

Black Hill Trail Renovation and Extension -- No. 058701

Category **M-NCPPC**
 Agency **M-NCPPC**
 Planning Area **Clarksburg**
 Relocation Impact **None.**

Date Last Modified
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 Required Adequate Public Facility

April 6, 2006
NONE
NO

EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE (\$000)

Cost Element	Total	Thru FY05	Est. FY06	Total 6 Years	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	Beyond 6 Years
Planning, Design and Supervision	379	0	0	379	121	47	73	0	33	105	0
Land											
Site Improvements and Utilities	3,726	0	0	3,726	0	584	777	0	631	1,734	0
Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4,105	0	0	4,105	121	631	850	0	664	1,839	0

FUNDING SCHEDULE (\$000)

G.O. Bonds	4,105	0	0	4,105	121	631	850	0	664	1,839	0
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ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (\$000)

Program-Staff				11	0	0	0	0	0	11	0
Program-Other				3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Net Impact				14	0	0	0	0	0	14	0
Workyears				0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0

DESCRIPTION

There are two trail projects in Black Hill Regional Park. The first project, the Black Hill Trail Renovation, upgrades an existing 2.38 mile hiker-biker trail in Black Hill Regional Park, ALONG the eastern shore of Little Seneca Lake from Wisteria Drive north to Spinning Wheel Drive. The existing 6-foot wide trail does not meet park standards and is seriously deteriorated. The trail renovation and upgrade provides an eight-foot wide trail that will fully comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (except in one area where full ADA compliance is not possible without extensive tree-clearing) and park construction standards. The project is proposed for design in FY07 and construction in FY08-09.

The second project, the Black Hill Trail Extension, is a 1.2 mile extension of the Black Hill Hiker-Biker Trail from the existing trail terminus near Spinning Wheel Drive to Parking Lot 6, near the picnic area, in Black Hill Regional Park. The new eight-foot wide trail will connect two existing segments of the trail and provide the only hard surface trail connection from the Water's Landing community to the developed area of Black Hill Regional Park.

Service Area

Clarksburg and Germantown Planning Area.

JUSTIFICATION

Developers built the existing trail as the adjacent residential communities developed and conveyed the land and trail to the Commission in 1982. The trail was constructed using little or no base and with a substandard asphalt layer. It is seriously deteriorated, and in some areas the pavement is cracked and grass or weeds grow in the exposed soil. In other areas, the pavement at the trail edge has completely crumbled and is little more than gravel. Settling pavement creates sinkholes. There is an obvious deflection in the wood pedestrian bridge. As a precaution, maintenance staff are not permitted to transport maintenance equipment across the bridge. In addition, the trail was built before the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines were developed. It is too narrow to safely accommodate the growing number of users, and contains several areas of steep slopes, three of which are near access points to the trail. The proposed eight-foot width affords minimum space for bicyclists, wheelchairs, strollers, maintenance crews, and emergency vehicles.

Several plans envision a hard surface trail network that links the residents of Germantown and Clarksburg to Black Hill Regional Park. Renovation of the existing hard-surface trail is part of this larger network which will make the regional park accessible to thousands of residents and make the Clarksburg amenities accessible to those living in the vicinity of the park. The Black Hill Regional Park Master Plan, approved in 2002, make this project a priority.

Approximately 425,000 people visit the park each year. In 1997 countywide park user survey, respondents indicated that they used trails more than any other recreation amenity: 67 percent had used paved park trails in the last year. Biking and walking paths topped the respondents' lists of desired facilities or greatest facility shortages.

Plans and Studies

Black Hill Regional Park Master Plan, approved 2002. Facility plan for renovation project, approved April 2003. Facility plan for extension project, approved September 2003. Clarksburg Master Plan, approved and adopted 1994. Greenway-Clarksburg Master Plan Implementation Study, 1999, and Countywide Park

APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE DATA

Date First Appropriation	FY05	(\$000)
Initial Cost Estimate		1,371
First Cost Estimate		
Current Scope	FY05	1,371
Last FY's Cost Estimate		3,101
Present Cost Estimate		4,105
Appropriation Request	FY07	121
Appropriation Req. Est.	FY08	1,481
Supplemental Appropriation Request	FY06	0
Transfer		0
Cumulative Appropriation		0
Expenditures/Encumbrances		0
Unencumbered Balance		0
Partial Closeout Thru	FY04	0
New Partial Closeout	FY05	0
Total Partial Closeout		0

COORDINATION

Community Associations
 Trails: Hard Surface Renovation PDF 888754
 Trails: Hard Surface Design and Construction PDF 768673
 Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services
 Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection
 Maryland Department of Natural Resources

MAP

See Map Next Page

Trails Plan (1998). A review of impacts to pedestrians, bicycles and ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act 1991) has been performed and addressed by this project. Traffic signals, steellights, crosswalks, bus stops, ADA ramps, bikeways, and other pertinent issues will be considered in the design of the project to ensure pedestrian safety.

Cost Change

Increase due to industry-wide construction cost increases and inflation.

STATUS

Design Stage. Trail renovation is scheduled in FY08-09. The trail extension project is scheduled in FY11-12.

OTHER

Design for the extension is under contract in the Trails: Hard Surface Design and Construction PDF 768673.

Black Hill Regional Park Trail Plan

