

# Navigating the Land and Water Conservation Fund: Updates and Strategies for Grant Success

Pamela Jordan  
Federal Program Specialist

Travis Weber  
Branch Manager



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# LWCF Overview

- In 1964, Congress established the Land and Water Conservation Fund thanks to the passage of the LWCF Act.
- Zero taxpayer dollars are used to invest in the LWCF. The primary source of revenue is from federal oil and gas leases on the Outer Continental Shelf.
- The LWCF program is administered by the Department of the Interior, National Park Service.
- On August 4, 2020, the Great American Outdoor Act went into effect, and the LWCF became permanently fully funded at \$900 million every year.



# Project Basics

- Funding is available from \$25,000 to \$1,000,000
- A 50/50 match is required
  - The match can consist of funding or in-kind contributions such as labor or materials
- Funds are paid on a reimbursement basis only
- LWCF funding can only be used for public outdoor recreation



City of Bardstown Mayor's Park



# Project Types

- **Acquisition** of lands, wetlands, and waters for public outdoor recreation
- **Development:** improvement or a group of related improvements designed to provide basic facilities for outdoor recreation, including facilities for access, safety, security, health, and protection of the area, as well as those required for the outdoor recreation use of the area

# Examples of types of project facilities

- Sports and playfields
- Picnic facilities
- Trails
- Swimming facilities
- Boating facilities
- Fishing/hunting facilities
- Camping facilities
- Community gardens
- Support facilities such as roads, parking, restrooms, etc.
- Operation and maintenance facilities in support of outdoor recreation



# Deed Restrictions



City of Worthington Park  
Upgrades

- The purpose of the deed restriction is to ensure that the land within the boundary continues to be used as the LWCF Act intends for perpetuity (i.e. used for outdoor recreation forever)
- The deed restriction contains limitations regarding specific uses and changes to the land
- Deed restriction applies to the entirety of the park, not just the areas where LWCF funds are spent, and remains in place forever.



# Conversions

- Conversions are triggered when a property acquired or developed with LWCF assistance is used (either partially or totally) for a purpose other than public outdoor recreation
- Replacement properties must be acquired and restricted in the same way as the original LWCF land
- Temporary non-conforming use occurs when a portion of the land is used for something other than outdoor recreation for a period of less than 6 months (construction, etc.)



Example of a transportation project that triggered a conversion

# Application Timeline





# Tips for preparing applications to DLG and to NPS



City of Lawrenceburg Century Bank  
Park

1. Project budget
2. Map requirements
3. Historical information about past LWCF missing
4. SHPO/Clearinghouse
5. Endangered Species Act Section 7 documentation
6. Keep in mind project scoring when writing your application

# Common budget mistakes

- ✓ Ensure consistency across all documents
- \$ For in-kind contributions, list them on their own line and include detail such as number of hours x hourly rate for labor
- ✎ Make sure any line items listed are explained in the narrative

## Detailed Budget

Budget Breakdown:	Amount	Local Match	Federal Match
Construction			
Materials			
Light poles	\$ 50,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Conduit, fittings, wire and associated material	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Control panel and controls	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
New service equipment	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
Labor			
Demolition	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 3,900.00	\$ -
Sitework	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 3,250.00
Installation	\$ 24,000.00	\$10,050.00	\$13,950.00
	\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00

## SF 424

### 18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	50,000.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	50,000.00
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	100,000.00

## SF 424C

OMB Number: 4040-0008  
Expiration Date: 01/31/2019

**BUDGET INFORMATION - Construction Programs**

NOTE: Certain Federal assistance programs require additional computations to arrive at the Federal share of project costs eligible for participation. If such is the case, you will be notified.

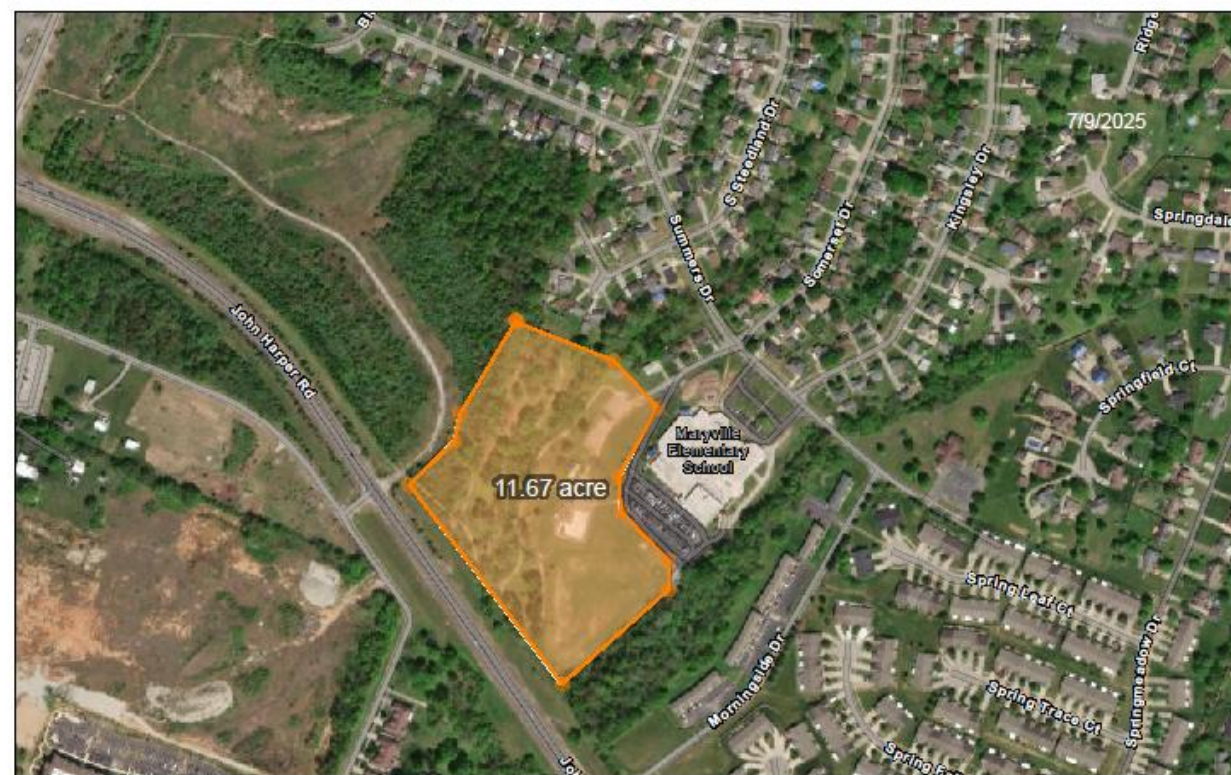
COST CLASSIFICATION	a. Total Cost	b. Costs Not Allowable for Participation	c. Total Allowable Costs (Columns a-b)
1. Administrative and legal expenses	\$	\$	\$
2. Land, structures, rights-of-way, appraisals, etc.	\$	\$	\$
3. Relocation expenses and payments	\$	\$	\$
4. Architectural and engineering fees	\$	\$	\$
5. Other architectural and engineering fees	\$	\$	\$
6. Project inspection fees	\$	\$	\$
7. Site work	\$	\$	\$
8. Demolition and removal	\$	\$	\$
9. Construction	\$ 100,000.00	\$	\$ 100,000.00
10. Equipment	\$	\$	\$
11. Miscellaneous	\$	\$	\$
12. SUBTOTAL (sum of lines 1-11)	\$ 100,000.00	\$	\$ 100,000.00
13. Contingencies	\$	\$	\$
14. SUBTOTAL	\$ 100,000.00	\$	\$ 100,000.00
15. Project (program) income	\$	\$	\$
16. TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (subtract #15 from #14)	\$ 100,000.00	\$	\$ 100,000.00
<b>FEDERAL FUNDING</b>			
17. Federal assistance requested, calculate as follows: (Consult Federal agency for Federal percentage share.) Enter eligible costs from line 16c. Multiply X 50 % \$ 50,000.00 Enter the resulting Federal share.			



# Mapping

# Boundary Map

### Boundary Map: Bullitt County Maryville Park Pool Upgrades



7/7/2025

**Park Boundary**

### Pool Location

Address: 4505 Summers Drive, Pioneer Village, KY 40229

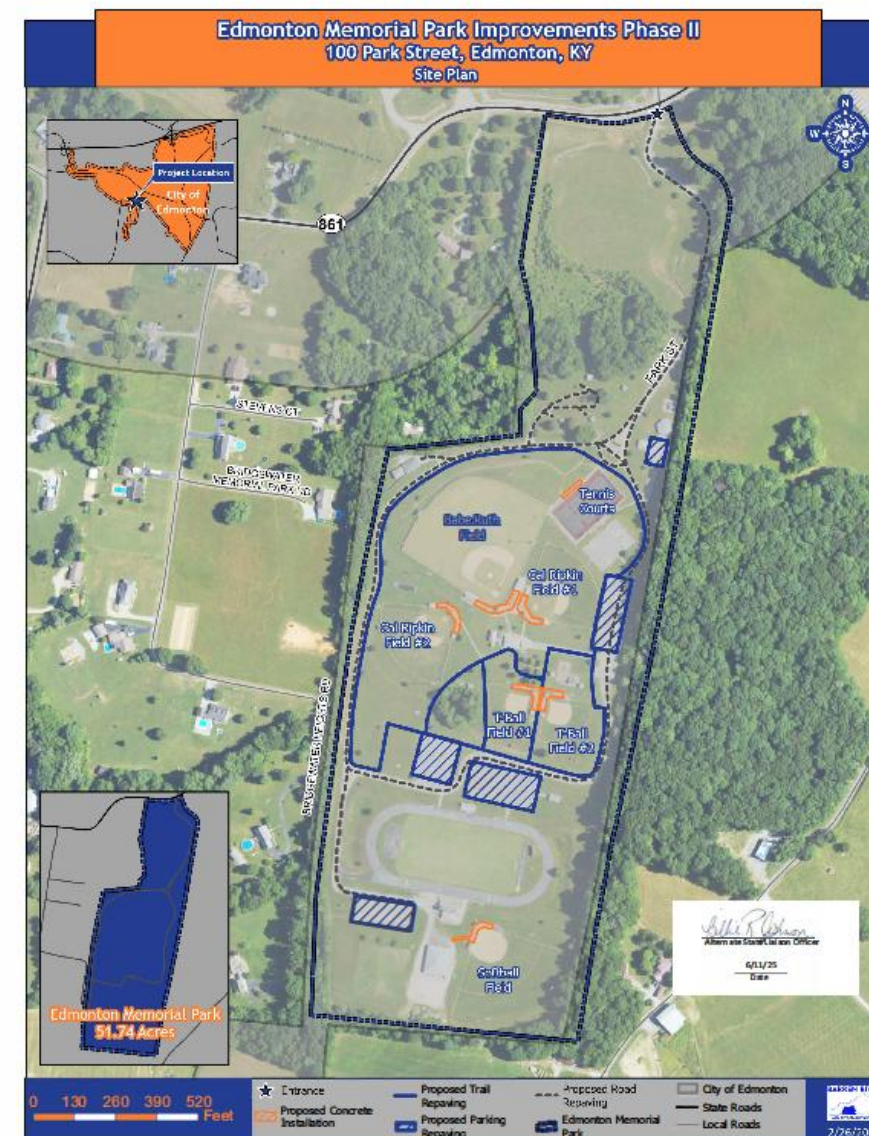
GPS Coordinates: 38.061110, -85.685000

Source: KIPDA



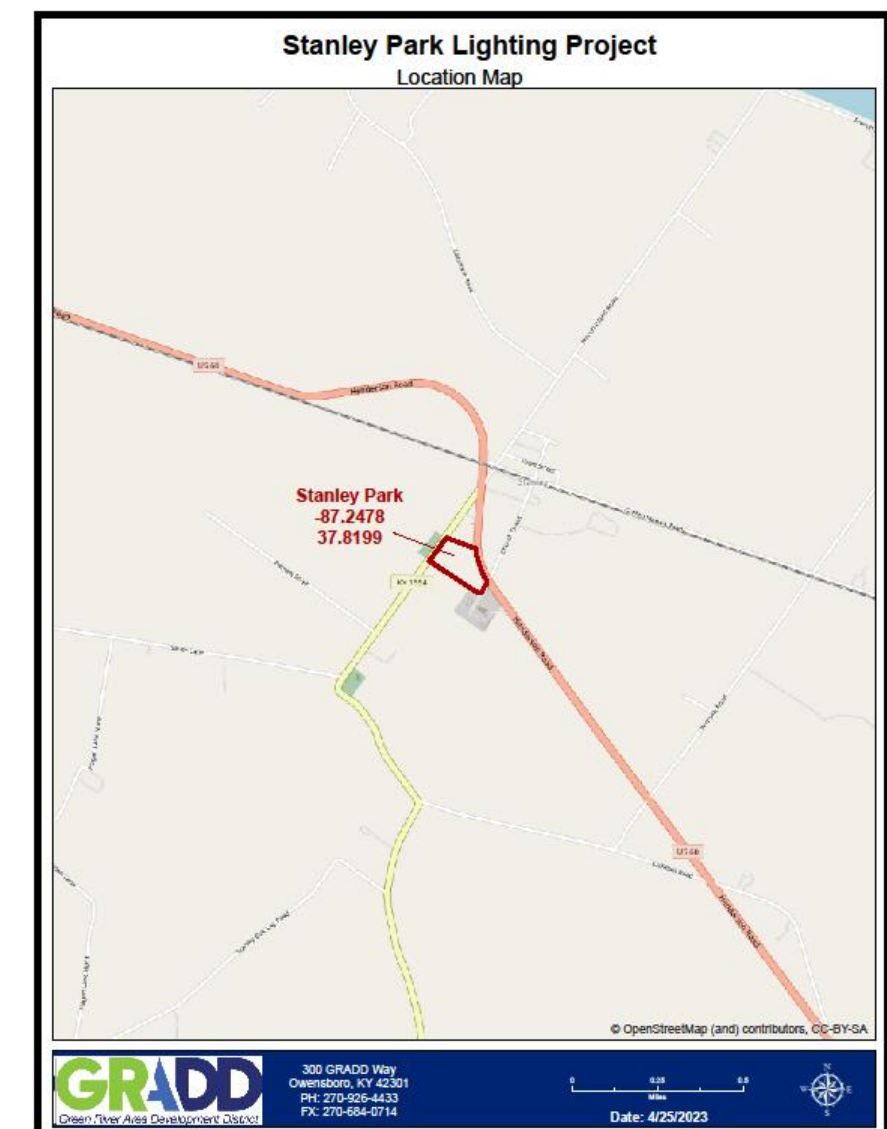
Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Maxar

# Site Plan



Source: Barren River ADD

## Location Map



Source: Green River ADD

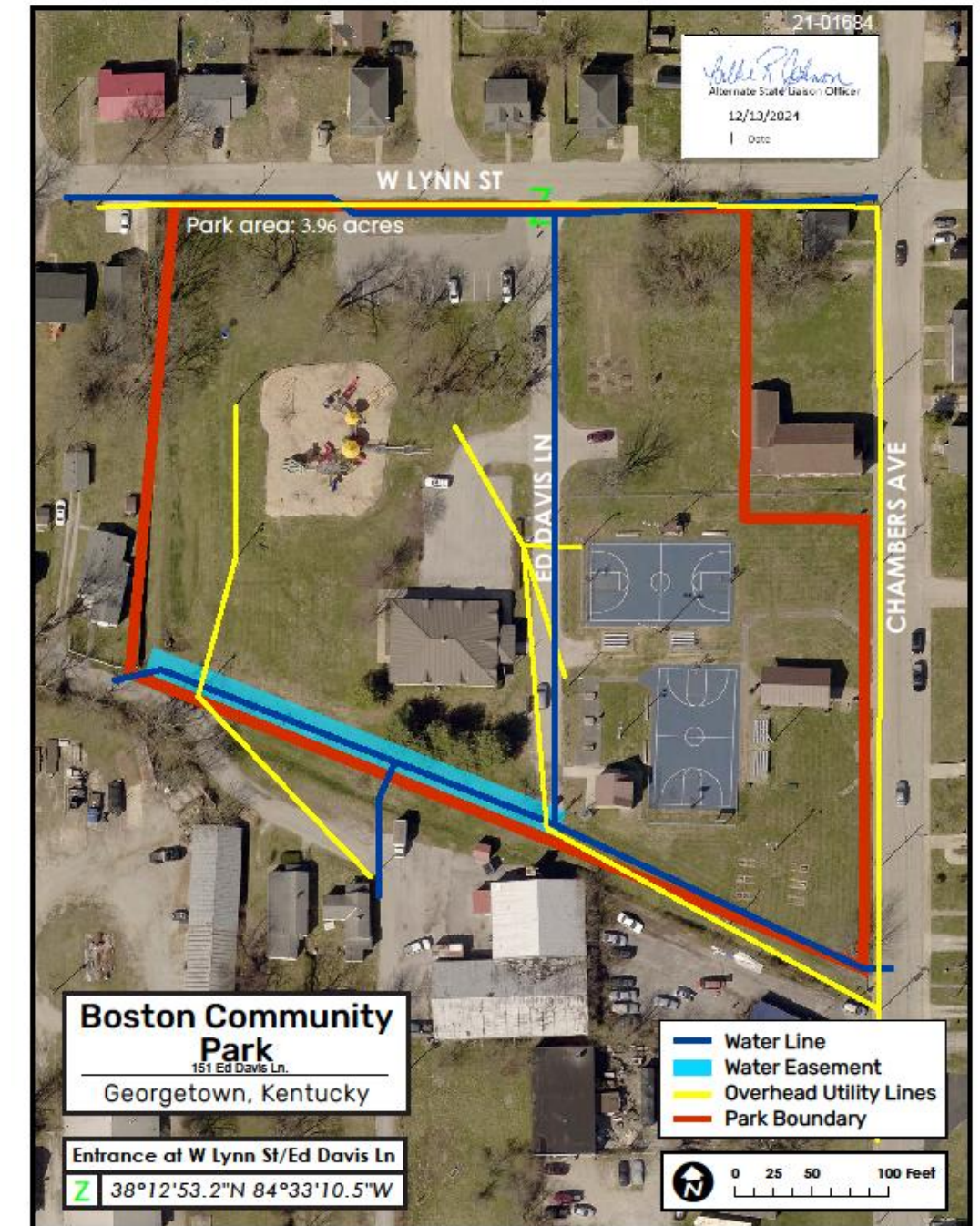


# Boundary Map Requirements

**Purpose:** to define the LWCF protected area

**Must include:**

- Park name
- GPS coordinates
- Park address
- Acreage
- North arrow
- All streets labeled (even if outside the park)
- LWCF project number (will not have until initial submission to NPS)
- All known outstanding rights and interests in the area held by others (leases, easements, etc.)
- Power lines (if applicable)



Source: City of Georgetown



# Site Plan

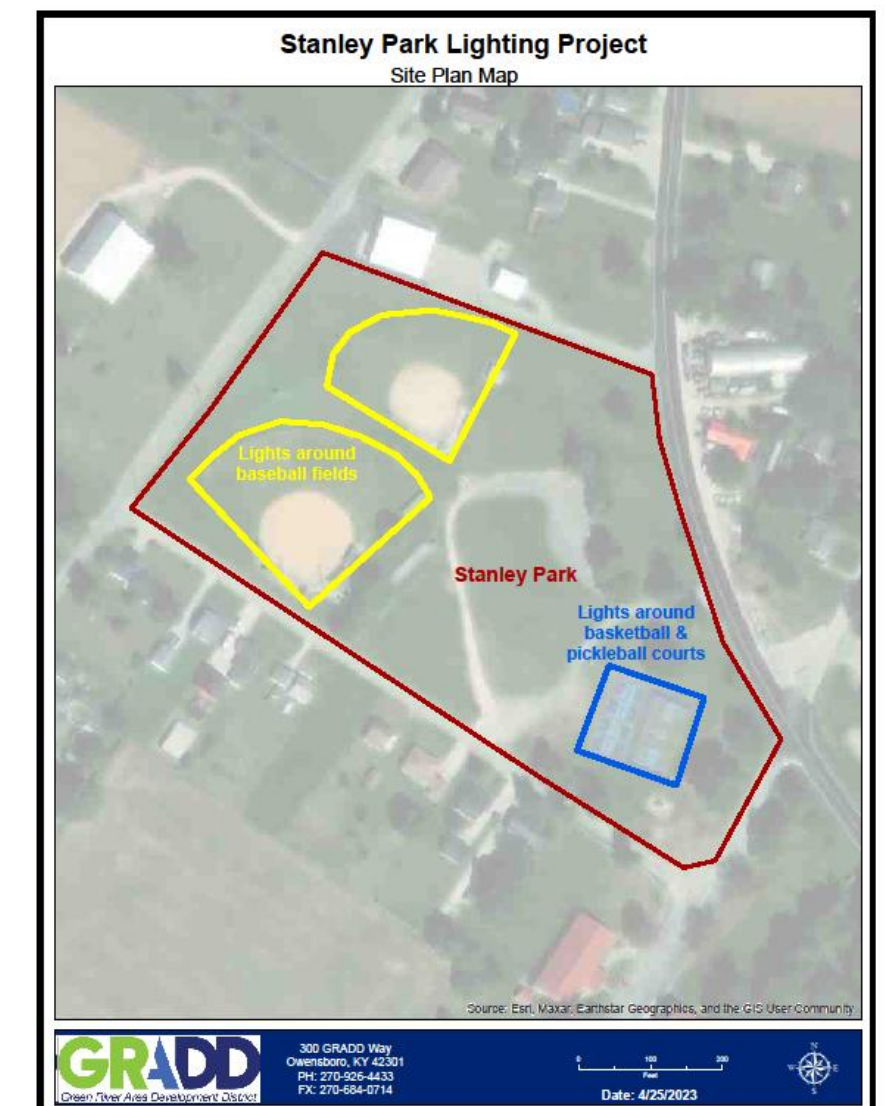
Purpose: to show where the LWCF project elements will be located



Source: City of Silver Grove



Source: Barren River ADD

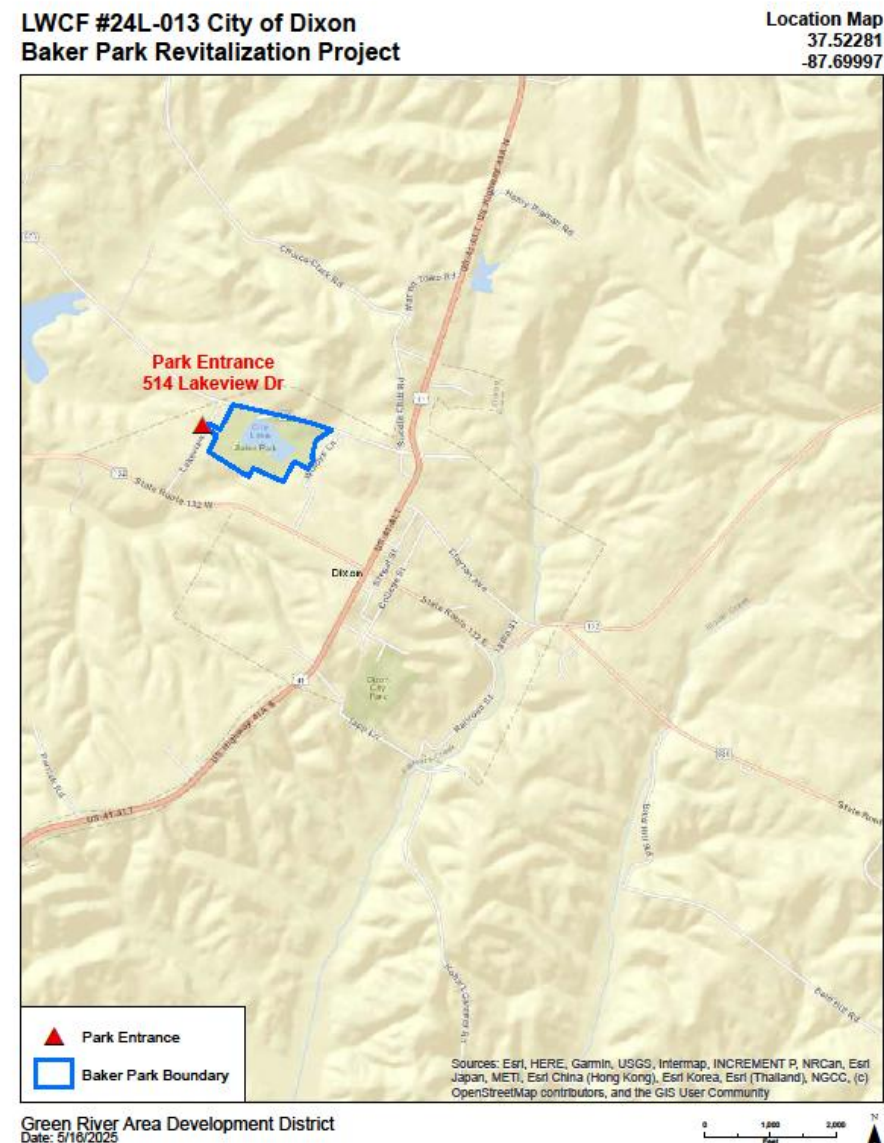


Source: Green River ADD

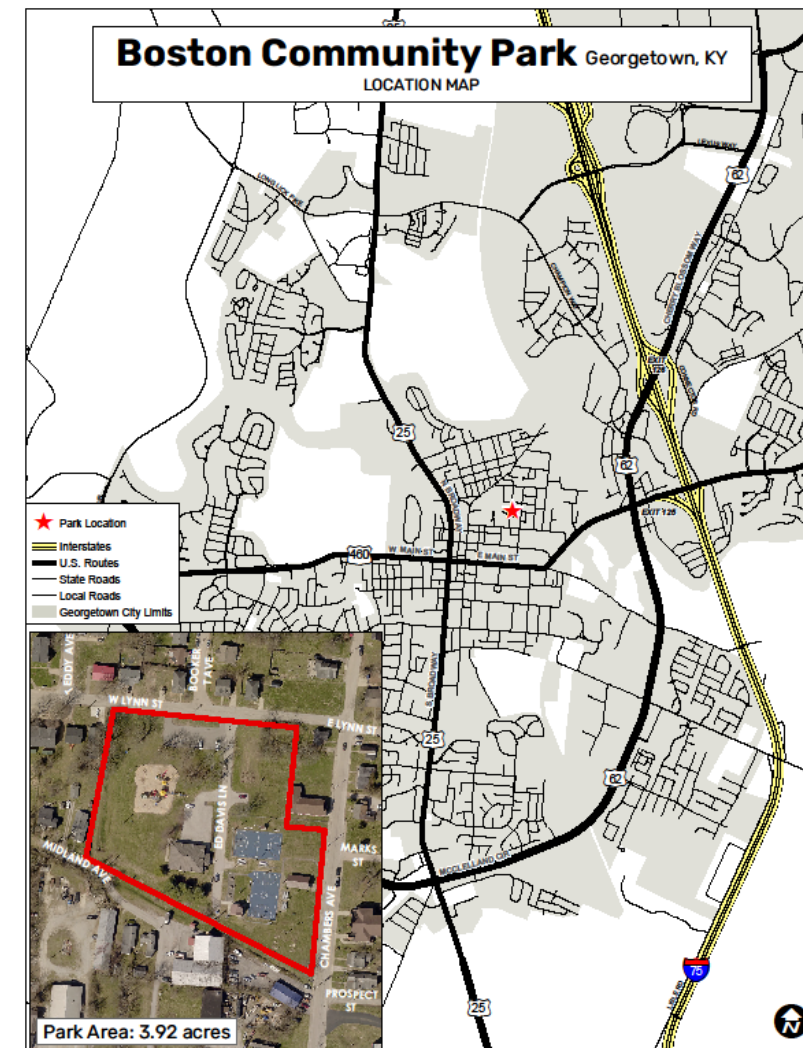


# Location Map

Purpose: to give context to the location of the area to someone unfamiliar with the area



Source: Green River ADD



Source: City of Georgetown



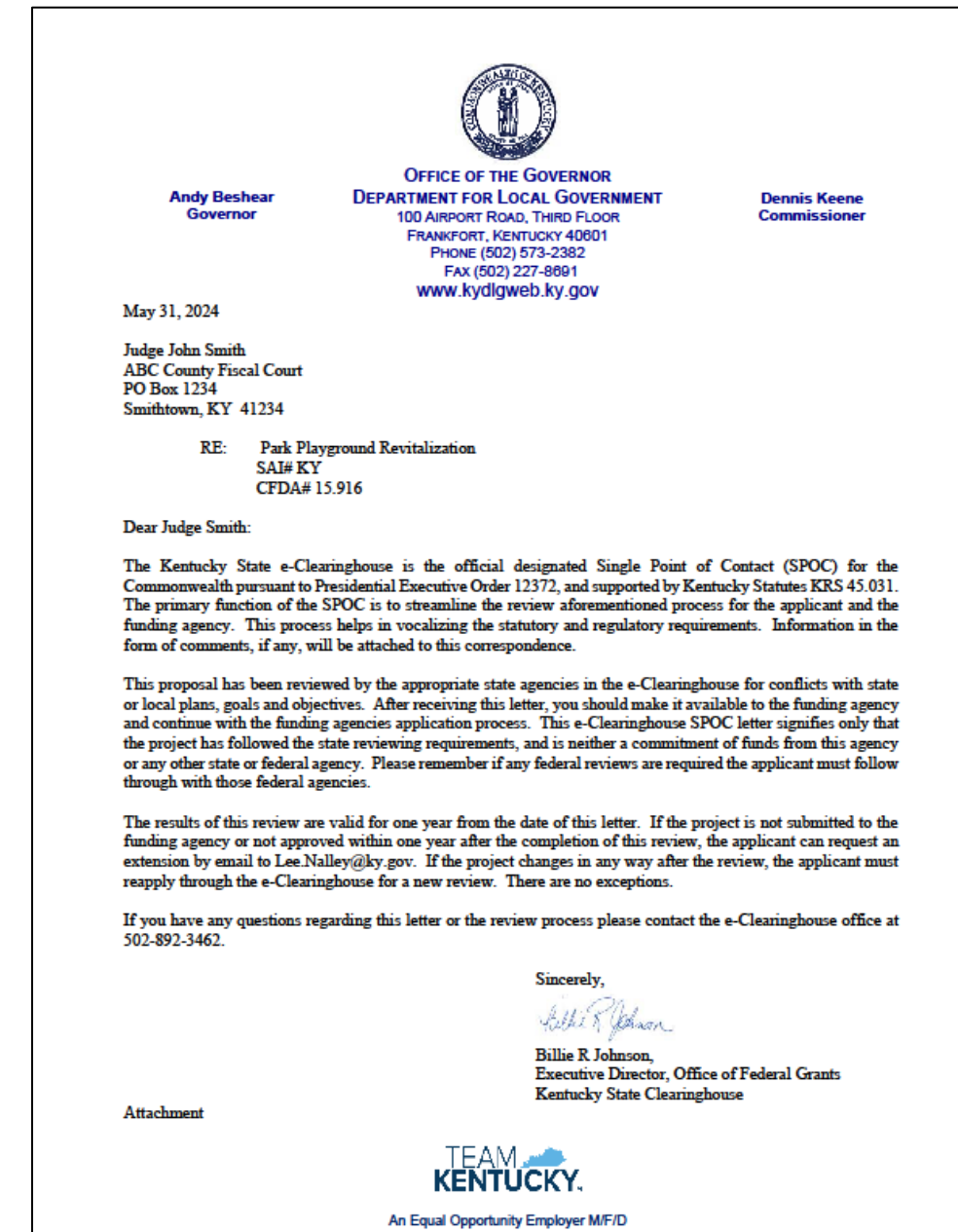
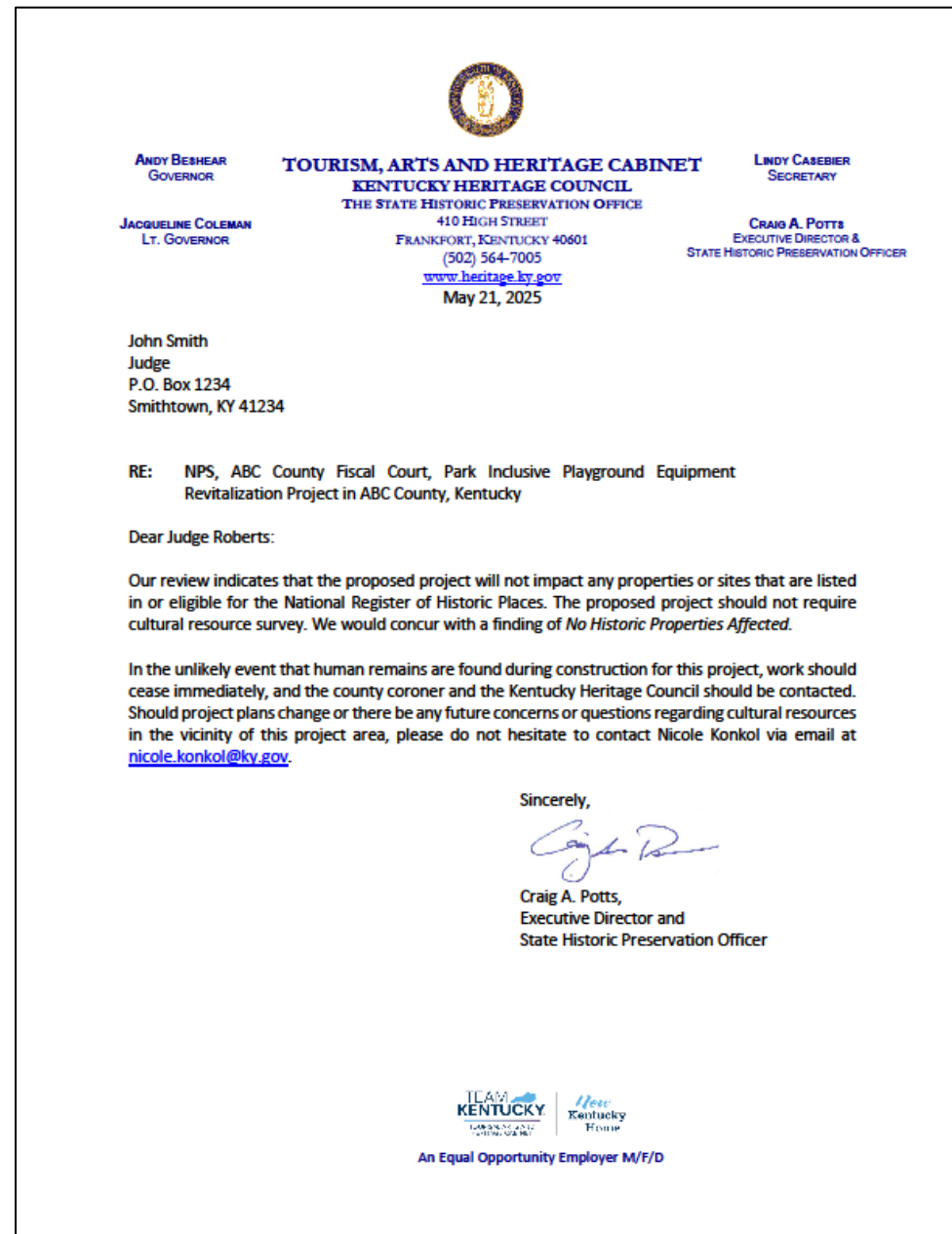
# Past project funding

- Both the DLG application and NPS application require a list of past LWCF funded projects in the park
- The DLG application also requests info on the city or county's current projects



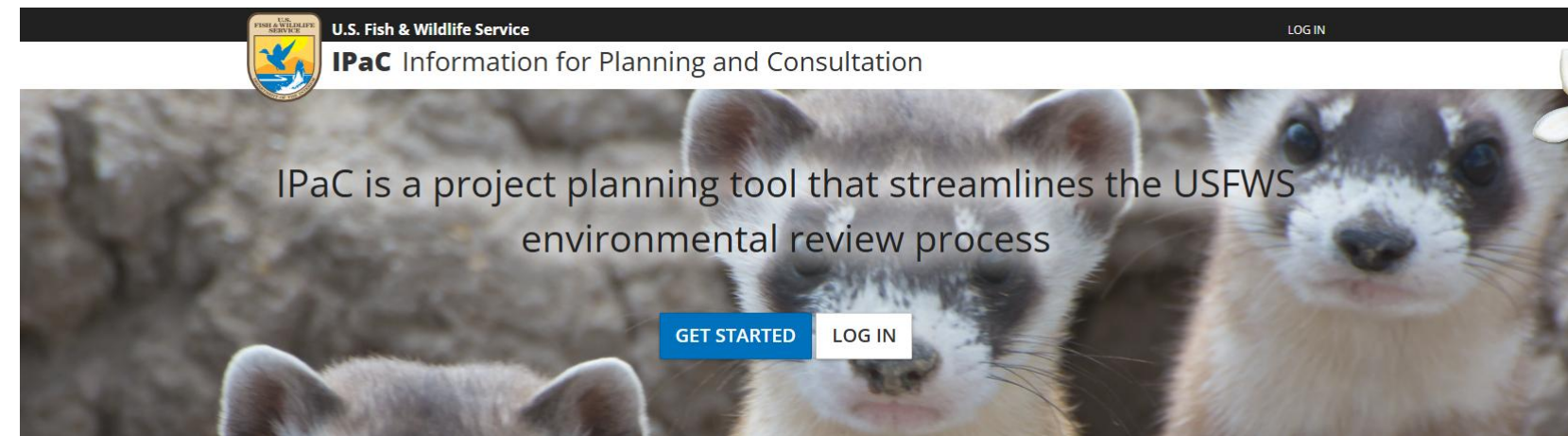
Woodford County Park Tennis Courts

# SHPO & Clearinghouse





# Endangered Species Act – Section 7



[ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov](http://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov)



Short's Bladderpod



Pink Mucket



Indiana Bat (found in every county in Kentucky)



Kentucky Cave Shrimp (found only in Mammoth Cave)

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# SCORP & Project Scoring

- SCORP refers to the Kentucky Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
- LWCF are required to be in line with the goals of the SCORP
- Project scoring includes a question on number of SCORP goals the project aligns with (up to 30 points)
- SCORP can be found on the DLG LWCF webpage. The Goals are on page 79.



City of Elizabethtown Freeman Lake  
Playground



# Questions?

Contact:

Pamela Jordan

[Pamela.Jordan@ky.gov](mailto:Pamela.Jordan@ky.gov)

502-892-3158