



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – June 16, 2021 Agenda Item 4

Voting Session

Resolution Supporting National Capital Strategic Economic Development Fund (NED) Grant Application for Preliminary Design and Site Preparation for the Takoma Park Recreation Center Redevelopment

Recommended Council Action

Approve the accompanying resolution of support.

Context with Key Issues

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development has announced the FY22 State Revitalization Programs (SRP) which offer a range of funding to further the revitalization goals of communities across Maryland. The National Capital Strategic Economic Development Fund (NED) is one of six funding programs and provides competitive funds in support of commercial and residential activities in areas targeted for revitalization. The program attempts to focus on areas where modest investment and a coordinated strategy will have an appreciable neighborhood revitalization impact. Funds from the NED Program should support the goals and objectives outlined in a targeted area's Sustainable Communities Action Plan.

The City is submitting a grant application to hire third party consultants (architect, engineer, geotech, environmentalist, traffic consultant, energy consultant, etc.) to complete project feasibility in term of site access, site density, building layout to accommodate a mixed used development for the redevelopment of the Takoma Park Recreation Center located on New Hampshire Ave. The requested grant funds will be used to support the beginning phases of the redevelopment process and leverage the recently completed community engagement process to direct the upcoming Request for Proposals (RFP) and provide guidance to the future activities of the selected development partner.

The Site Preparation Grant will also support the City's efforts to direct funding towards the redevelopment of the recreation center and the continued revitalization of the New Hampshire Avenue corridor as outlined in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads sector plan.

Council Priority

- Community Development for an Improved and Equitable Quality of Life
- A livable Community for All
- Environmentally Sustainable Community

Environmental Considerations

This preliminary site preparation work will include an environmental assessment of the site and provide additional understanding of the environmental mitigations needed on the site during construction. The site preparation will also inform the steps needed to achieve the desired Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for the building.

Fiscal Considerations

The City is applying for a \$300,000 grant. The funds spent for community engagement and previous studies will be used to evidence and highlight the City's long-standing financial commitment to the

redevelopment of the recreation center. No additional funds will be requested from the City budget. However, staff time will need to be adjusted and prioritized to execute the grant if awarded.

Racial Equity Considerations

The Takoma Park Recreation Center is located in a racially and internationally diverse community that has had very little physical redevelopment activity. The Recreation Center will be one of the largest public investments in this section of the City outside of the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center and Purple Line.

Attachments and Links

- Draft Resolution
- [MD Department of Housing and Community Development - National Capital Strategic Economic Development Fund \(NED\) webpage](#)
- [Takoma Park Recreation Center Redevelopment Community Engagement Report](#)
- [Takoma Park Recreation Center Development Project webpage](#)

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION 2021 -

**SUPPORT OF SUBMISSION OF FY22 STATE REVITALIZATION PROGRAM
NATIONAL CAPITAL STRATEGIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND (NED) GRANT
APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park City Council recognizes that there is a significant need for reinvestment and revitalization of residential and commercial areas in the community; and

WHEREAS, the economic viability of the residential and commercial area along New Hampshire Avenue have been the focus of numerous planning and economic development studies conducted by the City and others for over ten years; and

WHEREAS, the City has developed a State Revitalization project for the preliminary site preparation work for the redevelopment of the Takoma Park Recreation Center site and will leverage recent acquisition and control of the site for recreation-focused, mixed-use development; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development may provide the majority of the funding for the Site Preparation Project in order to assist in making it financially feasible and leverage already spent funds for community engagement activities, the Takoma Langley Crossroads Sector Plan and others; and

WHEREAS, the Site Preparation Project is located within a priority funding area and designated as an Opportunity Zone and a Sustainable Communities area and will conform to the local zoning code; and

WHEREAS, the Site Preparation Project will contribute to the Council Priorities of Community Development for an Improved and Equitable Quality of Life, A Livable Community for All, and an Environmentally Sustainable Community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council of the City of Takoma Park endorses the submission of the City of Takoma Park's FY22 State Revitalization Program National Capital Strategic Economic Development Fund (NED) grant application for financial assistance to conduct site preparation work for the Takoma Park Recreation Center site totaling \$300,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute documents as "Legal Entity Official (LEO)" and take any action necessary to carry out the intent of the resolution.

Adopted this __ day of June, 2021.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC City Clerk