

Maryland 2025 Legislative Session SB 781 HB 1181 Task force for the Development of a State Park Dedicated to Veterans Care.

Oral Testimony

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Why Partner with The Maryland Park Service?

In December 2019 the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland Department of Commerce teamed up to produce the Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic Commission final report.

The report states that aside from the impact of regional economies, Maryland residents and nonresidents alike realize health and quality of life benefits from participating in outdoor recreation activities.

In December 2021 the Department of Legislative Services, Office of Policy Analysis produced the report of the State Park Investment Commission.

The report stated that DNR should investigate the possibility of establishing new State Parks or developing new amenities in current State parks.

The report further states that DNR should coordinate with county, municipal, and federal park systems to increase trail connectivity between park systems.

The Great Maryland Outdoors Act of 2022 calls for DNR to develop on behalf of State Parks a partnership plan to include County Tourism entities and Economic Development Offices.

The Act further calls for the creation of “Partnership Parks” managed by the department with a local government, a county agency, or a nonprofit.

Other benefits of a partner park include:

The potential use of The MD stadium authority or the Maryland Economic Development Corporation to manage construction.

Efficiencies in water and wastewater plant operations

Brand Recognition, the MD Park Service, is a trusted and recognizable brand.