

3. SOURCE OF FINANCING FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

There has been little borrowing from the Federal Government for public outdoor recreation facilities. However, limited funds have been made available for planning public works under the "Advances for public works planning program," administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The primary source of local funding has been from taxes, with some use of revenue bonds. (See table IX.) However, the use of bonds seems to be increasing. The NRA reported in June 1965 that the amount of money voted on and approved for bond issues and tax levies in 1964 more than doubled over the previous years: 148 local referendum elections were reported: 124 of these were bond issues, 81 passed, 41 failed and the outcome of 2 was not reported. A total of \$58 million was approved in 75 of the bond issues. Thirty-three of the bonds that failed total over \$40 million.⁴

D. NEEDS AND PROSPECTIVE CAPITAL OUTLAYS

1. ESTIMATED NEEDS

To meet the quantitative standards for the year 1975 outlined previously and the qualitative standards set forth above, would require a total capital outlay of \$17.6 billion for the next decade. This would include the following elements:

Purchase of 1 million acres of urban parks at an average projected cost of \$4,000 per acre-----	\$4, 000, 000, 000
Purchase of 1,000 acres of small neighborhood "vest pocket" parks at \$75,000 an acre-----	75, 000, 000
Purchase of 3 million acres of extraurban county or metropolitan parks and open space at \$3,000 per acre-----	9, 000, 000, 000
Development of 1 million of existing and newly acquired land at \$3,500 an acre. (Includes selected recreation facilities)-----	3, 500, 000, 000
Redevelopment and modification of 250,000 acres existing urban parks, recreation areas and facilities to bring them up to quality standards-----	1, 000, 000, 000
Total-----	17, 575, 000, 000

(a) *Basis of Projected Need*

Basic to the first three categories of need listed above are the following factors: Increase in disposable income, mobility, and leisure time should continue to accelerate the growth in demand for outdoor recreation opportunities near urban areas at double the rate of population growth. The 1975 urban population is expected to be 71 percent of the projected national population of 230 million. (This would be 163.3 million.) As demand for recreation is growing, so is urbanization at about 1 million acres a year. It is consuming lands having value for recreation as well as scenic, historic, and conservation purposes at rapidly increasing rates.

Of the existing inventory of city owned parkland of 781,000 acres, a substantial portion is not "user-oriented." The BOR survey and State plans indicate that a large amount of locally owned parkland is actually resource-based and far from major urban concentrations. This acreage is nontransferrable. That is, local parkland in northern

⁴ Arthur Todd, "Highlights of Public Recreation 1964" *Recreation* (June 1965, p. 283).