideration of a non-competitive grant application to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Litter Prevention and Recycling Program, for funding to support the Adopt-a-Park Litter Control program.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council authorize the City Manager to:

- (1) Submit a non-competitive grant application to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Litter Prevention and Recycling Program, for funding in the approximate amount of \$20,321 for the Adopt-a-Park Litter Control Program (the exact amount to be determined by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality by July 15, 2009); and
- (2) Due to severe City budget constraints, affirm that no City funds will be available to fund this program in FY 2010 or future years and
- (3) Execute all necessary documents that may be required.

DISCUSSION: The City's Adopt-a-Park program began in 1978, with the first litter grant award. Through this program, local citizen groups enter into an agreement with the City to pick up litter (broken glass, bottles, cans and paper) in their assigned park areas (Attachment 1). This program has been very successful in increasing cleanliness in the parks, reducing City costs for litter control, and involving citizens in their neighborhood. This year (2009), 32 park areas are being maintained through this program.

The Park Planning Division makes monthly inspections, rates the park areas for cleanliness, and awards points, up to a maximum of 96 points for a perfect effort sustained over an eight month period. Based on the number of points awarded annually to each of the participating citizen

groups, a cash donation is awarded. The amount of the cash donation made to each citizen group is determined by taking the money available for the program and dividing it by the cumulative number of points to determine the dollar value of each point with a cap of \$10.00 per point. The dollar value for each point is then multiplied by the number of points each participating group earned to determine that group's cash award.

In FY 2009, three parks received the maximum award of 96 points. A list of the participating groups and the amount of their awards for FY 2009 is provided (Attachment 2). In FY 2010, the maximum donation for an individual park will not exceed \$846.41 per park, based on the anticipated grant amount and a maximum accumulation of 96 points. Attachment 3 reflects the total potential cost for this program if all parks receive the maximum award.

GRANT PERIOD: July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010, FY 2010.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is minimal fiscal impact on the City. There is no requirement for the City to provide a cash match or an in-kind match for these grant funds. In FY 2009, the City provided \$787.00 in voluntary supplemental funding. In the past three fiscal years City funding has averaged approximately \$1,240 depending on the amount of the grant and number of parks participating in the program.

The City does not anticipate providing supplemental funding for FY 2010. FY 2010 grant monies will determine the point values of the total number of points earned at the end of the program year. In addition, the City is responsible for administrative costs associated with this grant. These costs include monitoring the operation of the program and financial oversight. These costs are absorbed in staff time.

It is anticipated that the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Litter Prevention and Recycling Program, will provide a minimum grant funding of approximately \$20,321 in FY 2010 for this project. The City's contribution is \$0.00 for the total FY 2010 program budget of \$20,321¹ (Attachment 3); it is unlikely that all parks will receive all available funding. Any remaining grant funding will be carried over to the next fiscal year.

The grant monies will be utilized first. It should be noted that there are no additional funds available in the City budget to continue these activities once the grant funds are expended. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will determine the exact amount of this year's grant by July 15, 2009. It is intended, because of severe City budget constraints, that no City funds will supplement this program in future years if the State funding does not 100% support all costs of this initiative.

¹ Thirty two (32) parks are included in the budget of \$20,321. Sixteen (16) of the parks are less than one acre and are eligible for a maximum of 96 points, and \$423.35, and sixteen (16) parks are greater than one acre and are eligible to receive a maximum of 96 points, and \$846.71.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 - Adopt-A-Park Litter Control Procedures

Attachment 2 - Adopt-A-Park Litter Control Awards for FY 2009

Attachment 3 - Adopt-A-Park Litter Control Budget for FY 2010

The grant application may be reviewed in the Office of Management and Budget, Room 3600, City Hall, during normal office hours.

STAFF:

Rich Baier, Interim Director, Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities

Bruce Johnson, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Judy Lo, Park Planner, Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities

ADOPT-A-PARK LITTER CONTROL PROGRAM PROCEDURES PROGRAM YEAR 2009

1. Each park is to be inspected unannounced once per month on a Monday beginning April 1st and ending November 30th, for a total of 8 inspections. Inspections do not occur on City Holidays that fall on Mondays. These are typically Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day and Columbus Day.

2. The inspections will be based on a **12 point system**. The system will be as follows:
A score of **12 points** = **Perfect:** *No Paper*
No Cans
No Bottles
No Glass

The system is broken down into 4 segments, Paper, Cans, Bottles, and Glass. Each section can receive *up to 3 points*.

One to 3 pieces of litter in any category is sufficient to reduce the score by 1 point. A generally littered appearance in any of the four categories would result in a score of 0.

3. Cash awards are based on available funds for this program. Core funding for the program is provided by the State's Litter Prevention and Recycling Grant. The annual grant amount the City receives will vary each year. This grant is usually supplemented by City funds, if available.

The available funds will be divided by the total number of points compiled in the inspection ratings by all participating associations. Each association's point total will be multiplied by that rate to determine the dollar amount for the year.

The grant is applied for and received during the program year according to this schedule:

MARCH 2009: Check distribution for work completed in 2009. Program Year 2009 kickoff. **April 1, 2009 start date of 2009 Program.**
JUNE 2009: Grant application submitted. City Council FY2010 approval.
FALL 2009: Grant Awarded to City. **November 30, 2009 end of 2009 Program.**
WINTER 2009: City allocation of funds.
MARCH 2010: Checks distributed for work completed in 2009. Program Year 2010 kickoff.

4. Checks are distributed each year in March.
5. Monthly scores will be communicated by email after each inspection. Contact us at anytime with any concerns you may have about the parks. Our office number is 703-838-5095, ext. 438. Mail all correspondence to: Adopt-a-Park Coordinator, Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Alexandria, VA 22314

ADOPT-A-PARK CASH AWARDS FOR FY 2009

| <u>PARK AREA</u> | <u>GROUP</u> | <u>POINTS EARNED</u> | <u>CASH AWARDED</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| All Veterans Park | Alexandria Fire Department | 54 | \$540.00 |
| Angel Park | Taylor Run Citizens' Association | 86 | \$860.00 |
| Beach Park | Rosemont Citizens' Association | 91 | \$910.00 |
| Beverley Park | North Ridge Citizens' Association | 93 | \$930.00 |
| Charles Hill Park* | Alexandria Police Special Operations | 95* | \$475.00 |
| Chetworth Park* | Northeast Citizens/Chetworth Park | 96* | \$480.00 |
| Chinquapin Park | Taylor Run Civic Association | 88 | \$880.00 |
| Colasanto Center | Del Ray Artisans | 95 | \$950.00 |
| Commonwealth | Del Ray Citizens' Association | 96 | \$960.00 |
| Four Mile Run Playground | Hume Spring Citizens' Association | 73 | \$730.00 |
| Four Mile Edison Entrance* | Hume Spring Citizens' Association | 86* | \$430.00 |
| Founders Park | Founders Park Community Association | 83 | \$830.00 |
| Goat Hill Park | Warwick Village Citizens' Association | 95 | \$950.00 |
| Helen Miller* | Inner City Civic Association | 82* | \$410.00 |
| Hillside Park* | Warwick Village Citizens' Association | 89* | \$445.00 |
| Holmes Run/Brookvalley | Alexandria Day Reporting Program | 54 | \$540.00 |
| Hooffs Run Park | Rosemont Citizens/Lower East Rosemont | 85 | \$850.00 |
| Hume Spring Park* | Hume Spring Citizens' Association | 76* | \$380.00 |
| Interior Park* | Inner City Civic Association | 94* | \$470.00 |
| Landover Park* | Warwick Village Citizens' Association | 91* | \$455.00 |
| Leider Park | Troop 129 & 113 Boy Scouts of America | 90 | \$900.00 |
| Lynhaven Park* | Lynhaven Civic Association | 94* | \$470.00 |
| Lynhaven Gateway * | Lynhaven Civic Association | 95* | \$475.00 |
| Mason Park* | Del Ray Citizens' Association | 91* | \$455.00 |
| Montgomery | Old Town North Community Association | 84 | \$840.00 |
| Mt. Jefferson Park* | Mt. Jefferson Civic Association | 74* | \$370.00 |
| Mt. Jefferson Greenway* | Mt. Jefferson Civic Association | 67* | \$335.00 |
| Mt. Jefferson Dog Run* | Mt. Jefferson Civic Association | 72* | \$360.00 |
| Pendleton Park* | Inner City Civic Association | 94* | \$470.00 |
| Powhatan Park | Northeast Citizens' Association | 91 | \$910.00 |
| Simpson Park Westside | Del Ray Citizens' Association | 96 | \$960.00 |
| Stevenson Park | Alexandria Day Reporting Program | 75 | \$750.00 |

FY 2008 Total Cash Award = \$21,915

Park areas greater than one (1) acre are \$10.00 per point.

* These park areas are less than one (1) acre are \$5.00 per point.

PAYMENT SUMMARY:

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| FY 2009 Litter grant funds used for payments: | \$21,128 |
| Supplemental City funds: | \$ 787 |
| Total program payments: | \$21,915 for FY 2008 |

ADOPT-A-PARK CASH BUDGET FOR FY 2010

| <u>PARK AREA</u> | <u>GROUP</u> | <u>MAXIMUM POINTS</u> | <u>MAXIMUM CASH</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Angel Park | Taylor Run Civic Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Beach Park | Rosemont Citizens' Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Beverley Park | North Ridge Citizens' Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Charles Hill Park* | Alexandria Police Special Operations | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Chetworth Park* | Northeast Citizens/Chetworth Park | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Chinquapin Park | Taylor Run Civic Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Colasanto Center | Del Ray Artisans | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Commonwealth Medians | Del Ray Citizens' Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Four Mile Run Playground | Hume Spring Citizens' Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Four Mile Edison Entrance* | Hume Spring Citizens' Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Founders Park | Founders Park Community Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Goat Hill Park | Warwick Village Citizens' Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Helen Miller* | Inner City Civic Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Hillside Park* | Warwick Village Citizens' Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Holmes Run Park | Action for Animals Network | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Hooffs Run Park | Rosemont Citizens/Lower East Rosemont | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Hume Spring Park* | Hume Spring Citizens' Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Interior Park* | Inner City Civic Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Landover Park* | Warwick Village Citizens' Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Leider Park | Troop 129 & 113 Boy Scouts of America | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Lynhaven Park* | Lynhaven Civic Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Lynhaven Gateway * | Lynhaven Civic Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Mason Park* | Del Ray Citizens' Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Montgomery | Old Town North Community Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Mt. Jefferson Greenway* | Mt. Jefferson Civic Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Mt. Jefferson Dog Run* | Mt. Jefferson Civic Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Mt. Jefferson Park* | Mt. Jefferson Civic Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Pendleton Park* | Inner City Civic Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Powhatan Park | Northeast Citizens' Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| Simpson Park Westside | Del Ray Citizens' Association | 96 | \$846.71 |
| St. Asaph Park* | Del Ray Citizens Association | 96* | \$423.35 |
| Stevenson Park | Alexandria Day Reporting Program | 96 | \$846.71 |

FY 2010 Total Potential Cash Award = \$20,320.96**

The value of each point will be determined by the amount of grant funding received divided by the total number of points earned.

Park areas greater than one (1) acre have a maximum potential of \$10.00 per point.

* Park areas less than one (1) acre have a maximum potential of \$5.00 per point.

PAYMENT SUMMARY:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| FY 2010 Litter grant funds: | \$20,321** |
| Anticipated Supplemental City funds: | <u>\$0,000</u> |
| Total potential program payments: | \$20,321 |

**This figure is an estimate only. The Department of Environmental Quality has not yet released the exact amount of the Litter Grant. This information will be released after July 15, 2009.