



TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

3147 Research Drive • State College, Pennsylvania 16801
Telephone: 814-238-4651 • Fax: 814-238-3454
www.twp.ferguson.pa.us

Parks and Recreation Committee

Meeting Agenda

Thursday, February 18, 2021 4:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83725986340> Dial In: 1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 837 2598 6340

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. CITIZEN'S INPUT

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IV. DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE GOALS FOR 2021 CONTINUED

Narrative

The Committee should continue the discussion to establish committee goals for 2021. Attached to the agenda is a document prepared by staff that highlights goals and planning efforts for parks and recreation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee **establish** 2021 goals for the Parks and Recreation Committee.

V. PARK SURVEYING PROGRAM

Narrative

The Board of Supervisors approved funding for the Park Surveying Program for the 2021 Operating Budget. The Park Surveying Program will allow for one park to be surveyed to delineate property boundaries. The Township will then install fence posts and rails to mark property boundaries. The Public Works Department recommends either Suburban Park or Tom Tudek Memorial Park. Suburban Park is a good candidate to have the surveying work and fence post installation because the Township plans to begin construction for park improvements. On the other hand, Tom Tudek Memorial Park is also favored to have surveying work and fence post installation to help staff delineate which trees the Township owns in wooded areas and identify and address encroachments issues.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee **recommend** a park for the 2021 Park Surveying Program.

VI. BICYCLE ROUTE CONNECTION WITH PATTON TOWNSHIP

Narrative

Patton Township develops a parks and bicycle/pedestrian path plan every 5 years for their Board of Supervisors to consider for adoption. Attached to this email is the current plan adopted last fall. In the plan, Patton Township identified existing bicycle/pedestrian paths and future connections. Of interest to Patton Township, is to discuss and identify connections between facilities once the Valley Vista Shared Use Path is complete and the piano style crosswalks are installed across Valley Vista Drive.

One potential connection for consideration is the potential connection from the new VV SUP, crossing Valley Vista onto Deveonshire Drive, continuing onto Park Lane, and onto W. Aaron Drive and into Tudek Park and its bicycle path. Part of this is in Patton Township but a larger portion is in Ferguson Township.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee *receive* notification that a future joint meeting with Patton Township Recreation Advisory Committee and their staff is being considered.

VII. FUTURE REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Narrative

Committee members should identify member driven agenda items.

VIII. REPORTS

1. Staff Report
2. Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority Report – Mr. Bill Keough

IX. OPEN DISCUSSION

X. ADJOURNMENT

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, January 21, 2021

4:00 P.M.

I. ATTENDANCE

The Parks and Recreation Committee held its regular meeting on Thursday, January 21, 2021, via Zoom in attendance were:

Committee:

Norris Muth- Chairperson
Tessa Antolick- Vice Chair
Robert Demayo-Secretary
Dr. Shawna Doerksen-absent
Connie Puckett-absent
Bill Keough
Jerry Learn
Rick Tetzlaff

Staff:

Centrice Martin, Assistant Township Manager
Summer Brown, Recording Secretary

Others in attendance: Laura Dinnini, resident and Chairwoman of Ferguson Township Board of Supervisor

II. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Norris Muth called the Thursday, January 21, 2021 Park and Recreation meeting to order at 4:14 pm.

III. CITIZEN'S INPUT

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Muth called for a motion to approve the October 15, 2020 minutes. Dr. Muth noted that item's 8 and 10 were in the minutes in two different locations. Mr. Rick Tetzlaff made a motion to approve the October 15, 2020 minutes with edits, Mr. Robert Demayo seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Jerry Learn nominated Dr. Muth as Chairperson, Mr. Tetzlaff seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Ms. Tessa Antolick nominated herself to be Vice-Chairperson again, Mr. Demayo seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

3. ELECTION OF SECRETARY

Dr. Muth nominated Mr. Learn as Secretary, the motion passed unanimously.

VI. ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATES

Dr. Muth stated that the Committee meets every third Thursday of the month at 4:00 pm. Ms. Centrice Martin stated that the 2021 meeting dates are included in the agenda packet for the Committee to review. Dr. Muth made a motion to approve the 2021 meeting dates, the motion passed unanimously.

VII. DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEES GOALS FOR 2021

Dr. Muth reviewed what things need to be accomplished and goals the Committee wants to make for 2021. Ms. Antolick stated that she would like to revisit the 2020 goals and see what goals were accomplished and which ones were not and go from there. Dr. Muth suggested revisiting the 2020

goals as well at the next meeting. Ms. Martin also noted that sub committees for land development plan review and a subcommittee to review CRPR's park open space analysis will need to be made. Ms. Martin suggested a subcommittee be made to go through the CRPR's park open space analysis. Ms. Martin stated that the budget would also be a good resource to review. Ms. Antolick also suggested iNaturalist be a goal for 2021 and setting up a COVID friendly event.

VIII. REVIEW TOWNSHIP PARK ORDINANCES

Ms. Martin stated that the BOS decided to review the park ordinances. Everything from definitions to current practices and procedures. Staff will be taking the lead on this but finds it necessary that the Committee review and weigh in with comments as well. The Committee decided that Mr. Demayo and Mr. Tetzlaff will be the subcommittee that will review this. Mr. Bill Keough also suggested having a member of the Planning Commission review this document as well.

IX. UPDATE ON SUBURBAN PARK-PHASE 1

Ms. Martin stated that the Township wrote a grant and submitted it to DCNR for Suburban Park phase one. The Township did receive an award letter which is attached to agenda packet. Since receiving the award letter the Township has been recommended for federal funding for this project.

X. WATERSHED FRIENDLY PROPERTY CERTIFICATION

Ms. Martin stated that she received an email about this program, she still needs to confirm that it meets Township criteria. All the Committee will need to do is attend a webinar. Dr. Muth stated that he feels that this is a great opportunity for the Committee and would have great benefits to educate people coming to the parks. Dr. Muth suggested looking into other certifications like this.

XI. FUTURE REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEMS

- Revisit goals and priorities.

XII. REPORTS

1. STAFF REPORT

Ms. Martin noted that she received an email from the Township's engineer's assistant that he had chosen three different outdoor exercise equipment for along the shared use path. The Committee decided to have this topic as an agenda item for the next meeting to review the options.

2. CENTRE REGION PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY REPORT – MR. BILL KEOUGH

Mr. Keough that the Authority spends a good amount of time discussing COVID. The biggest program hit has been the senior center. To help ease the hit on the senior center the Authority has planned grocery shopping opportunities, writing letters, and phone calls. Mr. Keough stated that pools will be opening in June as planned and field sports are beginning to be planned. Mr. Keough stated that the Whitehall Road Regional Park has received seven bids, six for the full project and they are being reviewed.

XIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

The Committee discussed the possibility of doing a campaign or newsletter to encourage people to get rid of COVID anxiety and attend parks during the spring weather. Ms. Martin suggested inviting the township communication coordinator to the next meeting to discuss ideas.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Muth entertained a motion to adjourn the Thursday, January 21, 2021 Parks and Recreation meeting at 5:40 pm. Mr. Tetzlaff made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Demayo seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

SHAWNA DOERKSEN, SECRETARY
FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Goal Setting and Planning

Suggestions are below for the Parks and Recreation Committee to discuss and explore as part of establishing goals discussion at next meeting:

- Assist with the review of the municipal code, Park and Recreation, Chapter 16, to provide recommendations to the Board.
- Convene subcommittee to assist with the Fairbrook master planning process
- Convene subcommittee to assist with updating the FT Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan

Ideas for consideration – connectivity of parkland to existing and proposed bike paths and shared use paths; increased community engagement and communications on matters pertaining to parkland development, park use, and/or passive recreational purposes; review of existing Park Master Plans....

Strategic Priority Action Plan for Township staff

Administration

- Prepare and submit DCNR Grant for Suburban Park – Phase 2 or Cecil Irvin Park – Phase 2
- Adoption of Songbird Sanctuary Master Plan
- Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan Update
- Prepare the request for proposals for Fairbrook master plan update

Public Works

- Complete the design and permitting for the 100-year floodplain boundary and channel
- Survey property for Tom Tudek Memorial Park to mark property and install split-rail fencing at the corners of the property
- Install playground equipment at Homestead Park
- Install fence and replace tree at Louis E. Silvi Baseball Complex
- Replace tree and shrubs in stormwater basin at Haymarket Park
- Plant tree buffer at Greenbriar-Saybrook Park
- Replace tree at Homestead Park
- Replace shrubs and plants at Cecil Irvin Park
- Implement Songbird Sanctuary



PATTON TOWNSHIP PARKS and BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PATH PLAN 2020-2029



Prepared by the Patton Township
Recreation Advisory Committee

Adopted by the Patton Township
Board of Supervisors
October 14, 2020

Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction 3
- 2. Background and Rationale 4
- 3. Goals and Visions 6
- 4. Facility and Recreation Planning 7
- 5. Parks and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Plan Objectives..... 10
- 6. Demand, Needs Methodology, and Survey Data 13
- 7. Existing Park Acreage and National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)
Performance Benchmarks 15
- 8. Park Classifications 16
- 9. Park Land Acquisition, Development, and Maintenance 20
 - 9.1 Parkland Acquisition 20
 - 9.2 Parkland Development 20
 - 9.3 Parkland Maintenance 21
- 10. Conclusions and Recommendations 22
- 11. References 26
- 12. Appendices 27
 - 12.1 Survey 28
 - 12.2 Survey Results Summary 29
 - 12.3 Parks Location Map 30
 - 12.4 Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Facilities 31
 - 12.5 Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Map 32
 - 12.6 Construction and Maintenance Schedule 33
- 13. Acknowledgments 34

1. Introduction

This comprehensive plan adopts the previously separate *Patton Township Parks Plan 2015-2024* and *Patton Township Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Plan 2019-2024* into one document. In Patton Township, parks and bicycle/pedestrian paths are defined as part of the same recreational system. Bicycle/pedestrian paths are linear parks that link parks and recreational spaces, neighborhoods, schools, and businesses. It is the intent of this plan to identify and support the development of an environment of active lifestyles and alternate transportation opportunities. This plan is to be known as *Patton Township Parks and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Plan 2020-2029* (“Parks Plan”).

The Parks Plan examines current and future needs for parks, recreation facilities, and bicycle/pedestrian paths and makes recommendations for development, land acquisition, and design standards. It is the objective of the Township to provide recreational opportunities for all age groups and skill levels throughout the year, and the Parks Plan provides the mechanism for meeting this objective.

Both developed and undeveloped parklands, and their connected bicycle/pedestrian paths are important elements that help define the identity of a community. Recreational opportunities are significant to Patton Township residents as evidenced by the results of the recent community wide survey (Appendix 12.1). This is not only shown by survey data but is supported by that fact that Patton Township residents provide 0.7 mills of their paid taxes to parkland acquisition and development. The benefits of planned parkland and connected paths for residents are proven. These benefits include the opportunity for recreation, open space conservation, active play and transportation. In addition, community pride is improved through a well-defined park system, and environmental benefits are provided by green space in developed residential areas.

This Parks Plan has been developed and adopted to guide and shape the development of future parks, recreational opportunities, and bicycle/pedestrian path linkages in Patton Township in the timeframe of 2020-2029. It provides the reasons and objectives in adopting a formal recreation plan. Using public input gathered through a survey process, the Parks Plan takes into consideration public opinion regarding current and future needs, future trends, and analysis to establish a long-term vision.

The Parks Plan contains a detailed inventory of parks, bicycle/pedestrian paths, and other recreational facilities in the Township.

2. Background and Rationale

Patton Township is a Township of the Second Class located in the southern part of Centre County in central Pennsylvania. The Township is one of six (6) municipalities in the Centre Region, the area around and including State College Borough. These six municipalities have formed the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) and provide many cooperative services to area residents. These six municipalities make up the State College Area School District (SCASD). Recreation facilities and recreational programming are shared by five (5) of these member municipalities.

Patton Township is 24.75 square miles in area and consists of both suburban and rural areas. While the majority of residents live in suburban neighborhoods such as Park Forest Village, Toftrees, Gray's Woods Planned Community, and Oakwood, most of the area of the Township consists of rural subdivisions such as Ambleside, Pantops, Cedar Cliff, Saddle Rock, and Windtryst.

Patton Township is the third most populous municipality in the Centre Region and in Centre County. According to the U.S. Census, the population of Patton Township was 11,420 in 2000 and 15,311 in 2010. Population growth forecasts prepared by the Centre Regional Planning Agency (CRPA), based on current Census Bureau estimates, show that the population of Patton Township is expected to grow as follows:

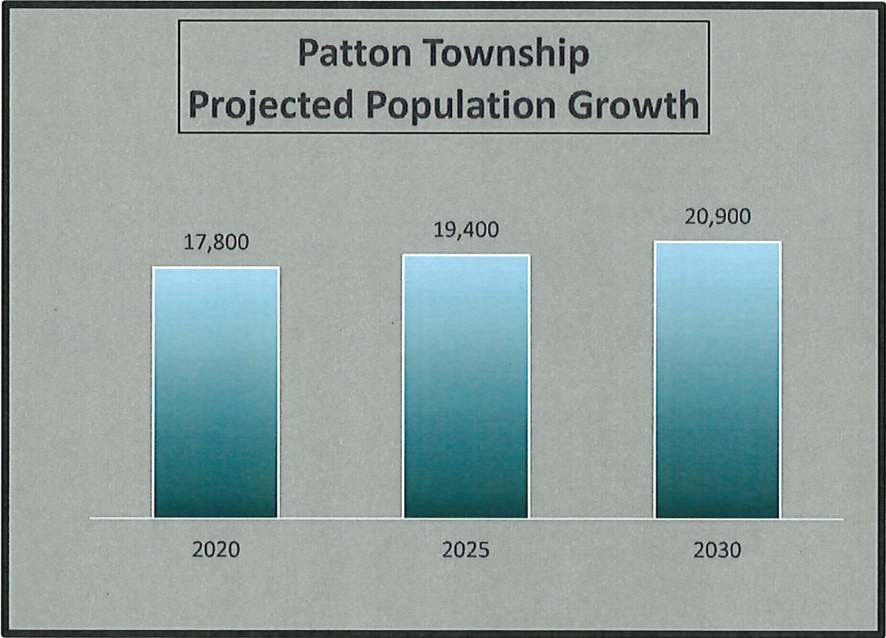


Figure 1. Projected Population Growth, 2020
(data provided by the Centre Region Planning Agency)

Through the collection of data from the parks surveys since 2004, a noted demographic shift is occurring. In 2020, the age group of residents surveyed over 60 years old is 28% of the population. This demographic has increased from 13% in 2004, to 23% in 2009, to 30% in 2014.

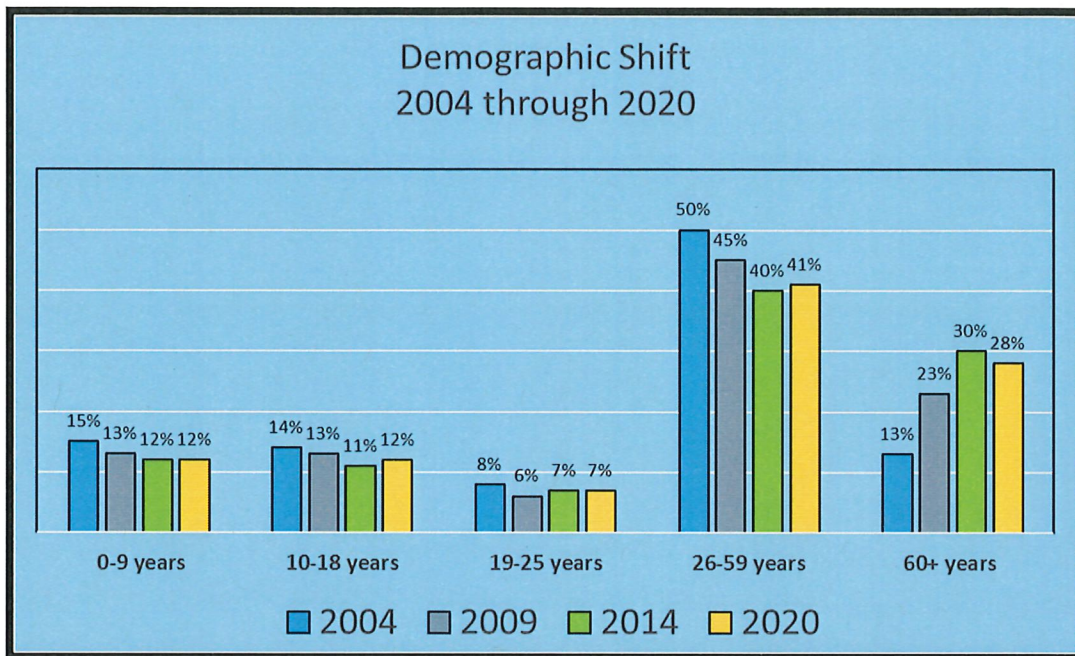


Figure 2. Demographic change of population surveyed from 2004 to 2020

Section 503 (II) of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) includes specific language giving clear authority for Townships to require dedication of parkland or fees in lieu thereof as part of its Subdivision Ordinance pursuant to an adopted recreation or parks plan.

It is the purpose of a formally adopted parks plan to provide a guideline to the Township for parkland acquisition and development based on community need and available financial resources. In addition, it is advisable to have a formal recreation plan when seeking grants funding from agencies such as the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

Since 2003, Patton Township has been awarded five (5) state grants totaling \$554,940 for parkland development and \$1,741,392 in Federal Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funds for the development of two (2) bicycle/pedestrian paths. Grant applications continue to be submitted for planned construction in 2021 and beyond.

3. Goals and Visions

The goal of this Parks Plan is to create a resident friendly community by expanding the existing network of parks and bicycle/pedestrian paths. The vision is to develop the amenities required to provide a connected community that encourages recreation of all types for all age groups and allows walking and bicycling access between parks, neighborhoods and businesses.

The Patton Township Parks Survey, completed in July of 2020 (Appendix 12.1.), asked specific questions regarding parks and bicycle path connections. The following was found:

- *70% of residents would like to see walking trails/paths in future park development and 64% would like to see a connected system of bicycle/pedestrian paths between parks.*
- *59% of residents get to the parks either by foot or by bicycle.*

The data in the parks survey also found the following:

- *Restrooms, parking and drinking fountains were the most desired amenities after walking paths in parks and a connected bicycle/pedestrian system between parks.*
- *94% of residents use the parks once a month or more. 72% of residents use the parks once a week or more.*

This information provides the core foundation that the residents value recreation in their community. The parks survey data found in 2020 was much the same as the information that was found in the 2015 parks survey.

Opinion did not vary in any significant manner in the timeframe between these two surveys and shows that the residents are still interested in the same issues. Residents are using parks for all the recreational opportunities but the majority of park users continue to use the parks for walking and open space enjoyment. They show a strong desire to create a connected community through bicycle/pedestrian path connections.

Despite the fact that 2020 was an unusual year with the effect of COVID-19 restrictions to daily life, the pandemic has not greatly affected the way that our residents use and value their recreational opportunities.

4. Facility and Recreation Planning

In 1989, Patton Township adopted their first parks plan, entitled the *Patton Township Recreation Plan*. Since then, the Patton Township Parks Plan has been updated three (3) times, in 2006, 2010, and 2015. In 2019, the *Patton Township Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Plan 2019-2024* was adopted and made part of the 2015 Parks Plan.

This document, the *Patton Township Parks and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Plan*, will span 2020-2029. The plan is designed to span a 10-year timeframe, however the plan will be reviewed and revised on a 5-year cycle to ensure that the needs of the community continue to be met. All past park plans were developed using Township wide surveys as one component and this data has aided greatly in developing the Parks Plan. This Parks Plan has also been developed using a survey and comparisons will be made here using all the past data sets.

All the directives for land acquisition in the 1989 Parks Plan have been met. The plan for park development and maintenance as outlined in the *Patton Township Parks Plan 2006-2015* and the *Patton Township Parks Plan 2010-2019* have also been met.

The directives of the *Patton Township Parks Plan 2015-2024* have been met as follows:

- The construction of the Circleville Road Bike Path from Circleville Park to Scotia Road. (The Parks Plan recommended construction of the bicycle/pedestrian path from Circleville Park to Gray's Woods Boulevard, however the section along Scotia Road was not constructed (due to some local resident's opposition to having this facility near their homes).
- Construction of the Valley Vista Shared Use Path from Carnegie Drive to Circleville/Tudek Bikeway in Ferguson Township.
- Construction of Gray's Woods Park Phase 1.
- Master Plan update for Bernel Road Park.
- Design of Bernel Road Park Phase 2A (underway).

In addition to the Patton Township Parks Plan, there are other guiding documents that provide valuable information to aid in understanding the needs of our community.

1. *2013 Centre Region Comprehensive Plan*¹

Patton Township, State College Borough, College Township, Ferguson Township, Halfmoon Township, and Harris Township adopted the *2013 Centre Region Comprehensive Plan* to provide “a regional framework regarding the physical development of the community” that also acknowledges the local decision-making process. The Comprehensive Plan includes goals and objectives regarding recreational needs of the community and adopted a policy relating to Community Facilities:

“The Centre Region’s parks and open space facilities provide residents of the Centre Region with access to active and passive recreational opportunities while having positive impacts on the local environment and economy. As demand for sports fields and other recreation opportunities have increased, additional parklands have been dedicated to meet that demand. Examples of this are the recently approved Whitehall Road and Oak Hall Regional Parks as well as the purchase and improvements to the John Hess Softball Complex.”

2. *Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan 2020*²

A regional comprehensive recreation plan was adopted by Patton Township, State College Borough, College Township, Ferguson Township, Halfmoon Township, and Harris Township in January of 2020. Its purpose is to provide long-term direction for delivery of parks and recreation services and to sustainably meet community expectations. Fourteen (14) top issues to address were identified. Those issues relating to facilities included:

- Trail connections and expansion.
- Aging park structures and deferred maintenance.
- Need for additional outdoor recreation facilities.
- Natural resource conservation, sustainability and management needs.
- Need for indoor recreation facilities and program space.

3. *Pennsylvania Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2020 -2024*³

This statewide guiding document recognizes that outdoor recreation is a vital part of the lives of the residents of Pennsylvania. Research and the data in this study found that there were no dramatic shifts in attitude or recreation needs from the 2014-2019 plan. However, it did show a shift in demographics to an older population. The plan identified the following priority areas:

- Health and Wellness
- Recreation for All

- Sustainable Systems
- Funding and Economic Development
- Technology

4. 2019 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review ⁴

The 2019 NRPA Agency Performance Review does not include “national standards.” In the past the NRPA did provide recommended standards. Past Patton Township Park Plans have provided an analysis of existing facilities and planning for future facilities based on acreages per population, and other formulae. The NRPA now recognizes that no single set of standards can suit all communities. Each community should measure its own success by determining and meeting the needs of all their residents. The characteristics of each community and its desires should be surveyed and then a plan developed.



Bernel Road Park

5. Parks and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Plan Objectives

Due to the high level of intergovernmental cooperation in the Centre Region, Patton Township's provision of recreational opportunities to residents is part of a larger system. Recreation programming is provided by Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR), which is part of the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG).

The CRPR is funded by Patton Township and the other participating municipalities using the COG funding formula that is based on population less college students, earned income base, and assessed property values. This funding covers the costs to maintain and operate the Welch and Park Forest pools, to fund recreational programming, to maintain those parks that have been accepted into the CRPR regional maintenance system, and to contribute to Regional Park development.

As an example of the contribution of funds paid to CRPR from Patton Township General Fund revenue, the following occurred in 2019:

- Patton Township has an operating budget for parks that funds improvements. These budget monies come from the collection of 0.7 mills of property taxes and other taxes. These collected monies accrue until enough funds are available to complete specific park construction projects. In 2019, this dedicated 0.7 mills generated \$356,109. Patton Township is also active in seeking grant funding to supplement the monies raised through tax revenue.
- In 2019, approximately \$244,791 was spent to pay down the loan taken to construct Bernel Road Park, Phase I. The loan for Bernel Road Park Phase I will be paid off by the end of 2020. Construction of Gray's Woods Park Phase I was paid from the dedicated tax millage fund along with a \$200,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). Renovation of the Green Hollow Park tennis courts to pickleball courts was also funded by the dedicated tax millage.
- Park maintenance and parks programs are managed by Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) and are funded by the contributing municipalities. Patton Township contributes their share from the General Fund revenue and in 2019, approximately \$591,531 was expended. Patton Township's contributions to CRPR included:
 - \$304,725 for parks maintenance and programming
 - \$9,299 for Capital Equipment replacement
 - \$124,229 for Regional Parks at Oak Hall and Whitehall Road

- \$135,329 for Welch Pool and Park Forest Pool Capital expenses
- \$17,949 for the Active Adult Centre.

In 2009, COG commissioned Pashek Associates to prepare a Master Plan for the Oak Hall Regional Parklands ⁵ a 68-acre park located in College and Harris Townships. In 2010, the Whitehall Road Regional Park Master Plan ⁶ was adopted and the Master Plan was further refined in 2013.

CRPR utilizes the facilities in all municipal parks and the facilities of the State College Area School District (SCASD) to provide recreational programming on a year-round basis. While these recreation programs are part of a cooperative effort to serve the larger community of the Centre Region, each municipality is separately responsible for the acquisition and development of parks. The maintenance of parks is shared between CRPR and the Township. The CRPR maintenance program includes grass mowing, turf management of the scheduled playing fields, flower bed weeding and care, and play equipment and safety surface maintenance and repair, among other tasks. The Township completes more extensive projects such as construction/installation of new recreational amenities, replacement of old and outdated play equipment, path paving projects, trail maintenance, tree and brush removal, and mowing/maintenance of smaller parks that do not fall under the umbrella of CRPR care.

The following outlines the major objectives of the Parks and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Plan:

- Objective 1: The principal focus of the *Patton Township Parks and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Plan 2020-2029* is to provide an outline to guide the Township's acquisition and development of parks and bicycle/pedestrian paths.
- Objective 2: To meet the objective of providing recreational opportunities for all age groups throughout the year, the following criteria should be met:
 - Continue support for Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) through:
 - Financial support of the COG budget.
 - Appointment of a representative to the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority Board (CRPRA Board) and to the COG Parks Capital Committee.
 - Improve and maintain existing parks and bicycle/pedestrian paths in Patton Township through:
 - Repair and maintenance of existing park and bicycle/pedestrian path facilities.
 - Provision of new equipment as budgeting permits.
 - Develop new parks and bicycle/pedestrian paths through:
 - Master planning and preparation of site-specific phasing plans.
 - Implementation of plans as budgeting permits.

- Continue support of a connected Centre Region bicycle/pedestrian path system through:
 - Co-ordination of linkages with neighboring municipalities.
 - Maintaining a relationship with the local bicycling groups to garner input on new connections.

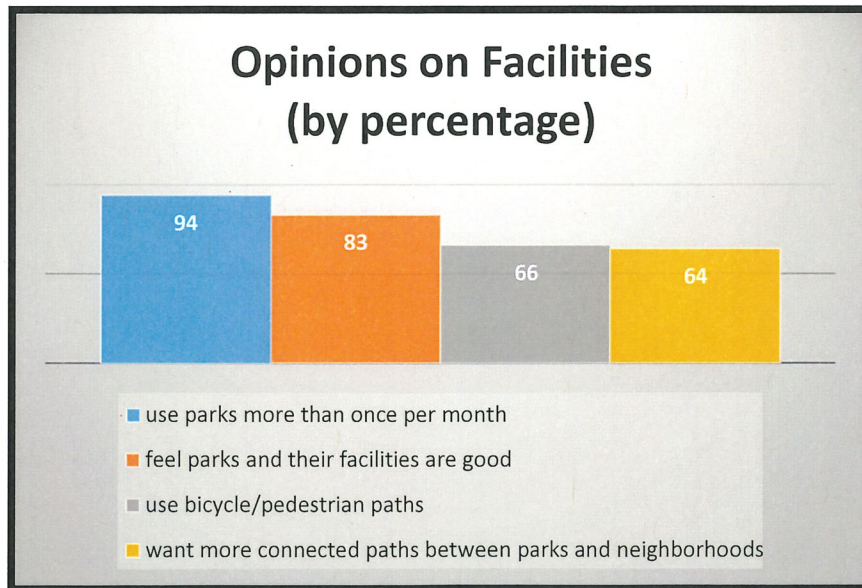


Figure 3. Park Survey Summary - 2020

6. Demand, Needs Methodology, and Survey Data

There are several approaches to estimating needs for park and recreation facilities and services. They include the use of national standards, measurement of participation levels, user trend analysis, input from surveys and public meetings, and goal setting.

Historically, the agreed upon standards for park and recreation facilities have been those recommended by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). In the past, the NRPA national standard of "x" number of acres of parkland or "x" number of facilities per 1,000 persons was one tool used to develop a comprehensive recreational plan.

However, communities are unique and dynamic with changing opinions and needs. Each community has its own unique blend of social and economic characteristics. Each community should strive to satisfy the most appropriate range, quantity, and quality of recreational facilities within fiscal limits. Surveys and public input are important tools needed to help develop the vision of recreational opportunities within a community.

To meet the goal of this policy in park planning for Patton Township, the Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) began development of a parks survey in the Spring of 2020 to collect information from Patton Township residents regarding current and future facilities and needs (Appendix 12.1), and to compare this data with data collected in 2004, 2009 and 2015.

2,400 surveys were mailed to randomly selected households in Patton Township in June of 2020, and 377 (16%) completed surveys were returned to the Township by the deadline. This response rate provides a 95% confidence level ⁷ with a 5% margin of error. The past two township wide park surveys provided a confidence level of 90%. The data found in the 2020 survey closely mimics the data found in 2015.

The 2020 parks survey data, as summarized in Appendix 12.2 provided the following information. The information from the 2015 survey is shown in parentheses (and in *italic text*):

- *The use in parks is dominated by walking path use and open space enjoyment.*
(2015 - *The use in parks continues to be dominated by walking/exercise and open space enjoyment.*)
- *94% of residents use the parks and bicycle/pedestrian paths on a regular basis.*
(2015 - *80% of residents use the parks on a regular basis.*)
- *99% of park users feel the existing facilities are good.*
(2015 - *95% of park users feel that the existing parks and their facilities are good.*)

- *70% of residents would like to see more walking paths in parks and 64% of residents would like to see a connected bicycle/pedestrian path system between parks and neighborhoods.*
(2015 - Parks users would like to see walking trails/paths in future park development and are very interested in seeing the Township plan and fund a biking/pedestrian trail system between parks using park funds.)
- *20% of residents get to park by bicycle.*
(2015 - 20% of people get to the parks on their bicycles compared to 12% as surveyed in 2009.)
- *39% of residents get to the parks by walking.*
- *The most visited parks, in order, are Circleville Park, Bernel Road Park, and Patton Woods Natural Recreation Area.*
(2015 - Circleville Park and Patton Woods Natural Recreation Area remain the top used parks with Bernel Road Park as the third most used park.)
- *The size of a household is 2.7 people/household.*
(2015 - The size of a household in 2014 and 2009 remains the same at 2.4 people/household, decreasing from 2.7 people/household as surveyed in 2004.)
- *The age group of residents surveyed over 60 years old is 28% of the population.*
(2015 - The age group of residents surveyed over 60 years old has increased from 13% in 2004, to 23% in 2009, to 30% in 2014. In 2014, this age group indicated that it is using parks with the same frequency as the rest of the people surveyed and are participating in the same activities.)



Figure 4. Park Activities from Most Popular (large font) to Least Popular (small font).
See Appendix 12.2 for park activities by percentage.

7. Existing Park Acreage and National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Performance Benchmarks

In the past, the NRPA provided recommended level of service standards for the all types of recreation resources. The “Level of Service” standards for park facilities (LOS) was a recognized method of expressing the quantity of recreation services provided for a given amount of demand.

However, in recent years the NRPA has modified their approach and now provides a benchmarking tool, the *NRPA Park Metrics*⁸ that aids communities in determining their needs.

“The 2019 NRPA Agency Performance Review does not include “national standards”, nor do the benchmarks represent any sort of standards against which every park and recreation agency should measure itself. The reason for this is simple: there is not a single set of standards for parks and recreation because agencies serve different communities that have unique needs, desires and challenges.”⁸



Graysdale Park

8. Park Classifications

Parks in Patton Township are classified as follows. These classifications are used to define parks by size and use, and to identify the ability to fund improvements from the dedicated Parks Fund.

Table 1.1 Park Classification Table

| Classification of Park | Types of Use | Location Criteria | Size | Site Distinctions |
|--|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Tot Lot | Small area that serves specific population | ¼ mile or less | Generally, less than 1 acre | Located close to the population that it serves |
| Neighborhood Park | Serves as social focus of the neighborhood | ½ mile or less | Generally, 5 – 10 acres | Easy access primarily by foot or bicycle |
| Community Park | Community-based activities that are both active and passive | 3 miles or less | Up to 50 acres | Access by foot, bicycle or vehicle |
| Bicycle/Pedestrian Path (Linear Park) | A recreational/connector path for walkers, bicyclists, joggers | Not defined | Not defined | Linear path. |
| Natural Recreation Area | Land set aside for preservation and passive recreation | Availability and opportunity | Variable | Access by foot, bicycle or vehicle |
| Open space | Land accepted as park land but left undeveloped | Not defined | Not defined | Not defined |

There are currently three (3) Tot Lots, ten (10) Neighborhood Parks, two (2) Community Parks, one (1) Natural Recreation Area, and two (2) areas classified as open space, that together total 282 acres of land in the Patton Township inventory of recreational properties. Of these 282 acres, 172 acres are maintained by CRPR and the rest are maintained by Patton Township. There are 7.9 miles miles of Linear Parks which represent bicycle/pedestrian paths.

The park classification is described in Table 1.2 and is illustrated on the Parks Location Map (Appendix 12.3.) and the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Map (Appendix 12.4). The park classifications may be further defined as follows:

- Tot Lot: This is the smallest park classification used for concentrated populations and to address specific recreational needs, such as a tot lot.
- Neighborhood Park: This classification serves as a recreational and social focus for a neighborhood and contains both active and passive elements for a wide range of age and user groups.
- Community Park: This classification is for parks larger than neighborhood parks which meet the needs of several neighborhoods or large sections of the community.
- Natural Recreation Area: This classification includes areas set aside for preservation of natural resources and to offer passive recreational opportunities.
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Path (Linear Park): This classification has been added to define the value of the bicycle/pedestrian system as recreational as well as being a connector.
- Open space: This classification is for dedicated parkland that is not suitable for development and remains a green space.

In addition to the Patton Township recreational lands, other recreational opportunities are located within the Township but are owned and operated by others. These are:

1. The State College Area School District (SCASD), which has recreational facilities classified as Mini-parks located at the Park Forest Elementary School and the Gray's Woods Elementary School. Park Forest Middle School has scheduled play fields and tennis courts at their sports field facility.
2. Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR), which operates the Park Forest Pool.
3. Three (3) private parks, Wilts Park and Vista Park in Toftrees and Ghaner Road Park in Vista Woods, which are located within the Township and are classified as Tot Lots.

Table 1.2 Patton Township Park and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Inventory

| Classification | Park | Size (acres) | Location | Amenities | Maintained by |
|----------------|------------------------|--------------|--|--|---------------|
| Tot Lot | Carnegie Drive Tot Lot | 0.40 | 3164 Carnegie Dr. State College, PA | play equipment, tot swings, spring riders, drinking fountain, benches and tables | Patton Twp. |
| | Park Forest Tot Lot | 0.85 | 2049 N. Oak Lane State College, PA | play equipment, tot and older age swings, spring riders, drinking fountain, pavilion, benches and tables | CRPR |
| | Ridgemont Parklet | 0.46 | 206 1/2 Harvard Rd. Port Matilda, PA | tot and older age swings, basketball ½ court, benches and tables | Patton Twp. |
| Neighborhood | Ambleside Park | 7.14 | 161 Ambleside Ct. Port Matilda, PA | play equipment, tot and older age swings, teeter-totter, pavilion, benches and tables, paved perimeter walking path, open field | CRPR |
| | Cedar Cliff Park | 2.48 | 324 Manhasset Dr. Port Matilda, PA | benches, open field | Patton Twp. |
| | Ghaner Drive Parklet | 2.21 | 265 Ghaner Dr. State College, PA | play equipment, older age swings, pavilion, drinking fountain, benches and tables, open field | Patton Twp. |
| | Graycairn Park | 1.50 | 168 Heiskel Dr Port Matilda, PA | no facilities | Patton Twp. |
| | Graysdale Park | 14.10 | 880 Gray's Woods Blvd. Port Matilda, PA | play equipment, tot and older age swings, slide, spring riders, basketball ½ court, soccer field, youth ballfield, paved perimeter walking path, pavilion, benches and tables | CRPR |
| | Gray's Woods Park | 43.07 | | play equipment, environmental educational boards, walking paths, picnic tables | CRPR |
| | Green Hollow Park | 15.64 | 1900 Park Forest Ave. State College, PA | play equipment, tot and older age swings, teeter-totter, spring riders, climbing apparatus, basketball ½ court, youth ballfield, pickle ball courts, drinking fountain, pavilion, benches and tables, urban forest | CRPR |
| | Marjorie Mae Park | 4.70 | 701 Marjorie Mae St. State College, PA | play equipment, tot and older age swings, pavilion, benches and tables, open field | CRPR |
| | Oakwood Park | 4.33 | 180 Oakwood Ave. State College, PA | play equipment, older age swings, youth ballfield & soccer field, drinking fountain, paved perimeter walking path, 2 pavilions, benches and tables | CRPR |
| | Woodycrest Park | 6.00 | 1936 Lauck St. State College, PA | play equipment, tot and older age swings, spring riders, youth ballfield & soccer field, basketball ½ court, drinking fountain, pavilion, benches and tables, urban forest | CRPR |

Table 1.2 Patton Township Park and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Inventory - continued

| Classification | Park | Size (acres) | Location | Amenities | Maintained by |
|--|---|--------------|--|--|----------------|
| Community | Bernel Road Park | 74.36 | 2501 Bernel Rd. State College, PA | play equipment, tot and older age swings, spring riders, tennis courts, disc golf course, pavilion, paved perimeter walking path, benches and tables | CRPR |
| | Circleville Park | 37.69 | 3225 Circleville Rd. 200 Little Lion Drive State College, PA | play equipment, tot and older age swings, spring riders, 2 full size basketball courts, youth ballfield, adult ballfield, soccer field, disc golf course, drinking fountain, paved perimeter walking path, 3 pavilions and 1 pavilion with fireplace, 2 bocce courts, benches and tables | CRPR |
| Bicycle/Pedestrian Paths (Linear Park) | BCRT, Toftrees to Arboretum Lands | 0.9 mile | | | Patton Twp. |
| | BCRT, Toftrees to Cedar Cliff | 1.3 mile | | | Patton Twp. |
| | BCRT, Spur to Lions Hill Road | 0.5 mile | | | Village at PSU |
| | Circleville Road Bike Path | 1.0 mile | | | Patton Twp. |
| | Gray's Woods Path, Gray's Woods Park to Ghaner Road | 2.0 mile | | | Patton Twp. |
| | Marjorie Mae Park Path | 0.1 mile | | | Patton Twp. |
| | Meeks Lane to Paul Joseph Drive | 0.3 mile | | | Patton Twp. |
| | Pantops Path | 0.6 mile | | | Patton Twp. |
| | Valley Vista Shared Use Path | 1.2 mile | | | Patton Twp. |
| Natural Recreation Area | Patton Woods | 62.70 | 2950 Circleville Rd. State College, PA | Nature trails and benches with the following permitted uses: (1) 24-hour use (2) Dogs are allowed off-leash, under Owner control (3) Hunting is permitted from Sept. 16 - Jan. 31 and prohibited from Feb. 1 - Sept. 15 each year. | Patton Twp. |
| Open Space | North Atherton Green | 3.16 | | | |
| | Northbrook Green | 1.88 | | | |

9. Parkland and Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Acquisition, Development, and Maintenance

9.1 Acquisition

The 1989 Patton Township Recreation Plan identified the need to acquire two (2) large tracts of land, one (1) in the suburban area and one (1) in the rural area, to meet the requirement for future Community Park development. Two (2) tracts, Circleville Park and Bernel Road Park, have been acquired.

By the end of 2010, Circleville Park was fully developed per the Master Plan which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 1994.

In 2008, the Board of Supervisors adopted the Master Plan for Bernel Road Park, the second Community Park site. The planned facilities for this park are consistent with the recommended guidelines for parkland development and with the desires of the Township residents as shown by the survey results. Bernel Road Park Phase I construction was completed in 2013, the Master Plan was updated in February of 2020 and engineering design is underway for Bernel Road Parks Phase 2A.

Since 1989, additional parklands have been acquired and developed as Tot Lots and Neighborhood Parks. These include Carnegie Drive Tot Lot, Ambleside Park, Cedar Cliff Park, Ghaner Drive Parklet, Gray's Woods Park, and Marjorie Mae Park. With the exception of Gray's Woods Park, these parks have been developed to their intended potential and are completed. Gray's Woods Park Phase 1A construction was completed early in 2020.

Based on current resident opinion and needs, no new additional parkland for parks needs to be acquired. Also based on current opinion, land should be acquired to further expand and develop the bicycle/pedestrian path system (linear parks).

However, additional parklands may be acquired through the Subdivision Ordinance as new subdivision plans are submitted. The Board should consider either the acceptance of new parkland or the negotiation of fee-in-lieu dependent on the circumstances, location and timing of any proposed facility at that time.

9.2 Development

Historically, the parks in Patton Township have been developed and maintained with funds as they have accrued in the Dedicated Parks Fund. The Recreation Advisory Committee has historically recommended to the Board of Supervisors that a "Pay-as-you-go" scenario be followed with one (1) exception. This exception was to borrow funds and finance Bernel Road Park Phase I construction. The reason the Recreation Advisory Committee investigated this scenario was two-fold: to respond to the Township resident's desires (survey results) for additional recreational opportunities and to take advantage of the positive borrowing and bidding climate at that time.

Borrowing funds to construct the first phase of Bernel Road Park was prompted by the amount of time it had taken to acquire, design, and fully develop Circleville Park. The land for Circleville Park was acquired in 1989, the Master Plan was completed in 1994, and the design and construction phases took place through the years of 1999-2010.

The “Pay-as-you-go” scenario has been utilized for all other projects, including the latest addition to the Township’s park inventory, Gray’s Woods Park. Master planning for Gray’s Woods Park was completed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors early in 2014, and Phase 1 was completed in 2020.

9.3 Maintenance and General Upgrades

Park maintenance is provided by Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) under a participating municipality agreement. This generally includes grass mowing, play field maintenance, safety bed upgrades, and some repairs. The Township performs complementary maintenance to these duties and maintains those parks that fall under Township care.

From time to time other upgrades are necessary to be made to parks usually determined by aging facilities, accessibility to park amenities and other determining factors.

Four (4) such projects have presented themselves in the parks. They are:

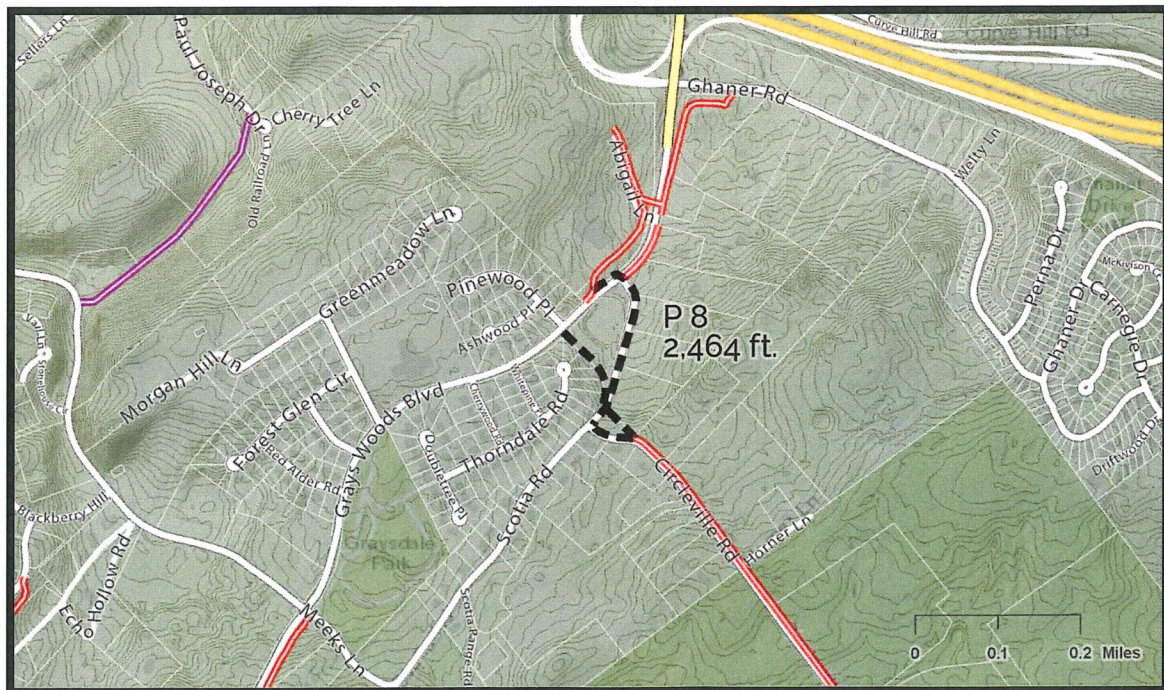
- *Green Hollow Park – installation of ADA accessible paths.*
- *Graysdale Park – replacement of the original piece of play equipment.*
- *Oakwood Park – replacement of the original piece of play equipment.*
- *Oakwood Park – replace shingle roof on oldest pavilion.*

The Township performs maintenance on the bicycle/pedestrian paths and snow clearing during the winter months.

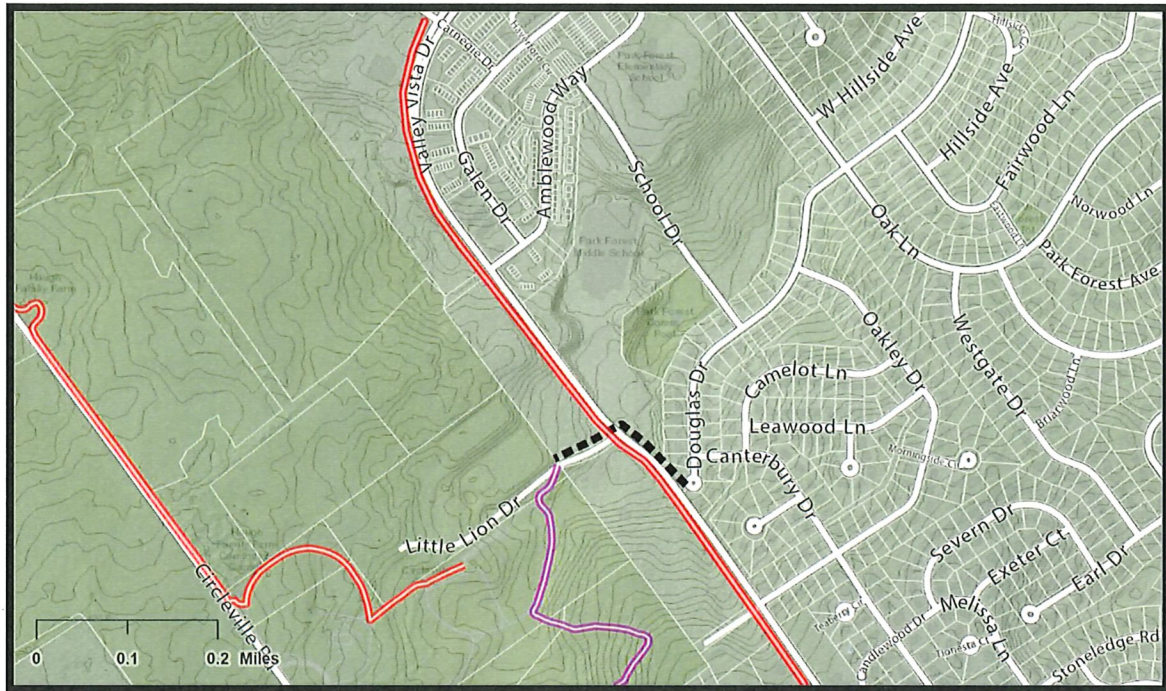
10. Conclusions and Recommendations

1. *Through resident opinion (from survey data), it is apparent that Patton Township has an adequate amount of parkland with its current inventory. However, additional parklands may be acquired through the Subdivision Ordinance as new subdivision plans are submitted. The Board should consider the negotiation of fee-in-lieu or the acceptance of new parkland, depending on the proposed park location and current circumstances.*
2. *As 66% of residents use the bicycle/pedestrian path system, the interconnected bicycle/pedestrian system should be expanded to connect parks, neighborhoods, schools and businesses.*
3. *Five (5) projects should be actively pursued for development. No ranking order is given because the order should be determined by need and funding ability. They are:*
 - *Circleville Road Bicycle/Pedestrian Path connector to the Gray's Woods Bicycle/Pedestrian Path.*
 - *Douglas Drive cul-de-sac connector to the Valley Vista Bike Path at Little Lion Drive and a connector from the Faith Baptist Church to the Valley Vista Bike Path at Sandy Ridge Road will be studied.*
 - *Oakwood Bicycle/Pedestrian Path from Benjamin Court to Bellefonte Central Rail Trail (BCRT) in the Arboretum Lands.*
 - *Bernel Road Park future phases as shown in the 2020 Master Plan Update.*
 - *Gray's Woods Park future phases as shown in the 2013 Master Plan.*

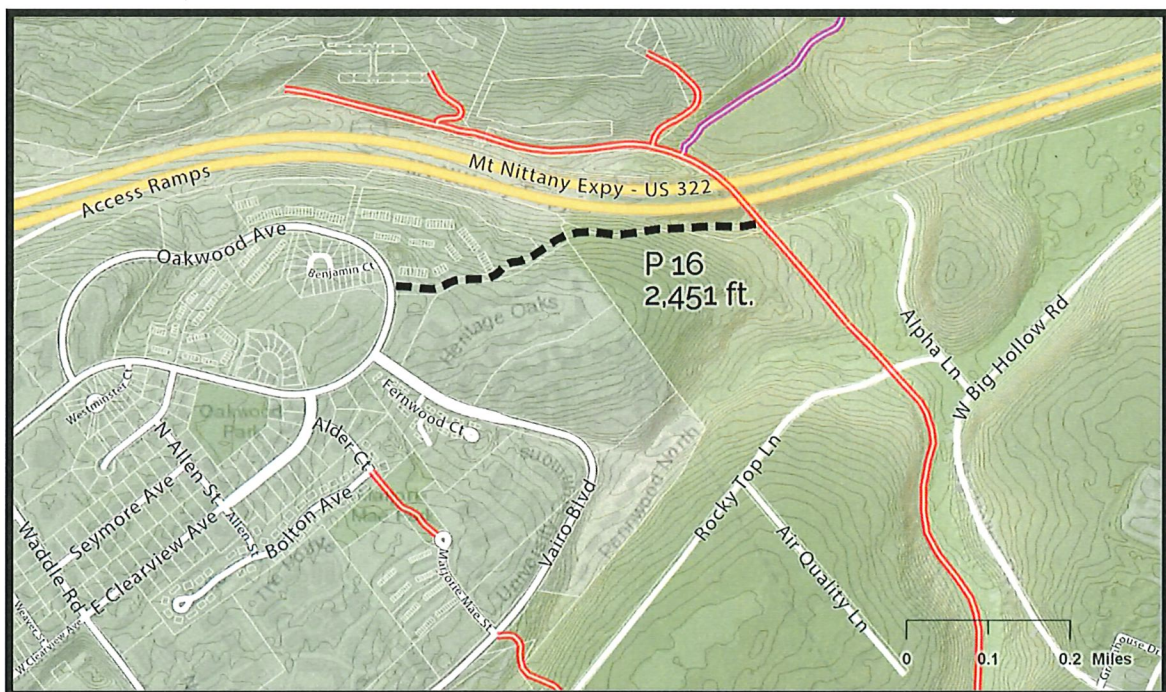
Circleville Road Bicycle/Pedestrian Path connector to the Gray's Woods Bicycle/Pedestrian Path



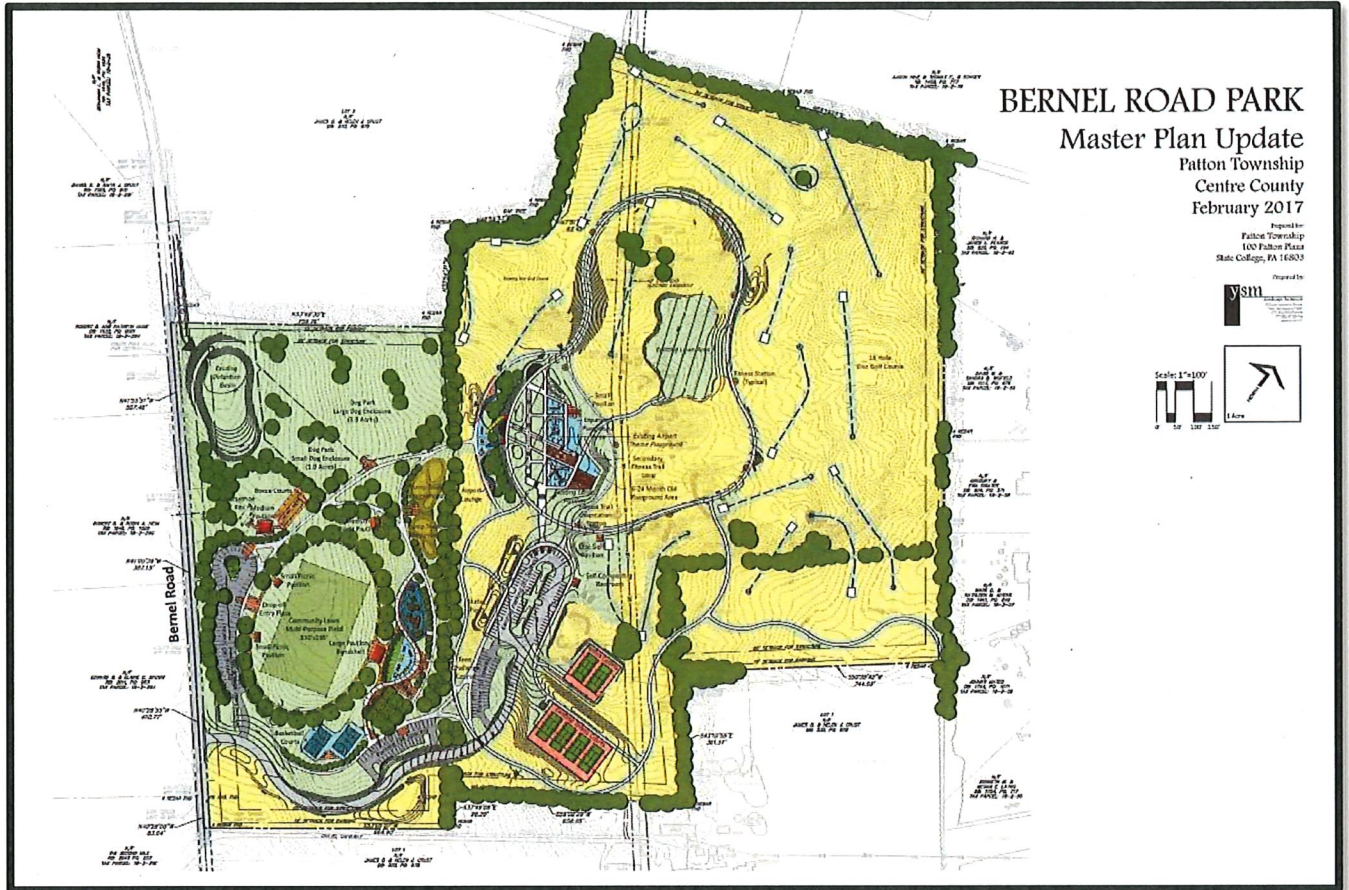
Douglas Drive cul-de-sac connector to the Valley Vista Bike Path at Little Lion Drive.



Oakwood Bicycle/Pedestrian Path from Benjamin Court to Bellefonte Central Rail Trail (BCRT) in the Arboretum Lands.



Bernel Road Park future phases as shown in the 2016 Master Plan Update.



Gray's Woods Park future phases as shown in the 2013 Master Plan.



11. References

1. Centre Regional Planning Agency, 2013 Centre Region Comprehensive Plan, Centre Region Council of Governments, 2013.
2. Centre Regional Planning Agency, Centre Region Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan, Centre Region Council of Governments, 2020.
3. Pennsylvania Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2020 - 2024
4. National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review, 2020
5. Pashek Associates, Oak Hall Regional Parkland Master Site Plan. Centre Region Council of Governments, 2009.
6. Pashek Associates, Whitehall Road Regional Parklands, Master Site Plan. Centre Region Council of Governments, 2010.
7. Thompson, Steven K., Sampling: 3rd Edition, Wiley, 2012
8. National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) *NRPA Park Metrics*, 2019

12. APPENDICES

APPENDIX 12.1

Survey



PATTON TOWNSHIP
CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

100 PATTON PLAZA--STATE COLLEGE-PENNSYLVANIA-16803
PHONE: 814.234.0271 FAX: 814.238.7790
EMAIL:publicworks@twp.patton.pa.us - WEB SITE: <http://twp.patton.pa.us>

June 2020

Dear Patton Township Resident:

Exciting news! You have been chosen to participate in a survey that will help guide us in making the parks and trails in Patton Township even better!

The Patton Township Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) is interested in surveying residents to ensure the current Parks Plan still meets the needs of our community. Once summarized, the survey information will also serve as a tool to gauge the validity of the work that has been completed in the *Patton Township Parks Plan 2015-2024*. It will provide guidance for the next Parks Plan which will encompass 2020-2029.

We are very interested in hearing your opinions and hope that you will take 10 minutes to complete this short survey of thirteen questions. In order to accurately assess the needs and opinions of Township residents, this survey has been distributed to a random sample of 2400 households in the Township. It is very important that each survey be completed and be returned so the results represent our whole community. All responses will be kept confidential.

And to thank you for your participation, we're offering a chance to win the following prizes:

- Three (3) 3-pack disc golf sets.
- Two (2) Pickleball Racquets and balls.
- One (1) \$75 gift certificate for a pair of walking/running shoes from Rapid Transit Sports.

With the summarized survey data and an analysis of recommended parkland requirements by population and acreage, the Committee has prepared three (3) parks plans over the last 15 years, the most recent being the *Patton Township Parks Plan 2015-2024*. These documents have been used as a guide for parkland development within the Township. Throughout 2018 and early into 2019, the RAC prepared the *Patton Township Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Plan 2019-2024*. This plan examines current and future needs for bicycle and shared use path planning and makes recommendations for a connected network between parks, neighborhoods, schools and commercial areas.

To date, the objectives of these plans have been met and include the following projects which have been completed in the last 15 years.

NEW facilities.

- Bernel Road Park: Completed Master Plan and constructed Phase 1
- Circleville Park: Construction of all phases
- Circleville Road Bicycle/Pedestrian Path: Constructed
- Gray's Wood Park: Completed Master Plan and constructed Phase 1
- Carnegie Drive Tot Lot: Constructed
- Ghaner Drive Parklet: Constructed

Renovations and upgrades to the following parks.

- Graysdale Park
- Green Hollow Park
- Marjorie Mae Park
- Oakwood Park
- Park Forest Tot Lot
- Patton Woods Natural Recreation Area
- Ridgemont Parklet
- Woodcrest Park

A number of projects are either underway or planned for the near future. They include the following.

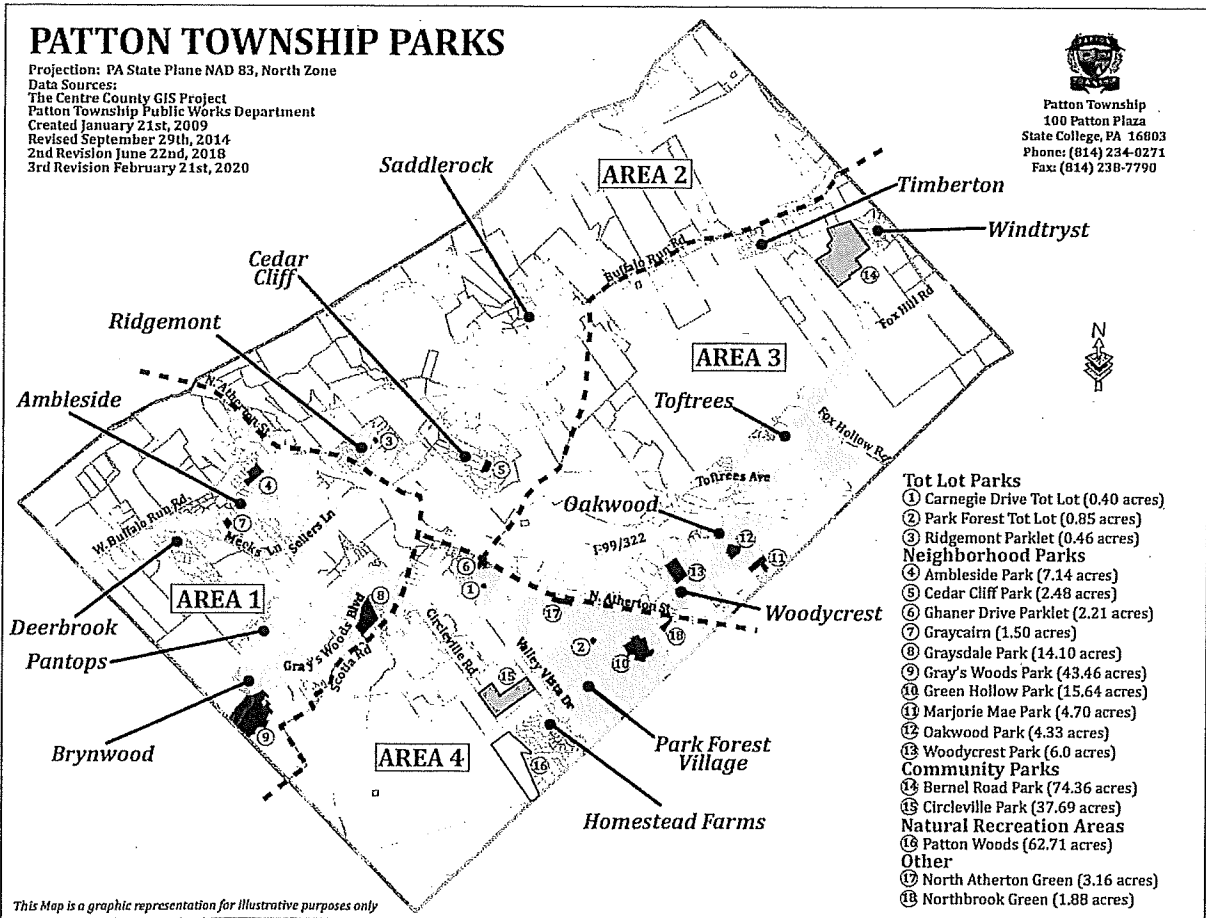
- Bernel Road Park: Construction of Phase 2A; Engineering design of Phase 2B
- Gray's Woods Park: Engineering design and construction of Phase 2
- Valley Vista Shared-Use Path: Construction
- Implementation of the prioritized shared-use path projects recommended in the *Patton Township Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Plan* to include local connectors and new construction

There are a total of eighteen (18) parks of varying size and character in the Township. These parks equal 283 acres of land. Of these 283 acres, 165 acres of parkland are maintained by Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR). The rest of the parkland is maintained by Patton Township. The location of these parks is shown on the map included in this survey packet. Information about the recreational opportunities found at each of the Patton Township parks may be found at www.crpr.org

We realize that during these unusual times there may be a difference in how you use the parks. We ask that your survey responses reflect your normal usage of the recreational facilities located in the Township.

PARKS SURVEY - WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Patton Township
100 Patton Plaza
State College, PA 16803



Please return this cover letter and survey by July 15, 2020. Your cover letter will be entered in the draw to take place on Tuesday July 21, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Patton Township offices.

Name: _____

Email: _____ Daytime Telephone: _____

Thank you for your participation! As a resident of Patton Township, your response is very important in parks planning.

Please return your completed survey by Wednesday, July 15, 2020

1. You may submit your survey by mailing the form back to Patton Township via the USPS.
2. You may go on-line to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PattonTownshipParks> and complete the survey.

Patton Township Recreation Advisory Committee Parks Survey – 2020

1. Referring to the enclosed Patton Township map, in which area do you live?

_____ Area 1 _____ Area 2 _____ Area 3 _____ Area 4

2. Indicate the number of individuals in each age group within your household.

| | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| Children: | Adults: |
| _____ 0-5 | _____ 19-25 |
| _____ 6-9 | _____ 26-39 |
| _____ 10-14 | _____ 40-59 |
| _____ 15-18 | _____ 60 and over |

3. How often do members of your household use the Patton Township parks? (Please check one)

_____ Never _____ Once a month _____ Once a week _____ Twice a week _____ More than twice a week

4. Please identify the amenities that you or a member of your household use, if any, at each Patton Township park listed below. (Mark each box that applies with an "X")

| | Picnic Facilities | Play Equipment | Soccer Baseball Basketball Tennis Pickleball Bocce Disc Golf | C.R.P.R.* Programs | Open Space Enjoyment | Walking Paths | Walking Dogs (on leash) | Other (Specify) |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Ambleside Park | | | | | | | | |
| Bernel Road Park | | | | | | | | |
| Carnegie Drive Tot Lot | | | | | | | | |
| Cedar Cliff Park | | | | | | | | |
| Circleville Park | | | | | | | | |
| Ghaner Drive Parklet | | | | | | | | |
| Gray's Woods Park | | | | | | | | |
| Graysdale Park | | | | | | | | |
| Graycairn Park | | | | | | | | |
| Green Hollow Park | | | | | | | | |
| Marjorie Mae Park | | | | | | | | |
| Oakwood Park | | | | | | | | |
| Park Forest Tot Lot | | | | | | | | |
| Patton Woods Natural Recreation Area | | | | | | | | |
| Ridgemont Parklet | | | | | | | | |
| Woodycrest Park | | | | | | | | |

*Information on Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) programming may be found at www.crpr.org

5. How do you get to the parks that you visit? (Please check all that apply)

_____ Vehicle _____ Walk _____ Bicycle _____ Bus _____ Other (specify)

6. Of the parks you use, how would you rate the parks and its facilities? (Please check one)

_____ Good _____ Satisfactory _____ Poor

7. If you answered "Poor" to Question 6., what do you find unsatisfactory about the parks and its facilities?

8. Which of the following amenities do you think Patton Township should plan to put in future parks?

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| _____ Walking Paths/Trails (in parks) | _____ Disc Golf Course | _____ Biking/Pedestrian Trail System (between parks) |
| _____ Soccer Fields | _____ Tennis Courts | _____ Dog Park |
| _____ Play Equipment | _____ Baseball/Softball Fields | _____ Restrooms |
| _____ Picnic Facilities | _____ Basketball Courts | _____ Parking |
| _____ Pickleball Courts | _____ Pump Track | _____ Skate Park |
| _____ Open Play Areas | _____ Drinking Fountains | _____ Bocce Courts |
| _____ Climbing Wall | _____ Pavilions | _____ Splash Park |
| _____ Adult Exercise Equipment | | |
| _____ Other (please specify) _____ | | |

9. What factors keep you from visiting Patton Township parks? (Please check all that apply)

- Lack of time Distance Parks are too hard to find
- Lack of interest Do not like the facilities Other (specify) _____

10. If you use parks outside Patton Township, what facilities and amenities draw you to those parks?

11. Do you use any of the Shared Use Paths in Patton Township?

- Yes No

12. If you answered "Yes" to Question 11, what Shared Use Paths do you use.

- Circleville Road Path
- Toftrees to McKee Street Path through the Arboretum Lands
- Bellefonte Central Rail Trail from Cedar Cliff to Toftrees Avenue
- Gray's Woods Boulevard Path from Graysdale to Gray's Woods Park
- Pantops Path from Pantops to Marywood

13. Please provide any additional comments you may have:

The survey may be mailed to the Township offices or completed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PattonTownshipParks>

100 Patton Plaza
State College, PA 16803

AFFIX
POSTAGE
HERE

TAPE HERE

Parks Survey
Patton Township
100 Patton Plaza
State College, PA 16803

TAPE HERE

APPENDIX 12.2

Survey Results Summary and Additional Comments

Parks Survey Data Summary

July 2020

2400 surveys were mailed to random households in Patton Township in June of 2020.
377 completed surveys were returned.
255 via USPS and 122 respondents provided their answers online through surveymonkey.com. Of
the 122 online completed surveys, 120 were in response to receiving a mailed survey.

| | |
|----------|-----|
| 1. Live: | |
| Area 1 | 29% |
| Area 2 | 7% |
| Area 3 | 19% |
| Area 4 | 45% |

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| 2. Age: | |
| 0-5 years | 6% |
| 6-9 years | 6% |
| 10-14 years | 7% |
| 15-18 years | 5% |
| 19-25 years | 7% |
| 26-39 years | 16% |
| 40-59 years | 25% |
| 60+ years | 28% |

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 3. Park Use: | |
| Never | 6% |
| Once/month | 22% |
| Once/week | 20% |
| Twice/Week | 12% |
| More than twice/week | 40% |

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 4. Use at Parks: | |
| Walking Paths | 28% |
| Open Space Enjoyment | 22% |
| Play Equipment | 14% |
| Picnic | 12% |
| Dog Walking | 11% |
| Sports | 11% |
| CRPR programs | 2% |

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Most Visited Parks: | |
| Circleville Park | 25% |
| Bernel Road Park | 15% |
| Patton Woods | 12% |
| Green Hollow Park | 9% |
| Graysdale Park | 9% |
| Gray's Woods Park | 6% |
| Oakwood Park | 5% |
| Park Forest Tot Lot | 5% |
| Ambleside Park | 4% |
| Carnegie Drive Tot Lot | 1% |
| Cedar Cliff Park | 1% |
| Ridgemont Parklet | 1% |
| Graycairn Park | 1% |

Most Visited Park Outside Patton Township - Tudek Park (Ferguson Township) 12%

5. Get to Parks:

| | |
|---------|-----|
| Vehicle | 41% |
| Walk | 39% |
| Bicycle | 20% |
| Bus | 0 |

6. Park and Facility Ratings:

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Good | 83% |
| Satisfactory | 16% |
| Poor | 1% |

7. Answered "Poor":

weeds in safety beds, grass growing is sidewalks, boring play equipment

8. Desired Future Park Amenities:

| | |
|-----|------------------------------------|
| 70% | Paths in Parks |
| 64% | Bike/Ped Path System between Parks |
| 56% | Restrooms |
| 40% | Parking |
| 37% | Drinking Fountains |
| 36% | Pavilions |
| 31% | Picnic Facilities |
| 30% | Play Equipment |
| 27% | Open Play Areas |
| 25% | Adult Exercise Equipment |
| 24% | Dog Park |
| 23% | Splash park |
| 23% | Climbing Wall |
| 18% | Tennis |
| 18% | Pickleball |
| 17% | Disc Golf |
| 14% | Bocce |
| 12% | Basketball |
| 9% | Soccer |
| 9% | Baseball/Softball |
| 9% | Skate Park |
| 4% | Pump Track |

Other: natural areas, rugby field, amphitheater, accessible playground, pollinator gardens, golf driving range, mountain bike trails, path lighting, water features, more trees, naturescape play area, 400m running track, benches, hand sanitizer stations, linear parks, public art, bike maintenance station, bluebird boxes, XC "ski friendly" paths.

9. Do Not Visit Parks:

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Lack of time | 63% |
| Distance | 20% |
| Lack of interest | 8% |
| Hard to find | 6% |
| Do not like | 3% |

10. Attraction to Other Parks:

walking opportunities, restrooms, butterfly gardens, easy access, more shade, trails, different play equipment, duck pond, stream, dog park, scenery, less crowded, astronomy

11. Shared Use Path Use:

| | |
|-----|-----|
| Yes | 66% |
| No | 34% |

12. Most Used Shared Use Paths:

| | |
|-----|--|
| 35% | Circleville Road Bike Path |
| 22% | BCRT, Toftrees to McKee Street |
| 18% | BCRT, Cedar Cliff to Toftrees |
| 18% | Gray's Woods from Graysdale to Gray's Woods Park |
| 7% | Pantops Path |

Park Survey – July 2020
Additional Comments from Residents

Shared Use Path Connections:

1. Please connect Gray's Woods Boulevard and Circleville Road via a bike path.
2. Please join Circleville path to Gray's Woods/Graysdale. This path is almost useless to use because it is so dangerous to run/walk along Scotia Road to get there. My mother was killed walking on a road with no path or sidewalk.
3. I am in my late 50s and am thrilled with the Gray's Woods/Circleville bike paths. I do not feel safe riding on the streets. More bike paths, please! You have done a great job with the local park system. Your collective forward thinking is greatly appreciated.
4. It would be great to be able to bike from the Circleville Road path over to the bike or shared path to Gray's Woods. It sounds like this connector may even exist – if so, better signage at the end of Circleville path would be helpful.
5. A bike path connecting Graysdale Park to the Circleville bike path would be great.
6. Would love to see a bike path connecting to Circleville Road. Many bicyclists on road. Much safer if they had a place to ride safely. My children enjoy biking but they can't from where we live.
7. The Gray's Woods Boulevard path (at least the part from Meeks Lane to the school) is very narrow and not suitable for bicycles, other than young kids, who ride on sidewalks. It is essentially a sidewalk and should not be designated as a shared use path. It is much better to simply ride on Gray's Woods Boulevard. The Circleville Road path dead ends, defeating its purpose. Those who prefer the road simply don't use the path, and those that want to avoid riding on the road still have to for a section. Instead of building more paths, the Township should focus on building facilities on roads like bike lanes, which there is a lack of. When a path is constructed, it needs to be suitable for riding and should not have sections that would be problematic for a road bike (if it is a paved path). Green Hollow Park needs an overhaul. Despite the convenient location, it receives many fewer visitors than other nearby parks like Tudek and Circleville due to lackluster facilities.
8. I wish that the Circleville path connected to Grays Woods Blvd or other connected path. Would love to get to campus on a bike when weather nice. But, I appreciate the park system in Patton very much.
9. It is frustrating that the bike trails don't link up between Circleville to Gray's Woods Blvd. To ride my bike to work I'm forced to cycle on Circleville Road (after the park) which has blind curves and no shoulder. Scares me to death! It is only a matter of time until someone gets seriously hurt. I also have to ride on Scotia Road and Meeks Lane which also don't have any shoulder and have blind spots.
10. Very happy about the construction of the Valley Vista Shared Path. I do not like riding my bike on Circleville Road between the park and Valley Vista Drive.
11. We can't wait for the shared use path on Valley Vista!
12. We are greatly looking forward to the completion of the Valley Vista shared-use path!
13. Please create a bridge or underpass so bikes can go from Park Forest to Circleville Park w/o having to risk traffic on Valley Vista Drive. Please maintain bike paths in winter. With COVID, I won't be riding CATA as often and hope to bike even on colder days. Also, again, PLEASE make a safe bike path between Park Forest and Circleville Park.
14. We have wonderful parks and we love that parks are a priority in Patton Township. Excited for Valley Vista Path; accessing Circleville by bicycle would be fantastic. Also need a way to safely cross Valley Vista from Park Forest neighborhood.
15. My wife and I moved to the Village at Penn State five years ago. We love the convenience of the Bellefonte Central Rail Trail, as well as other places we have tried. Keep up the good work.
16. When I lived in Tofrees, I made heavy use of the Bellefonte Central path system.

17. I didn't know about Bellefonte Central Rail Trail from Cedar Cliff to Toftrees. Now that I found it, I will be trying it out.
18. Please connect, if you can, Oakwood Development, with a path or trail, to the Arboretum and the trail to Toftrees (BCRT). There needs to be another way to get out of this densely developed area, NOT by car, to a natural area. Thank you. (If right-of-way/access can be achieved) (Surely this would "enhance" value of properties in Oakwood, besides making it a nicer place to live.)
19. I use the Bellefonte Central Rail Trail daily and see many others on the path. Many areas need some (but not much) attention, such as mud holes. A little time by the Township crew and a little money spent for fill material would go a long way to remedy the issues (more specifically, the portion through the woods from Alto Lane to Cedar Cliff)
20. I live in Cedar Cliff. This trail (BCRT) is widely used. It is unsafe and needs to be cleaned up and paved. This would be great for families to take bike rides together. You could make a great bunch of trails off the main path. I think all the apartments from Toftrees would use it more. Also, I feel Cedar Cliff is often left out of the conversation. We have no amenities for kids or families in our development.
21. More extensive connected bike/shared use paths. Connect Circleville Road path to bike/shared use path on Valley Vista. I think the Township should continue developing the parks. These are real assets. Allow or develop flower gardens at some of the parks. I have spoken to a volunteer who would assist but there are too many restrictions.
22. Don't just put paths in parks – connect communities. Put paths between parks.
23. Improved paths connecting the parks may be most useful.
24. New to area. Bike and walking paths most important to us.
25. Water fountains and bike trails around town/between parks would be great.
26. This community has a lot to offer with its connected shared use paths and we are very excited about the new ones being built.
27. The bike paths between parks are such a great thing to do with our kids. Especially as they get older; we look forward to more family bike rides. I think adding more of those shared use paths to connect a larger network of parks is a great use of resources. Also, we would love for some splash pads to be added to new/existing parks!
28. Having bike/walking paths around parks and connecting those paths has been very enjoyable. Thank you for keeping our park clean and well maintained.
29. We are fortunate to live in an area that has so many nice parks, connected trails, and green space. Thank you for keeping them in good condition.
30. Would like more connected biking paths with adult fitness stops.
31. Shared bike paths between parks could increase foot traffic. Keep up the great work! We love visiting Circleville Park because it is nearby and has plenty of open space for activities.
32. Would LOVE to see additional shared use paths connecting parks, or even connecting the existing paths.
33. Expansion and improvement of shared use paths would be our highest priority.
34. The main thing that draws us to parks is walking trails between/at parks.
35. Also use the small bike path from Vairo to Aaron Dr. Would love to see more connected bike and walking trails.
36. Bikers are nasty to walkers in Circleville on bike paths.
37. There needs to be more mountain biking and cycling options. Something like a pump track and/or trick park. An option for natural playscapes and trees to climb, not everything has to have big play structures.
38. More bike trails to access local restaurants. More diverse bike trails, (paved, MTB, pump track), nature/landscape.
39. Bike paths needed along Sellers Lane, Meeks Lane, Stevenson Road, and Rt. 550.
40. Please extend the shared use path to Ambleside.
41. Would love to see shared use path extended to Ambleside/Graycairn area
42. Get rid of bike path second on roadway near Olive Garden. Have never seen a biker on this section – if I missed seeing some they must have a "death wish". Get rid of biking in Marjorie Mae – are a danger; speed, don't signal to walkers, don't heed stop signs. Make bikers

dismount and walk through Marjorie Mae section. Coventry Place has quite a few older residents who could use facilities such as bocce courts.

43. There is always emphasis on dogs being leashed, but bicyclists are not required to follow rules. I have been cursed at by bikers who give me no warning they are coming up behind me and scare me and my dog. Bikers act like they own the paths and walkways.

Maintenance:

1. I see many people using the Circleville and Graysdale parks. The parks look clean and well kept. We have used the walking paths in the past.
2. I appreciate the maintenance of the area parks and the respect that is shown by their users. Keep it up! Grow them as needed.
3. Older parks need upgrades for safety issues (holes in ground and tree stumps) (ex. Park Forest Tot Lot).
4. You do a great job keeping our parks in beautiful condition. I believe Circleville and Bernel disc golf high weeds and hay should be cut at least 20 yards along the fairways. Too many bugs and ticks and also hard to recover golf discs. Overall, our parks are one of our greatest assets from our community.
5. Please consider clearing snow/ice from more of the walking/running paths in Circleville and other parks during the winter. I use the cleared parts in Circleville – and bike lanes – frequently in winter. I do appreciate snow/ice removal from many of the paths.
6. I appreciate the well-maintained hard surface walking paths at Circleville Park, especially.
7. Circleville Park is very well maintained and a nice park to visit. Good job.
8. Caretakers should quit using string trimmers around edges of trees and fencing. It is destroying them. We have a wonderful park system. We use it daily.
9. Wind screens on courts requested, add more courts...Amleside Park??
10. I would strongly encourage you to consider redoing Graysdale Park with updated equipment and landscaping. There's plenty of room to add a restroom which would be sincerely appreciated by parents. A splash park would be a wonderful addition too. Of the parks we frequent, I see no adaptive equipment for people with disabilities. The unlevel playground and play spaces at Graysdale are especially limiting to individuals with mobility challenges. I worry that children with physical limitations would find it difficult to play safely in our area. Gray's Woods – very little play equipment. Existing equipment is not safe for young children. This is our neighborhood park and we were very disappointed that the play equipment was not suitable for our children. The original plan included a tots area and seeing that idea abandoned left most of our neighborhood kids let down.
11. I hope landscaping along the Gray's Woods path will be completed soon. The surface is excellent, but the rough, bare edges are an eye sore.
12. The only poorly maintained part of a park we notice is the softball/baseball diamond at Green Hollow.
13. I think the folks who take care maintaining and cleaning up the parks are great. The few I've interacted with are always courteous and pleasant. We are lucky to have so many places to go and enjoy in Centre County.
14. The parks are very well maintained. Would like to see a few splash pads at parks and more bike trails between parks. Would love to have a sidewalk/bike path on Meeks Lane.
15. Graysdale Park play area needs weeding.
16. Parks are kept beautifully.
17. My kids used the tot lots when they were younger. It seems over the years the one on North Oak (#2) could use a little TLC. Maybe it could be a maintenance expense on the Township budget or a local group could use it for a service project. Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts are always looking for service projects.
18. Circleville Park always impresses me for how well-maintained it is.
19. Parks are in really nice shape!
20. Graysdale needs to fill in the holes around the playground borders – kids have hurt themselves.
21. Thank you all for your hard work maintaining so many facilities. All of your time and effort is truly appreciated.

22. Circleville Park is, in our opinion, very well maintained and pleasant to walk through. We thank you!
23. Our main concern is the Ridgemont Parklet. Our neighborhood is rapidly changing to a younger generation and is now filled with dozens of young children. 4 swings and a small basketball court isn't enough. We need at least one other piece of equipment for smaller children to use. I also hardly ever see anyone even using the basketball court. The landscaping near the parklet sign is also very sad looking. the bushes that were planted are now mostly dead and poison ivy is growing through all of it. It would look better if it was just the sign and grass.
24. Too many weeds in grass areas and too many township parks have overgrown grass sod on sidewalks.

Land Acquisition & Preservation:

1. We were gravely disappointed to lose the woods adjacent to Circleville Park and to lose the existing paths through the woods.
2. Would love to see a park somewhere near Saddlerock.
3. Although I do not use the parks, I know that they are essential to others, especially those families with children. Also, green spaces are an essential component for better mental health. Walking in areas with trees has been shown to lower stress levels. Please do not allow any more areas to be commercially developed. A high population density means more stress and more crime.
4. No need for any additional sports facilities like soccer fields/baseball fields/basketball courts, etc. Instead, we need some parks that ensure quiet enjoyment of nature.
5. Swap southern portion of Gray's Woods Preserve with Game Commission in exchange for clay pit area adjoining Haugh Tract. The clay pit is heavily used by residents. Install primitive trail from Green Tech to Waddle Road along I-99 below Best Line and Boro dump.
6. Value the open space at Circleville Park. Leave the grassy areas as they are.
7. Please refrain from commercializing all space. Many of us live here to enjoy the trees, wildlife, natural areas and places to trail run with friends and our dogs. Please do not destroy natural spaces for amusement areas and cement courts and parks/rinks. Thank you.
8. Emphasize more contiguous forest tracts for exploration and encountering wildlife. Consider making a boulder garden for free play.
9. I love the idea of improving the green space. Thanks for surveying!

Pets:

1. An open concept dog park would be great! With actual space for dogs to run off leash.
2. Bernel Road Park is outstanding – well designed and well maintained. I take my Springer Spaniel for a "run" daily. I keep him leashed as I walk through the park area, then walk to the paths and fields behind the park and let him run unleashed. Great for him, great for me. I've been doing this for years without incident (my dog is well behaved) and gives me a 1.5-2 mile walk each day. I've always thought about if what I'm doing causes any issues for anyone. A dog park is ok, but too small for high energy dogs like mine. Thanks for the survey – keep up the excellent job on the parks.
3. There are too many out of control off-leash dogs in the parks. Most parks do not allow off-leash dogs, but we see them all the time. I have been attacked several times in Patton Township parks by dogs. Please enforce your rules. Also, pickleball in Green Hollow Park is too loud in the morning. Please post times when pickleball is allowed to be played. 10 am – 6 pm?
4. I think a dog park in the Gray's Woods area would get a lot of use due to the number of residents who have pets.
5. State College desperately needs another dog park. Tudek can get overcrowded and the retaining wall on the large dog side is risky.
6. There are too many disrespectful dog owners who walk their dogs off leash in areas where it is not allowed. There are also a lot of dogs off leash in Patton Woods that are not under owner control. I was bitten by a "friendly" dog in Patton Woods by a dog that was obviously not under

owner control. Luckily it only ripped my pants. The Township needs to do a public education campaign to let residents know about this.

7. My family and I have enjoyed Circleville Park and its many amenities for years. It's a gem. But there's a persistent problem with people (albeit, a few) who let their dogs run off-leash in the park and/or take their pets onto SCASD property or the playground area, in defiance of the many signs telling them not to. There doesn't seem to be any enforcement of the leash laws in the park or the no-dogs ordinance on school grounds.

Mapping of Facilities:

1. Parks maps and walking path maps are hard to find. It would be great if residents could have one included with our Township newsletter. I was unaware of some of these locations until I took this survey. Thanks for all you do!
2. Please consider providing good, detailed and clear maps that outline the parks and shared paths. Also, paths should indicate mile markers on the maps so that people can plan walking and biking distances.
3. Would love bike path maps with distance markers to make easier for planning family rides.
4. The map you provided is great, but in the future rather than having to return the whole cover letter with the survey, provided a "tear-away" for us to keep or clearer directions for returning survey. Continue to mail residents updates on park upgrades and plans. We're impressed with all the upgrades and new facilities and we plan to go to the new parks.
5. I wasn't aware of the shared use paths, would like to see more information relayed to the public on the location of these and other park facilities.
6. I didn't really know that these shared use paths existed before now, which is why I haven't used them. If I can figure out where they are (I don't see them on the map provided), I may try to check them out this summer/fall. Part of the reason I chose to fill the survey out online is so that I can keep this list of parks for reference as we consider venturing out to parks/playgrounds in the coming months!
7. I responded electronically because I wanted to keep the cover letter and map. Concerns about ticks/Lyme Disease hinder enjoyment of outdoor places. Kudos to the wonderful improvements made to existing parks and the development of excellent new parks. Keep up the great work!

Pickleball:

1. Love the pickleball courts. Thank you! As a senior, pickleball has really improved my life/fitness. Thank you once again.
2. My main concern is the pickleball court and the amount of increased noise it provides from early (0800) through the day continuously into the evening past (2000). I am grateful for increased park use, but it is a loudly air traveling game that is not easy to ignore. I would suggest placing a large and loud playing game in a non-residential park like Bernel, Circleville, or Tudek.
3. Please consider spacing from residential areas as plans are made for upgrades and equipment. We live adjacent to Green Hollow Park, where a pickleball court was installed. The noise of the game now wakes us up every day and parking is an issue as folks come from all over our town to play at a small park very close to housing with no parking. This would have been perfect for a less residential location; I cannot imagine that guidelines were consulted for placing this amenity. Sorry to be so negative, but this literally makes us want to relocate. Please use professional consulting services to ensure tax dollars are well used.
4. Would like to see more Pickleball and Tennis Courts.
5. We really course use an indoor facility for multi-purpose use: tennis courts/pickleball courts, etc.
6. Why, oh why, did you replace the tennis courts at Green Hollow with 4 (!!) pickleball courts. Not once have I seen the pickleball courts used (except for people hitting tennis balls over the pickleball nets). If anything, you could have kept half of it as tennis court and used the other half for pickleball. For years, those courts badly needed resurfacing, not replacement with pickleball courts. My wife seconds this comment.

Taxes and Costs:

1. The survey (and the Township in general) incorrectly assumes that all citizens approve using taxpayer money to support the selfish interests of a very small minority... otherwise, all parks and bike paths would be better utilized and ultimately mobbed by Township and Centre Region residents. That is not the case. Actual park utilization is a tiny fraction of the citizens. We prefer to spend our time in our backyard...will the Township provide and maintain this space and install additional amenities for our use?
2. Please consider reducing taxes by cutting staff, sending less frequent communications, cutting any savings/pensions. Government serves us, we do not serve government. I see a lot of Patton Township employees "hanging out" near your offices.
3. I do not support the creation of future parks. The population of Patton Township is approximately 16,000 residents. The number of parks and acres exceed the National Recreation and Park Association benchmarks. The Township should begin meaningful conversation about funding for fire and ambulance services.
4. We think the township does a great job with its limited money and relatively low tax rate compared to other State College townships. With two young kids under five we would love to see a splash pad at Bernel or Circleville Park.
5. I don't like it when my tax \$'s provide a pavilion for picnics and then I have to pay \$60 to use it..... My emphasis is for open areas for individuals/groups to organize their own activities. I recommend that you minimize the expense of equipment that is only used by a small specific interest and then this area takes up space that others cannot use.....Put in a basketball hoop on a pad but not a basketball court, some equipment can only be used on good weather days or seasonally, I've seldom seen anyone use the disc golf at Circleville for example.....don't get influences by the soccer clubs, e.g., that you have to provide everyone with a field to play on.....
6. I pay dues to our new/resurrected Toftrees HOA. I thought they (I) are (am) paying to maintain playgrounds and recreational common areas in Toftrees/Gray's Woods. If you are also doing this, what am I paying Paradigm Management Company for? Very disappointed in the HOA and you should know.

Restrooms:

1. Please put real restrooms at Circleville and Bernel Road parks. They are heavily used by children and port-o-johns are not ideal.
2. We love our parks. Would like to see a permanent bathroom at Bernel Park.
3. I would love if restrooms at all the parks could be examined.
4. Please put in restrooms at Ambleside Park. Please develop Graycain Park with picnic facilities and play equipment.

Thanks for Asking:

1. Good job!
2. The parks are fantastic! We moved to State College a year ago and have been blown away!
3. Thank you for an amazing park system that encourages fitness for all levels!
4. My family loves to utilize the Patton Township parks. The recently built Gray's Woods Park is fantastic. We also love the new Circleville Road Path and Gray's Woods Boulevard Path.
5. Thank you! Keep up the great work!!
6. I think Patton Township has done a great job in park planning in terms of identifying activities for all age groups. I encourage the Township to keep in mind creating 'unique' parks – not just placing "cookie cutter" playground equipment on a field.
7. Love the parks here...keep it up!
8. Thank you!
9. The parks and paths are one of the best parts of living in this area.

10. Ambleside Park could use more play equipment option
11. My kids are too old now for splash pads, but when they were young and we lived elsewhere, they were a popular destination. So much fun! In Berlin, we saw mini-ramps embedded in the pavement – couldn't bounce high enough to do flips or get hurt, just enough it was fun. Kids of all ages were having fun.
12. Parks are especially important to us when grandchildren visit.
13. We love all the parks. They are always maintained well. Good job!
14. We are super thankful for the parks! In the summer, we visit a different one every day. It makes a difference in the quality of life for my children and myself. Very thankful. Keep up the good work!
15. Thank you! You take care of facilities, equipment, cut grass, rake leaves, provide signage. They are a positive addition to where we live. Our kids played there, now our grand kids and neighborhood kids play there! Thank you.
16. Would love to have more diverse and layer paths and trails. Maybe installing an ice cream shop or café at Circleville Park or other large park (would create jobs and bring income to the parks). Interested to hear what a potential climbing wall would include.
17. Marjorie Mae Park provides a great space to relax. My wife and I have lived in our townhouse for 33 years and watched the park take shape from a farmer's field. Kudos to Patton Twp. for creating the park.
18. Patton Township is doing a great job with parks. Looking forward to future Gray's Woods phases. Thank you!
19. Love the parks and green space in Patton Township. Grandkids are local and we take them to parks all the time.
20. Thank you.
21. Many thanks to Susan Wheeler for supporting the placement of bluebird boxes at Circleville Park and Graysdale Park. I have received a lot of positive comments about the bluebirds and tree swallows at Circleville Park. People love watching them. I try to give credit to Susan Wheeler and Patton Township for their willingness to include bluebird boxes in the park.
22. Circleville Park is a very nice park providing lots of space and options. Ambleside Park where we live is not a very appealing park as far as options are concerned.
23. Graycain Park – should make it a nature walk/butterfly garden. Ambleside – the middle of the walking path is mowed. Save time and money and let it be natural – read "Bringing Home Nature" by Doug Tallamy or put in pickleball courts. I would like to see a walking/bike path along Meeks Lane so I can walk from Ambleside to Circleville Park without worrying about being hit by a car. It's dangerous for bikers! And now we don't have a bus!!!
24. Some sort of seating (benches or picnic tables) is always good.
25. York, PA several years ago built a park for skateboards. From observation, it is well used and gives these folks a place to skate without violating other statutes.
26. Marjorie Mae is very lacking in amenities.
27. I feel very blessed to live in Patton Township!
28. I believe the parks are excellent now as they are. A climbing wall will be the cause of injuries.
29. I love having the parks close by for walking with my baby in his stroller; the paved loops are great!
30. Keep up the good work.
31. The parks here are absolutely beautiful! Keep up the great work!
32. I love the parks and feel lucky to have them. We go when we can and the Circleville Park is close, easy to park, and has great walking paths. Thank you!
33. We love the parks here. I grew up in Park Forest and used the parks all the time. Best part of growing up here.
34. Keep up the good work!
35. In Patton for 11 years now. Attended Bernel opening day, was great. Attended town meetings with rec. architects for plans and public input for next phases of Bernel. Plans drawn up and published! Well, that was years ago. What's taking so long? Great, temporary, spot for horseshoe and bocce on flat land next to exist tennis courts. Was talk of future additional tennis courts at some time. Current courts are not fully used. I fought

- for gas main reroute and service to Wooded Hills with help from town engineer years ago. If ever an open town meeting, I'll attend again!
36. Would love to see more trees planted along Bernel Park and Circleville paths for shaded walks. Also, rather than mow all the fields and open space around Bernel Park, can an area be left with wildflowers for butterflies and other wildlife? There used to be huge wildflower patches that were mowed down for no obvious reason. Thank you. Also, if there's any way to add bathrooms to Bernel or Circleville (like at Tudek), it would be fabulous!
 37. You do a great job with our parks!
 38. No activity fields at Ambleside.
 39. From what I've seen, your parks are beautiful and well kept.
 40. I would like to be able to get a permit to observe at night (stars) like I use to. Please don't keep cutting down so many trees!
 41. General equipment. More for adults.
 42. It would be nice to have a park within walking distance (i.e Toftrees) – there are a growing number of families in the area.
 43. We are glad over the years that parks have improved and lots of games (soccer, basketball, volleyball, disc play) facilities are added. Tennis courts are still not well maintained.
 44. Thanks for providing such wonderful outdoor areas, clean, safe and beautiful (and well maintained).
 45. I'm 77 years of age and like to walk. The outer loop (1 mi.) at Circleville Park is perfect for me.
 46. Pedestrian/bicycles at dusk and cars are dangerous, especially along Devonshire where no sidewalk exists.
 47. Would love to see splash pads at parks – currently only available at swimming pools.
 48. We love parks! Interconnected is great. Highlighting natural beauty is a plus (Spring Creek, Bernel Park's view, etc.) Love the splash pad idea. Accessibility for all (w/c paths, accessible equipment) also makes for a better experience.
 49. We love the parks! A splash park would be amazing!
 50. Whatever choices you make regarding upgrades/amenities, make them minimal maintenance. If we didn't receive this survey, we would not know about the number and availability of the Township parks.
 51. I wish I could provide more insight, but my wife and I just don't pay much attention to the facilities anymore.
 52. We would appreciate more teaching aspects in parks about the habitat, wildlife, and history of the area. Furthermore, it is of vital importance that people with disabilities and people of color are given input and made a part of the process so that they are more likely and more willing to use the parks and feel welcome. Thank you.
 53. I appreciated the paper survey in the mail so that it gave me time to mull over the questions. The parks and green spaces in Patton Township are very appealing. It would be wonderful to have more parks connected by paths, but it would also be fantastic if linear parks, with parklets, were utilized to connect people with parks and other destinations, too, so that as people work harder to reduce their carbon footprint they will be able to safely do so without a personal vehicle. Parks are essential for the mental & physical health and well-being of a community as well as the health of our planet. Having a "Recreation Advisory Committee" sounds trivial when you think about how public lands and common areas contribute to the quality of life. I wish that we had a "Quality of Life Committee" that was committed to proactively identifying what people need and want to be a resilient and sustainable community. At the moment it feels like developers get to set the tone by cutting down trees and seeking waivers for sidewalks instead of really planning truly livable neighborhoods for a warming planet. It would be fantastic if we could proactively plan for a network of common areas (outdoor and indoor) and public lands connected with linear parks and free public transit. Then developers could incorporate their plans to fit into public access and amenities instead of having so many private facilities. I know that many of the people working on behalf of the township are very concerned about climate change and they are working hard to improve our quality of life at the same time that we reduce our carbon footprint. The role of parks and public facilities are crucial to this effort! Thank

you for what you do and thank you for caring enough to ask for opinions! It's great how much people who work in our local area do care!

54. A problem I find with many of the parks and paths is that they lack shade trees. This makes them only useful on very cloudy days or for a short time in the morning or evening when the sun is down. One of my favorite paths is between McKee St. and E. Clinton Ave., because of the many trees surrounding the path.
55. The Park Forest Tot Lot draws numerous small children just learning basic skills. Perhaps a black topped path weaving around/through the small park would be a fun improvement. Also, the installation of a light on the utility pole opposite the Tot Lot on the short side road would be super beneficial to discourage the use of the park at night by not so pleasant behavior.
56. I would like to see more investment in the ecological and education aspects of the parks. For example, Green Hollow Park has several signs about local species, but one of the species is actually being reduced in the park by an invasive species. Many of the parks' under stories are filled with invasive shrubs that block views and movement/growth of native plants and animals. There are also several parks that could have their drainage and facilities updated with more green infrastructure. Management could improve these parks, as well as provide education and volunteer opportunities. Additional garden areas would also be great to see in the parks and could be maintained by local volunteers with some funding. The butterfly garden in Tudek is a great example, but even smaller property boundary gardens or large potted planters could be adopted by nearby residents. This would enhance the community use of the parks and the pride in the residents' community, and provides ecological, educational, and volunteer opportunities.
57. We are expecting a baby girl very soon and plan to use the parks a lot then. Currently, we are just both working adults that haven't thought to visit. But we plan to change that very soon!
58. When my kids were younger I used and appreciated the parks with playground equipment such as the PF Tot Lot.
59. We love the parks in our neighborhood especially those in walking distance. Thank you so much!
60. Love the parks! Thank you for the great outdoor opportunities. Consider equitable park locations in future to maintain or further equitable access according to socio-economic status.

APPENDIX 12.3

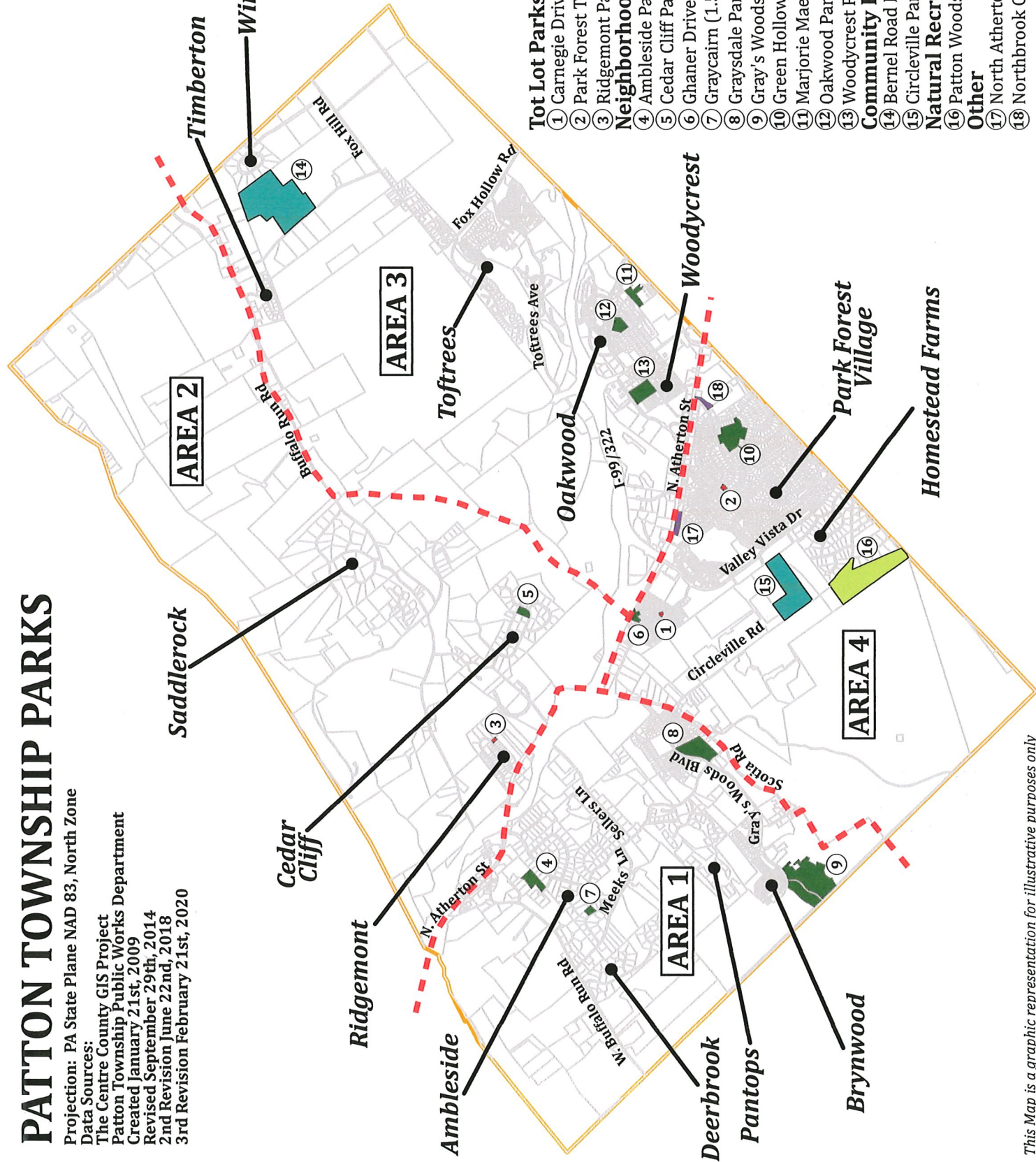
Parks Location Map

PATTON TOWNSHIP PARKS

Projection: PA State Plane NAD 83, North Zone
 Data Sources:
 The Centre County GIS Project
 Patton Township Public Works Department
 Created January 21st, 2009
 Revised September 29th, 2014
 2nd Revision June 22nd, 2018
 3rd Revision February 21st, 2020



Patton Township
 100 Patton Plaza
 State College, PA 16803
 Phone: (814) 234-0271
 Fax: (814) 238-7790



Tot Lot Parks

- 1 Carnegie Drive Tot Lot (0.40 acres)
- 2 Park Forest Tot Lot (0.85 acres)
- 3 Ridgemoor Parklet (0.46 acres)

Neighborhood Parks

- 4 Ambleside Park (7.14 acres)
- 5 Cedar Cliff Park (2.48 acres)
- 6 Ghaner Drive Parklet (2.21 acres)
- 7 Graycairn (1.50 acres)
- 8 Graysdale Park (14.10 acres)
- 9 Gray's Woods Park (43.46 acres)
- 10 Green Hollow Park (15.64 acres)
- 11 Marjorie Mae Park (4.70 acres)
- 12 Oakwood Park (4.33 acres)
- 13 Woodcrest Park (6.0 acres)

Community Parks

- 14 Bernel Road Park (74.36 acres)
- 15 Circleville Park (37.69 acres)

Natural Recreation Areas

- 16 Patton Woods (62.71 acres)
- 17 North Atherton Green (3.16 acres)
- 18 Northbrook Green (1.88 acres)

This Map is a graphic representation for illustrative purposes only

APPENDIX 12.4

Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Map



PATTON TOWNSHIP BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN PATH PLAN

Existing & Proposed Facilities - September 2020

Existing Bike Facilities

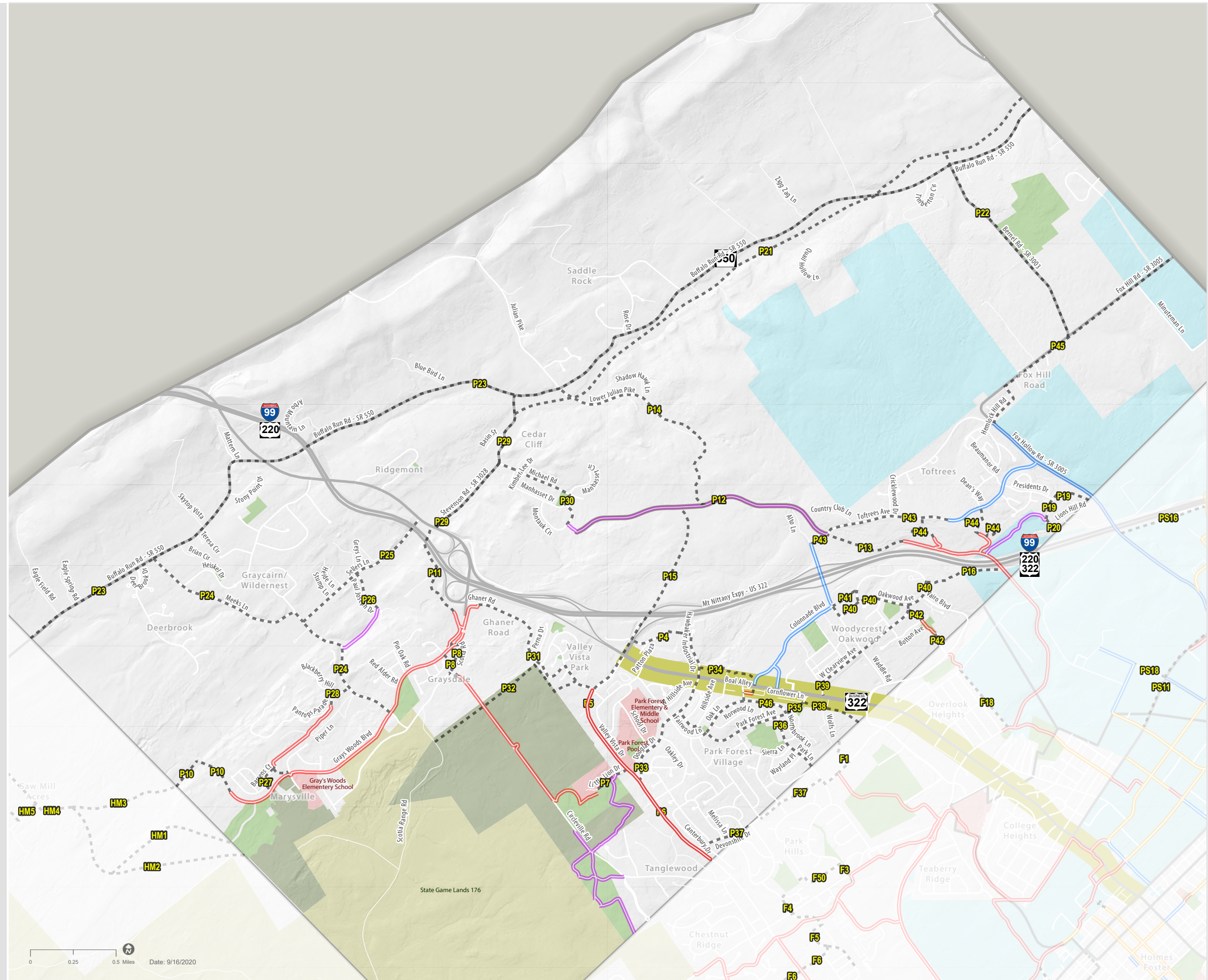
- Shared Use Path
- Bike Lane
- Bike Route
- Single Track

Proposed Bike Facilities

- Proposed Facility
- North Atherton Street Study Area







































Municipal Features

- School Grounds
- Parks & Preserves
- Open Space Reserved by Municipal Program
- State Game & Forest Lands
- Penn State Lands





APPENDIX 12.5

Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Facilities

| ID | NAME/DESCRIPTION | PROPOSED FACILITY TYPE | USE |
|-----|--|------------------------------|---|
| P4 | Green Tech Path from Hawbaker Industrial Drive to Valley Vista Drive | Bike Route/Shared Use Path |    |
| P5 | Valley Vista Drive Path from Green Tech Drive to Carnegie Drive | Shared Use Path |   |
| P7 | Little Lion Drive Path to Circleville Park Path | Bike Route/ Shared Use Path |    |
| P8 | Circleville Shared Use Path to Gray's Woods Boulevard Connector from Circleville Road/Scotia Road Intersection to Gray's Woods Boulevard | Bike Route /Shared Use Path |    |
| P11 | Gray's Woods Boulevard to Stevenson Road Path from Gray's Woods Interchange to Stevenson Road running parallel and under I-99 | Shared Use Path |   |
| P12 | Bellefonte Central Rail Trail (BCRT) through Toftrees West from Toftrees Avenue to Montauk Circle | Single Track |    |
| P13 | Bellefonte Central Rail Trail (BCRT) on Bellefonte Central Railroad Right-of-Way from Toftrees Avenue to the improved section of the Bellefonte Central Rail Trail | Single Track |    |
| P14 | Julian Lane Path from Lower Julian to Bellefonte Central Rail Trail Extension | Single Track |    |
| P15 | Waddle Road Alternate Path from Green Tech Drive to Toftrees West | Shared Use Path/Single Track |     |
| P16 | Oakwood Path from Benjamin Court to the Bellefonte Central Rail Trail | Shared Use Path |   |
| P19 | Lions Hill Road Path from the CCRC to Fox Hollow Road | Shared Use Path |   |
| P20 | Lions Hill Road to Fox Hollow Road from the CCRC to Fox Hollow Road | Bike Route |   |
| P21 | Bellefonte Central Rail Trail on Bellefonte Central Railroad Right-of-Way from Stevenson Road to Patton/Benner Township Line | Shared Use Path |   |
| P22 | Bernel Path from the Bellefonte Central Railroad Right-of-Way to Fox Hill Road | Bike Route |   |
| P23 | SR 550, Buffalo Run Road from Patton/Halfmoon Township Line to Patton/Benner Township Line | Bike Route |   |
| P24 | Meeks Lane - SR 550 to Gray's Woods Boulevard | Bike Route |   |
| P25 | Sellers Lane - Meeks Lane to Stevenson Road | Bike Route |   |

| ID | NAME/DESCRIPTION | PROPOSED FACILITY TYPE | USE |
|-----|---|------------------------|---|
| P26 | Paul Joseph Drive from Sellers Lane to Cherry Tree Lane | Bike Route |   |
| P27 | Barrens Court/Brynwood Drive from Gray's Woods Boulevard to Pantops Path | Bike Route |   |
| P28 | Pantops Parade from Pantops Path to Meeks Lane | Bike Route |   |
| P29 | Stevenson Road from Old SR 322 to SR 550 | Bike Route |   |
| P31 | Ghaner Road/Carnegie Drive from Gray's Woods Boulevard to Valley Vista Drive | Bike Route |   |
| P32 | Haug Farm Preserve Trail from SGL 176 to Carnegie Drive | Single Track |    |
| P33 | Douglas Drive/Hawbaker Industrial Drive from Valley Vista Drive to proposed Green Tech Path | Bike Route |   |
| P34 | North Atherton Street Parallel Route from Hawbaker Industrial Drive to Colonnade Boulevard | Shared Use Path |   |
| P35 | Park Forest Avenue from Douglas Drive to North Atherton Street | Bike Route |   |
| P36 | Park Lane from Park Forest Avenue to Patton/Ferguson Township Line | Bike Route |   |
| P37 | Devonshire Drive from Valley Vista Drive to Patton/Ferguson Township Line | Bike Route |   |
| P40 | Waddle Road/Oakwood Avenue from Colonnade Boulevard to Benjamin Court | Bike Route |   |
| P41 | Williamsburg Square from Waddle Road to Oakwood Avenue | Shared Use Path |   |
| P42 | Alder Court/Marjorie Mae Street from Clearview Avenue to Patton/Ferguson Township Line | Shared Use Path |   |
| P43 | Toftrees Avenue from Waddle Road to existing Bike Lane | Bike Route |   |
| P44 | Bellefonte Central Rail Trail to Toftrees Avenue Connectors through residential complexes | Shared Use Path |   |
| P45 | Hemlock Hill Road/Fox Hill Road | Bike Route |   |
| P46 | N. Oak Lane | Bike Route |   |

-  Bicycle
-  Pedestrian
-  Motorized Vehicle
-  Horse

APPENDIX 12.6

Construction and Maintenance Schedule

It should be noted that five (5) recommendations are being made by this plan with no ranking in terms of priority. The rationale is that any given project should be actively pursued as situations and funding present themselves. However, a plan for execution of projects and associated costs must be defined for planning. The following 5-year plan is meant to serve as a guide with the expectation that the projects may re-align themselves within this timeframe. Ultimate scheduling of projects will be determined through the Township's Capital Improvement Planning and Budgeting processes.

| | | |
|------|--|--------------|
| 2021 | On-street Bicycle Street System Upgrades | \$ 30,000.00 |
| | Green Hollow Park ADA Path Design | \$ 12,200.00 |
| | Green Hollow Park ADA Path Construction | \$ 35,000.00 |
| | Douglas Drive/Sandy Ridge Road Minor Connectors: | |
| | Traffic Analysis/Warrant and Design | \$ 20,000.00 |
| | Circleville Road Bike Path Alternatives Analysis | \$ 40,000.00 |
| | Safety Bed Mulch placement* | \$ 3,500.00 |
| 2022 | Bernel Road Park 2A Construction | \$750,000.00 |
| | Douglas Drive/Sandy Ridge Road Minor Connectors: | |
| | ROW Acquisition and Construction | \$ 70,000.00 |
| | Circleville Road Bike Path Connector Design | \$110,000.00 |
| | Line Striping** | \$ 1,750.00 |
| | Power washing | \$ 2,000.00 |
| 2023 | Circleville Bike Path Connector Construction | \$550,000.00 |
| | Gray's Woods Park Phase 2 Design | \$ 95,000.00 |
| | Oakwood Pavilion Roof Replacement | \$ 3,500.00 |
| | Graysdale Play Equipment Replacement | \$ 40,000.00 |
| | Safety Bed Mulch placement* | \$ 4,000.00 |
| 2024 | Oakwood to BCRT Arboretum Path Design | \$110,000.00 |
| | Oakwood Play Equipment Replacement | \$ 45,000.00 |
| | Line Striping** | \$ 1,750.00 |
| | Power washing | \$ 2,000.00 |
| 2025 | Oakwood to BCRT Arboretum Path Construction | \$800,000.00 |
| | Gray's Woods Parks Phase 2 Construction | \$800,000.00 |
| | Safety Bed Mulch placement* | \$ 4,000.00 |

*Safety Bed Mulch Placement: Those parks under the Patton Township maintenance schedule (Carnegie Drive Tot Lot, Ridgemont Parklet, and Ghaner Drive Parklet).

**Line striping and power washing of play equipment: All parks whether maintained by Patton Township or CRPR. Line striping includes basketball courts, parking lot lines. Power washing includes play equipment, benches and picnic tables.

13. Acknowledgments

Many people have been involved in the creation of this plan.

First and foremost, the residents who have made their opinions known regarding recreational spaces within the Township both through responding to the 2020 parks survey and by providing input on a continual basis.

The Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) for their tireless efforts in helping to assess, understand and create a plan to satisfy the recreational needs of our community. Also, many thanks to the Patton Township Board of Supervisors who support the work and efforts of the RAC.



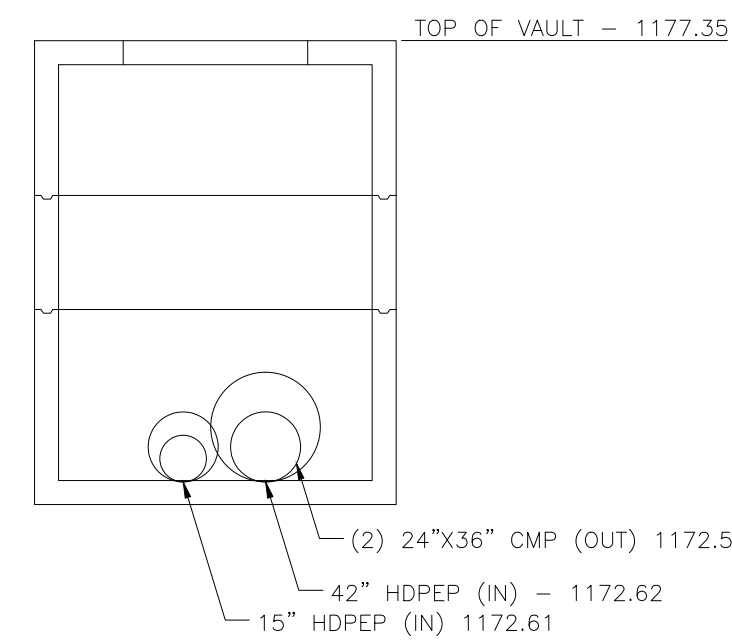
a

Staff Report February 18, 2021

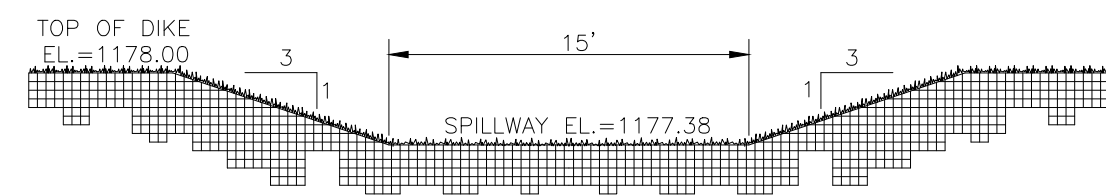
1. FT staff in collaboration with the US Fish and Wildlife Service completed the conversion of 3 turf stormwater basins at Tom Tudek Memorial Park to pollinator gardens. The 3 basins were originally managed turf that were mowed weekly and were not infiltrating as they should. The US Fish and Wildlife Service removed the turf and planted the areas with a pollinator plant mix. The plants in this mix should have a larger root system which will loosen the soil and increase infiltration. These plants will be mowed once per year.
2. Tree and shrub plantings scheduled for April within the basin at Haymarket Park. Attached to the agenda is a copy of the Haymarket cost estimate for the trees and the Stormwater BMP Record Plan.
3. Staff is making edits to the drafted Park Green Infrastructure Policy. Attached to the agenda includes a copy of the drafted policy and the compiled comments received by the Parks and Recreation Committee, Centre Region Parks and Recreation Department and the Board of Supervisors. Staff plans to have a pre-final draft copy for the Parks and Recreation Committee to review prior to going to the Board for their consideration.
4. The Parks and Recreation Subcommittee convened with staff as the working group charged to review Chapter 16, Parks and Recreation, and the proposed edits by Centre Region Parks and Recreation and offer recommendations that identify areas to update including gender neutral updates, outdated language and research information that provides answers to questions presented by the Board.



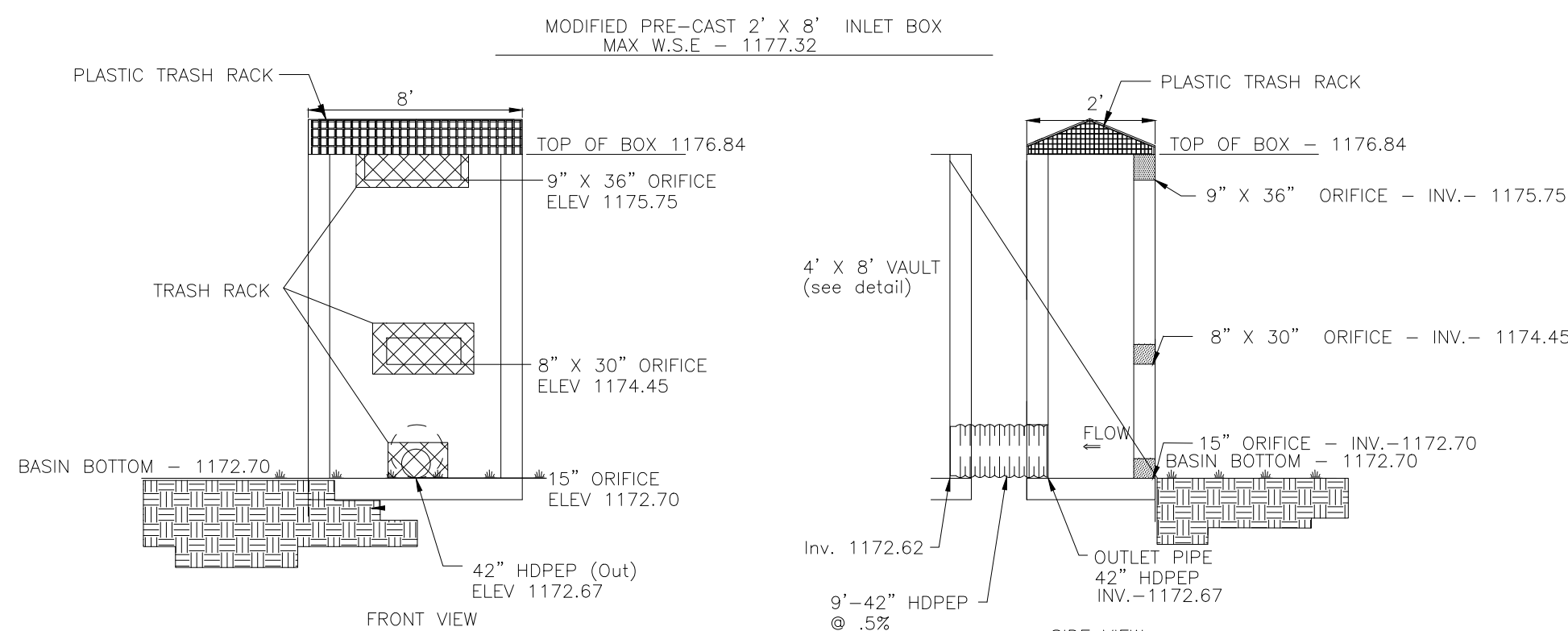
TUDEK PARK POLLINATOR PLOT
FERGUSON TOWNSHIP, CENTRE COUNTY, PA
1.15 ACRES



4'x8' PRECAST VAULT
NOT TO SCALE



SPILLWAY DETAIL
NOT TO SCALE



DETENTION BASIN - OUTLET STRUCTURE
NOT TO SCALE

STORMWATER FACILITIES POST-CONSTRUCTION MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

THE OWNER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THE PROPER OPERATION AND FUNCTION OF THE STORMWATER FACILITIES LOCATED ON THE PROPERTY. THIS PLAN INCLUDES THE DESIGN AND SPECIFICATIONS OF THE HAYMARKET REGIONAL DETENTION BASIN IMPROVEMENTS REPORT DATED SEPTEMBER 29, 2004 AS WELL AS THE HAYMARKET PARK DETENTION BASIN PLANS DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2005 AND LAST REVISED MAY 15, 2015. THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING.

**MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR HAYMARKET PARK BASIN
APRIL 2020**

THIS PLAN INCLUDES MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT WERE ASSIGNED TO FERGUSON TOWNSHIP (TOWNSHIP) AND JOHNSON FARMS ASSOCIATES (JFA) BY AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES DATED SEPTEMBER 6, 2005. STEPHEN J. AND PAULA V. P. WHITE WERE ALSO A PARTY TO THAT AGREEMENT, BUT DID NOT HAVE ANY MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNED TO THEM. TOWNSHIP'S MAINTENANCE OBLIGATION INCLUDES RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE VEGETATION WITHIN THE BASIN. JFA'S MAINTENANCE OBLIGATION INCLUDES RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE STRUCTURE OF THE BASIN INCLUDING SINKHOLES AND UPKEEP OF THE OUTLET STRUCTURE.

THIS DOCUMENT IS TO MEMORIALIZE THE OBLIGATIONS THAT WERE ESTABLISHED IN THE 2005 AGREEMENT AND ALSO REFLECTS A PILOT PROGRAM OF PLANTING TREES WITHIN THE STORM WATER DETENTION BASIN. THE MAINTENANCE PLAN ALSO CLARIFIES THE OBLIGATION FOR THE TOWNSHIP TO INSPECT THE STRUCTURE AND TO GIVE NOTICE TO JFA REGARDING THEIR OBLIGATIONS IF INSPECTIONS REVEAL DEFICIENCIES.

SITE INSPECTIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED BY TOWNSHIP AFTER MAJOR STORM EVENTS (MORE THAN 2 INCHES OF RAIN IN A 24 HOUR PERIOD WITH AT LEAST ONE INSPECTION BEING PERFORMED ANNUALLY). SITE INSPECTIONS SHOULD INCLUDE STORM SEWER PIPE INLETS AND OUTLETS, RIP-RAP APRONS AND THE OUTLET STRUCTURE. DURING INSPECTION ANY DEBRIS, LITTER, OR OTHER CLOGGING MATERIAL SHOULD BE CLEARED FROM DRAINAGE STRUCTURES BY TOWNSHIP. IF EROSION IS EVIDENCED IN ROCK APRONS THEN ADDITIONAL RIP-RAP SHOULD BE ADDED BY TOWNSHIP.

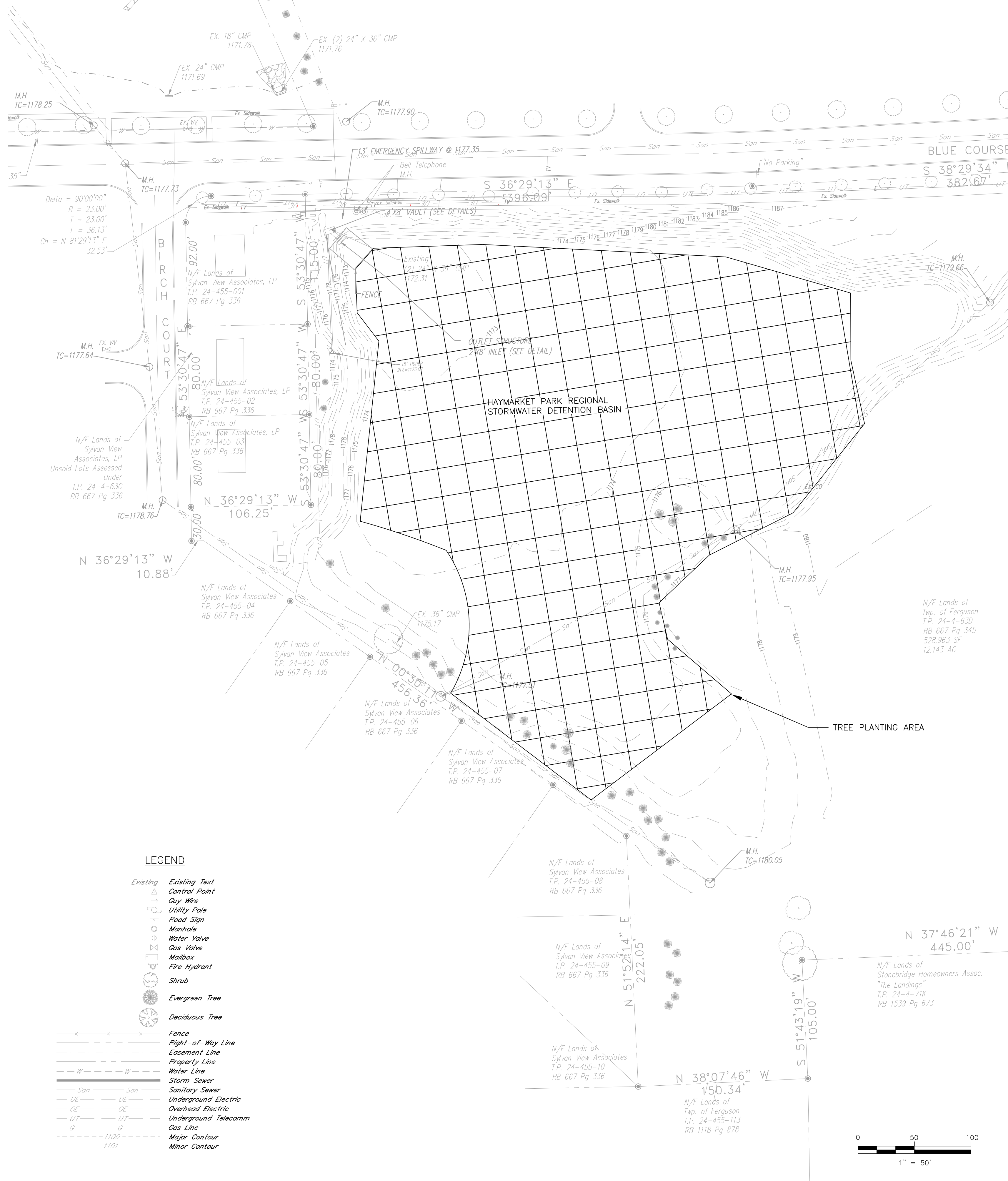
VEGETATION IS TO BE MOWED ONCE A YEAR BY TOWNSHIP DURING THE FALL OF THE YEAR TO A HEIGHT OF 8 INCHES, PREFERABLY AFTER INITIAL FROST. ALL VEGETATION IS TO BE MOWED SUFFICIENTLY TO MULCH MATERIAL IN PLACE. ANY VEGETATIVE MATERIAL THAT REACHES THE OUTLET STRUCTURE PROTECTIVE FENCE DURING A RAIN EVENT WILL BE REMOVED TO PREVENT CLOGGING OF THE OUTLET STRUCTURE. TREE AREAS ARE TO BE MAINTAINED TO ASSURE THAT LEAF LITTER IS MULCHED DURING THE ANNUAL MOWING PROCESS, AND DEAD OR BROKEN LIMBS AND BRANCHES ARE COLLECTED AND REMOVED.

DOCUMENTATION OF INSPECTIONS MUST BE MAINTAINED BY TOWNSHIP AND WILL INCLUDE ANY REQUIRED MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES THAT WERE COMPLETED DURING THE INSPECTION AS WELL AS ANY THAT NEED TO BE COMPLETED. IF INSPECTIONS IDENTIFY ISSUES WITH THE OUTLET STRUCTURE, THE EMBANKMENT OR SINKHOLE DEVELOPMENT, THEN JFA WILL BE NOTIFIED TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED MAINTENANCE, AND RECORDS OF COMPLETED MAINTENANCE WILL BE MAINTAINED BY TOWNSHIP.

I, RONALD A. SEYBERT, JR., P.E. DO HEREBY CERTIFY, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF, THAT THIS RECORD DRAWING ACCURATELY REFLECTS THE AS-BUILT CONDITION, IS TRUE AND CORRECT, AND IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH CHAPTER 102 RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CHAPTER 26 OF THE FERGUSON TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES AND THAT THE PROJECT SITE WAS CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVED PCSM PLAN, ALL APPROVED PLAN CHANGES AND ACCEPTED CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES.

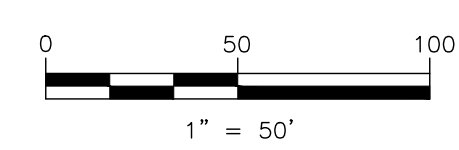
SIGNATURE:

DATE: 4/27/2020



LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|---------------------|
| | Existing | | Existing Text |
| | Control Point | | Sanitary Sewer |
| | Guy Wire | | Storm Sewer |
| | Utility Pole | | Undergroud Electric |
| | Road Sign | | Overhead Electric |
| | Manhole | | Undergroud Telecomm |
| | Water Valve | | Gas Line |
| | Gas Valve | | Major Contour |
| | Mailbox | | Minor Contour |
| | Fire Hydrant | | |
| | Shrub | | |
| | Evergreen Tree | | |
| | Deciduous Tree | | |
| | Fence | | |
| | Right-of-Way Line | | |
| | Easement Line | | |
| | Property Line | | |
| | Water Line | | |



FERGUSON TOWNSHIP
DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING
3147 RESEARCH DRIVE
STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801
PHONE: 814-238-4651
FAX: 814-238-3454
www.twp.ferguson.pa.us

| REV. | DATE | REVISION DESCRIPTION |
|------|------|----------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

HAYMARKET PARK

STORMWATER BMP RECORD PLAN

DESIGNED BY: RAS
DRAWN BY: LMS
CHECKED BY: RAS
DATE: 4/27/2020

1

COST ESTIMATE

FROM:

Foundation for California University of PA
 Attention: Jose'/Amy
 Partners for Fish and Wildlife
 219 Frich Hall, Box #45
 California, PA 15419-1394

TO:

Ferguson Township
 c/o Lance King
 3147 Research Drive
 State College, PA 16801

January 26, 2021

| Quantity | Description | Price | Amount |
|----------|--|-----------------|-------------------|
| | Establishing Pollinator and Young Forest Habitat 2021 | | |
| | Haymarket Park, Ferguson Township, Centre County, PA | | |
| 70 | <i>2-gallon potted trees</i> | \$11.00 | \$770.00 |
| 5 | <i>3-gallon potted trees</i> | \$15.00 | \$75.00 |
| 75 | <i>Labor - planting trees</i> | \$10.00 | \$750.00 |
| 5 | <i>Hours, skid loader and operator</i> | \$85.00 | \$425.00 |
| 120 | <i>Feet, fence - crib #1</i> | \$3.00 | \$360.00 |
| 120 | <i>Feet, fence - crib #2</i> | \$3.00 | \$360.00 |
| 20 | <i>Tree cages, installed</i> | \$14.00 | \$280.00 |
| | | | |
| | | Subtotal | \$3,020.00 |
| | <i>In-kind FWS and Foundation for CalU</i> | | -\$500.00 |
| | | TOTAL | \$2,520.00 |

Drafted Park Green Infrastructure Policy

I. Purpose

- a. Ferguson Township recognizes the importance of maintaining the condition, accessibility and safety of its naturalized environments to serve as a green feature or green stormwater sustainable infrastructure within developed and undeveloped parks. The focus of this policy is to classify its park system and establish a framework that defines the different types of natural areas for green features or green stormwater infrastructure and identifies levels of maintenance standards for service to be associated within the park system.

II. Definitions

a. Park Classifications

- i. **Mini Parks** – Smallest park type, addresses limited recreation need. Provides close to home recreation. Requires high level of maintenance associated with well-developed park and playground and high visitation.
 - ii. **Neighborhood Parks** – Focus of neighborhood; in walking/biking distance of visitors. Provides access to basic recreation opportunities. Contributes to neighborhood identity. Establishes sense of community. Requires high level of maintenance associated with well-developed park and reasonably high visitation.
 - iii. **Regional/Community Parks** – Large park for active and passive recreation; serves residents municipality-wide. Accommodates large groups. Variety of recreation opportunities for all ages and interests. Space for organized, large scale, high participation events, family destination with fitness and wellness opportunities. Requires moderate level of maintenance associated with moderate level of development, budget restrictions, inability to perform higher levels of maintenance. Potential for park “friends” or adopt a-park-partner.
 - iv. **Natural Preserve** – An area of land that is managed to conserve wildlife or plant habitat or other natural features. Protects resources. Provides opportunities for environmental education. Requires lower level of maintenance.
- b. **Natural Areas** – Also referred to as “Natural Environments” are designated areas for naturalizing a park area to serve as a green feature or a green stormwater sustainable infrastructure. Different types of Natural Areas include the following:
 - i. **Low-mow planted meadow** – designated area purposefully planted with native grass, forbe, and wildflower seed to provide food sources and

habitat for wildlife and pollinators. Low-mow planted meadow may serve as an effective strategy to help improve stormwater management in appropriate settings. Typically mowed once per year in the Fall after the first frost. Requires labor and monetary resources.

- ii. **Low-mow meadow** - designated area where existing site vegetation (turf grass) remains in place to provide habitat for wildlife and pollinators. Typically mowed twice per year, once prior to April 1st and again in the Fall after the first frost.
- iii. **No-mow planted meadow** – designated area purposefully planted with native grass, forbe, and wildflower seed to provide food sources and habitat for wildlife and pollinators. No-mow planted meadows may serve as an effective strategy to help improve stormwater management in appropriate settings. Typically mowed once every 3-4 years to control woody vegetation.
- iv. **No-mow meadow** – designated area where existing site vegetation (turf grass) is left in place to provide habitat for wildlife and pollinators. Typically mowed once every 3-4 years to control woody vegetation.
- v. **Grow Zone** – refers to all types of meadows, with native seed mix plantings or natural vegetation growth,
- vi. **Pollinator gardens** - designated area that is planted with specific plant types beneficial to pollinators in a designed garden. Used for demonstration and educational purposes. Typically requires ongoing maintenance including weeding, mulching, trimming, plant care.
- vii. **Pollinator plots** - designated area planted with wildflower seed to provide food sources and habitat specifically for pollinators. Typically mowed once per year in the Fall after the first frost.
- viii. **Rain garden** - an excavated shallow surface depression planted with specifically selected native vegetation to treat and capture stormwater runoff. Requires ongoing maintenance including weeding, trimming, mulching, and sediment removal as defined in the approved plan. If constructed as a stormwater feature related to a stormwater management site plan, it cannot be modified from design without revising the approved plan.

- ix. **Vegetative buffers** - may naturally form or through a comprehensive landscape design, proper plant selection and arrangement is determined for a designated area. Typically located near a property line or waterways consisting of trees, shrubs, and other woody vegetation. Healthy vegetated buffers are used as a screen between adjacent properties to control line of sight and mitigate sound and wind. Provides wildlife habitat and may serve as an effective strategy to improve stormwater management in the appropriate setting. Typically, little to no maintenance needed once established.

 - x. **Infiltration basin** - a shallow impoundment that stores and infiltrates stormwater runoff over a level, uncompacted, (preferably undisturbed area) with relatively permeable soils. Designed with low maintenance vegetation that gets maintained as defined in the approved plan. If constructed as a stormwater feature related to a stormwater management site plan, it cannot be modified from design without revising the approved plan.

 - xi. **Detention basin** - an earthen structure constructed either by impoundment of a natural depression or excavation of existing soil that provides temporary storage of stormwater runoff to attenuate stormwater runoff peak rates. Designed with various vegetative cover that get maintained as defined in the approved plan. If constructed as a stormwater feature related to a stormwater management site plan, it cannot be modified from design without revising the approved plan.

 - xii. **Tree canopy preservation** – an area of existing trees in close proximity to impervious areas that are preserved for the purpose of managing stormwater. Maintenance of the trees is to be in accordance with the approved plan. If preserved as a stormwater feature related to a stormwater management site plan, the preservation area cannot be modified without revising the approved plan.

 - xiii. **Natural filter/buffer** – a wide natural downstream drainageway that is protected from disturbance by development for the purpose of filtering and recharging stormwater runoff. Designed with various vegetative cover that get maintained as defined in the approved plan. If preserved as a stormwater feature related to a stormwater management site plan, it cannot be modified from design without revising the approved plan.
- c. **Undeveloped area** – an area within the park that is not for active use.

- d. **Future phase of development** – a designated area within the park planned to be develop in a future phase of development.

III. Pre-Planning and Assessment for Integrating Natural Areas

- a. Ferguson Township parks are frequently evaluated to determine if naturalizing a park area would benefit the park setting, expand or enhance habitat areas, and/or provide a sustainable landscape.
- b. Various site conditions have an impact on determining the most appropriate natural area practices available, or how a specific practice must be adapted to meet the physical constraints of the site. Examples include location, soil conditions, space availability or size and shape of existing parkland or land slated for park redevelopment, the need to integrate green stormwater infrastructure practices into existing landscape features and existing site features such as utilities, structures, mature trees, or other existing natural resources and rights-of-way.
- c. **Funding**
- d. **Community Involvement**

IV. Process for Integrating Natural Areas into Appropriate Park Areas

- a. To identify and/or determine facilities, improvements, and appropriate park areas that shall be considered suitable for conversion to a natural environment, an established multidisciplinary team approach is required as part of the park planning process. Integrating natural environments for green sustainable infrastructure into existing parks, expanded parks and new park sites is accomplished through a park assessment and planning process or through the development of a Park Master Plan.
- b. The park assessment and planning process may be initiated following a citizen request, staff recommendation, Parks and Recreation Committee recommendation or is directed by the Township Manager or Board of Supervisors. The park assessment and planning process reviews Township Parks and considers the needs and interests of visitors, appropriateness of facilities, potential need for green stormwater facilities, and opportunities to integrate naturalized areas and functional improvements and consideration is given to any issues that need addressed.
- c. All requests and recommendations shall be submitted for review by completing the online Ferguson Township Parks and Recreation (FTPR) Request Form for Green Infrastructure. The form is received by the Manager and Assistant to the

Manager and will initiate the formal park assessment and planning process review. Requests submitted by May 1 of each year provides ample time to evaluate, determine if request or recommendation is feasible, and plan as well as budget appropriately for work to be done the following year. Requests received after May 1 will not be considered until the following year.

- i.** Requests or recommendations for a natural area to be integrated into an existing park or part of new park shall be reviewed first by the Township Manager to evaluate the nature of the request or recommendation to confirm or deny that the scope of work is within the purview of the Township.
 - 1.** If the scope of the work is not within the purview of the Township, the Manager will dismiss the request or recommendation;
 - 2.** If the scope of work is within the purview of the Township, the Manager will require the formal process as outlined in this policy for integrating natural areas into appropriate park settings and initiate the process for review.
- ii.** Ferguson Township Manager or Assistant to the Manager, Arborist, Geographic Information System (GIS) Technician will coordinate with CRPR Parks Maintenance Supervisor to attend a field view to observe, discuss and list the opportunities to naturalize non-programmed park areas based on request or recommendation;
- iii.** Parks and Recreation Committee reviews and discusses the request/recommendation and the list of opportunities to naturalize park areas to generate conceptual idea(s) to be mapped in a site development drawing;
- iv.** FT GIS Technician will prepare a site development map that illustrates the natural area location within the park to be reviewed and accepted, or request for changes until accepted, by the Parks and Recreation Committee;
- v.** Parks and Recreation Committee provides a recommendation for the Board of Supervisors to accept and approve for staff to implement the natural area with an observational period of 6 months;
 - 1.** A minimum of four signs will be posted at the site as part of implementation;
 - 2.** The public is encouraged to provide input in the form of an opinion survey available in print form in the office or online;

3. Five months after the site feature has been developed in the park setting, the Board of Supervisors will opinion survey results and staff input to take action at a regular meeting to conclude the six months observational period.
- vi. At a Regular Meeting, the Board of Supervisors will take action to 1) authorize advertisement of a resolution to approve a map with the natural area as a new site feature on the park plan, or 2) propose an amendment, direct staff to update the map and advertise a resolution at a future meeting after repeating steps 4(d)iii to 4(d)vi.; or 3) deny the request.

V. Work Plan Based on Maintenance Standards

DRAFT

FT Parks & Recreation Committee and Ferguson Township Staff

Attendance: Norris Muth, Chairman of Parks and Recreation Committee; Bill Keough, Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority Representative; Dave Pribulka, Township Manager; Centrice Martin, Assistant to the Manager.

1. Definitions. In the definitions there is mention of “high level, moderate level, low level maintenance” Need to consider defining or describing what high vs. low level maintenance means.
2. Definitions. Park Classifications - Regional/Community Parks.
 - a. Bill prefers “Requires mixed levels of maintenance between high use event areas and more natural passive park areas,” and references Oak Hall to illustrate the example.
3. Recommends referencing and defining in the policy a maintenance plan. Potential for Ferguson Township Green Infrastructure Policy to be a model as other Townships consider an infrastructure policy as per the Regional Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan. Consider working with Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) on this effort.
4. Definitions. Natural Areas.
 - a. Inquired about the definitions listed in (section b) to better understand how these terms were identified and applied to the existing and future infrastructure. Specifically pointed out that these definitions that give reference to “requires low level of maintenance,” but does not define the maintenance plan. Discussed how there were communications with the Assistant to the Manager, Township Arborist and Township Engineer, to identify and include definitions to be included in this policy to be used in designated to describe existing and future infrastructure that potentially may be a good fit for any Township park. Definitions were included to classify or designate each type of existing and future infrastructures that allow residents, staff, and the Board. Having consistent language helps with outreach to residents and assist with basic understanding and expectation with facilitating a request to designate a green infrastructure.
5. Suggestion to include annual survey to identify and remove invasive species to help identify and remove invasive species. Natural areas have weed patches. Concerns that by declaring a piece of property as low/no-mow meadow will create problems if work is not done to kill off all-natural growth and will require a maintenance plan. Norris expressed concern with the hygiene or effort taken to prevent the spread of invasive species from park to park. Norris noted he has little concern with new vegetative issues popping up as a result of designating low/no-mow areas. Problems that current exists may just continue to be a problem and suggest the focus be on weeds. Some people observe weedy vegetative and believe its invasive and really its just nonnative. Whatever vegetation it is, all things will require some level of maintenance which is specified is outlined in this document. There is not a one size fits all. If you let things go too long, then it does become a problem. There is not concern that this policy will create new problems it may just make easier to see existing problems. Bill referenced Oak Hall to illustrate concerns to be considered. Lots of invasive that are real problematic. Consensus is to ensure this POLICY

FT Parks & Recreation Committee and Ferguson Township Staff

obligates the establishment of a maintenance plan as these different low-mow no-mow landscapes are identified. Discussed how the circumstances of parks there bring all things to consider; for example, the Township is responding to a complaint from a family with a child with allergies as a result to the low-mow area at Tudek Park.

- a. Moving forward will be sure to include a section or reference a maintenance plan in the policy.
6. Definitions. Natural Areas. Rain Gardens. Vegetative Buffers. Concerns that the policy includes a definition for a feature primarily for private landowners and less likely a feature of Township parks.
 7. Definition. Natural Areas. Infiltration basin. Inquired and discussed the need to include stormwater infrastructure in the policy. Discussed how we need to identify the definition as in current stormwater facilities the Township has converted stormwater facility to a stormwater facility with a low-mow area planted with native seed mix to help with stormwater management. The definition is included in the policy not to promote or encourage but to help identify the functionality and purpose of the stormwater facility and how, for example, a low-mow planted meadow will be designated within a basin facility that aims to improve stormwater management. It is understood that a stormwater facility such as an infiltration basin or detention basin has a very prescribed maintenance that will be followed for managing the infrastructure.
 8. Suggestion to either add the term “Parks” after each ‘Natural Areas’ or emphasize in the explanation or definition of ‘Natural Areas’
 9. Pre-Planning and Assessment for Integrating Natural Areas. Remove the word “frequently”
 10. Pre-Planning and Assessment for Integrating Natural Areas – Funding. Interest in discussing and exploring funding strategies.
 11. Pre-Planning and Assessment for Integrating Natural Areas – Community Involvement. Explore and consider recommendations within the Centre Region Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan.
 12. Tracking and Management of this policy. Piloting the process for integrating natural areas into park areas will involve a collaborative approach. Support from FT staff including administration office, Arborist, Park Authority and Centre Region Parks and Recreation. Consideration will be given to how previous efforts including the designation of Grow Zone project at Fairbrook, low-mow planting meadow in the stormwater facility at Haymarket Park, for example, will serve as a point of reference as staff implements this policy.

Centre Region Parks and Recreation and Ferguson Township Staff

Attendance: Pam Salakangos, Centre Region Parks and Recreation Director; Jim Carpetner; Dave Pribulka, Township Manager; Centrice Martin, Assistant to the Manager.

1. Park Classifications. Mini park type. In park classifications there is reference to “mini” as a park type. Discussed the parks classification and the parks that fall in this category. In the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Plan, Meadow Park and Park Hills are both categorized as “mini” park types.
2. Park Classifications – Nature Preserve. In park classification there is reference to “Nature Preserve” as a park type. Confirmed that Songbird Sanctuary park is in this classification.
3. Natural Areas. Inquired about the definitions listed (in section b) to understand how the terms were developed and applied to the existing and future infrastructure. The expressed interest was focused on the need to distinguish or better define the level of maintenance involved to discuss and explore who would be responsible for maintenance and how that decision would be made during the review process prior to issuing any approval.
4. Recommends referencing and defining in the policy a maintenance plan. Potential for Ferguson Township Green Infrastructure Policy to be a model as other Townships consider an infrastructure policy as per the Regional Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan. Consider working with Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) on this effort.
5. Definitions. Natural Areas.
 - a. Inquired about the definitions listed in (section b) to better understand how these terms were identified and applied to the existing and future infrastructure. Specifically pointed out that these definitions that give reference to “requires low level of maintenance,” but does not define the maintenance plan. Discussed how there were communications with the Assistant to the Manager, Township Arborist and Township Engineer, to identify and include definitions to be included in this policy to be used in designated to describe existing and future infrastructure that potentially may be a good fit for any Township park. Definitions were included to classify or designate each type of existing and future infrastructures that allow residents, staff, and the Board. Having consistent language helps with outreach to residents and assist with basic understanding and expectation with facilitating a request to designate a green infrastructure.
6. Suggestion to include annual survey to identify and remove invasive species to help identify and remove invasive species. Natural areas have weed patches. Concerns that by declaring a piece of property as low/no-mow meadow will create problems if work is not done to kill off all-natural growth and will require a maintenance plan. Norris expressed concern with the hygiene or effort taken to prevent the spread of invasive species from park to park. Norris noted he has little concern with new vegetative issues popping up as a result of designating low/no-mow areas. Problems

Centre Region Parks and Recreation and Ferguson Township Staff

that current exists may just continue to be a problem and suggest the focus be on weeds. Some people observe weedy vegetative and believe its invasive and really its just nonnative. Whatever vegetation it is, all things will require some level of maintenance which is specified is outlined in this document. There is not a one size fits all. If you let things go too long, then it does become a problem. There is not concern that this policy will create new problems it may just make easier to see existing problems. Bill referenced Oak Hall to illustrate concerns to be considered. Lots of invasive that are real problematic. Consensus is to ensure this POLICY obligates the establishment of a maintenance plan as these different low-mow no-mow landscapes are identified. Discussed how the circumstances of parks there bring all things to consider; for example, the Township is responding to a complaint from a family with a child with allergies as a result to the low-mow area at Tudek Park.

- a. Moving forward will be sure to include a section or reference a maintenance plan in the policy.
7. Definitions. Natural Areas. Rain Gardens. Vegetative Buffers. Concerns that the policy includes a definition for a feature primarily for private landowners and less likely a feature of Township parks.
8. Definition. Natural Areas. Infiltration basin. Inquired and discussed the need to include stormwater infrastructure in the policy. Discussed how we need to identify the definition as in current stormwater facilities the Township has converted stormwater facility to a stormwater facility with a low-mow area planted with native seed mix to help with stormwater management. The definition is included in the policy not to promote or encourage but to help identify the functionality and purpose of the stormwater facility and how, for example, a low-mow planted meadow will be designated within a basin facility that aims to improve stormwater management. It is understood that a stormwater facility such as an infiltration basin or detention basin has a very prescribed maintenance that will be followed for managing the infrastructure.
9. Suggestion to either add the term "Parks" after each 'Natural Areas' or emphasize in the explanation or definition of 'Natural Areas'
10. Pre-Planning and Assessment for Integrating Natural Areas. Remove the word "frequently"
11. Pre-Planning and Assessment for Integrating Natural Areas – Funding. Interest in discussing and exploring funding strategies.
12. Pre-Planning and Assessment for Integrating Natural Areas – Community Involvement. Explore and consider recommendations within the Centre Region Comprehensive Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan.
13. Tracking and Management of this policy. Piloting the process for integrating natural areas into park areas will involve a collaborative approach. Support from FT staff including administration office, Arborist, Park Authority and Centre Region Parks and Recreation. Consideration will be given to how previous efforts including the

Centre Region Parks and Recreation and Ferguson Township Staff

designation of Grow Zone project at Fairbrook, low-mow planting meadow in the stormwater facility at Haymarket Park, for example, will serve as a point of reference as staff implements this policy.

Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors Meeting

Attendance: Steve Miller; Laura Dininni; Lisa Strickland; Presenjit Mitra; Patty Stephens; Dave Pribulka, Township Manager; Centrice Martin, Assistant to the Manager.

1. Natural Areas. Noted that there is some potential overlap in the terminology. The example provided was the Grow Zones in Fairbrook Park might also be consider low-mow. Inquired if “Grow Zone” is synonymous with “Natural Areas”.
2. Natural Areas. Inquired if the plan is just for green infrastructure in parks and does not include mowing on roads.
3. Park Classifications. Recommends removing “Regional Parks” from the policy. Originally suggested separating out “regional” and “community” parks.
4. Definitions. Infiltration Basin. Asked for clarification on what an “Approved Plan” was and the process
5. Definitions. Low-mow Meadow. Suggested changing of mowing the low-mow planted meadow to a 1/3 every year rather than once every three years.
6. Process for Integrating Natural Areas into Appropriate Park Areas.
 - a. Inquired what kinds of work would not be within the purview of the Township (section i). The Haymarket Park basin was referenced due to other stakeholders having to get involved. An example of the need for stakeholders to get involved was if a basin was accepting runoff from private developments.
 - b. Suggested that natural areas do not always need four signs (section v) for educational purposes.
7. There was a comment that Saybrook Park has a lot growth, possibly invasive but if it was intentionally planted.