

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
SECRETARY'S
ACTION AGENDA
May 16, 2018



Hand Carried

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11. **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**
Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area Equine Improvements

Recommendation: The Department of Natural Resources recommends that the Board of Public Works approve with respect to design services for DNR's Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area Equine Improvements project:

- (1) Department of General Services transferring \$1 million in Program Open Space Natural Resource Development Funds to DNR to fund design services for the improvements; and
- (2) DNR, in turn, transferring the \$1 million to the Maryland Stadium Authority which is providing the design services.

The Departments of General Services and Budget and Management concur in this recommendation.

Project: The Fair Hill NRMA project will address aging infrastructure and deteriorating facilities while providing opportunities to increase income associated with hosting major equine and a variety of other recreational events. Investment in Maryland's growing equine industry will help Maryland compete with neighboring states who are investing private and public funds in similar equestrian competition venues.

Improvements proposed to be phased in during the multi-year project include:

- Upgrades to the turf equestrian course
- New cross-country course
- Improvements to the grandstand
- Related training areas
- Irrigation systems
- Equestrian campground
- Develop access across Route 273 to accommodate visitors to the race course, the Cecil County Fairgrounds, and associated events.

Memorandum of Agreement: DNR and the Stadium Authority entered into a Memorandum of Agreement in November 2017, which authorized the Authority to take the lead on studies, tests, and design of the master planning for the equine improvements project. The Authority's responsibilities include procuring professional services and managing all project phases (planning, design, and cost estimates). The agreement allows the parties to expand the scope of work and funding. DNR and the Authority have agreed to a revised Memorandum of Agreement to continue design, pre-construction management, and cost estimating for project construction.

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Funding: The Stadium Authority estimates funding for the design phase of the project at \$2 million. The amount will be split equally between DNR and the Fair Hill Foundation, Inc.

This Item requests the Board to approve the transfer of POS Natural Resource Development Funds from DGS to DNR, and then from DNR to the Stadium Authority. These funds will provide for the continuing design and engineering, permitting, and pre-construction management services for the Fair Hill Equine Improvements.

DNR will reallocate funds from the following projects that were included in its FY 2017 and 2018 capital budgets. These projects are not at the stage to move forward but may later be reinstated in the capital program or incorporated as part of this larger Fair Hill NRMA project.

FY 2017 [Item 5]		
S MD Multipurpose Center	F-005-170-002	\$ 35,000
Fair Hill Campground Imp.	P-043-170-002	\$185,000
FY 2018 [Item 7]		
<u>Garrett County SP Trail Construction</u>		<u>\$780,000</u>
	Total	\$1,000,000

Fund Source: K00A05.10

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS		THIS ITEM WAS:	
APPROVED	DISAPPROVED	DEFERRED	WITHDRAWN
WITH DISCUSSION		WITHOUT DISCUSSION	