

Tell Prince William County Supervisors Stop \$150 Million for Indoor Sportsplexes

“No Documents Exist” to Justify

(that’s as much as two beautiful new high schools)

**Next Vote's
2PM Tue. 6/18
Call 'em now**

Early in 2019, our county commissioned a big Needs Assessment survey of our unmet parks-and-rec desires. Walking & Biking Trails were most widely and intensely wanted, followed – and not closely – by wildlife habitats, neighborhood parks, and only then “indoor fitness & exercise facilities” (followed closely by more kinds of parks, and some indoor facilities).

But as soon as June 18, our Board of Supervisors might set up \$150 million for just three massive “destination” indoor facilities as the lion's share of a \$200M “parks bond” for November. (Google PWC Bond Referendum for their presentation and that survey.)

And, as my public-records requests on the other side show, without meaningful studies or estimates of demand, costs, alternatives (convenient local gyms?) and locations - nor publicity of potentially pricey “public-private partnerships” afoot. **Let’s demand better!**

Parks proposes 84 MILLION DOLLARS – as much as Patriot High School – for an Occoquan Indoor Sports Complex with a powerpoint whose pics seem from the Myrtle Beach Sports Center and the Liberty (University) Indoor Sports Complex.

They say this will be a “Indoor competition and practice facility for local leagues, high schools, and residents”, with “230,000+/-square feet, hydraulic 200 meter/6 lane track, courts, 3,500 fixed seats, and turf”.

(Hydraulic = pops up to bank like NASCAR!)

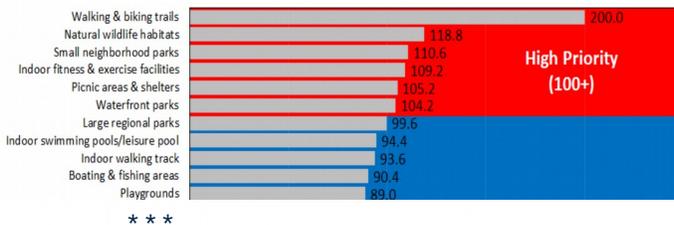
And “provide a multitude of year-round recreation uses, can be utilized for non-sporting community events, will attract visitors to PWC”.

Yet “NO DOCUMENT EXISTS” regarding studies or estimates about costs, demand, usage, benefits, or comparison to alternatives!

BondReferendum.org

fact-checking PWC’s \$200M “Parks” & \$400M “Mobility” Bonds set to cost hundreds of dollars per family per year for decades

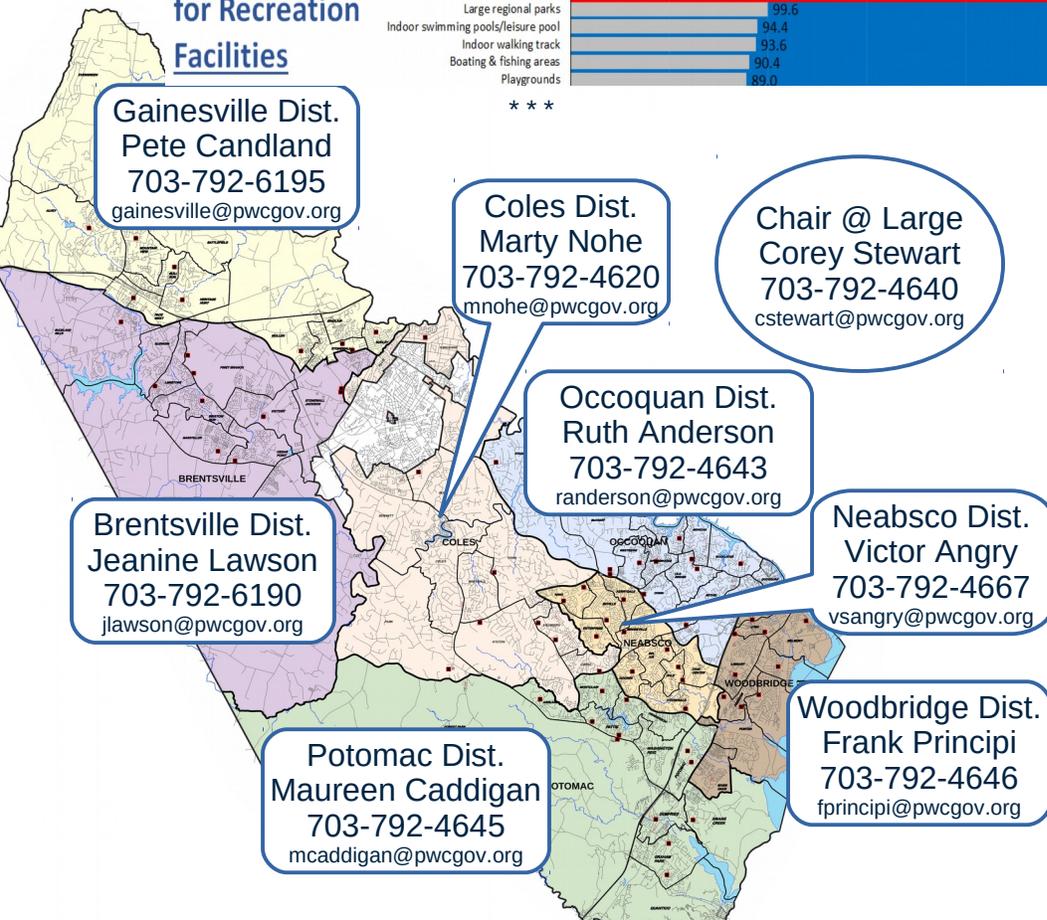
Top Priorities
for Investment
for Recreation
Facilities



It’s Easy to Get Involved!

- **E-mail your Supervisor and the Chair.** As easy as taking a picture of this flyer and sending it!
- You can add where you live, “if this guy is remotely correct” (they can confirm easily), and any thoughts.
- **Call your Supervisor (or usually it’ll be their friendly staff) with where you live and a few thoughts** (...shouldn’t they research those gym projects better?...)
Needn’t be complicated.
- **Tell friends and share this flyer and BondReferendum.org** – on social media for instance.
- **Speak at citizens’ time at any board meeting about the bonds.** Next starts June 18 at 2PM - Google the agenda or ask your supervisor’s office to confirm. Come on time, sign in and get three minutes – about half a typed page.

Be respectful but direct. The county staff helped me understand the issue.



Prince William County Parks Department Freedom Of Information Act Responses about the Big 3 Sportsplexes

attachments linked on BondReferendum.org; Parks rep Shannon Jaenicke – sjaenicke@pwcgov.org / 703-792-4250 – could confirm and follow-up with you

Parks' first FOIA response (red is in original; green is comments; non-substantive text omitted.)

1. For the proposed "Indoor Sports Complex", "Field House", and "Aquatic and Fitness Center", please provide any studies (including simple estimates if those are all that's available) about:

- Why these projects (including their sizes and locations) were selected to serve county wants and needs. **NO DOCUMENT EXISTS**
- How much these projects will cost in land value and to build, maintain, and operate. - <https://eservice2.pwcgov.org/eservices/procurement/Content/ESM%20PWFH%20PPEA%20Submission%20Vol%201%209.5.18%20Final.pdf> *[this is introductory material for one vendor's "public private partnership" proposal.]*
- How many people are expected to use them, and in what ways. **NO DOCUMENT EXISTS**
- How much money they would collect. – **NO DOCUMENT EXISTS**
- Other benefits they would provide and costs they would save. **NO DOCUMENT EXISTS**
- Competition with other public and private offerings. **NO DOCUMENT EXISTS**

Concerned?

Turn over to help!

2. For the existing Prince William County Schools Aquatics Center, please provide any studies or estimates that were done about the topics above. **PWCS IS THE RECORD KEEPER FOR PWCS POOL**

3. For the existing PWCS, Chinn and Baucom aquatics and fitness centers, please provide data for 2018 (or the most recent year available) about *[revenues, expenses, and usage.]* *[She provided the Chinn and Baucom centers' data, which I didn't find obviously problematic, and directed me to Schools for the newish PWCS Aquatics Center's data. As of June 12, I'm still waiting for their answer. Blogger "The Derecho's" report indicates it runs a large deficit and may not be used much, suggesting we don't need more.]*

4. As mentioned in Parks' May 7, 2019 Presentation to the Board of County Supervisors (see <http://www.pwcgov.org/government/bocs/Pages/Bond-Referendum.aspx>), please provide:

- Descriptions of the "\$315 million in total projects" identified initially and how those were chosen. **DOCUMENT ATTACHED** *[this is a one page list of project names and dollar-figure costs that are different from those in the powerpoint online and from the list cited below.]*
- The presentations to the Chairman and each Supervisor, **NO DOCUMENT EXISTS**
- The Chairman's and Supervisors' responses, and **NO DOCUMENT EXISTS**
- The process and reasons by which the projects listed in the May 7 presentation were chosen. **NO DOCUMENT EXISTS**

Parks' second FOIA response (again, inline to my questions):

The answer to question 1(b) appears to be a company's proposal for the Field House.

- Do I understand correctly that no studies or estimates exist about the costs of land for or building, maintaining or operating the Indoor Sports Complex or Aquatics and Fitness Center? **An early draft of operating costs for various contemplated projects is attached (labeled Copy of Park Bond Projects).** *[This is a list of project names, up-front costs without explanation, and operating costs only filled in for "grounds" - not a major category for indoor facilities!]* **No studies exist for the Indoor Sports Complex or Aquatics and Fitness. We have received a single land appraisal for the proposed eastern sports complex, withheld from disclosure in accordance with VA code § 2.2-3705.1.(8)**
- Please tell me whom the descriptions and/or dollar figures in the May 7 presentation came from if possible, and why they differ from the amounts in the initial \$315 million list. **These came from staff and have been refined over time.**
- The Field House proposal references additional materials that it says are "confidential information protected from disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act." Do these materials actually exist? If so, please provide them or tell me the specific legal reason(s) the County believes each of them are not disclosable. **Volume Two of the ESM Proposal is withheld in accordance with Section 2.2-3705.6(11)(b)**
- Are any other possible vendors for the Field House project, or any possible vendors (including land owners) for any other project known? If so, please provide the document(s) about this. **There are potential vendors for the Aquatic fitness center (see documents from Merritt attached) and the eastern sports complex however no documents/ proposals for the eastern sports center exist. Initial verbal discussions with landowners have occurred, however no written documents exist. Any possible private public partnership will be solicited through a public competitive process.**

The answer to question 4(a) appears to be a list of one-line descriptions of projects and dollar amounts.

- Do I understand correctly that these are the only descriptions of those contemplated projects? **Some, but not all, of the projects on the master project list (the excel sheet provided previously) have appeared in the County CIP Budget Documents over the years. These are all available online at <http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/budget/Pages/Budget-and-Accountability-Report-Archive.aspx#bud12>. There are no documents with descriptions or dollar amounts for the other projects not in the CIP.**
- If any documents exist (however informal) that would provide insight into how these ideas were identified and/or how the prices were determined, and by whom, please provide them. **Over the years a master list (the excel sheet provided previously) has been developed and maintained by staff. The list was refined through meetings with the Supervisors to get to the final recommended bond projects. Costs estimates were developed by staff based on previously developed projects. No other documents exist.**

Regarding the rest of question 4, please provide any documents memorializing the Chairman and Supervisor meetings, including when or that they occurred. **Meeting notes and Calendar pages attached.** *[The meeting notes consist of a very few handwritten words; the calendar pages just show when the meetings happened and who was set to attend.]*