

# Memorandum

**TO: BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**  
**FROM: PAUL PALAGYI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**SUBJECT: 2019 LAKE METROPARKS BUDGET REQUEST**  
**DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2018**

Please accept the attached budget request for the operation of Lake Metroparks for the Fiscal Year 2019. The requested expenditures budget for 2019 reflects an increase of \$345,211 from 2018 or 1.37%. For 2018, the Golf Fund operating expenditures were combined and accounted for within the General Fund and the Golf Fund capital expenditures were combined and accounted for within the Improvement Fund. Also, for comparison purposes, all graphs and financial information in this budget presentation reflect the General and Golf Funds combined for the prior years presented.

Approval of this budget request will enable Lake Metroparks to continue our priority of providing clean and safe parks, programs and events for the residents of Lake County that they have come to expect from their park system. Over the past six years we have seen a substantial increase in annual park visitation with over 28 percent or 800,000 more visits in 2018 when compared to 2012.

With the support of the Board and the outstanding work by our dedicated, professional staff we continued to conserve the natural resources of Lake County by protecting an additional 79 acres for future generations of Lake County residents to enjoy. We have made several improvements to the parks over the past year including the opening of a new archery range at Hidden Lake and a new restroom at the popular Nature Play Area. We are also wrapping up improvements to Blair Ridge Park including a new shelter, fishing dock and restrooms and we will also be installing a new shade structure at Fairport Harbor Beach in the spring.

The proposed budget will also allow us to create a few new amenities including the addition of a flush restroom in Festival Field and a new picnic shelter at the nearby Machinery Building at Farmpark; a Masterplan for Painesville Township Park; and the consolidation of the Pro Shop to the Snack Shop at Pine Ridge.

**2019 DISTRICT-WIDE BUDGET REQUEST** The total 2019 District-wide budget request for all expenditures is \$25,616,421 which is an increase of \$345,211 from 2018 or 1.37%. Our anticipated 2019 District-wide revenue is \$23,903,741 which is \$97,258 higher than 2018 or 0.41%.

**GENERAL FUND (01)** The 2019 projected beginning fund balance in the General Fund is \$10,737,846. The 2019 General Fund budgeted expenditures of \$20,560,921 (including transfers out of \$2,750,000) is an increase of \$263,461 or 1.29%. Total projected General Fund revenues for 2019 are \$19,366,341 compared to budgeted General Fund revenues of \$19,233,933 for 2018 which is an increase in projected revenues of \$132,408 or .69%.

Exclusive of any additional revenues such as pending state grants, we are on track to be able to annually increase future operating budgets by approximately 1.5% to 2% and operate within our existing tax and earned income levels through 2022.

**IMPROVEMENT FUND (02)** The 2019 projected beginning fund balance in the Improvement Fund is \$1,292,724. A General Fund transfer of \$2,750,000, revenues of \$176,300 and the carryover balance will allow us to expend \$3,417,000 on capital improvements, equipment replacement, repairs to infrastructure and land acquisition with a projected carryforward balance of \$802,024 for 2019.

**HEALTH AND LIFE FUND (06)** The Health and Life Fund is used to pay our self-insured hospitalization and life insurance program. Estimated expenditures in this fund are \$1,634,000. Estimated revenues to the Health and Life Fund are projected to be \$1,608,500. This revenue is a combination of premium payments made by the District as well as the employees and Interest Revenue. This fund is used to pay claims, stop loss insurance and administrative fees. Our projected beginning and ending balances are below last year due to an increase of premiums and claims paid as compared to last year through September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**DRUG ENFORCEMENT FUND (08)**

The Drug Enforcement Fund is used to accumulate court fines attributed to drug offenses. We are budgeting \$4,500 that is available for drug enforcement.