

Outcome NCPCA's FY2020 Budget Requests (01/10/2020)

NCPCA Request: City budget should include funding for exploring the construction of a community center building in North College Park, and to allow community program delivery at Youth and Family Services in the meanwhile.

We did not ask funds for the construction, however, CM Kabir asked \$30,000 in fy2020 to rent additional space for community use. Unfortunately, the proposal didn't get majority Council support.

The County Council, however, allocated \$250,000 to run a feasibility study about a community center in north College Park. The City has supported such requests to the M-NCPPC in the past.

On YFS, the recreation room will be made open to the residents to use for recreational purposes. Please note that currently, there are rules in place that our staff follows when they approve requests from residents/community groups to use City facilities, such as the City Hall, Old Parish House, Davis Hall etc. These policies are applied regardless of the fact that a facility has a keyless entry system or not. Also, Staff told us earlier that it's now "a priority" to install keyless entry system at YFS. This should make the YFS more convenient/accessible to the community members when they're allowed to use its meeting rooms.

NCPCA Request: City budget should include funding for improved pedestrian access from Rhode Island Avenue into the Hollywood commercial area that includes Proteus and Moms.

A major part of this goat path is on the Carrollton's private property. Staff told us that they are working with them to make this happen.

NCPCA Request: City budget should include funding for 15 additional Doggie Depot poop stations.

CM Kabir gave a list of locations he got from NCPCA members who brought this up at the meeting. Staff said they'll look into the locations and will try installing them

NCPCA Request: City budget should include funding for summer internships to engage neighborhood youth in civic programs and service projects in College Park.

CM Kabir asked \$2000 for FY2020. Currently, we have Council internship grants which haven't been used in the past year (CM Kabir used only once to create Hollywood history project). Council agreed to approve the youth internship request by repurposing the Council internship grant. We'll work out the details later on how this program will work.

NCPCA Request: City budget should include street signs that alert solicitors of the requirement to obtain a City permit, as are now installed in Berwyn Heights.

Staff thinks funds could be allocated from the current or FY 20 budget. The Council would need to provide direction to install signage for this purpose. A worksession discussion to take place in the next few weeks.

NCPCA Request: City budget should include funding for security cameras and expand the area of concurrent jurisdiction of U.M. Police on north and west sides of College Park.

Staff told us they plan to use State grants to install three security cameras on Rhode Island Ave. They will be at the Edgewood, Duvall Field and Lackawanna / 53rd Ave intersections.

NCPCA Request: City budget should include funding for a consultant to review City procurement processes and purchases, and to optimize departmental duties and procedures of City government.

City budget should include funding for consolidated in-house or consultant-provided architectural and engineering services as a way to reduce costs, reduce the time required for studies, and to improve the delivery of City projects.

We realized that this came due to frustrations over the slowness of projects in north College Park. As you know, Gateway Park construction has started (will be completed in February 2020). The Streetscape project had a recent project kickoff, entering in the final 60% design phase and subsequent construction phase. A community meeting took place in November 2019 to get feedback about this phase. The Council discussed the Duvall Field Project in September / October about the final design of phase of the Duvall Field project soon.

NCPCA Request: City budget should include a groundwater study in North College Park to identify problems of surface flooding, ponding, mosquitoes, and mud, and to fund necessary improvements, or to make improvement requests to the County.

There are a few problem areas. City engineer spent quite some time with the County staff this week looking into the Huron street situation. He has made a few recommendations to address the problems. Following that, City Staff and CM Kabir met with the neighbors on Huron and Iroquois. Based on the residents' feedback, the stormwater swale between Huron and Iroquois has been restored.

NCPCA Request: City budget should include funding for a new survey system for in-house customer relations management.

Council approved the Acela CRM in 2019. It should be rolled out this year.

NCPCA Request: City budget should include funding for the City Manager to improve transportation options in College Park that do not require the use of US 1, and to explore methods such as parking, road construction, bike lanes, sidewalks, development requirements, etc. to reduce traffic on US 1.

The Council approved CM Kabir's request to hold a future work session on this item. The end goal is to reduce traffic on City's major roadways, such as Route 1 and Rhode Island Avenue. The traffic includes those generated by residents within the City and those who come/go through the city using these major roadways City currently has a "Complete Street" project that is looking into improving alternative transportation options, such as walking and biking. The County has also completed the "North County Transportation" study, the results of which could be helpful in this regard.

NCPCA Request: City budget should include funding for a pilot study of a neighborhood food composting facility in College Park.

Food waste disposal and composting program is currently underway with additional recommendations may be coming.

NCPCA Request: City Budget should include funding for solar-powered illuminated stop signs that flash when drivers approach, as are now installed on Montgomery Road in Laurel.

CM Kabir proposed to install one sign on a pilot basis, on the eastbound Edgewood Rd after 47th Place near the Hollywood Elementary School. Staff explored that one sign will cost around \$3400. Funding could be utilized from current or FY 20 budget.

NCPCA Request: City budget should subsidize the cost of security cameras on homes and other private property with agreements to allow police to view images upon request.

CM Day and CM Kabir proposed this last year, but we probably don't need it. Thankfully, the State Senate has recently approved enabling legislation to give State resident's tax break on security systems. The County will still need to approve its own legislation to make the program available to the County residents. It appears that the County is not interested in rolling out this program anytime soon. A Council worksession is scheduled to take place in a few weeks, when the Council will revisit the proposal.