

FY 2021-2022 Virginia Beach Budget Response to Council Questions

Question Number: 45

Question: How much was the park Wi-Fi request and which parks were included? What other competitors offer Wi-Fi at sport complexes?

Date Requested: 4/06/21

Requested By: Councilmember Tower

Department: IT

Response: The request to implement Wi-Fi in City parks totaled \$61,400 for FY 2021-22 and \$959,080 across the six-year CIP. This project would provide outdoor public Wi-Fi capability at select sport fields at the Princess Anne Athletic Complex, City View Park, and the stage area at Mount Trashmore.

Currently, there are several competitors on the east coast for diamond and multipurpose fields. Known Wi-Fi competitors in close proximity to Virginia Beach are listed below.

1. The Moyer Sports Complex in Salem
2. The Botetourt Sports Complex in Roanoke
3. Potomac Lakes Sportsplex in Loudoun County
4. Dorey Field, Glover Park, and RF&P Park in Henrico County

Henrico County is the closest in proximity to Virginia Beach and they offer Wi-Fi at three of their sites. These sites are listed below.

1. Glover Park (Synthetic Turf) – When this project was funded through a voter approved bond referendum, the Wi-Fi was included in the total project costs.
2. RF&P Park – Baseball games played at the stadium can be viewed online and they have a fully-functioning press box at Field #3.
3. Dorey Field – Partnered with tournament organizer who purchased high-strength modems (installed by City IT dept) which uses the signal from the nearby Recreation Center. Tournament organizer pays all the monthly fees.