



MAYOR AND COUNCIL

MEETING NO. 12-22
Thursday, April 7, 2022 – 12:00 PM

AGENDA

Agenda item times are estimates only. Items may be considered at times other than those indicated.

Any person who requires assistance in order to attend a city meeting should call the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8108.

Virtual Speakers

Virtual Speakers should follow the instructions in the Agenda Center at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter as written on page 1 of the Agenda Packet.

In-Person Attendance

Community members attending in-person who wish to speak during Community Forum or a Public Hearing should sign up using the form at the entrance to the Mayor and Council Chamber. In-person speakers will be called upon in the order they are signed in and will speak following virtual speakers.

Viewing Mayor and Council Meetings

The Mayor and Council are conducting hybrid meetings. The meetings can be viewed on Rockville 11, Comcast and Verizon cable channel 11, and livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

Participating in Community Forum & Public Hearings:

If you wish to submit comments in writing for Community Forum or Public Hearings:

- Please email the comments to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov no later than 10:00 am on the date of the meeting.
- All written comments will be acknowledged by the Mayor and Council at the meeting and added to the agenda for public viewing on the website.

If you wish to participate virtually in Community Forum or Public Hearings during the live Mayor and Council meeting:

1. Send your **Name, Phone number, the Community Forum or Public Hearing Topic** and **Expected Method of Joining the Meeting (computer or phone)** to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov no later than **10:00 am on the day of the meeting**.
-

2. On the day of the meeting, you will receive a confirmation email with further details, and two Webex invitations: 1) Optional Webex Orientation Question and Answer Session and 2) Mayor & Council Meeting Invitation.
3. Plan to join the meeting no later than 5:40 pm (approximately 20 minutes before the actual meeting start time).
4. Read for <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/38725/Public-Meetings-on-Webex>
5. meeting tips and instructions on joining a Webex meeting (either by computer or phone).
6. If joining by computer, **Conduct a WebEx test:** <https://www.webex.com/test-meeting.html> prior to signing up to join the meeting to ensure your equipment will work as expected.
7. Participate (by phone or computer) in the optional Webex Orientation Question and Answer Session at 4 pm the day of the meeting, for an overview of the Webex tool, or to ask general process questions.

Participating in Mayor and Council Drop-In

The next scheduled Drop-In session will be held by phone on Monday, May 9 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. with Mayor Newton and Councilmember Pierzchala. Please sign up by 10 a.m. on the day of the meeting using the form at:

<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/formcenter/city-clerk-11/sign-up-for-dropin-meetings-227>.

- 12:00 PM **1. Convene**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 12:05 PM **3. Proposed FY23 Earmarks**
- 2:00 PM **4. Adjournment**

The Mayor and Council Rules and Procedures and Operating Guidelines establish procedures and practices for Mayor and Council meetings, including public hearing procedures. They are available at: <http://www.rockvillemd.gov/mcguidelines>.



Mayor & Council Meeting Date: April 7, 2022
Agenda Item Type: Approval
Department: City Manager's Office
Responsible Staff: Linda Moran

Subject

Proposed FY23 Earmarks

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council discuss, select, and approve FY23 earmark requests for submittal to Senator Cardin's Office.

Discussion

The Mayor and Council will discuss and approve proposed FY23 earmark requests at a special meeting on April 7, 2022. Senator Cardin's Office has invited Rockville to submit requests for projects for which the City wishes to partner with the Federal government and seek funding support. At attachment A is a memorandum that provides background on the process and a listing of the proposed FY23 earmark projects. The projects that have been provided for the Mayor and Council's consideration, in no particular order, are as follows:

Proposed FY23 Earmark Requests:

1. Lincoln Park Community Center - \$3,000,000 (Mayor Newton and Councilmember Ashton).
2. David Scull Park Improvements - \$749,000 (Councilmember Feinberg).
3. Community Infrastructure: Implementing an Advanced Water Meter Program - \$2,035,000 (Councilmember Ashton and staff)
4. Emergency Operations Center at 6 Taft Court - \$594,000 (staff).
5. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Outdoor Recreation Pool Renovations - \$ 4,119,300 (staff).
6. Implementing a Bulk Sodium Hypochlorite System at Rockville's Water Treatment Plant - \$1,232,000 (staff)

7. Twinbrook Pedestrian Bridge (Councilmember Ashton).
8. Sidewalk at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater (Councilmember Ashton).
9. Solar Canopy/Roof at one of the Community Centers (Councilmember Ashton).
10. Rehabilitation of the RedGate club house (Councilmember Ashton).
11. Bridge Replacement (per previous staff report) – (Councilmember Ashton).

At Attachment B are FY23 earmark requests that were received early enough for staff to prepare a project sheet.

Next Steps

Based on Mayor and Council input, staff will modify the project sheets and submit approved requests by the April 8, 2022 deadline. Should one of Rockville's FY23 earmark projects be selected by Senator Cardin to move forward, staff will monitor the FY23 Federal appropriations process and opportunities for the Mayor and Council to weigh in with support.

Attachments

- Attachment 3.a: Rockville Proposed FY23 Earmark Requests (PDF)
Attachment 3.b: FY23 Proposed Project Sheets (PDF)



Rob DiSpirito, City Manager

4/5/2022



Draft City of Rockville
MEMORANDUM

April 1, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Rob DiSpirito, City Manager

SUBJECT: Proposed FY23 Federal Earmark Requests

Background:

Provided are six proposed earmark requests for the Mayor and Council's consideration in preparation for the special Mayor and Council meeting on April 7 from 12 – 2 pm to discuss and approve Rockville's Proposed FY23 earmark requests. The submittal due date for FY23 Federal Earmark requests is April 8, 2022 by the close of business.

Mayor Newton and city staff attended a virtual information session provided last December by Senator Cardin's team. Additionally, City Manager's Office staff have been in contact over the past several months with Senator Cardin's staff to track the status of the FY23 process and receive responses to questions about project eligibility related issues.

My staff and I carefully reviewed the earmark guidance document provided by Senator Cardin's Office. We are recommending projects that reflect the priorities of the Mayor and Council and meet the earmark funding category eligibility requirements. The guidelines indicate that projects should be "shovel ready" and be completed in a year (the projects do not have to be completed in FY23). Additionally, each funding category has specific requirements that mirror existing grant programs that accomplish the same goals.

Earmarks are dependent on the timing of the Federal budget process, which varies from year to year. Last year Rockville submitted its FY22 earmark in early May 2021. The outcome was not known until mid-March of 2022, when the President signed the FY 22 Budget approved by Congress.

My staff and I have provided a suite of proposed projects for your consideration, with varying price ranges to help best position the City to receive an earmark. Providing a range of cost options, provides flexibility for the Senator and his team to potentially find a project that meets their policy and funding goals.

Proposed FY 23 Earmark Requests:

Staff has included the following projects for the Mayor and Council’s consideration, in no particular order:

1. Lincoln Park Community Center - \$3,000,000 (Mayor Newton and Councilmember Ashton).
2. David Skull Park Improvements - \$749,000 (Councilmember Feinberg).
3. Community Infrastructure: Implementing an Advanced Water Meter Program - \$2,035,000 (Councilmember Ashton and staff)
4. Emergency Operations Center at 6 Taft Court - \$594,000 (staff).
5. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Outdoor Recreation Pool Renovations - \$ 4,119,300 (staff).
6. Implementing a Bulk Sodium Hypochlorite System at Rockville’s Water Treatment Plant - \$1,232,000 (staff)
7. Twinbrook Pedestrian Bridge (Councilmember Ashton).
8. Sidewalk at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater (Councilmember Ashton).
9. Solar Canopy/Roof at One of the Community Centers (Councilmember Ashton).
10. Rehabilitation of the RedGate club house (Councilmember Ashton).
11. Bridge Replacement (per previous staff report) – (Councilmember Ashton).

Please review the proposed projects and send any questions and comments in advance of the meeting and staff will forward responses. This will help to facilitate the discussion and decisions, including prioritization, at the April 7 meeting. My office is coordinating with the City Clerk/Director of Council Operations to post the materials to the Rockville web site prior to the April 7 meeting.

Next Steps:

Based on the Mayor and Council input, staff will modify the white papers and submit the approved requests by the April 8 deadline. Staff will monitor the FY23 Federal appropriations process and opportunities for the Mayor and Council to weigh in with support for the project.



City of Rockville, Maryland
Lincoln Park Community Center Improvements Project
 Fiscal Year 2023 Federal Appropriations Request

Background

The City of Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks provides recreational and educational programs and facilities for area residents of all ages. Lincoln Park Community Center (LPCC) is located in a historically African American neighborhood in Rockville, and the center serves the public through a variety of programs, rentals, and special events. Annually, LPCC provides more than 600 programs throughout the year, including afterschool support, sports, fitness, summer and school break camps, and community events. The center is also used for more than 500 community gatherings and meetings each year. LPCC is open seven days a week, 360 days per year, and has more than 40,000 annual visits. Annually, Montgomery County Public School students contribute more than 700 volunteer hours at the center, which helps them earn their graduation requirement for student service-learning hours.

Federal Appropriations Funding is requested from the Construction and Rehabilitation of Community Facilities, Economic Development Initiatives (EDI) program to earmark the Lincoln Park Community Center Improvements Project for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). LPCC offers reduced price memberships and program scholarships to serve individuals and families with qualifying income limitations.

The Project

LPCC was originally built in 1970 and needs major improvements. The Lincoln Park Community Center Improvements Project will fund the plan, design, construction, and fit out for the demolition of the original building and rebuilding a ~13,000 square foot ADA compliant center with a full-size gymnasium, program space (out-of-school time, STEAM/STEM programs), community gatherings, and classes. This project is scheduled for planning / design beginning in Fiscal Year 2023 and will include public input.

| Item | Cost |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Planning / Design | \$1,000,000 |
| Construction | \$7,000,000 |
| Other (FF&E) | \$300,000 |
| Total | \$8,300,000 |

Project Outcomes

Provide the Rockville community with an improved recreation and community center to meet the inclusion and social equity needs of the community.

Total Cost: \$8,300,000
 Request: \$3,000,000
 Local Share: \$5,300,000
 Source: FY 2023 Construction and Rehabilitation of Community Facilities, EDI/CDBG
 Official: Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton
 Contact: Robert DiSpirito, City Manager, 240-314-8100, citymanager@rockvillemd.gov



City of Rockville 2023 Federal Appropriations Request **Community Park Enhancement** **David Scull Park Improvement**

Background

The City of Rockville Recreation and Parks Department manages 65 parks throughout the city. Parks rank very high in city wide resident surveys; Neighborhood Plans and the Comprehensive Master Plan consistently recommend investment in the park system. The location of David Scull Park is uniquely situated in the transition between a commercial/industrial area to residential neighborhoods including a Rockville Housing Enterprises public housing project and the Maryvale community. This project is consistent with Mayor and Council goals related to community inclusion and equity.

The Project

This project funds improvements to David Scull Park including demolition of an existing brick structure, conversion of a baseball field into a modified sized rectangular field, irrigation, LED sports lighting, ornamental fencing, a park shelter with restrooms and covered picnic area, bleachers, ADA paths, signage, and landscaping.

| Item | Total Cost |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Design | \$227,000 |
| Construction | \$ 1,135,000 |
| | |
| TOTAL REQUEST | \$ 1,362,000 |

Project Outcomes:

The improvements will provide residents with increased recreational and social engagement opportunities at David Skull Park, which are essential for equity, mental health and physical wellness. This will also create a more appropriate transition between the Southlawn Lane industrial area and the adjacent residential neighborhoods and serve as a gateway to the community.

Total Cost: \$1,362,000
 Request: \$612,900 (45%)
 Local Share: \$749,100 (55% match)
 Official: Mayor Bridget Newton
 Contact: Robert DiSpirito (City Manager), 240-314-8100
citymanager@rockvillemd.gov

Schedule

Design – Fall 2022
 Construction – Summer 2023



City of Rockville 2023 Federal Appropriations Request

Community Infrastructure: Implementing an Advanced Water Meter Program

The Water Meter Program is a critical project for the City of Rockville which will provide community enhancements and incorporate environment improvements. The City's meters are reaching the end of their useful life and require upgrades. Water loss and lost revenue is attributable to the aging meters and is negatively affecting the environment by not being in conformance with regional climate action plans. Rockville residents will benefit greatly by the implementation of new meters, Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) and the enhanced data quality. Residents will have access to consumption data and be alerted to high water usage, leaks or breaks within their system which minimizes the risk of high utility bills. Additionally, providing federal funds will provide equity to the City's water utility rate payers and provide assistance to low-income residents by creating cost avoidance within the water fund which helps Rockville's communities.

The Project

This project is shovel-ready and will procure upgraded City water meters utilizing ultrasonic meters along with implementation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). Ultrasonic water meters have no moving parts, contrary to existing mechanical meters. Ultrasonic meters are unaffected by wear and tear and maintain accuracy throughout its entire lifetime while enhancing data quality. These meters hold remote reading capabilities which contribute to a significant decrease in data collection time. It also improves resource distribution to avoid misreading's and customer follow-ups, saves time and money which allows Rockville to better serve its customers. Lastly, intelligent alarms in the ultrasonic meter enable residents to detect of leaks, bursts, and abnormal flow volumes:

Included as part of this critical project is the investment in AMI which will create an integrated system of water meters, communication networks and data management systems that enable two-way communication between the City and the end users (Rockville's service customers). AMI does not require City staff to collect the data; the system automatically transmits the data directly to the City at predetermined intervals. The City can use the data to improve operational efficiencies through advanced data analytics and sustainability by effectively monitoring water usage and system efficiency, detecting meter malfunctions and recognized water usage irregularities. Other community benefits of AMI include consistent billing and faster billing resolutions, and access to more data to make informed decisions.

This project prepares Rockville for the future and with technology rapidly changing, it is the optimal time given the ongoing pandemic to experience the benefits of smart metering. This project will be an

asset to Rockville's community and ensure customers receive timely accurate bills while improving the City's efficiencies and customer service. The meters procured under this project will be stored on City property and be installed in phases.

Background

The City of Rockville has nearly 13,000 water service accounts. The water meters serving these accounts are critical aging infrastructure. The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) gave America's infrastructure a C- grade, in which ASCE described investments as being woefully inadequate. Rockville is committed to renewing its infrastructure which is evident by its continuous investments into the City's water and sewer main infrastructure. These investments are programmed to ensure Rockville's infrastructure is on a sustainable path, however, additional funds are needed to support individual customers by upgrading and improving water meters and their technology. Over the past 12 years, the City has invested over \$27 million in its Water Main Rehabilitation program to replace aging infrastructure and upgrade fire hydrants delivering less than optimal flow. This sustainable program is replacing 1% of Rockville's water mains every year. These investments have had an impact to Rockville customers by increasing the water utility rates. Grants committed to the City to invest in infrastructure renewal minimize rate increases, positively impacting all of Rockville's rate payers.

Rockville's water meters are mechanical devices where water passes through a meter causing an impeller to rotate. The impeller rotations register water consumption but over time the mechanical meters can become inaccurate. Additionally, these antiquated meters do not support advanced meter technology furthering the need for replacement. Lastly, many water utilities across the country are transitioning away from mechanical meters and moving toward ultrasonic technology.

The City's mechanical water meters require replacement to improve meter accuracy and create real-time data management. Currently, City staff manually collects meter readings to support utility billing operations. In addition to staff inefficiencies, this process also creates a hardship on Rockville's customers. Utility billing response time lags due to the manual read efforts. This is problematic to service customers who have leaks or breaks in their yard or within their home who are receiving information too late in order to implement corrective or mitigating measures. This situation is exacerbated when customers are away for extended periods of time and then unexpectedly receive high utility bills days or months after the incident occurred.

Schedule

Project – Construction Start: Winter 2022

Project – Construction Finish: Winter 2023

Program Cost: \$3,700,000

Total Request: \$2,035,000

Source: Fiscal Year 2023 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Local Share: Rockville will provide 45 percent (\$1,665,000)

Official: Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton

Contact: Robert DiSpirito, City Manager, 240-314-8100, citymanager@rockvillemd.gov



City of Rockville 2023 Federal Priority Project

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at 6 Taft Court

The City of Rockville purchased and is renovating a new building that will house the first dedicated Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in the history of the City. It will also be home to other critical city functions. In addition to the EOC, the new facility will contain critical city lifeline services to include the Department of Public Works transportation management functions for critical roadways maintenance and maintenance operations for the City of Rockville water and wastewater utility. The new facility and EOC will allow for coordinated activities across city departments in the event of critical incidents and disasters to include public information and warning as well as serve as a Continuity of Operations (COOP) relocation site for essential lifeline services housed in other city facilities.

The Project

The shovel-ready Emergency Operations Center project would provide funds for the renovation and outfitting of the new EOC. The project includes all associated technology to support the EOC and related functional breakout areas for policy level senior officials, public information functions, and Law Enforcement and Public Works dispatch for EOC support and operational coordination.

Project Outcomes:

- Enhanced operational coordination of City services for disaster and critical incident response operations.
- Provide technology solutions to make City of Rockville Emergency Operations Center operationally capable.
- Provide technology for local and regional connectivity for collaboration and operational coordination.
- Enable capability for timely public information and community warning for community hazards.

Schedule

Construction Start: Fall 2022

Construction Completion: Spring 2023

Program Cost: \$792,000

Total Request: \$594,000

Source: Fiscal Year 2023 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Emergency Operations (EOC) Grants (Maryland Department of Emergency Management approved)

Local Share: Rockville will provide 25 percent (\$198,000)

Official: Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton

Contact: Robert DiSpirito, City Manager, 240-314-8100, citymanager@rockvillemd.gov



City of Rockville, Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Outdoor Recreation Pool Renovations

FY 2023 Federal Appropriations Request

Background

The City of Rockville, Department of Recreation and Parks operates the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center as the City's only swimming pool complex. The facility serves over 300,000 customer visits annually and delivers a variety of programming such as learn-to swim classes for youth and adults, drop-in recreation and lap swimming, competitive swim teams as well as fitness/wellness classes for all populations with an emphasis on senior citizens. The 30+ year old outdoor recreation pool is in need of major renovations as it has been identified by a third-party provided facility audit as having structural deficits, ADA compliance issues and operational limitations. To complicate the scope of the work, the current configuration of the recreation pool was built inside of the original outdoor pool's shell from 1968.

Federal Appropriations Funding is requested from Construction and Rehabilitations of Community Facilities, Economic Development Initiatives (EDI) as the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center is the only publicly accessible aquatics facility within the City of Rockville and offers reduced price memberships and program scholarships to individuals and families with qualifying low-incomes(s).

The Project

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Outdoor Recreation Pool Renovations Project funds the design and construction of a major renovation to the ~53,000+/- square foot outdoor recreation pool area including associated decks, filtration/mechanical equipment, and other infrastructure. The project will demolish the existing recreation pool, tot pool and sprayground and related infrastructure and replace with new construction of modern elements that will serve the recreation needs of users at an outdoor swimming complex. The project will incorporate public input for desired amenities (large slides, play features, lap lanes, small "kiddie" slides, water crossings, and other interactive features) and ensure compliance with all pertinent regulations and codes.

The project is scheduled for design in 2022-2024 and construction from Sept. 2024 to May 2025.

| Item | Total Cost |
|---|---------------------|
| Conceptual Design | \$ 74,000 |
| Architectural / Engineering Design and Peer Reviews | \$ 987,000 |
| Owners' Representative | \$ 197,000 |
| Construction | \$ 7,896,000 |
| TOTAL COST | \$ 9,154,000 |

Project Outcome:

- Provide an updated and safe aquatics recreation facility that meets the inclusion and social equity needs of the community.

Total Cost: \$9,154,000
Request: \$4,119,300 (45%)

Local Share: \$5,034,700 (55% match)

Source: Requested: FY22 Construction and Rehabilitations of Community Facilities, Economic Development Initiates (EDI).

Official: Mayor Bridget Newton

Contact: Robert DiSpirito (City Manager), 240-314-8100 citymanager@rockvillemd.gov



City of Rockville 2023 Federal Appropriations Project

Community Infrastructure: Implementing a Bulk Sodium Hypochlorite System at Rockville's Water Treatment Plant

The Water Treatment Plant: Bulk Sodium Hypochlorite Project is a critical project for the City of Rockville which will improve safety not only for City staff but also to the general public. The City's current disinfectant used for treatment is chlorine gas which is a highly hazardous chemical, is regulated by Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and requires a Project Safety Management Plan (PSMP). This project will eliminate the City's use of chlorine gas including all the regulatory requirements, and transition to a more environmentally friendly disinfectant, Bulk Sodium Hypochlorite (liquid chlorine solution). This project will decrease risks to those who live downstream of the Potomac River as well as others who rely on the river for drinking water. Additionally, providing federal funds will provide equity to the City's water utility rate payers and provide assistance to low-income residents by creating cost avoidance within the water fund which helps Rockville's communities.

The Project

This project is shovel-ready and will construct a Bulk Sodium Hypochlorite system and renovate the Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The WTP facility is located in Montgomery County and owned and maintained by the City of Rockville. Once implemented, this project eliminates the need to maintain and utilize an OSHA required Project Safety Management Plan (PSMP) as the amount of highly hazardous chemicals being stored will be eliminated from the Plant's facility footprint. The project will lower capital costs, offer a safer alternative with a lower risk to public safety, is more operator friendly and the installation of new equipment/tanks do not require building expansion.

The project will meet all applicable codes, standards and specifications. The scope includes the demolition and removal of all chlorine gas components to include the elimination of equipment, regulators, crane, monorail, and the chlorine gas storage platform and canopy. The plant will be modified from chlorine gas to bulk sodium hypochlorite (NAOCl), a safer alternative at the recommendation of the 2020 Chlorine Feasibility Report (see below). In addition to this project supporting OSHA's Process Safety Management Regulations, it also keeps Rockville in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The City of Rockville considers the safety of all their employees to be of paramount importance. Maintaining and operating a Water Treatment Facility with the presence of chlorine gas creates an increased safety risk not only for the WTP operators, but also to the surrounding Montgomery County residents and community.

Background

The Rockville Water Treatment Plant is an 8 million gallon per day (MGD) drinking water plant located in Montgomery County, owned and operated by the City of Rockville (City), that treats water withdrawn from the Potomac River providing high quality water to approximately 52,000 City residents. Over the past 20 years, the City has invested over \$25 million in WTP projects on various plant upgrades to increase capacity, address disinfection byproducts, replace aging infrastructure and improve reliability and treatment processes. These investments have had an impact to Rockville customers by increasing water utility rates. Grants committed to the City to invest in the WTP will minimize rate increases, positively impacting all of Rockville's rate payers.

The City currently uses gas chlorination at the WTP in both pre-treatment and post-treatment processes. Maximum chlorine gas storage at the WTP is currently 14 tons in one-ton cylinders. Typically, four chlorine gas cylinders are located inside the Chemical Building and ten cylinders are stored outside on a covered chlorine storage platform. Cylinders from the storage platform are transported into the Chemical Building via an aging steel monorail and trolley hoist.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) threshold quantity for chlorine under 29 C.F.R. § 1910.119 is 1,500 pounds. Under C.F.R. § 1910.119, a written Process Safety Management Plan (PSMP) is required for highly hazardous chemicals at the WTP. Currently, many water utilities are reviewing their gaseous chlorination operations and evaluating the potential use of alternative systems due to concerns over operator safety and regulatory challenges associated with maintaining a gaseous chlorination system. There is only one access road to the plant that traverses through a stream valley. The road is a 3,800-foot, single lane gravel road requiring continual maintenance. Trucks delivering chlorine gas cylinders must traverse along this gravel road, increasing the safety risks and elevating the need to discontinue the use of chlorine gas.

In 2020, City consultants completed a Chlorine Feasibility Study which evaluated alternatives to assess the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of transitioning to bulk sodium hypochlorite or on-site sodium hypochlorite as compared to the continued use of an optimized chlorine gas system. The study considered many factors including complexity of operations and maintenance, OSHA safety regulations, life-cycle costs, public safety considerations, environmental impacts and water quality impacts. Based on the evaluation of the alternatives, **transitioning to Bulk Sodium Hypochlorite was the recommend alternative** for Rockville's WTP. The design is 100% complete and has been submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment for permitting.

Schedule

Project – Construction Start: Spring 2023

Project – Construction Finish: Winter 2023

Program Cost: \$2,240,000

Total Request: \$1,232,000

Source: Fiscal Year 2023 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Local Share: Rockville will provide 45 percent (\$1,008,000)

Official: Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton

Contact: -Robert DiSpirito, City Manager, 240-314-8100, citymanager@rockvillemd.gov
