

## **Special Public/Private Partnership Announcements**

### **Park Property Restrictions**

Effective November 1, 2009, The Department of Parks is restricting the receipt of unsolicited proposals for several park properties classified as either historically or culturally significant. These properties are all undergoing planning analysis review. Potential public/private partnership arrangements will be considered only via Department issued formal solicitations (i.e., Requests for Proposals (RFP); or Requests for Expressions of Interest (REOI)).

The following park properties fall within this category:

- Josiah Henson Site (formerly called the Riley Farm/“Uncle Tom’s Cabin”) (Bethesda, Southern Region)
- Needwood Manor (Rock Creek Regional Park)
- Oakley Cabin African American Museum & Park (Reddy Branch Stream Valley Park)
- Seneca Stone Barn (Black Hills Regional Park)
- Valley Mill House (Valley Mill Special Park)

Within the Little Bennett Regional Park:

- Kingsley School House
- Perry Browning Farm
- Zeigler Log House

Within the Woodlawn Manor Cultural Park:

- Woodlawn Manor
- Woodlawn Stone Barn

### **Cabin John Regional Park**

Cabin John Regional Park is one of the most popular, heavily used parks within the Montgomery County Park System. The public use of its ballfields, picnic facilities, ice rinks, adventure playground and miniature train facilities are very popular and attract many visitors each year. Due to both existing environmental and capacity constraints within the park, only a limited development capacity remains within this park. The Department receives a high number of unsolicited public/private partnership proposals for this park that we cannot accommodate. Therefore, we cannot accept future, unsolicited partnership proposals for this park at this time. All future park development will be guided by the establishment of a park master plan vetted with the public and adopted by the Planning Board.

## **Unsolicited Public/Private Partnership Proposal Requests**

The Department of Parks receives, on average, approximately two or three unsolicited public/private partnership proposals every month. While the Department is appreciative of many new, interesting, and exciting partnership proposals we have received, our ability to review and evaluate unsolicited proposals is limited and the existing level of unsolicited partnership proposals received to date has created work program obligations far beyond our capacity to support and sustain. As a result of this resource constraint, the Department is considering limiting our analysis of the unsolicited proposals received to only those which bring in significant revenue in support of Montgomery Parks.

We are interested in your opinion on this issue and ask that you send your comments to Terry Brooks, manager of the Public/Private Partnership Program at [Terry.Brooks@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:Terry.Brooks@mncppc-mc.org). We are interested in your opinion in this matter and would like to hear from you. We will take comments on this issue until January 1, 2010, and share the results with the staff and post our response on this web page in March 2010.