



Fairfax County Park Foundation



Proudly enriching Fairfax County's award-winning parks!



April 29, 2020

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors  
12000 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, VA 22035

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Dear Chairman McKay and District Supervisors:

As Chair of the Park Foundation Board of Directors, I'm pleased to highlight key updates relative to the Fiscal Year 2021 Park Authority budget. The flexibility to share the following in writing for your consideration as we grapple with the uncertainty presented by the current COVID-19 health challenge is appreciated.

During this challenging time, your constituents demonstrate their love of Fairfax County parks. The importance of parks to the collective physical and mental health of our community is undeniable.

In a word, 'Partnership' is why Fairfax County Park Authority holds the National Gold Medal Award! The Board of Supervisors is a key partner for continuing support of Fairfax County parks for programs such as the Invasive Management Area. IMA leverages thousands of volunteers to protect our environment, restore parkland, and protect wildlife habitat, and continues the positive return on your investment.

Join us in celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of Fairfax County Park Foundation. The active board works with a lean staff of three and volunteers to secure grants, fundraise through direct mail appeals, major donor requests and to establish collaborative partnerships.

Last Fiscal year, the value of every dollar allocated by FCPA for FCPF, resulted in a 4:1 Return on Investment! Here are highlights from the more than \$1 million raised from individuals, foundations, and organizations with the majority designated for specific programs and services.

- More than \$200,000 was raised for the next Summer Entertainment Series planned at 17 venues throughout all 9 Supervisory districts;
- Two new reservable picnic shelters at Burke Lake Park near the train station are fully funded;
- FCPF funds annual grants to qualified Friends Groups that lead park projects at no cost to taxpayers;
- FCPF ratified a 10-year gift agreement for \$360,000 to establish the Lazar Family Fund, endowing FCPA Natural Resource Management; and
- FCPF funds 345 weeks of PACT camp for children living in homeless shelters and supportive housing plus more than 2,000 Rec-PAC scholarships for under-privileged youth.

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While this recap of select accomplishments does not meet the massive demands of Fairfax County Park Authority, **the Park Foundation remains committed to do all that we can to help!**

FCPF solicits Donor Advised Funds; IRA mandatory distributions; Amazon Smile giving; Vehicle donations, and more. **Our Legacy Circle attracted membership of 30 individuals** who have or commit to include the FCPF in their will or other planned gift.

**The Park Foundation Board of Directors is proud to have officially adopted the One Fairfax Policy.** We encourage residents to be counted as a Fairfax County Census 2020 Partner. FCPF educates voters about the upcoming **Park Bond which is critical to the future of the Park Authority.**

**Since the Park Foundation's inception in 2000, more than \$10 million has enriched Fairfax County parks.** FCPF continues to support the bottom line now as we plan to support long-term success of our valued park system in future years.

**Your leadership as advocates for Fairfax County parks are notable and we greatly appreciate your commitment.**

Sincerely,

John Osborn, Board Chair  
Fairfax County Park Foundation

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