

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION
HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: April 2, 2018

SUBJECT: Parks & Recreation Trust Fund Grant Application for Jackson Park

PRESENTER: Carleen Dixon, Parks & Recreation

ATTACHMENTS: Yes
1) Description & Justification for the Project
2) Project Costs
3) Site Plan

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The 2017-2018 grant cycle is underway for the NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF). This state funded grant program for development of parks is the primary source of funding to build and renovate facilities in the state. The PARTF grant program provides dollar-for-dollar grants to local governments up to \$500,000.

Jackson Park is the county's most well-known and used park. It is essentially the "Central Park" for our county, and is many things, to many people. Since it was established in 1974 it has lost some of its luster, and the community would like to work to bring this back. Staff hosted two public meetings to obtain community feedback about the top priorities for Jackson Park.

With the support of the Recreation Advisory Board, the Parks & Recreation Department is seeking the approval from the Board of Commissioners to apply for the current grant cycle due May 1, 2018 to help fund improvements at Jackson Park. And if the grant is awarded to provide the matching dollars needed to receive the grant. The award cycle for the grant will be in August 2018.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to approve the PARTF grant application to be submitted to the NC State Recreation Resources Services office no later than May 1, 2018, and if awarded in August, 2018, allocate the matching funds not to exceed \$500,000.

Suggested Motion:

I move the Henderson County Board of Commissioners authorize staff to submit the PARTF grant application, and if awarded in August of 2018, allocate the necessary funds to match the grant in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.

Attachment 1: Description & Justification for the Jackson Park Renovation Henderson County, NC

Description:

Jackson Park was established in 1974 and covers over 200 acres. The park was one of the foremost destinations in the 80's and 90's across the state for softball and baseball tournaments and has continued over the years to provide citizens with a location for sports, special events, family gatherings, many years of July 4th Celebrations and much more! The park currently has 4 picnic shelters, 9 ball fields, multi-purpose fields, 8 tennis courts, an 18-hole disc golf course, multiple playgrounds and more. While this sounds amazing the park has lost its luster over time. These amenities are dated and show their age; the fields lack proper drainage, the ball field fences are rusted, access is limited and fails to meet ADA requirements in most locations, and playgrounds are very dated and fail to meet current safety standards. Even with all these challenges the park stays extremely busy and is the "Central Park" for Henderson County.

Based on public feedback the following areas of improvement are proposed for this grant cycle:

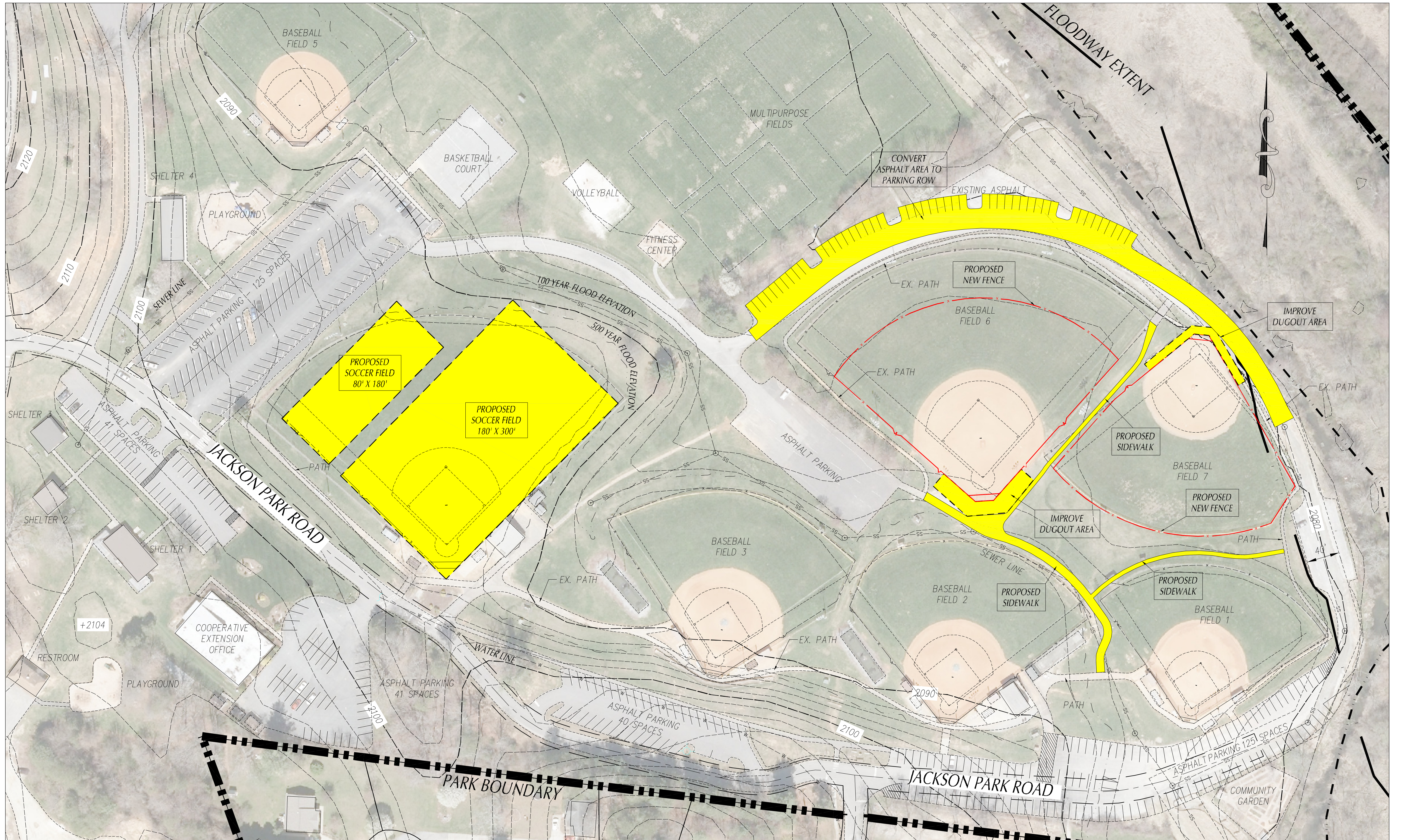
1. Transition Field 4 into two rectangular synthetic turf fields sizes 150'x 80' and 300' x 180'. These additional turf fields could accommodate year-round soccer play as well as the adaptive sports program which currently plays on a dirt infield. This could be a huge addition to both areas of programming creating a fully accessible playing surface for all abilities that could be utilized year-round.
2. Improve Field 6 & 7 for youth baseball by shortening the distance to the outfield fence, improve the dugout and seating areas ensuring that they are fully accessible, improve the pathway to the restrooms and parking as well as replace the fencing.
3. The changes to Field 6 would allow for additional parking spaces to be added at the North end of the field improving current access tremendously.

Justification:

1. **An Economic Driver:**
Jackson Park is centrally located in the City of Hendersonville, it is near retail establishments, restaurants and hotels. The improvements proposed to these fields will enable us to host additional play throughout the year for our community but to also show tournament directors that we value this park and want to see it as a top contender location for their tournaments now and in the future.
2. **Inclusive Play for All:**
Jackson Park has a lot to offer but since the park was established in 1974 ADA requirements for accessibility have drastically changed. The proposed changes would provide two synthetic turf fields for adaptive sports at Jackson Park and would greatly improve access to recreational programs for many in our community. The changes to fields 6 & 7 would also provide pathways, seating, dugouts and field access that would provide full access to everyone.
3. **A Great Place to Live:**
Daily we hear stories of people who desire to relocate to Henderson County or those who have already joined us because it is such a wonderful place to live, work and play. The improvements to Jackson Park show our community that we value our parks and that we want to provide clean, safe, accessible and fun locations for everyone to enjoy.

Attachment 2: Estimate Project Costs
Jackson Park Renovations – Henderson County
Apr-18

Project Elements (Include specific units - sizes, numbers, lengths, etc. - for each item.)	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
Building and/or Renovating Costs			
Field #4 Conversion to multiple synthetic turf fields	Lump Sum	\$650,000	\$625,000
Field #6 Renovation	Lump Sum	\$50,000	\$50,000
Field #7 Renovation	Lump Sum	\$50,000	\$50,000
Parking added North of field #6 – paved for ? cars	Lump Sum	\$70,000	\$70,000
Accessible Routes (paved, 6 feet wide)	Lump Sum	\$40,000	\$40,000
Cost to Build or Renovate			\$835,000
Contingency for the Cost of Building / Renovating			
Contingency (not to exceed 5% of the cost to build or renovate)	5%		\$41,750
Site Prep, Mobilization, Staking, Construction management, site planning, preliminary design, survey and appraisals, or the cost of preparing the application (not to exceed 20% of the cost of the project)	20%		\$167,000
Total Project Cost			\$1,043,750
Total PARTF Grant Request			\$500,000
Total Local Match			\$543,750



JACKSON PARK PRIORITY IMPROVEMENTS

HENDERSON COUNTY