

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 6, 2012

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: RASHAD M. YOUNG, CITY MANAGER *RMJ*

SUBJECT: 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

ISSUE: 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:

- (1) Approve a non-competitive grant application to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Litter Prevention and Recycling Program, for funding in the approximate amount of \$16,871 for the Adopt-a-Park Litter Control Program (the exact amount to be determined by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality by September 30, 2012); and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to 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, controlling litter, and involving citizens in their neighborhood park. This calendar year 2012, 33 park areas are being maintained and monitored through this program.

The Park Operations Division makes monthly inspections, rates the park areas for cleanliness, and awards 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. Groups spend their cash awards at their own discretion. Typically, funds support the organization and its initiatives. The funds can be re-invested back into the park. Several groups have opted to use their FY 2011 earnings on plantings and landscape enhancements at Colosanto Center, Beverley, Interior, Pendleton, Hume Springs and Four Mile Run Parks. The organizations have also funded new park site furniture (benches and picnic tables) and other amenities at Simpson, Mason Ave. and Montgomery Parks.

In FY 2012, two parks (Chetworth and Pendleton Parks) received the maximum award of 96 points. A list of the participating groups and the amount of their awards for FY 2012 is provided (Attachment 2). In FY 2013, the maximum donation for an individual park will not exceed \$733.44 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.

The grant period is July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013, FY 2013.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is minimal fiscal impact on the City. An estimate of \$20,000 in grant resources and expenditures were included in the FY 2013 approved budget. There is no requirement for the City to provide a cash match or an in-kind match for these grant funds. FY 2013 grant monies will determine the point values of the total number of points earned at the end of the program year. The City is responsible for administrative costs associated with this grant, including 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 grant funding of approximately \$16,871 in FY 2013 for this project. The exact amount of this year's grant will be determined by September 30, 2012. All grant funding will be expended in FY 2013. No funds will be carried over to the next fiscal year.

No additional funds available are in the City budget to continue these activities once the grant funds are expended. No City funds will be available if State funding does not 100% support all costs of this initiative.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Adopt-A-Park Litter Control Procedures Program Year 2012

Attachment 2: FY 2012 Adopt-A-Park Litter Control Awards

Attachment 3: FY 2013 Adopt-A-Park Litter Control Budget

STAFF:

James B. Spengler, Director, Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities

Kendal Taylor, Assistant Director, Office of Management and Budget

Faye Maslaki, Fiscal Officer, Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities

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

**ADOPT-A-PARK LITTER CONTROL PROGRAM
PROCEDURES
PROGRAM YEAR 2012**

1.
 - (a.) Each group shall pick up litter in their respective parks at least once a week, according to the Adopt a Park Agreement.
 - (b.) Each group shall track the dates, hours and number of volunteers for each cleanup and submit the records to the City AAP Coordinator at the end of the Agreement period.
 - (c.) Each group is responsible for providing their own litter collection supplies. Litter shall be disposed of using the litter receptacles provided at the park.
 - (d.) The Department of Transportation is responsible for emptying litter receptacles. To report an overflowing can, illegal dumping, or other litter concerns, contact the Department of Transportation, 703-746-4410.
 - (e.) To report down trees or limbs in the park, contact the City Arborist Office, 703-746-5496.

2. Each park is inspected by a City official, unannounced, once per month on a Monday from April 1 through November 30 for a total of eight inspections. Inspections do not occur on City Holidays. These are typically Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Columbus Day.

3. Inspections are based on a **12 point system**.
 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.

4. Cash awards are based on available funds. Program funding is provided by the State's Litter Prevention and Recycling Grant, which the City applies each year. The grant amount will vary each year. The grant funds will be divided by the total number of points compiled in the inspection ratings by all participating associations. Each group's point total will be multiplied by that rate to determine the dollar amount for the year.

5. The grant is applied for and received during the program year according to following schedule:
 - **MARCH 2012:** Check distribution for work completed in 2011. April 1: Program begins.
 - **JUNE 2012:** Grant application submitted. City Council grant approval.
 - **FALL 2012:** Grant Awarded to City. November 30: 2012 Program ends.
 - **WINTER 2013:** City allocation of funds.
 - **MARCH 2013:** Checks distributed for work completed in 2012. Program Year 2013 kickoff.

6. Checks are distributed each year in March.

7. Monthly scores will be communicated by email. Our office number is 703-746-5490. Mail all correspondence to: Adopt-a-Park Coordinator, Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Alexandria, VA 22314

FY 2012 ADOPT-A-PARK CASH AWARDS

<u>PARK AREA</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>POINTS EARNED</u>	<u>CASH AWARDED</u>
All Veterans Park	Alexandria Fire Fighters	88	\$731.63
Angel Park	Taylor Run Citizens' Association	89	\$739.95
Beverley Park	North Ridge Citizens' Association	95	\$789.83
Charles Hill Park*	Alexandria Police Special Operations	94*	\$390.76
Chetworth Park*	Northeast Citizens	96*	\$399.07
Chinquapin Park	Taylor Run Civic Association	87	\$723.32
Colasanto Center	Del Ray Artisans	95	\$789.83
Commonwealth Ave.	Del Ray Citizens' Association	90	\$748.26
Del Ray Avenue Park*	Del Ray Citizens' Association	22*	\$91.45
Four Mile Run Playground	Hume Springs Citizens' Association	72	\$598.61
Four Mile Edison Entrance*	Hume Springs Citizens' Association	86*	\$357.50
Founders Park	Founders Park Community Association	85	\$706.69
Goat Hill Park	Warwick Village Citizens' Association	95	\$789.83
Helen Miller*	Inner City Civic Association	86*	\$357.50
Hillside Park*	Warwick Village Citizens' Association	91*	\$378.29
Hume Springs Park*	Hume Springs Citizens' Association	83*	\$345.03
Interior Park*	Inner City Civic Association	94*	\$390.76
Landover Park*	Warwick Village Citizens' Association	95*	\$394.92
Leider Park	Troop 129 & 113 Boy Scouts of America	88	\$731.63
Lynhaven Park*	Lynhaven Civic Association	88*	\$365.82
Lynhaven Gateway *	Lynhaven Civic Association	94*	\$390.76
Mason Ave. Park*	Del Ray Citizens' Association	78*	\$324.25
Montgomery Park	Old Town North Community Association	90	\$748.26
Mt. Jefferson Park-Play*	Mt. Jefferson Civic Association	92*	\$382.44
Mt. Jefferson Green N.*	Mt. Jefferson Civic Association	80*	\$332.56
Mt. Jefferson Green S.*	Mt. Jefferson Civic Association	92*	\$382.44
Pendleton Park*	Inner City Civic Association	96*	\$399.07
Powhatan Park	Northeast Citizens' Association	92	\$764.89
Simpson Park Westside	Del Ray Citizens' Association	95	\$789.83
St. Asaph Park*	Del Ray Citizens' Association	95*	\$394.92
S. Early St. Park*	Society Hill Homeowners Association	84*	\$349.19
WOD Trail/Mt. Jeff.	Del Ray Citizens/Friends of WOD	95	\$789.83

FY 2012 Total Cash Award = \$16,869.12

Park areas greater than one (1) acre are \$8.314 per point.

* Park areas are less than one (1) acre are \$4.157 per point.

PAYMENT SUMMARY:

FY 2012 Litter Grant funds received:	\$16,871.00
FY 2012 Total program payments (above):	\$16,869.12

FY 2013 ADOPT-A-PARK CASH BUDGET

<u>PARK AREA</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>MAXIMUM POINTS</u>	<u>MAXIMUM CASH</u>
Angel Park	Taylor Run Civic Association	96	\$733.44
Beverly Park	North Ridge Citizens' Association	96	\$733.44
Charles Hill Park*	Alexandria Police Special Operations	96*	\$366.72
Chetworth Park*	Northeast Citizens/Chetworth Park	96*	\$366.72
Chinquapin Park	Taylor Run Civic Association	96	\$733.44
Colasanto Center	Del Ray Artisans	96	\$733.44
3550 Commonwealth Ave.*	Hume Springs Citizens Association	96*	\$366.72
Commonwealth Ave.	Del Ray Citizens' Association	96	\$733.44
Del Ray Ave. Park*	Del Ray Citizens' Association	96*	\$366.72
Four Mile Run Playground	Hume Springs Citizens' Association	96	\$733.44
Four Mile Edison Entrance*	Hume Springs Citizens' Association	96*	\$366.72
Founders Park	Founders Park Community Association	96	\$733.44
Goat Hill Park	Warwick Village Citizens' Association	96	\$733.44
Helen Miller*	Inner City Civic Association	96*	\$366.72
Hillside Park*	Warwick Village Citizens' Association	96*	\$366.72
Hume Springs Park*	Hume Springs Citizens' Association	96*	\$366.72
Interior Park*	Inner City Civic Association	96*	\$366.72
Landover Park*	Warwick Village Citizens' Association	96*	\$366.72
Leider Park	Troop 129 & 113 Boy Scouts of America	96	\$733.44
Lynhaven Park*	Lynhaven Civic Association	96*	\$366.72
Lynhaven Gateway *	Lynhaven Civic Association	96*	\$366.72
Mason Ave. Park*	Del Ray Citizens' Association	96*	\$366.72
Montgomery Park	Old Town North Community Association	96	\$733.44
Mt. Jefferson Greenway*	Mt. Jefferson Civic Association	96*	\$366.72
Mt. Jefferson Dog Run*	Mt. Jefferson Civic Association	96*	\$366.72
Mt. Jefferson Park*	Mt. Jefferson Civic Association	96*	\$366.72
Pendleton Park*	Inner City Civic Association	96*	\$366.72
Powhatan Park	Northeast Citizens' Association	96	\$733.44
Simpson Park Westside	Del Ray Citizens' Association	96	\$733.44
S. Early St. Park*	Society Hill Homeowners Association	96*	\$366.72
St. Asaph Park*	Del Ray Citizens Association	96*	\$366.72
WOD Trail/Mt. Jeff.	Del Ray Citizens/Friends of WOD	96	\$733.44
701 Upland Pl.*	Taylor Run Citizens Association	96*	\$366.72
FY 2013 Total Potential Cash Award =			\$16,869.12**

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 2013 Litter Grant funds:	\$16,871.00**
Supplemental City funds:	\$0.00
Total potential program payments:	\$16,869.12

**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 September 30, 2012.

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