



2012 Metro Parks Budget Proposal

Board of Park Commissioners:

**Greg S. Lashutka
Frances Beasley
J. Jeffrey McNealey**

Executive Director:

John R. O'Meara

**METRO PARKS 2012 BUDGET
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Letter of Transmittal.....	<i>i</i>
Budget Message.....	<i>ii</i>
Metro Parks Goals.....	1
Financial Summary.....	3
Projected Changes in Fund Balances.....	4
Blacklick Woods Golf Course Summary.....	5
Projected Income Statement - Enterprise Fund.....	7
Sources of Revenue.....	8
Revenues and Combined Fund Balances.....	11
Summary of Non-Personnel Operations and Admin. Expenditures.....	12
Operations and Administration Budget Analysis of Changes.....	13
Anticipated Expenditure Summary.....	14
Equipment Budget Highlights.....	15
Summary of Personnel Expenditures.....	16
Personnel Analysis.....	17
Proposed New Positions.....	18
Capital Improvement Projects.....	20
Proposed Land Acquisition.....	26
Appropriations.....	27

To: BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Gregory S. Lashutka

Frances Beasley

J. Jeffrey McNealey

From: John R. O'Meara, Executive Director

Re: 2012 BUDGET SUBMISSION

In accordance with the Ohio Revised Code sections 5705.38 and 5705.39 and other applicable sections, and the fiscal policies of Metro Parks, the budget for fiscal year 2012 (January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012) is hereby submitted for consideration by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks. In accordance with state law, the Board of Park Commissioners shall adopt a budget by Resolution, appropriating funds for the fiscal year, which shall be filed with the Budget Commission of Franklin County.

In addition to satisfying the statutory obligation to adopt an annual appropriation measure in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code, the budget represents an important management tool. The budget allocates the financial resources required to ensure that Metro Parks can continue to provide high quality facilities and services to the citizens of Central Ohio in fulfillment of our mission and to accomplish Metro Parks' goals for the coming year.

Budget prepared and submitted by:

John R. O'Meara Executive Director

Lawrence J. Peck Deputy Director

William M. Ruff, Sr. Finance Director and Treasurer

Renee Telfer Human Resources Director

With assistance and input from staff throughout the Metro Parks.

November 29, 2011

Gregory S. Lashutka
Frances Beasley
J. Jeffrey McNealey

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS,
COLUMBUS AND FRANKLIN COUNTY METRO PARKS

Dear Park Commissioners:

In this second year of funding from the park levy that was passed in 2009, we maintained a primary focus on fulfilling the commitments that we made to the voters. Unfortunately our progress was impacted by the decision by the State to significantly reduce funding to local governments, including Metro Parks. This loss of funding limited our progress somewhat in 2011, but will have a much greater impact in the years to come as the cuts are fully implemented. The State cut our Local Government Fund revenues by 50%, accelerated the phase out of tangible personal property taxes, and stopped funding the conservation programs in the Clean Ohio Fund. These cuts will reduce our available funding for the remainder of the levy period by more than \$30 million. In addition, property values in Franklin County have fallen by an average of 6½%, further reducing our anticipated property tax income. These losses account for more than 13% of the total income we anticipated when we developed our ten-year plan prior to the 2009 levy.

We are undertaking many steps to streamline our already efficient operations even further in response to these funding cuts. However, it will not be possible to absorb cuts of this magnitude without impacting the services that we provide. These impacts will be most noticeable in the effect they have on our planned park improvements. We will be able to maintain our existing parks and facilities. But our plans for new parks, new trails, and enhanced educational offerings will need to be scaled back.

The Year in Review - 2011

Despite the financial gloom and unusually heavy rainfall, this has been another productive year for the Metro Parks system. We made great progress in fulfilling promises that we made during our 2009 levy campaign. By year's end, 7,000,000 visitors will have enjoyed free outdoor recreational and educational activities in the Metro Parks and along the Greenway Trails. The parks and facilities continue to be clean, safe and well maintained. We are now using social media to reach out to more audiences and promote the parks in new ways.

This was our first full year managing the Greenway Trails in the City of Columbus. We have had a tremendous positive impact, improving every aspect of trail management. We implemented plowing and sweeping of the trails, maintained high visibility with our Rangers, and improved trail safety and surface conditions. We were also able to open the new 878 foot bridge on the Blacklick Creek Greenway which filled an important link in the regional trail system. On the far west side considerable progress was made on the Camp Chase Trail. Visitors can now get on a bike in Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park and ride to Cincinnati on the Ohio to Erie Trail.

Progress was made at Scioto Audubon Metro Park. The Grange Insurance Audubon Center celebrated its second anniversary. Facilities in the park are seeing increased usage. The remainder of the impound lot was transferred to Metro Parks. Plans were approved to address the impacted soils and we began the remediation process. We expect to complete the remediation process this winter.

Educational programming was expanded with substantially more activities for seniors. Again this year, 100% of the fifth graders in Columbus City Schools participated in the Students Exploring Ecosystem Dynamics (SEED) program. Over 300,000 people participated in Metro Parks' educational activities this year. The new nature center in Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park is now under construction.

The park system will grow by 437 acres this year. These additional acres bring Metro Parks' total conserved acreage to over 26,400 acres. Grants and contributions from governmental partners totaled over \$4.5 million in 2011.

As an important part of our mission we strive to protect and improve habitat for wildlife. We saw the fruits this year of many of our conservation efforts. The re-introduction of bison has been a huge hit with the public. Endangered species such as least bitterns, king rails, Indiana bats, and sandhill cranes made spectacular appearances while breeding in the parks. The effort to reinforce the populations of the federally endangered riffleshell mussel in Big Darby Creek, in cooperation with several conservation partners, appears to be successful. Additional habitat restoration projects were completed that will enhance our ability to sustain wildlife populations for decades to come.

The Year Ahead - 2012

Metro Parks will continue fulfilling commitments made during the park levy campaign. Maintaining the outstanding quality of the existing Metro Parks is always a top priority.

Notwithstanding the financial challenges caused by the State's decision to greatly reduce funding, we are undertaking several planned projects based on our levy commitments using funds that are still available. Major new projects include completion and opening of the nature center in Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park and constructing the remainder of the facilities at Walnut Woods Metro Park. Trail construction will continue along the Blacklick Creek Greenway and on the Camp Chase Trail. In addition we will start construction of the Big Walnut Greenway Trail in northeast Columbus.

The coming year should remain productive in other areas for Metro Parks in spite of the economic uncertainty. We anticipate making progress on numerous initiatives. The attached budget provides funds for improvements at Scioto Audubon Metro Park and upgrades to facilities throughout the park system.

The educational efforts of Metro Parks will continue to be a focus of our efforts. The Students Exploring Ecosystem Dynamics (SEED) program is achieving wonderful success. Our expanded programming for senior citizens will continue and we will provide a wide range of programs that are of interest to people of all ages.

This will be the sixth year of the Metro Parks Urban Conservation Corps. The Urban Conservation Corps provides jobs, training and conservation education for at-risk youth. The Corps members will complete projects in the Metro Parks while learning skills and gaining exposure to conservation careers.

Land acquisition in 2012 will be primarily for projects that are financially supported by contributions from other governmental partners. Funding from partners is available for acquisition at the planned Rocky Fork Metro Park in northeast Franklin County. An Ohio EPA grant is approved for acquisition and restoration of land in the Morgan Run wetlands area near Prairie Oaks. On a limited basis, we will continue to acquire other lands to protect natural resources and to provide outdoor recreation and educational opportunities.

The attached budget provides \$13.1 million for salaries and benefits, \$4.8 million for operations and administration, \$9.2 million for capital improvements, and \$7.5 million for land acquisition. Efforts will continue to augment tax dollars through soliciting donations, grants and appropriations. These funds will ensure maintenance of the high quality of the current Metro Parks while making progress in fulfillment of our commitments to the community.

Expenditures for 2012 are budgeted at \$5.2 million less than the budget for 2010. This is necessary due to the reductions in revenues noted above.

The staff of Metro Parks greatly appreciates the support and guidance provided by the Board of Park Commissioners throughout the years and looks forward to working with the Board to maintain and improve the Metro Parks system in the coming year.

On behalf of the management team of Metro Parks, we respectfully submit the 2012 Budget for your consideration. With your support, Metro Parks will continue to provide safe, clean, well-managed parks for the citizens of Central Ohio and will continue to plan for the open space and passive outdoor recreation needs of the community for decades to come.

Respectfully submitted,
John R. O'Meara
Executive Director

METRO PARKS GOALS For the Year 2012

1. Maintain clean, safe parks. Provide enjoyable, informative and healthful outdoor experiences for seven million visitors. Maintain high standards for facilities and services at all parks and along trails.
2. Complete new nature center in Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park. Integrate nature center design with stream, bison, wetland, prairie and archeological features. Complete nearby observation towers.
3. Serve as one of the host agencies for the international EcoSummit. Assist with planning of the event. Lead field trips and educational sessions.
4. Complete environmental remediation work at Scioto Audubon Metro Park. Complete park plan. Install landscaping and new visitor facilities.
5. Continue the education initiative to assist school children in learning science concepts and to provide knowledge of the Earth's environment in cooperation with local schools. Provide quality educational and enjoyable programming at all parks. Acquire a new tram for programs and to provide access to the parks for people with limited mobility.
6. Continue to make improvements to the Greenways Trail System. Construct segments of the Ohio to Erie Trail along the Camp Chase railroad corridor. Complete Blacklick Creek Greenway Trail from Three Creeks to Blacklick Woods. Begin construction of Big Walnut Creek Greenway Trail near Blendon Woods.
7. Complete Walnut Woods Metro Park with new trails, wildlife observation areas and diverse outdoor activities. Work towards connecting Walnut Woods by trail to both Canal Winchester and Groveport.
8. Open upgraded facilities at Blacklick Woods Golf Courses. Implement plan to attract more youth participants.
9. Complete habitat restoration project in the Morgan Run Headwaters area in cooperation with Ohio EPA. Complete Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project (WHIP) in cooperation with Natural Resource Conservation Service and complete additional habitat restoration east of Darby Creek Drive in Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park
10. Acquire land for the new Rocky Fork Metro Park in Plain Township utilizing funds committed through agreement with Columbus, New Albany and Plain Township. Install trail and parking area to provide public access.
11. Continue developing and supporting partnerships that enhance the benefits that Metro Parks provides to the community. Continue involvement in regional planning

efforts, cooperative efforts to protect Darby Creek, and to improve the Greenways system. Support implementation of the conservation components of the Darby Accord. Fulfill commitments in the Green Pact among local governments.

12. Train and equip park staff to provide outstanding customer service. Provide staff with tools and training to perform their jobs efficiently and effectively. Work on continuous improvement of employee relations. Strive to create a work force that is representative of the community.
13. Continue the Metro Parks Urban Conservation Corps. Hire inner-city youth to assist on Metro Parks' projects in partnership with Columbus Schools. Provide training and exposure to conservation professions.
14. Increase public awareness of Metro Parks and conservation issues through newspaper, television and social media. Promote the endless benefits that Metro Parks provides to the community. Continue to promote healthy lifestyles and encourage visitors to enjoy trails, programs and facilities in the Metro Parks.
15. Manage financial resources wisely. Provide accurate financial reports in a timely manner. Seek additional funding to fulfill our mission through grants, appropriations, and partnerships.

**2012 Financial Summary
Combined General, Capital and Enterprise Funds**

ESTIMATED ENDING CASH BALANCE - 12/31/11		\$ 7,585,000
Add: New Revenues		<u>\$ 29,844,000</u>
Total Available Cash Resources		\$ 37,429,000
 Less: Budgeted Expenses		
Salaries and Benefits, excluding golf course	\$ 12,155,600	
Operating and Administrative	\$ 4,482,900	
Enterprise Fund - Golf Course		
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 924,400	
Operating	<u>\$ 358,100</u>	
Total Operating Budget	\$ 17,921,000	
Capital Improvement Projects	\$ 9,175,000	
Capital Improvement Projects-Golf Course	\$ 35,000	
Land Acquisition	\$ 7,500,000	
Total Budgeted Expenses		<u>\$ 34,631,000</u>
 ESTIMATED 12/31/12 CASH BALANCE, IF ALL APPROPRIATIONS ARE FULLY EXPENDED		 <u>\$ 2,798,000</u>

Projected Changes in 2012 Fund Balances

BUDGET AMOUNTS:

	FUND 27 GENERAL FUND Total	FUND 29 CAPITAL Total	FUND 30 ENTERPRISE Total	ALL FUNDS Total
Projected New Revenue				
Public Sources:				
Tax Levy	20,821,000			20,821,000
Local Government Fund	2,901,000			2,901,000
Grants	-	3,400,000		3,400,000
Total Public Sources	\$ 23,722,000	\$ 3,400,000	\$ -	\$ 27,122,000
Earned Income from Operations:				
Golf Courses			1,170,000	1,170,000
Concessions & Shelter Fees	200,000			200,000
Interpretive Program	75,000			75,000
House & Land Rental	210,000			210,000
Total Earned Income	\$ 485,000	\$ -	\$ 1,170,000	\$ 1,655,000
Interest Income	\$ 47,000			\$ 47,000
Land Acquisition Municipal Contributions		\$ 985,000		\$ 985,000
Donations & Bequests	\$ 15,000	\$ -		\$ 15,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	\$ 20,000	\$ -		\$ 20,000
Total 2010 Projected Revenue by Fund	\$ 24,289,000	\$ 4,385,000	\$ 1,170,000	\$ 29,844,000
Projected Expenditures:				
Salaries	8,656,500		662,500	\$ 9,319,000
Fringe Benefits	2,071,000		160,000	2,231,000
PERS	1,304,900		91,800	1,396,700
Medicare	123,200		10,100	133,300
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 12,155,600		\$ 924,400	\$ 13,080,000
Admin	\$ 991,370		\$ 6,000	\$ 997,370
Promotion	\$ 242,855			242,855
Park Maintenance	\$ 1,426,794		39,300	1,466,094
Safety & Law Enforcement	\$ 690,100			690,100
Revenue Programs	\$ 499,334		312,800	812,134
Rental Properties	\$ 149,620			149,620
Education/Interpretive Operations	\$ 30,750			30,750
Natural Resource Management	\$ 149,375			149,375
Special Facilities	\$ 122,702			122,702
Renovations	\$ 180,000			180,000
Operating Expenses	\$ 4,482,900	\$ -	\$ 358,100	\$ 4,841,000
Capital Improvement Projects		\$ 9,175,000	\$ 35,000	\$9,210,000
Land Acquisition		\$ 7,500,000		\$ 7,500,000
2012 Projected Expenditures by Fund	\$ 16,638,500	\$ 16,675,000	\$ 1,317,500	\$ 34,631,000
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES	\$ 7,650,500	\$ (12,290,000)	\$ (147,500)	\$ (4,787,000)
Projected Balance 12/31/2011	\$ 2,152,000	\$ 5,430,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 7,585,000
Transfer to / (from) Fund	\$ (7,300,000)	\$ 7,000,000	\$ 300,000	\$ -
Estimated Balance 12/31/2012	\$ 2,502,500	\$ 140,000	\$ 155,500	\$ 2,798,000

Blacklick Woods Golf Course Summary

We are in the midst of a paradigm change in terms of operations at the Blacklick Woods Golf Course. In 2011, we constructed a driving range and training facility converting the Executive Golf Course from 18 holes to 9 holes (3 of the 9 holes remain for use by golfers utilizing the driving range). In 2012, the driving range and training facility will open and we will also self operate the snack bar and meeting room at the activity building. We have established a relatively high target for projected revenues for 2012 with the hope that these moves will enhance our revenue stream.

In 2011, revenues were impacted negatively by absolutely horrendous weather in April, May, and September. Closing half of the executive course in July had an impact as expected on rounds and revenue with an average monthly decrease of 35% in rounds and revenue on the Green Course attributable to the driving range project (our original projection called for a decrease of 20% but it should be noted that June 2011 saw a 7% decrease from June 2010 prior to the driving range project beginning reflecting continuation of the downward trend of play on the Green Course).

2011 expenditures in non-personnel areas were much lower than budgeted due to the impact of weather (we did little irrigation due to the rain), the driving range project which was the focus of the staff for 2 months, and excellent management of costs by the golf course staff.

Our 2012 projected revenue is based on the following:

	2012 Projected	2011	2010
Greens Fees	\$551,127	\$514,488	\$628,327
Cart Rental	\$279,492	\$180,249	\$227,712
Merchandise Resale	\$25,000	\$23,009	\$26,995
Activity Room Rental*	\$25,000		
Driving Range/Training Facility*	\$70,000		
Snack Bar/Food and Beverage*	\$175,000 (gross)		

*concession fee paid to Metro Parks in 2010 (\$40,000) and 2011 (\$20,000) estimated

Projected expenditures for 2012 are as follows:

	2012 Projected	2011	2010
Personnel (current staffing)	\$839,420	\$849,000	\$841,747
Additional Personnel Costs	\$ 85,000		
Operating Costs—Golf Course	\$290,100	\$240,967	\$338,828
Operating Costs—Pro Shop	\$ 68,000	\$ 20,935	\$ 20,839
Capital Improvements	\$ 35,000	\$113,847	

As you will note, anticipated 2012 revenues and expenditures reflect a net loss of \$147,520. Self-operation of the snack bar and meeting room should generate significantly more revenue than we received as a minimum outlined in the concession agreement. With Morty's Kids program coming on board and the anticipated \$25,000 associated with them, we should reach our revenue goals for the driving range and training facility. Actual revenues and expenditures will be influenced as always by the

Blacklick Woods Golf Course Summary

weather and how quickly the driving range and training facility are embraced by the public, by our success in self-operating the concession and increasing the use of the meeting room, and by our ability to expand league play and the use of the golf course by Morty's Kids and other youth golf initiatives. We are establishing a challenging but doable target for revenue and will continue efforts to control costs, particularly in the area of personnel expenses. Our goal is to bring revenues and expenditures in line for the long term and we feel the courses of action we have undertaken allow us to accomplish financial stability in a strategic manner.

**Projected Income Statement
Enterprise Fund - Fund 30
Blacklick Woods Golf Course Operations**

	2011 Projected Actual	2012 Budget
<u>REVENUES</u>		
Golf fees, cart rental, merchandise, concessions	\$ 725,000	\$ 1,170,000
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Personnel:		
Salaries	599,000	662,500
Benefits, PERS, Medicare	242,000	261,900
Total Personnel Costs	\$ 841,000	\$ 924,400
 Operating Costs (non-personnel)	 262,000	 358,100
 Capital Improvement Projects	 115,000	 35,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,218,000	\$ 1,317,500
 NET INCOME	 \$ (493,000)	 \$ (147,500)

ENTERPRISE FUND BALANCE-PROJ. 12/31/11		\$ 3,000
TRANSFER FROM OTHER FUNDS		\$ 300,000
ENTERPRISE FUND BALANCE-PROJ. 12/31/12		\$ 155,500

Sources of Revenue

Metro Parks has three designated categories of revenue: public sources (taxes and government grants), operational fees (earned income) and other revenue (donations, interest income, etc.). The total new revenue estimated for 2012 is \$29,844,000. The following narratives provide an explanation for each source of revenue.

PUBLIC SOURCES

Metro Parks' public revenue for 2012 will be decreasing. The economy is impacting Metro Parks' property tax revenue and the State has reduced Local Government Funds, tangible personal property funds and grant opportunities. Property values decreased for the first time in modern history, records date back to 1943, in Franklin County. The estimated decrease is 6%, but this will not result in a 6% decrease in tax revenue. Just as the law protects homeowners from increasing home values, it protects taxing jurisdictions from decreasing values. For 2012 we are projecting a \$317,000 decrease, which is 1.5% of our property tax income. The State biennial budget decreased Local Government Funds by 50% over two years. For 2012, Local Government Funds for Metro Parks will decrease by about \$1.1 million. Grant revenue is projected to increase by \$643,000 over the projected actual amount for 2011 as we are reimbursed with grant funds previously approved. The grant revenue is for land acquisition, environmental remediation or habitat restoration and as such will be restricted to those purposes.

Sources of revenue defined:

Property Tax Levy – A 0.75-mill levy on real and personal property passed in Franklin County in May 2009, with receipts to be received by Metro Parks in the ten-year period 2010 through 2019. Levy funds (\$20,821,000) will be deposited into the General Fund (Fund 27). Some of these funds will be transferred from the General Fund to the Capital Improvements Fund (Fund 29) (\$7,000,000) and to the Golf Course Enterprise Fund (Fund 30) (\$300,000). The personal property tax is being eliminated and Metro Parks will not receive Tangible Personal Property tax after 2012.

Local Government Fund (LGF) - A portion of State of Ohio taxes are distributed to local governments pursuant to state law. The undivided Local Government Fund distribution is allocated among the political subdivisions located within Franklin County by the Franklin County Budget Commission. Metro Parks receives a 5.5% allocation of Franklin County's undivided LGF apportionment (\$2,901,000). Proceeds must be used for operational purposes and are deposited into the General Fund (Fund 27).

Government Grants – The Federal and State governments provide funding opportunities to assist local governments with projects and programs. Metro Parks has been awarded grants from Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP), U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund (CORF). Metro Parks anticipates applying for additional grants in the coming year. The anticipated proceeds (\$3,400,000) will be deposited in Fund 29.

Sources Of Revenue, continued

OPERATIONAL SOURCES

Enterprise Fund income - Receipts generated in the operation of the Blacklick Woods Golf Courses, including, but not limited to, greens fees, cart rental, and the food and banquet facility are considered earned income and recorded in the Enterprise Fund of Metro Parks. Income from the golf course operations for 2012 is projected to increase due to improvements made at the golf course and self-operating the food concession. (Fund 30) \$1,170,000

Income from Other Operations - The following activities generate revenues, which are intended to cover costs but are not operated as enterprise activities. We are anticipating a slight decrease in revenue from these activities in 2012. Receipts are deposited into the General Fund (Fund 27). \$485,000

Shelter and room fees - Fees charged to cover the costs of cleaning and maintaining reservable picnic shelters, lodges, and meeting rooms.

Concessions - Receipts from vendors under contract with Metro Parks to deliver specified goods and services for which park visitors pay a fee. Concessionaire contracts exist for disc golf course operation and vending machines.

Interpretive receipts - Charges that cover the costs of materials and services used to provide nature education presentations. Also included are receipts from sales of items of interest to park visitors, made available as a convenience to them.

Rentals - House rental and agricultural land lease payments.

OTHER SOURCES

Governmental Partnership Contributions – Contributions to Metro Parks by City of Dublin for Glacier Ridge Metro Park and by the City of Columbus for the purchase of land at Rocky Fork Metro Park in northeast Franklin County. \$985,000

Income from investment - Revenues earned on funds in various Metro Parks bank accounts and investment securities. Permitted investments include STAR Ohio; U.S. Treasury Bills, Notes and Bonds; securities issued by federal agencies; bonds of the state of Ohio; certificates of deposit; and repurchase agreements with qualified banks. Interest rates remained below 1% most of 2011. We are projecting revenue based a 1% return. Income is recorded in both the General Fund (Fund 27) and Capital Improvements Fund (Fund 29). \$47,000

Donations and bequests - Bequests, which generate receipts on a regular basis, and one-time donations, are recorded here. \$15,000

Miscellaneous - all other revenue and non-revenue receipts in small or unpredictable amounts. These include court fines, damage settlements, refunds on prior year payments, reimbursements, sales of salvage and fixed assets, sales of specifications and plans for Metro Parks' capital improvement projects. \$20,000

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Sources Of Revenue, continued

Four trust funds have been established in honor of Allen F. Beck, J.C. Hambleton, E.S. Thomas, and Marian K. and Albert H. Thomas, which are in the Metro Parks' treasury. The Beck Fund and the Marian K. and Albert H. Thomas are expendable (i.e. principal and earnings are expendable), while the other two trusts are classified as non-expendable (only interest earned on the principal may be spent). The aggregate balance of these trust funds is projected to be \$620,000 (excluding the funds managed by the Columbus Foundation, referenced below) by December 31, 2011. The trust funds projected earnings for 2012 is \$1,000.

In addition, the Columbus Foundation manages the Inniswood Fund for Metro Parks. The balance of this fund is projected to remain at \$458,000. This fund generates about \$15,000 per year that is recorded with donations or operating grants.

REVENUES AND COMBINED FUND BALANCES

	2010 Actual	2011 Budget	2011 Projected Actual 10/31/2010	2012 Budget	11 Proj. Act. v. '12 Inc (Dec)	% Change Inc (Dec)
NEW REVENUES: GOVT (27, 29) & ENTERPRISE (30) FUNDS						
Public Sources:						
Property Tax Levy - .75 mill	22,139,548	22,187,000	21,138,407	20,821,000	(317,407)	-1.5%
LGF	4,174,113	4,232,000	4,058,874	2,901,000	(1,157,874)	-28.5%
Grants	2,923,434	4,419,000	2,757,250	3,400,000	642,750	23.3%
Total Public Sources	29,237,096	30,838,000	27,954,530	27,122,000	(832,530)	-3.0%
Operational Sources:						
Revenues from Golf Course Operations	926,436	900,000	724,608	1,170,000	445,392	61.5%
Revenues from Park Operations:						
Concessions & Shelter Fees	229,479	240,000	212,833	200,000	(12,833)	-6.0%
Interpretive Programs	66,624	67,000	63,687	75,000	11,314	17.8%
House & Land Rental	313,072	276,000	208,326	210,000	1,674	0.8%
Total Income from Operational Sources	1,535,611	1,483,000	1,209,452	1,655,000	445,548	36.8%
Governmental Partnership Contributions	2,413,879	1,480,000	1,803,299	985,000	(818,299)	-45.4%
Wetland Credits	100,000					
Income from Investment	53,019	52,000	40,045	47,000	6,955	17.4%
Donations & Bequests	33,097	15,000	24,581	15,000	(9,581)	-39.0%
Miscellaneous Receipts (incl salvage sale)	216,543	40,000	183,959	20,000	(163,959)	-89.1%
TOTAL NEW REVENUES	33,589,245	33,908,000	31,215,868	29,844,000	(1,371,868)	-4.4%
LOAN PROCEEDS - Net						
BEG FUND BALANCES	12,119,721	7,932,940	7,932,940	7,584,000	(348,940)	-4.4%
				proj. 12/31/2011		
FUND BALANCES PLUS NEW REVENUES	45,708,966	41,840,940	39,148,808	37,428,000	(1,720,808)	-4.4%
FIDUCIARY FUNDS PRIOR BALANCE						
Expendable (Beck & Thomas)	190,188	209,160	190,188	229,000	38,812	20.4%
Expendable (E.Thomas, Hambleton)	290,856	289,175	290,856	291,000	144	0.0%
Non-Expendable (E.Thomas, Hambleton)	97,796	97,796	97,796	97,796	-	0.0%
Non-Expendable (Inniswood Fund-Cols Found.)	458,000	458,000	458,000	458,000	-	0.0%
Add:						
Current Year Projected Income	67	1,000	61	1,000	939	1531.9%
Donations & Bequests	38,707		39,000	-		
GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS	45,747,741	41,841,940	39,187,869	38,504,796	(683,073)	-1.7%

Summary of Non-Personnel Operating and Administrative Expenditures

The budget for Operations is allocated to accomplish Metro Parks' goal of providing clean, safe parks for the residents of Franklin County and Central Ohio. There are two components in the operations budget. The first component is the operations area, which covers all of the parks' budgets and also budget centers that relate directly to park operations. The second component is administration and this covers the headquarters' functions and budget centers that have district wide responsibilities.

The 2012 budget for Operations is \$2,370,300 and the Administration budget is \$2,112,600 for a total operating budget of \$4,482,900. This includes all operating costs except the Golf Course and personnel costs. The Operations budget is appropriated under the general fund (Fund 27). The budget for the Golf Course operations is \$358,100, which is appropriated under the Enterprise Fund (Fund 30).

Metro Parks will continue to work closely with partners in pursuit of our mission. Funds are allocated to continue partnering with the Ohio Wildlife Center (\$10,000) and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (\$50,000).

Equipment purchases are included in the operating budget, and will be approved by Resolution of the Board of Park Commissioners prior to purchase if the cost is \$25,000 or greater. A list of the largest budgeted equipment items, with a \$15,000 threshold, is presented later in this document. Equipment is classified according to the program in which it is utilized to be in conformance with the way equipment is reported on our accrual basis financial statements. For example, if a piece of equipment is utilized for park maintenance it is classified in the park maintenance program category.

Operations and Administration Budget Analysis of Changes

The proposed operational budget for Fund 27, (excluding personnel) for 2012 is \$4,482,900.

With the reductions in State and tax funding, the 2012 operations budget was prepared with some fundamental changes in how Metro Parks does business. This produced a budget that is \$596,100 less than the 2011 operations budget, even though it is greater than the 2011 projected actual expenditures.

Budgeted expenditures increase \$354,900 or 8.6% when compared to the projected actual for 2011. This increase has to be taken in conjunction with decisions made in 2011 not to make some large equipment purchases and a concerted effort to reduce operating costs due to the reductions in State funding, specifically Local Government Funds.

In order to maintain the quality of facilities that are expected in the Metro Parks, some equipment that was delayed in 2011 is budgeted in 2012. Walnut Woods Metro Park will require significant start-up expenses as the park is completed and visitation increases. The nature center in Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park will open and the Greenways trail system is expanding. These improved facilities contribute to the increases in operational expenditures.

The 2012 budget reflects the continuing desire of Metro Parks to meet or exceed the existing standards of service to the community that we have established in terms of administration, maintenance, programming, customer service, law enforcement and natural resource management.

**Anticipated Expenditure Summary
Comparison of 2011 Projected Actual and 2012 Budget**

CATEGORY	2010 Actual	2011 Budget	2011 Projected Actual	2012 Budget	% Change
			projected from 10/31 actual		
<u>Personnel (from Fund 27)</u>					
Salaries (including merit increases)	7,648,647	8,449,000	8,182,000	8,656,500	5.80%
Employee Benefits	1,651,989	1,964,000	1,794,000	2,071,000	15.44%
PERS	1,131,097	1,268,000	1,224,000	1,304,900	6.61%
Medicare	96,144	119,000	104,000	123,200	18.46%
Total Benefits	2,879,230	3,351,000	3,122,000	3,499,100	12.08%
Subtotal	10,527,877	11,800,000	11,304,000	12,155,600	7.53%
<u>Park Ops & Admin (from Fund 27)</u>					
Admin	1,540,802	1,076,070	897,000	991,370	10.52%
Education/Interpretive Operations	211,247	479,745	192,000	242,855	26.49%
Park Maintenance	1,323,524	1,445,045	1,530,000	1,426,794	-6.75%
Promotion	528,374	704,800	498,000	690,100	38.57%
Rental Properties	416,718	600,225	404,000	499,334	23.60%
Natural Resource Management	103,671	163,475	85,000	149,620	76.02%
Revenue Programs	34,998	42,030	29,000	30,750	6.03%
Safety & Law Enforcement	254,601	244,940	238,000	149,375	-37.24%
Special Facilities	60,530	142,670	65,000	122,702	88.77%
Renovations	165,371	180,000	190,000	180,000	-5.26%
Subtotal	4,639,836	5,079,000	4,128,000	4,482,900	8.60%
Capital Improvement Projects		10,750,000		9,175,000	
Miscellaneous	16,745		14,000		
Building Construction	291,602		5,607,000		
Facility Improvements	108,348		168,000		
Natural Resource Improvements	543,053		22,000		
Planning	194,869		331,000		
Site Improvements	7,200,650		4,577,000		
Utilities	15,643	-	-	-	
Capital Improvement Projects (Fund 29)	8,370,910	10,750,000	10,719,000	9,175,000	-14.40%
Land Acquisition (from Fund 29)	9,856,091	11,000,000	6,536,000	7,500,000	14.75%
TOTAL ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES - FUNDS 27 & 29	33,394,715	38,629,000	32,687,000	33,313,500	1.92%
ENTERPRISE FUND EXP. - Golf Course					
<u>Personnel</u>					
Salaries (including merit increases)	609,432	611,000	599,000	662,500	10.60%
Employee Benefits	143,483	143,000	154,000	160,000	3.90%
PERS	81,728	85,000	81,000	91,800	13.33%
Medicare	6,773	9,000	7,000	10,100	44.29%
Total Benefits	231,983	237,000	242,000	261,900	8.22%
Subtotal	841,415	848,000	841,000	924,400	9.92%
Operations	351,487	349,000	262,000	358,100	36.68%
Capital Improvement Projects	-	45,000	115,000	35,000	-69.57%
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND - FUND 30	1,192,902	1,242,000	1,218,000	1,317,500	8.17%
TOTAL ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURE ALL FUNDS	34,587,617	39,871,000	33,905,000	34,631,000	2.14%

Equipment Budget Highlights

The following is a list of equipment items that are budgeted at amounts over \$15,000. Purchases over \$25,000 must be approved by resolution by the Board of Park Commissioners. Additional pieces of equipment totaling \$104,722 are budgeted, but did not meet the large item cost threshold.

Park	Item Description	Budgeted
04 HBK	Patrol Vehicle - Truck 4-1	\$25,000.00
05 SHN	Fleet Vehicle	\$18,000.00
07 SLR	4-wheel drive, extended cab, v-8 truck	\$30,000.00
09 CLC	Maintenance Truck 4x4 w/ Plow package	\$35,000.00
14 TCR	Toro Z Mower	\$17,500.00
	Electric Tram + Transportation Trailer	\$41,000.00
17 SIO	Kubota Mower	\$14,500.00
19 WAL	Workman/Kubota	\$17,000.00
33 OPS	Radios	\$15,000.00
	Equipment budget items under \$15,000	\$104,722.00
Total 2012 Equipment Budget:		\$317,722.00

Summary of Personnel Expenditures

Extended vacancies had a major impact on 2011 projected actual expenditures. Six full-time Park Ranger positions were not filled until late spring and were, therefore, vacant longer than expected. In addition, we delayed filling some other positions in recognition of reduced funding from the State. These vacancies along with normal attrition resulted in the projected personnel cost being 3.98% under the 2011 budget.

The personnel budget for 2011 was \$12,648,000. The proposed personnel expenses for 2012 will increase from \$12,145,000 (2011 projected actual) to \$13,080,000. This represents an increase of 7.7%. The budget-to-budget numbers indicate an increase of 3.42%. This increase can be attributed to new positions necessary to support Metro Parks' growth through: 1) the opening of a new nature center Battelle Darby Creek, 2) strengthening maintenance at several parks, and 3) assuming the responsibility for concessions at the golf course. Merit and skill-based adjustments for eligible employees are also included. The benefit year for health care has changed from a calendar year to a fiscal year, beginning in April, and as a result of this change actual numbers for health care cost are not available. A 4.5% increase in health care costs has been included as the best estimate at this time.

The 2012 proposed Personnel Budget includes:

- Merit increases of 20¢ per hour for eligible full-time employees who receive at least an "Achieves" rating on the annual performance evaluation. This merit increase is based on an average of a 1% increase, equalized for all eligible employees. Increases will be given up to the maximum rate established for the each position's range.
- Eligible full-time employees who receive an "Outstanding" appraisal evaluation will receive the 20¢ per hour increase plus a \$500 merit lump sum.
- A 1% increase for eligible full-time Park Rangers will be given in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement.
- An increase of 14¢ per hour for eligible part-time employees. Increases will be given up to the maximum rate established for the each position's range.
- The maximum of each pay range will be increased by 20¢ per hour. This rate will be annualized for exempt positions. Pay ranges have not been adjusted since March 2009.
- All increases will be effective February 27, 2012 and will be dispersed on the March 23, 2012 pay date.

These salary increases take into consideration employee performance, projected pay increases granted by local agencies, and general economic conditions.

Personnel Analysis

Budget vs Budget

	2012 Budget	2011 Budget	% Change	\$ Change
EXCLUDING NEW POSITIONS	12,842,000	12,648,000	1.53%	194,000
INCLUDING NEW POSITIONS	13,080,000	12,648,000	3.42%	432,000

Projected Actual vs Budget

	2012 Proposed Budget	2011 Projected Actual	% Change #	2011 Budget	% Change #
TOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS:					
Staffing/FT & PT positions:					
Salaries	\$ 9,071,000	\$ 8,758,000	3.57%	\$ 8,993,000	2.61% *
New Positions	238,000				
Fringe Benefits	2,054,000	1,844,800	11.34%	1,931,000	4.46%
PERS	1,370,000	1,306,000	4.90%	1,321,000	1.14%
Medicare	130,000	111,000	17.12%	125,000	11.20%
Salaries and Benefits Total	12,863,000	12,019,800	7.02%	12,370,000	2.83%
OTHER APPROPRIATIONS:					
Skill Base & Merit Lump Sum	22,000	42,000	-47.62%	85,000	50.59%
Uniform Allowance	10,000	-		10,000	100.00%
Claims-based Expenses:					
Retirements**	53,000	22,000	140.91%	53,000	58.49%
Unemployment	6,000	1,200	400.00%	6,000	80.00%
Workers Comp***	126,000	60,000	110.00%	124,000	51.61%
Total Other Appropriations	217,000	125,200	73.32%	278,000	54.96%
TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$13,080,000	\$ 12,145,000	7.70%	\$ 12,648,000	3.98%

** (Accrued vacation / sick leave payment)

*2011 Budgeted salaries includes \$184,000
for new positions

*** (Prior year & extraordinary claims)

% Change is showing the change of 2012 proposed budget & the 2011 budget (respectively) to the 2011 proposed actual

Proposed New Positions FY 2012 Budget

The new positions proposed in the 2012 budget focus on the opening of the Nature Center at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, a change in the Blacklick Woods Golf Course operations, and continued growth in parks and greenway trails. In conjunction with these proposed positions, an analysis of existing personnel is being undertaken to develop a strategic plan which may result in the creation of different appointment types (i.e. seasonal/intermittent) and the possible reallocation of staff to areas most needed.

Justification for the proposed new positions is as follows:

Senior Naturalist and Full-Time Naturalist - Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park.

With the new Nature Center slated for opening in September 2012, the hub naturalist position will be reclassified to a senior naturalist consistent with other parks with nature centers. A full-time naturalist position will be reassigned from another park as well, to bring the park's interpretation staff to a full-time Senior Naturalist, a full-time Naturalist, two part-time Naturalists, and a part-time Nature Center Attendant.

Part-Time Nature Center Attendant - Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park. With the opening of the 14,000 square foot Nature Center at Battelle Darby in September of 2012, and the expected popularity of the facility, staff support is needed to facilitate the enjoyment of the public. A part-time Nature Center Attendant would handle visitor interactions by greeting guests at the door and providing information and answering questions about the center and the park. In addition, the position would handle maintenance responsibilities such as the routine grounds maintenance associated with the Center and upkeep requirements of exhibits. This position will allow the Park to maintain its high standards for visitor interactions and park maintenance at the Nature Center without negatively effecting current park needs.

Assistant Golf Course Manager, Food/Beverage Workers (5), Banquet Facility Worker (1). With the Golf Course assuming the food and beverage component that was previously managed by an outside concessionaire, the supervisory structure at the Golf Course needs to be revised. By assuming the food and beverage operations, Metro Parks will better serve both golfers and facility rentals, as well as allow Metro Parks to accrue additional revenues. The current Pro Shop Coordinator/PGA Apprentice position is changed to an Assistant Manager with the added responsibilities of managing food and beverage operations and rental of the banquet room. Additionally, five seasonal food and beverage worker positions would be hired to cover beverage cart and snack bar operations. One intermittent banquet facility worker position would be used to cover staffing needs, as required, for banquet facility use.

Maintenance Intern - Pickerington Ponds Metro Park. The maintenance requirements from Greenways trail expansion, additional purchase of property, and proliferation of invasive plant species throughout the park have created the need for a maintenance intern. This position would allow the park to better control invasive plant species throughout the wetland and trail systems. The intern will also be assigned to

assist in maintenance projects along the Blacklick Greenway Trail, which will be completed in 2012, connecting Blacklick, Three Creeks, and Pickerington Ponds.

Seasonal Park Tech - Prairie Oaks Metro Parks. As the park continues to expand in acreage and resource management projects, operational and maintenance needs are increasing. Maintaining resource management projects, daily operational requirements of the park, and helping with district wide project requires a seasonal park tech position to help in the busiest months of year. This position would work on equipment and maintenance projects, extensive resource management projects and maintaining the Heritage Bike Trail.

Seasonal Ranger - Scioto Audubon Metro Park and Greenways- The further development of Scioto Audubon Metro Park and expansion of the Greenways trail system have led to additional patrol and positive visitor interaction opportunities. As the public attendance has increased, so have operational needs. Special events on both the Greenways and at Scioto Audubon have lead to increased ranger patrols, and Scioto Audubon staff assists the Grange Insurance Audubon Center at the Center's special events. Now that both the Scioto Audubon and Greenways staffs are stationed out of the former City impound lot headquarters building, additional ranger staff can meet operational needs of both work units. It is proposed to convert an existing vacant part-time Ranger position to a seasonal Ranger and add an additional seasonal Ranger. These positions would patrol during the heaviest visitor usage months.

2012 Metro Parks Capital Improvement Projects

The Metro Parks Capital Improvement Budget addresses major improvements in facilities and habitats to support the goals of the Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks. The 2012 Capital Improvement Budget focuses on district-wide trail expansion initiatives, several large facility developments, resource management projects including habitat restoration and addressing Emerald Ash Borer issues, and other park-specific projects. Through these funds, Metro Parks is able to provide economic and health benefits, and an improved quality of life to the communities we serve.

TRAIL PROJECTS. After many years of effort, the vision of a connected regional trail system in Central Ohio is rapidly coming into focus. Metro Parks successfully completed or will soon complete several new trails and connections including a 1.25-mile asphalt multi-use trail connecting Highbanks with the Orange Township Trail System, extension of the Blacklick Creek Greenway Trail connecting Pickerington Ponds and Three Creeks, (including the long awaited 33 pedestrian bridge installation, which officially opened to the public in Autumn 2011) and extension of the Camp Chase Railroad Trail/Ohio to Erie Trail into Battelle Darby Creek from Madison County (the Alkire Road bridge over Big Darby Creek will be completed by year's end). For 2012, we have allocated funds for the following trail projects:

Camp Chase Trail. A large portion of the Capital Improvement Trail Projects funds has been dedicated to the continued extension of the Camp Chase Trail at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park. This particular extension will run from the Battelle Darby Creek canoe access area through the park and to Galloway. This trail is a part of continuing development of the Ohio to Erie Trail, which will eventually allow users to travel from Cincinnati through Columbus, and north to Cleveland on one continuous multi-use trail.

Camp Chase RR Trail: Alkire Rd Bridge to Galloway	\$2,200,000
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Greenways Trails/Other Trail Projects. The Greenways trails weave along riparian corridors offering opportunities for recreation and fitness, reconnecting users to nature, and providing transportation corridors between many communities in Columbus and Franklin County. Since assuming management of the Greenways trails in 2010, Metro Parks has not only expanded and increased connectivity between systems, but has improved trail conditions and promoted user safety. 2012 Capital Improvements Projects have been identified for the Greenways Trail improvements and repair. Funds have also been allocated for improvements on internal trails at Prairie Oaks. The Big Walnut Trail from Blendon Woods Metro Park through Little Turtle Golf Course will be 1.2 miles long from SR 161 to the north property line of Little Turtle once completed. One project in Three Creeks includes installation of a water fountain at the Alum Creek Trail in response to requests from the public. Also in Three Creeks, a boardwalk on the Blacklick Creek Greenway Trail has deteriorated through the years and will be replaced in 2012. Funds are also allocated for a long sought trail connection scheduled from Sharon Woods Metro Park to the Alum Creek Greenway Trail in partnership with the City of Westerville.

2012 Metro Parks Capital Improvement Projects

Trail Project Budget Allocations:

Big Walnut Trail	\$1,400,000
Sharon Woods/ Alum Creek Greenway Trail Connector	\$300,000
Greenways Trail Improvements	\$50,000
Three Creeks/Blacklick Creek Greenway Trail Boardwalk	\$70,000
Three Creeks/Alum Creek Greenway Trail Water Fountain	\$25,000
Prairie Oaks Bradley Lake Culvert Replacement	\$25,000

FACILITY DEVELOPMENT. 2012 will be an exciting year for Metro Parks in regards to facility development.

Scioto Audubon Metro Park. In early Spring 2011, Metro Parks officially assumed ownership of the old city impound lot property. Together with an awarded \$1.5 million Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund grant and \$300,000 in City of Columbus funds, Metro Parks Capital Improvement Funds will be focused on the environmental clean-up, restoration, and development of Scioto Audubon Metro Park into an oasis in the heart of Columbus; with amenities that will be constructed with the input of local young professionals in the surrounding communities. Construction will begin on utility and infrastructure improvements, parking lot and roadways, and a variety of facilities for public use and enjoyment.

Scioto Audubon Improvements	\$1,600,000
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Battelle Darby Creek. With a successful bid in late summer 2011, construction has begun on the Battelle Darby Creek Nature Center. Funds have been allocated for the exhibits and furnishings for the nature center, scheduled for completion in early Autumn 2012. Additional CIP funds have been allotted for the completion of an observation tower and viewing decks over the 500-acre prairie/wetland complex restored in 2010. Finally, two other projects at Battelle Darby Creek will be funded in 2012. The current vault latrines are in poor condition and three sets will be rebuilt. In addition lighting improvements will be made at Cedar Ridge Lodge.

Wetland Observation Tower	\$75,000
Nature Center Exhibits/ Furnishings	\$80,000
Rebuild Vault Latrines	\$70,000
Parking Lot/ Path Lighting	\$80,000

2012 Metro Parks Capital Improvement Projects

Walnut Woods. There has been much progress on the development of the sixteenth Metro Park. The Tall Pines area has officially opened to the public, featuring a small picnic area and a 2.5-mile paved multi-use trail. The old nursery office has been renovated to serve as a park office, and a restroom and other improvements at the Buckeye Area are under construction. With 2012 CIP funds, the Central Area will be the focus with construction of additional multi-purpose trails and picnic areas, parking lots and roadways, and other amenities.

Walnut Woods Facility Development	\$900,000
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Rocky Fork. With newly acquired property in northeast Franklin County, development is set to begin on Rocky Fork Metro Park in 2012. Several public hearings have been held to receive local resident input for park facilities and design. Feedback has been well received, and habitat restoration, removal of debris or condemned structures, and initial development of park facilities will begin in 2012.

Rocky Fork Facility Development	\$500,000
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Other Facility Development. To continue Metro Parks commitment to green initiatives and energy efficiency, several building improvements are allotted for funding. The headquarters building at Sharon Woods Metro Park is in need of improvements addressing the HVAC system and increasing energy efficiency. These improvements should save money over time. The Activities Building at Blacklick Woods Golf Courses is in need of a roof replacement (Fund 30).

Headquarters Improvements	\$50,000
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Golf Course Activities Building Roof Replacement (Fund 30)	\$35,000
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RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS. Many 2012 resource management projects are continuing ongoing efforts including monitoring wetlands and combatting invasive species, removal and replacement of trees impacted by the Emerald Ash Borer, and development of a second phase of the Battelle Darby Creek Kuhlwein Road prairie/wetland. Three major projects will be reimbursed through various grants including Morgan Run at Prairie Oaks through the Water Resource Restoration Sponsorship Program (WRRSP) and at Battelle Darby through the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP). Funds were allocated in the event a 319 Program grant is awarded by Ohio EPA for the restoration of a section of Blacklick Creek, which has redirected itself through a retention pond adjacent to an apartment complex, threatening the Blacklick Creek Greenway Trail.

Morgan Run WRRSP	\$835,000
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Blacklick Creek Stream Restoration (319 Grant)	\$300,000
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Kuhlwein Prairie/Wetland Phase 2	\$300,000
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Emerald Ash Borer / Picnic Area Trees	\$60,000
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2012 Metro Parks Capital Improvement Projects

Darby WHIP Project	\$45,000
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Wetland Monitoring / Invasive Species Control	\$30,000
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DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS. The only funds allocated this year for district-wide use is for demolition of dilapidated structures inherited through the land acquisition process that will not be reused for future park purposes.

Demolition	\$45,000
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PARK-SPECIFIC PROJECTS. Two smaller projects have been approved at Inniswood Metro Gardens and Chestnut Ridge Metro Park. The Rock Garden at Inniswood has deteriorated through the years and is in need of renovation. The playground at Chestnut Ridge has served beyond its useful life, and will be replaced in 2012.

Chestnut Ridge Playground Replacement	\$70,000
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Inniswood Rock Garden Renovation	\$65,000
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2012 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

FUND 29

TRAIL PROJECTS

BDC - CAMP CHASE TRAIL ALKIRE RD TO GALLOWAY	\$2,200,000
BLN - BIG WALNUT TRAIL - THROUGH LITTLE TURTLE	\$1,400,000
SHN - SHARON WOODS/ALUM CREEK CONNECTOR	\$ 300,000
GREENWAYS TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 50,000
TCR - BLACKLICK GREENWAY BOARDWALK	\$ 70,000
TCR - ALUM CREEK TRAIL - WATER FOUNTAIN	\$ 25,000
POK - BRADLEY LAKE TRAIL CULVERT	\$ 25,000
SCIOTO AUDUBON IMPOUND LOT	\$1,600,000
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP/FACILITY DEVELOPMENT	
BATTELLE DARBY CREEK	
WETLAND OBSERVATION TOWER	\$ 75,000
NATURE CENTER EXHIBITS/FURNISHINGS	\$ 80,000
REBUILD VAULT LATRINES	\$ 70,000
PARKING LOT/PATH LIGHTING	\$ 80,000
WALNUT WOODS FACILITY DEVELOPMENT	\$ 900,000
ROCKY FORK FACILITY DEVELOPMENT	\$ 500,000
HEADQUARTERS IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 50,000
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	
MORGAN RUN WRRSP (REIMBURSED)	\$ 835,000
BLACKLICK CREEK 319 GRANT (PARTIALLY REIMBURSED)	\$ 300,000
KUHLEIN WETLAND PHASE 2	\$ 300,000
EAB/PICNIC AREA TREES	\$ 60,000
DARBY WHIP (REIMBURSED)	\$ 45,000
WETLAND MONITORING/INVASIVES	\$ 30,000
DEMOLITION	\$ 45,000
CHESTNUT RIDGE	
PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT	\$ 70,000
INNISWOOD	
ROCK GARDEN RENOVATION	\$ 65,000
TOTAL	\$ 9,175,000

2012 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

NOTE: Reimbursements of...	
Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund, Scioto Audubon	(\$1,500,000)
City of Columbus for Scioto Audubon	(\$ 300,000)
319 Grant for Blacklick Creek	(\$ 300,000)
Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program –Morgan Run	(\$ 835,000)
Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project, Battelle Darby Creek	(\$ 45,000)
 Total	 (\$ 2,980,000)
 NET TOTAL FUND 29 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (Cost less reimbursements)	 \$ 6,195,000
 FUND 30	
GOLF COURSE PRO SHOP ROOF REPLACEMENT	\$ 35,000
 TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT EXPENDITURES FOR 2012	 \$ 9,210,000

Land Acquisition

The 2012 budget appropriates \$7,500,000 for land acquisition. Most of the proposed land acquisition projects for 2012 are funded by agreements with governmental partners. The preliminary allocation of these funds shown below is based on assumptions regarding the availability of property from willing sellers at a reasonable price. Some shifting in these allocations is likely to occur.

The largest allocation, \$4,000,000, is for the planned Rocky Fork Metro Park in northeast Franklin County. Metro Parks, the City of Columbus, the Village of New Albany and Plain Township signed an agreement in 2008 to establish this new Metro Park. The City of Columbus has contributed \$6.5 million and has committed another \$1 million for this project, with payments to be completed in 2012. The Village of New Albany has contributed \$1,850,000 for this project and donated a parcel valued at \$650,000. Metro Parks contributed \$3 million to this fund. Metro Parks has already spent over \$8 million for land for this park. It is anticipated that all of these funds that have been dedicated for this park will be expended to purchase land by the end of 2012.

Metro Parks has been awarded funding through the Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program from Ohio EPA that will provide \$2.45 million for land acquisition and habitat restoration in the Morgan Run Headwaters area of western Franklin County, which is managed as part of Prairie Oaks Metro Park. We have completed some of the Morgan Run acquisitions and will begin the habitat restoration project in 2012. We hope to acquire additional property with the grant funds.

We are allocating funds to a variety of projects to complete planned projects. The largest of these allocations is for the new Metro Park planned along the Scioto River near Grove City.

We anticipate applying for additional grants in 2012 to support acquisitions if funds are allocated by the State of Ohio. These grants, if they materialize, have the potential to significantly increase the amount of funding available for land acquisition.

The list below represents a preliminary allocation of the available land acquisition funds by project area. Additional properties may be considered if additional funds become available. This allocation may be modified with approval of the Park Board.

No properties will be purchased unless specific authorization for each property is received from the Park Board and funds are available.

Park/Project	Allocation
Rocky Fork Headwaters	4,000,000
Scioto South	2,000,000
Battelle Darby Creek	370,000
Prairie Oaks / Morgan Run	500,000
Scioto Audubon	200,000
Greenways	430,000
Total	\$7,500,000

APROPRIATIONS
Based on 2012 Budget Proposal

The proposed budget for Metro Parks for the the fiscal year 2012 is listed below. The total budget is appropriated by fund, and the amount to be appropriated by each fund is listed below. The appropriation for Fund 27 includes an interfund transfer amount which is the movement of monies between Funds, but not a budget item. Any disbursement of funds, including transfers between Funds, must be an approved appropriation. These appropriations are being recommended for approval by the Park Board.

		<u>TOTAL NEW</u>
		<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u> (1)
Personnel		12,155,600
Non-Personnel		4,482,900
Inter Fund Transfer		7,300,000
Fund 27 Total	\$	<u>23,938,500</u>
Fund 29 Total	\$	16,675,000
Personnel	\$	924,400
Non-Personnel	\$	393,100
Fund 30 Total	\$	<u>1,317,500</u>
Grand Total	\$	<u><u>41,931,000</u></u>

(1) The total budget for 2012 excluding interfund transfers is \$34,631,000.

(2) 2011 encumbrances will be identified and carried forward as of 12/31/2011 and are not included above. The 2011 encumbrances will be charged against the 2011 budget.