

TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

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www.twp.ferguson.pa.us

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE Meeting Agenda Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:00 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83725986340>

Meeting ID: 837 2598 6340

[Zoom Access Instructions](#)

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. CITIZEN'S INPUT

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. REPORT ON THE RECREATION, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE PLAN UPDATE

Narrative

The Board of Supervisors awarded the HRG contract to update the Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan (RPOS). The HRG team joins us to discuss the previously scheduled park site visits, the RPOS Plan Update Engagement Station held on Saturday, November 7, as part of the Winter Market at the Rivet event as well as present on next steps. Provided with the agenda packet is a copy of HRG's agenda for this meeting. Ferguson Township's website will be updated regularly with progress updates to keep the public informed and engaged in the process to update the RPOS Plan webpage: <https://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/ferguson-township-parks/pages/recreation-parks-and-open-space-plan>

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee *receive the updates on the RPOS Plan Update from HRG.*

2. BOARD REQUEST – PLACEMENT OPTIONS FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT PURCHASED FOR HOMESTEAD PARK

Narrative

The master plan for Homestead Park includes additional playground equipment placed in the northern part of the park. At a Regular Meeting, held on September 20, 2021, the Board of Supervisors received this committee's recommendation for playground equipment and the cost estimate of the new playground equipment for Homestead Park. The Board approved the purchase of the recommended playground equipment which has already been purchased and delivered. Staff received emails opposing the playground equipment installation proposed for the suggested location mid to late October. A petition to halt the construction of the additional playground equipment was signed by 22 residents. The Board did not take any action after receiving the petition and the citizen input from four (4) residents expressed concerns with the purchased playground equipment. The Manager suggested

the Parks and Recreation Committee consider alternative placement options with associated cost for the purchased playground equipment. Provided with the agenda are alternative placement options with associated costs. The committee is asked to consider the approved plan for the playground equipment location that is consistent what is envisioned on the master plan and proposed alternative placement options to determine the best possible option for a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

Recommended motion: That the Committee make a recommendation on the placement option, number _____, for the playground equipment to the Township Manager.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee **recommend** to the Township Manager one of the proposed placement options with associated costs for the playground equipment purchased for Homestead Park.

3. PROPOSED STENCIL KIDS FOR AUTUMNWOOD PARK AND FAIRBROOK PARK

Narrative

Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) proposes Stencil Kits for the regional park system to add activity opportunities for children, youth, and families at various park sites. CRPR proposes Autumnwood Park and Fairbrook Park as locations for stencils to be placed on basketball courts or paved walking paths. The stencils would be installed and maintained by CRPR Parks Operations department and installation would occur throughout the fall of 2021 and spring of 2022. Provided with this agenda is a memo from CRPR Director Pam Salokangas that provides information on the grant program that funds the purchase of the stencil kits along with the type of paint used and visuals of the Stencil Kits.

*Recommended motion: That the Committee **recommend** the installation and maintenance of the proposed Stencil Kit at Autumnwood Park and Fairbrook Park to the Township Manager.*

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee **review and recommend** Centre Region Park and Recreation request to install and maintain the proposed Stencil Kits at Autumnwood Park and Fairbrook Park.

4. CENTRE REGION PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE REQUEST - LITTLE FREE LIBRARY AT AUTUMNWOOD PARK

Narrative

A resident emailed Township and Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) to express concerns with the condition of the Little Free Library at Autumnwood Park. In 2013, this resident purchased the kit that was then installed by Ferguson Township and CRPR. He maintained the over the years but during the pandemic he was unable to do that. Recently, he used FlexTape to cover exposed nails/splinters and waterproof it after observing its current condition. The Assistant Township Manager and CRPR discussed this item prior to the Assistant Township Manager following up with Mr. Robinette to inform him that he desires a replacement, CRPR will replace for him should he desire to purchase another kit. The resident was also reminded that Little Free Library's are to be maintained by the donor or he could consider an alternative option which is to have the library adopted by someone else going forward.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee **receive** the update on the Little Free Library at Autumnwood Park.

5. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARK ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Narrative

At a Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting on December 7, 2020, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to research information and report back to the Board information related to the Township's participation in the Council of Government Centre Region Parks and Recreation Program. A park assessment is prioritized as an actionable step to achieve Goal 1 and Goal 9 in the Ferguson Township Strategic Plan (2017). Interdepartmental staff have met throughout the year to examine resources invested to conduct the existing services and service levels currently facilitated by the Township as well as identify resources needed to provide any additional services. The Assistant Township Manager met with Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) Director to discuss existing services and service levels facilitated by their agency. A scenario-based approach is proposed to develop a cost-benefit analysis for the Board for them to compare the estimated cost of providing services in-house verses being a participant in the Council of Government Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency. This Park assessment update presentation was provided to the Board of Supervisors on November 1, 2021.

Most Park operations, maintenance, programming and recreational public services and service levels require resources including personnel, equipment, and storage that are currently managed and maintained by CRPR. Ferguson Township Administration, Public Works, and Planning and Zoning Departments work together to identify and budget for capital projects or initiatives, as well as assist CRPR when repairs are time-sensitive or involve a safety hazard that the Ferguson Township Public Works Crew are better equipped to address. This item is for information is informational only and no action is requested of the committee at this time. The Board of Supervisors are holding a worksession scheduled for November 30th to further discuss each scenario and evaluate projected costs associated.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee *receive* the update.

V. REPORTS

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

VI. OPEN DISCUSSION

VII. ADJOURNMENT

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, September 16, 2021

4:00 P.M.

I. ATTENDANCE

The Parks and Recreation Committee held its regular meeting on Thursday, September 16, 2021, via ZOOM in attendance were:

Committee:

Norris Muth- Chairperson-Absent
Tessa Antolick- Vice Chair
Jerry Learn-Secretary
Dr. Shawna Doerksen
Connie Puckett
Bill Keough
Rob DeMayo
Rick Tetzlaff-Absent

Staff:

Centrice Martin, Assistant Manager
Summer Brown, Recording Secretary
David Pribulka, Township Manager

Others in attendance: Thomas Ambrosia, Ferguson Township Resident; Nichole Mendinsky, HRG Representative; Tracy Strickland, HRG Representative; Laura Dininni, Ferguson Township Resident; BOS member; and Doug Lovisky, Ferguson Township resident.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Tessa Antolick called the Thursday, September 16, 2021 Park and Recreation meeting to order at 4:0 pm.

III. CITIZEN'S INPUT

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Antolick called for a motion to approve the August 19, 2021 minutes. Ms. Connie Puckett moved to approve the minutes, Dr. Shawna Doerksen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. REPORT ON THE RECREATION, PARKS, AND OPEN SPACE PLAN UPDATE

Ms. Tracy Strickland stated that the most recent update is that the HRG team plans to visit multiple parks and assess them. Ms. Strickland asked the Committee if HRG should do this alone or if members would like to attend. Ms. Antolick stated that if the team lets the members know when they will be doing the tours they will be able to attend if they are free. HRG representatives talked to Committee members regarding community engagements/community activities they can attend to engage stakeholders. Ms. Mendinsky stated that the Committee will receive materials to review and a calendar of events before the next meeting.

2. SONGBIRD SANCTURARY PARK MASTER PLAN

Ms. Centrice Martin stated that staff has put together a masterplan for Songbird Sanctuary. Ms. Martin noted that staff received community and neighborhood feedback. The Committee reviewed the plan and provided comments. Some concerns regarding providing more ADA accessibility and designation were discussed. The Committee also discussed placement of areas such as the pollinator garden.

3. INTRODUCTION OF CECIL IRVIN PARK – PROPOSED PHASE 2.1 FOR COMMENT

The Committee discussed the proposed phase 2.1 of Cecil Irvin Park which includes parking, amphitheatre, and walking paths. Ms. Martin stated that staff would like the Committee to

provide comment. These comments will go to the Township Engineer who will prepare a cost estimate. Once a cost estimate is finished this phase project can be added to the budget. Mr. Pribulka stated that in regards to the amphitheatre he would like to see as little demo as possible and a little structure with grass seating. Ms. Dininni stated that there is a lot of value in making sure the speakers face the fields and not the homes as some people will not like the noise. Mr. Thomas Ambrosia a home owner that abuts the park asked about the walking path location and if the path be elevated because there is a rain water pipe. Mr. Pribulka stated that if the path stays where it's located a culvert would be placed and maintained by the Township. Mr. Ambrosia also asked if the Township expects full utilization of an amphitheatre and asked the Township. Mr. Doug Lovsicky a home owner that abuts the park asked if the neighborhood will be engaged for the masterplan. Ms. Martin stated that community engagement and comment is a very necessary and important aspect in doing this and anyone in the public can attend these meetings.

VI. REPORTS

1. STAFF REPORT

Included in agenda. Committee had no questions.

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

Mr. Bill Keough stated that the Authority will be rebidding the pool project to refurbish pools in the spring all bids that were received were over budget.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Muth entertained a motion to adjourn the Thursday, September 16, 2021 Parks and Recreation meeting at 6:00 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JERRY LEARN, SECRETARY
FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Homestead park new playground equipment

Lynn Saxton <lynnie5251@gmail.com>

Sun 10/31/2021 2:51 PM

To: Martin, Centrice <cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us>

Dear Centrice,

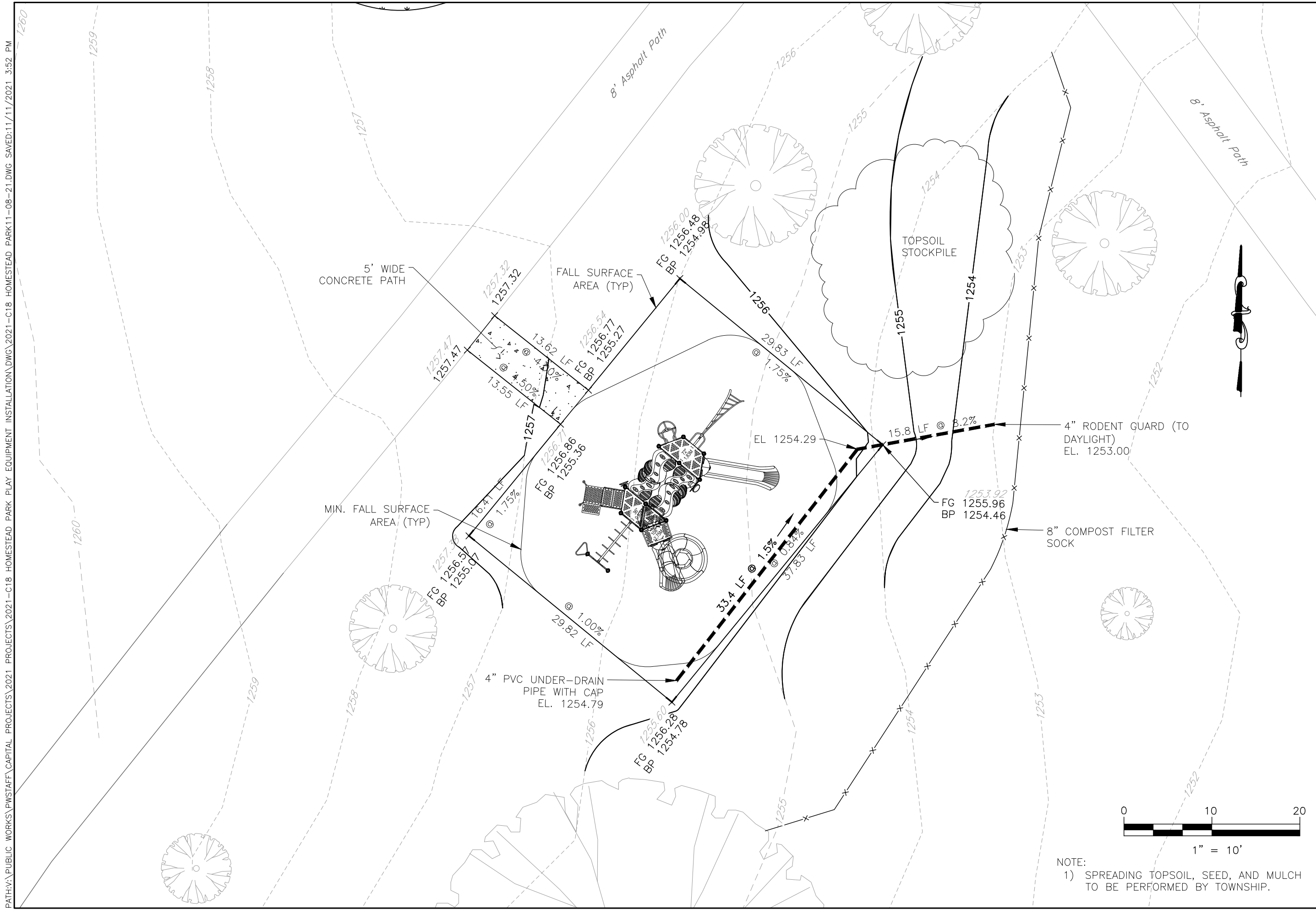
I am grateful that new playground equipment will be installed in Homestead Park. In the spring of 2021 I reached out to say that I hope new equipment will be considered and will be accessible. I have a granddaughter who uses a walker and the current equipment in Homestead Park makes her feel like a bystander.

I'm specifically concerned about the surface of the new area. Wood chips are inaccessible for a child with a walker or wheelchair. The surface like that at the Airport Playground are accessible and inclusive for "differently abled" children. It offers accessibility and inclusion. Also, the large circular surfaced swings are safe and secure for children who can't safely sit on typical swings.

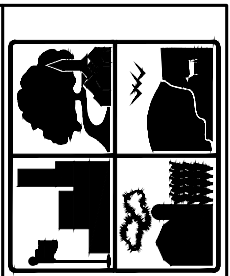
Please make this a playground for all children. All of them deserve a place to play and move around safely. Let Ferguson Township be a leader, a place that goes beyond minimum requirements.

Thank you

Lynn Saxton



PATH:\PUBLIC WORKS\PWSTAFF\CAPITAL PROJECTS\2021 PROJECTS\2021-C18 HOMESTEAD PARK PLAY EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION\DWG\2021-C18 HOMESTEAD PARK11-08-21.DWG. SAVED:11/11/2021 3:52 PM

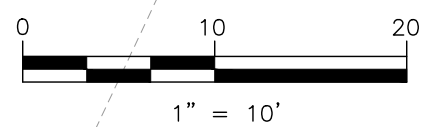


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 3147 RESEARCH DRIVE
 STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801
 PHONE: 814-238-4651
 FAX: 814-238-3454
 www.twp.ferguson.pa.us

REV.	DATE

HOMESTEAD PARK
 CONTRACT 2021-C18

PLAN



NOTE:
 1) SPREADING TOPSOIL, SEED, AND MULCH TO BE PERFORMED BY TOWNSHIP.

Homestead park new playground equipment

Lynn Saxton <lynnie5251@gmail.com>

Sun 10/31/2021 2:51 PM

To: Martin, Centrice <cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us>

Dear Centrice,

I am grateful that new playground equipment will be installed in Homestead Park. In the spring of 2021 I reached out to say that I hope new equipment will be considered and will be accessible. I have a granddaughter who uses a walker and the current equipment in Homestead Park makes her feel like a bystander.

I'm specifically concerned about the surface of the new area. Wood chips are inaccessible for a child with a walker or wheelchair. The surface like that at the Airport Playground are accessible and inclusive for "differently abled" children. It offers accessibility and inclusion. Also, the large circular surfaced swings are safe and secure for children who can't safely sit on typical swings.

Please make this a playground for all children. All of them deserve a place to play and move around safely. Let Ferguson Township be a leader, a place that goes beyond minimum requirements.

Thank you

Lynn Saxton

Re: Additional Playground at Farmstead Park

Martin, Centrice <cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us>

Thu 10/21/2021 6:45 AM

To: jam assadina <juscol@aol.com>

Hello, Dr. Assadina:

Thank you for your time to thoroughly describe your thoughts on the playground equipment installation at Homestead Park during our phone conversation Tuesday afternoon. Yes, your comments were shared with the Township Manager David Pribulka and will also be shared with the Parks and Recreation Committee at their next meeting in November. Mr. Pribulka may be reached at 814-238-4651 or by email at dpribulka@twp.ferguson.pa.us.

As promised, I do want to provide you with Township information on serving on the Authorities, Board, or Commission including the Parks and Recreation Committee. Click, [here](#), to view the webpage for more information.

Or please be encouraged to participate and engage at the Parks and Recreation Committee meetings. More information on that committee may be found by clicking [here](#). While the playground equipment installation at Homestead Park has been decided and approved to move forward, please consider yourself an empowered resident to get involved and engage with regular feedback for this park and all Township parks.

The Parks and Recreation Committee currently meets at 4pm every third Thursday of each month unless the Chair determines there are no agenda items and cancels the meeting. Agenda packets are posted on the webpage and may be accessed by clicking [here](#). And, lastly, I want to invite you to peruse the '[Stay Informed](#)' webpage and the Constant Contact email listserv we've created to send specific topics of interest directly to subscribers. Click, [here](#), to explore and opt into email lists that are of interest.

Again, I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to talk with you and will remain available to further discuss additional amenities you propose for Homestead Park.

Thank you,
Centrice

Centrice Martin
Assistant Township Manager
Ferguson Township
Centre County, PA
tel: [814.238.4651](tel:814.238.4651)
fax: [814.238.3454](tel:814.238.3454)

Notice: All Township employee email may be subject to public disclosure under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Right to Know Act.

On Oct 20, 2021, at 5:45 PM, jam assadina <juscol@aol.com> wrote:

Hi Centrice,

Thank you for taking the time to talk about your plans for Homestead Park. As a follow up, I am wondering if you had an opportunity to discuss the matter with your superior?

Please let me know how I may be able to reach him directly and further discuss our concerns about what is being planned at our park?

Kindly,

Jim Assadinia DDS
814-360-4345

Re: [Ferguson Township PA] Meeting About Proposed Playground for Homestead (Sent by Tobin Short, theshortgroup@comcast.net)

theshortgroup <theshortgroup@comcast.net>

Tue 11/2/2021 7:58 PM

To: Martin, Centrice <cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us>

Cc: Heaney and Cook Peter and Kim <kdc3@psu.edu>

Ms. Martin -

Thank-you for the information and follow up. I attended the meeting and made two points to the Board of Supervisors that I'd like to pass along to my Ferguson Parks and Recreation representatives.

First I was very unhappy that the playground plan for Homestead Park had escaped my notice. I take pride in keeping up with, and participating in, local land use decisions. I try to keep up with the township newsletter and I don't recall seeing reading anything about it there. I've seen no signage in the park itself about the proposal. The Supervisors made much of a postcard survey that they sent out that I also do not recall (possibly misidentified as junk mail?). Could you please send me an attachment or the text of the survey? Maybe it would jog my memory.

Second, I am all for upgrading or expanding the existing Homestead playground BUT I agree with all my neighbors who signed the petition of concern about significant new construction in a problematic location. (Where would that put me on the survey?) Homestead is a small park. Cutting it up into too many special use areas will significantly degrade its attractiveness. Reconfiguring the current playground area, and taking advantage of the existing infrastructure such as the parking lot, porta-potty, pavilion, water fountain and ADA access is a no-brainer. Who then would think it is a good idea to carve out an uphill corner of the the park that has standing water and none of the amenities above? Beyond a survey (about... the concept?) was there any community input on design and implementation?

Homestead is a community catalyst. We hold an annual neighborhood potluck in the pavilion, meet and greet each other walking our dogs or jogging on the perimeter track, we play both organized and family sports on the youth soccer field and surrounding green space. There is the basketball court and, of course, the playground. In the 20 years I've lived adjacent to the park I have gotten a very good idea of its use: by the daycare center across the street, as mid-day play breaks for local preschoolers and their caretakers, an after-school hangout for teens (who like to sit side-by-side on the swings and talk), and many siblings waiting for their older brothers and sisters playing soccer.

We all take the preservation and maintenance of our park very seriously and we'd appreciate the chance to assist in tailoring the playground installation to our needs.

Thank-you,

Tobin Short

cc: Ferguson Township Supervisors via website

> On Nov 1, 2021, at 9:18 AM, Martin, Centrice <cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us> wrote:

>

> Good Morning, Mr. Short:

- >
- > Thank you for writing to Ferguson Township with interest in the new playground equipment installation at Homestead Park. This discussion item was discussed and recommended by the Ferguson Township Parks and Recreation Committee at their monthly meeting held on August 19.
- >
- > The Board of Supervisors approved the contract to purchase the playground equipment on September 20. The playground equipment has been purchased with plans to have it installed by the end of this year.
- >
- > You are welcome to join the Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. this evening. You may find the meeting agenda with zoom meeting information included by clicking here.
- >
- > Please be encouraged to reach out should you have any additional questions or comments.
- >
- > Thank you,
- > Centrice
- >
- > Centrice Martin
- > Assistant Township Manager
- > Ferguson Township
- > tel: 814.238.4651
- > fax: 814.238.3454
- >
- > Connect with Ferguson Township!
- > <Outlook-keibekro.png> <Outlook-jovj5omu.png> <Outlook-gf2v13is.png> <Outlook-qfjsybus.png>
- > Subscribe to our e-newsletter!
- > <Outlook-ozwntkki.png>
- > Notice: All Township employee email may be subject to public disclosure under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Right to Know Act.
- > From: Contact form at Ferguson Township PA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
- > Sent: Sunday, October 31, 2021 5:34 PM
- > To: Martin, Centrice <cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us>
- > Subject: [Ferguson Township PA] Meeting About Proposed Playground for Homestead (Sent by Tobin Short, theshortgroup@comcast.net)
- >
- > Hello cmartin,
- > Tobin Short (theshortgroup@comcast.net) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/user/28/contact>) at Ferguson Township PA.
- > If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/user/28/edit>.
- > Message:
- > Sorry for the short notice but I just heard there will be a meeting to accept public input concerning plans for adding another playground to Homestead Park soon (Monday evening November 1)?
- > Could you please send me the date, time, location, agenda, etc. information for this meeting ASAP?
- > Thank-you,
- > Tobin Short
- > 1758 Cambridge Drive
- > Ferguson
- >

Homestead Park playground

George & Debbie Trudeau <trudeau4@comcast.net>

Tue 10/12/2021 4:24 PM

To: Martin, Centrice <cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us>

Hi Ms. Martin,

There is no need for a redundant Homestead Park playground to be located so close to folks backyards near the cul de sac. The current play area has the pavilion, parking and access to the port-a-potty. Save the money and use it instead to fix the drainage issue along the path or to replace the killer 6" thorn cluster locust tree on the east corner with something friendlier.

Sincerely,

Debra and George Trudeau

1755 Cambridge Dr.

Ferguson Twp.

814-404-7196

Homestead Park (playground equipment concern)

Cook, Kim Diane <kdc3@psu.edu>

Sun 10/10/2021 2:14 PM

To: Martin, Centrice <cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us>

Dear Ms. Martin,

We are concerned about the information we received in the Fall 2021 newsletter last week about the new playground equipment being installed at Homestead Park. Although we live directly behind this area, we (residents of Cambridge Dr.) did not receive any survey, nor anyone asking for our input about this issue. (nor did our neighbors) I have left three phone messages but have not heard back.

There are some negative issues with establishing a new playground.

1. There is already an established playground only a few yards away on the other side of the very small Homestead Park. This is too much equipment for this small area. Can the new equipment be added to the established area nstead of establishing a new area? There is also a more extensive playground at Park Hills park, less than a mile away, available to the entire area.
2. The park has some significant problems with drainage that have not yet been resolved by the township, in at least 4 areas of the park. There are at least 3 places that collect pools of standing water, encouraging the growth of mosquitos. One of the areas seems to be very near where this playground has been proposed. In the lower part of the park, the extra water causes hazardous ice to form on the walking path when it freezes. I would hope that these problems would have higher priority by the township than planning for additional playground equipment.
3. We would prefer to have some open space in the neighborhood. There are very few areas that are left open in this tiny park. The township has been planting trees which limits the open space that is available for families to set up badminton, or croquet, or just to enjoy the view from the pathway around the park.

I would appreciate it if the township would address the issues and put the playground equipment with the already established playground area. Please let me know what you might suggest for us to ensure that the neighbors' concerns are considered.

Thank you.

Kim Cook
814-574-2707

Homestead Park playground

Howard Bond <bond@stsci.edu>

Mon 10/11/2021 5:27 PM

To: Martin, Centrice <cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us>

Dear Ms. Martin,

We live on Cambridge Drive, just across the street from Homestead Park.

We were surprised to hear of a plan to install a new set of playground equipment not very far from our house. This seems unnecessary to us, because there is already a playground less than a one-minute walk away from the proposed site...which itself we only see being used occasionally. So the existing playground is more than adequate for the needs.

The proposed site also has poor drainage. After a significant rain storm, there is usually standing water there for a few days.

We hope this plan can be abandoned. There are plenty of other more pressing issues in Homestead Park, such as the muddy, poorly drained area just next to the picnic pavilion (and also a stagnant pool just across the sidewalk from the existing playground).

We enjoy this park very much, taking walks there nearly every day.

thanks,

Howard & Judy Bond

1775 Cambridge Dr

State College

heb11@psu.edu



MEMORANDUM

TO: Ms. Centrice Martin, Asst. Manager
Ferguson Township Parks and Recreation Committee

FROM: Pam Salokangas, Director, Centre Region Parks and Recreation
Jim Carpenter, Parks Manager, Centre Region Parks and Recreation

DATE: October 8, 2021

RE: Park Stencils

In late 2020, Centre Region Parks and Recreation applied for a Field of Interest grant from the Centre Foundation to purchase Stencil Kits for various Centre Region Parks. The Agency was awarded that grant and Agency Staff have recently purchased the Stencil Kits.

Due to higher use of our parks system due to the positive side effects of COVID-19 and the pandemic, Agency Staff wanted to add activity opportunities for children, youth, and families at various park sites where additional active engagement opportunities are needed. Therefore, we are proposing several park locations for stencils to be placed on basketball courts or paved walking paths. The stencils would be installed and maintained by our Parks Operations department and installation would occur throughout this fall and into the spring of 2022 since we are installing these across various parks.

For the Ferguson Township staff and Parks and Recreation Committee members, below are examples of the purchased stencils and the park locations, via photos, that we are suggesting. We would appreciate your feedback by the end of October so that we may take advantage of painting some of these this fall while the weather is warm enough to do so. We are hopeful that your group will be able to review this information at your October Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.

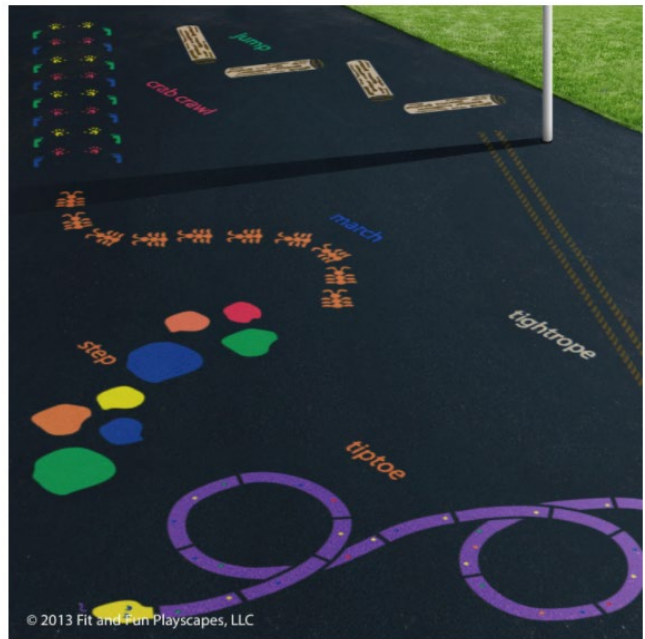
The type of paint used will be a traffic paint which will last under various weather conditions and will remain brighter longer than regular paint. The grant funds paid for the stencils' purchase along with some paint and our Gifts For Parks program will cover the remaining paint costs.

If you have additional questions, please let us know, and thank you for your consideration.

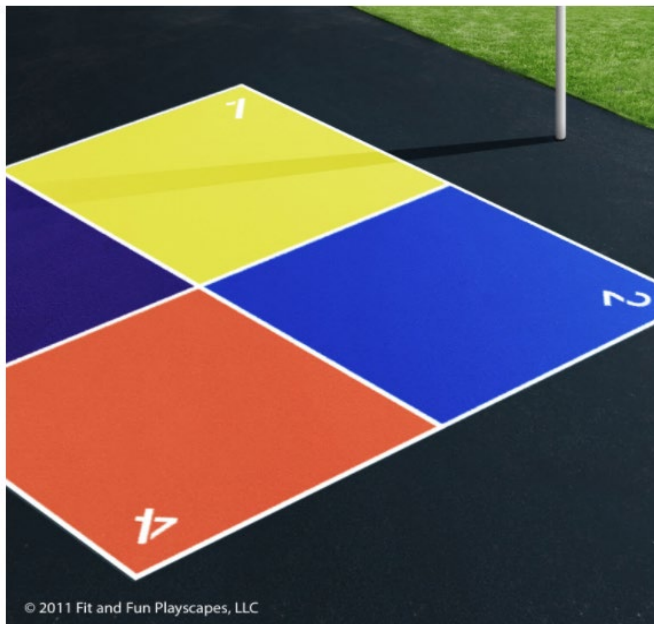
Stencil Kits



Dots for "Horse" at each basketball net



Nature Activity Mobility Circuit



Four Square



Playground Pond Activity Game

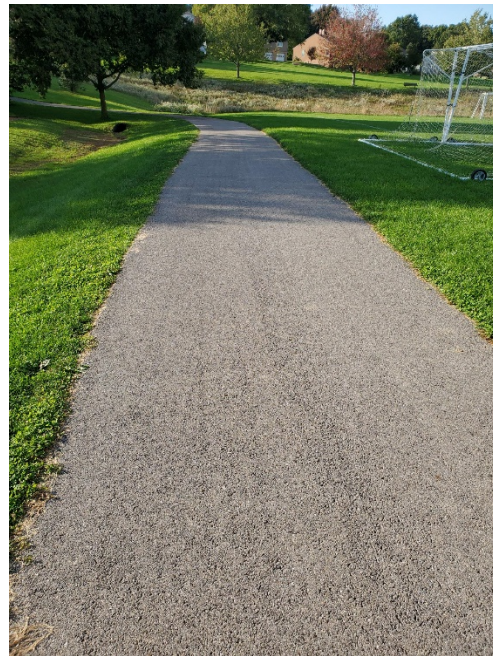
Ferguson Township Parks

Homestead Park



We are suggesting the installation of the “Horse” stencils at each end of the basketball court, one end will be a half-round configuration and one end will be a square configuration (left photo).

We are suggesting the installation of the Four Square stencil in the corner shown in the right photo, closest to the pavilion side of the court. Most everyone has a playground ball that can be used for Four Square.



We are suggesting the installation of the Nature Activity Circuit in the far corner of the basketball court, shown in the left photo, closest to the playground. No equipment is needed and this is a great motor skill activity on flat ground.

We are suggesting the installation of the Playground Pond Activity Game along the paved walking trail (shown in right photo); this section shown is closest to the pavilion and playground, and it can be utilized as children and/or families walk along this path. This game encourages children to act out the instructions based on the animal shown (ex.: hop like a frog, walk like a duck, etc.), all while enhancing and improving motor skills.

Autumnwood Park



We are suggesting the installation of the “Horse” stencils at each end of the basketball court, one end will be a half-round configuration and one end will be a square configuration (left photo).

We are suggesting the installation of the Four Square stencil in the corner shown in the right photo, closest to the side away from the trail.



We are suggesting the installation of the Nature Activity Circuit along the path between the pavilion and playground. It would start at the far end, near the playground climbers, and the stencils would come toward the swings.

We are suggesting the installation of the Playground Pond Activity Game along the paved walking trail (shown in left photo) as a continuation of the Nature Activity Circuit, and then have it curve into the path leading to the playground as shown in the right photo.

Question about the upkeep/maintenance of the 'Little Free Library' in Autumnwood Park

Robinett, Richard Wallace <rq9@psu.edu>

Tue 10/19/2021 7:18 PM

To: Jrwargo@twp.ferguson.pa.us <Jrwargo@twp.ferguson.pa.us>; Martin, Centrice <cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us>; Keough,Bill <bkeough@twp.ferguson.pa.us>; Ressler,Jeff <jressler@twp.ferguson.pa.us>; crpr@crcog.net <crpr@crcog.net>
Cc: Robinett, Richard Wallace <rq9@psu.edu>

 2 attachments (2 MB)

Autumnwood_Park_LFL_Info.pdf; Autumnwood_Park_LFL_Info.pdf;

Hello -- I apologize in advance for sending this email to so many of you listed as being in positions of leadership in Ferguson Township (or the generic CRPR email), but I wanted to make sure my offer was shared with the right offices.

By way of background, my name is Richard Robinett, a Ferguson Township resident (for about 20 years or so, living at 2296 Roylen Circle.

In late 2013, I contacted officials in both Ferguson Township leadership as well as CRPR officials (I have an email thread with Mark Kunkle and Jeff Ressler from Ferguson and Ronald Woodhead from CRPR, part of which I attach) when I offered to purchase a "Little Free Library" -- after discussions about the best location to place it, it was decided that it could go in the corner of Autumnwood Park (near the parking lot) and several Ferguson TWP and CRPR folks came on a weekend with tools and concrete and I brought the kit and it was installed very quickly. (I didn't see any of those individuals still listed on the Ferguson TWP or CRPR web sites, hence this email to so many of you.)

I had tried to maintain it over the years (re-painting, weather sealing, and the like) every year or so, but during the pandemic I wasn't able to do that often (and sadly when our senior dog died we no longer went on walks every day in the park) -- so when I visited the LRL recently I noticed that it was in serious disrepair (some photos attached) -- I was concerned not only about having the books get wet, but also nails, splinters, being exposed,, etc. so I did a VERY jury-rigged fix today (with FlexTape) hoping to at least keep it waterproof over the winter and covering any exposed nails/splinters.

This is clearly a very short-term solution and I'd be more than happy to purchase a new Little Free Library (in the attached pdf file I show the pre-fix issues, and the now taped up version, but also an example of a new one) -- I'd be happy to buy it and donate it to the Township/CRPR and be happy to help re-install it - I believe that given that the base is in fine shape, it would only need to be re-attached and the old one thrown away.

Please feel free to share this email with any/all interested parties in the local community who might have the 'provenance' to consider such issues and I'd be happy to be in touch to coordinate the purchase (again, I'm happy to donate a new one) and re-installation.

Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Regards - Rick Robinett

2296 Roylen Circle
State College, 16801

10/26/21, 3:16 PM

Mail - Martin, Centrice - Outlook

(814) 238-1193 (home)

(814) 441-1051 (cell)

CELEBRATING HEALTHIER NEIGHBORHOODS

Take a Book
Return a Book

LittleFreeLibrary

www.littlefreelibrary.org

Charter Number
8887



DAY
SOBEL

BEHIND THE SCENES

How Does This Library Work?

This Little Free Library offers a way to share good things to read—favorite books from your collection or books you would recommend to your friends that teach, inspire and enlighten. All of us can help by keeping this collection updated with new reading material.

Whose Responsibility is it?

Neighbors. Little Free Libraries are made for you. Anyone who wants to take care of their neighborhood should help.









LittleFreeLibrary.org
Take a Book - Share a Book
A nonprofit organization
Charter # 86721

LOVE, HATE & THE FILTER
MOXIE
GAIL HONEYMAN
WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING
DELIA OWENS
GIRLS BURN BRIGHTER
SHOBHA DE

With Mouths Open We
THE KIN
THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY BOOK
Listen... Slowly
The Bookshop
The Little Free Library Book

Assessment of Ferguson Township's Participation in Council of Governments Centre Region Parks and Recreation Program

November 1, 2021

Centrice Martin
Assistant Township Manager





Why?

OUR PARKS
OUR FUTURE



SAT, NOV 6
12PM - 6PM

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Engagement Station at
**The Winter Market at
The Rivet**

More Info:



Share your ideas for Ferguson
Township's Recreation, Parks,
and Open Spaces!



Open Spaces Plan is a guiding document that
ensures Ferguson Township parks provide recreational

2017 Strategic Plan

Chapter 4: Ferguson Township Strategic Plan

Goals and Steps to Achieve Them
(Those responsible for each goal and step are noted in parentheses)



1) Financial Stability

- a. Make realistic estimates of program costs. (Staff)
- b. Regularly compare the cost of providing services in-house with costs from private contractors, other municipalities, other government agencies, and costs of providing services regionally. (Staff)
- c. Adjust revenues (taxes, fees, etc.) to adequately fund Township programs and needs. (Staff proposes, the Board initiates)

2) Economic Development

- a. Establish an economic development advisory group (with economic development expertise).
- b. Consider the employment of an economic development director (full-time, part-time, or a contracted service). This individual or contractor would be responsible to assist and support existing businesses to help them prosper and expand in Ferguson Township. He/she would be the Township's liaison with the business development community. He/she would develop an inventory of vacant commercial and industrial sites and would make that information available to interested parties. He/she would identify and pursue programs and grants to support economic development in Ferguson and would have responsibility for managing the Community Development Block Grant Program. (Board to initiate, staff to implement)

3) Growth Management

- a. Identify and complete (develop) plans for specific small areas. (Board, Staff, Planning Commission)
- b. Develop a future land use plan (Comprehensive Plan). (Staff, Planning Commission, Board)
- c. Develop a Township housing plan to provide for low and moderately priced housing in the Township (workforce housing). (Staff, Regional input, possible ad hoc advisory group)

4) Environmental Stewardship

- a. Identify and use existing tools to preserve the environment - Chesapeake Bay Tributary strategy, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, source water protection, conservation easements, climate action plans, referendums, agricultural conservation easements, etc. (Board, Staff)
- b. Make certain that land development regulations and development plans are consistent with environmental values (Staff, Planning Commission, Board)
- c. Identify and preserve natural resources and environmentally significant areas (Staff, Board, Planning Commission, possible ad hoc advisory group)
- d. Develop and adhere to green policy for buildings, vehicles, and operations (Staff, consultants)

2017 Strategic Plan 7

Goal 1: Financial Stability

(b) Regularly compare the cost of providing services in-house with costs from private contractors, other municipalities, other government agencies, and costs of providing services regionally.

- e. Update the Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan with a specific emphasis on green infrastructure and sustainable parkland development



5) Best Management Practices for Operations

- a. Ensure adequate staffing and resources necessary to carry out Township services and programs (Staff, Board)
- b. Ensure proper training and professional development (Staff, Board)
- c. Ensure that operational practices are fiscally responsible (Staff)

6) Increase Participatory Government

- a. Utilize both ad hoc and standing citizen advisory boards with subject matter experts from the Township and the region to address issues related to parkland development and other matters of community interest.
- b. Fully utilize two-way communication and online platforms used to communicate (Staff)

7) Promotion of Clean Renewable Energy

- a. Assess the Township for opportunities for renewable energy (Staff, possible advisory group)
- b. Practice and promote energy conservation (Staff, Board)
- c. Establish zoning incentives to encourage renewable energy and energy conservation (Staff, Board, Planning Commission, possible ad hoc advisory group)
- d. Establish an advisory group on renewable energy (Staff, Board)

8) Promotion of Municipal Identity

- a. Develop our Sense of Place by developing a vibrant Town Center, preserving our agricultural heritage, and promoting the features that make the Township unique. (Staff)
- b. Develop a Marketing Strategy (possible advisory group)
- c. Establish and promote community events with Township help/promotion (farmer's markets, flea markets, etc.)

9) Partnerships and Regional Thinking

- a. Identify non-profits, businesses, and community groups for input on a variety of issues
- b. Work towards regional cooperation on issues that affect the entire Centre Region
- c. Increase financial stability through partnerships
- d. Monitor partnerships to ensure they continue to be beneficial

2017 Strategic Plan 8

Goal 9: Partnerships and Regional Thinking

(c) Increase financial stability through partnerships

(d) Monitor partnerships to ensure they continue to be beneficial



What?

**OUR PARKS
OUR FUTURE**



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12PM - 6PM**

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More Info:




Our Spaces Plan is a guiding document that
ensures Ferguson Township parks provide recreational

Functional Structure

Parks and Recreation

Ferguson Township
Administration, Planning, and
Public Works

Policy Development
Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan
Social Media and Marketing
Capital Improvement Plan
Contracted Services
Landscape plantings
Low-Now mowing
Capital Projects

Centre Region Parks & Recreation
Daily Operations and Maintenance

General Daily Park Maintenance
Special Events
Rentals and Reservations
Sports Field Rentals and Management
Sport Field Maintenance

Centre Region Parks & Recreation
Recreation, Operations,
Programs and Events

General Programming
Camps
Centre Region Pools
Contracted Services
Social Media and Marketing

Services and Levels of Service Structure

Ferguson Township Administration Program Summary

Service: Administration

- Activity: Budget
- Activity: Accountability
- Activity: Parks and Recreation Committee

Service: Policy Development

- Activity: Presentations
- Activity: Partnerships

Service: Contracted Services

- Park Master Plan
- Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan Update

Service: Social Media and Marketing

- Activity: Social Media
- Activity: Marketing

Service: Public Input and Communications

- Activity: Presentations

Service: Project Management

- Activity: Strategic Project Teams (*FT Public Works, FT Playground Safety Inspector and Centre Region Parks and Recreation*)
- Activity: Project Identifications

Services and Levels of Service Structure

Ferguson Township Public Works Maintenance Program Summary

Service: GIS Mapping

- Activity: Develop maps and other information using GIS for presentations

Service: Landscape Maintenance

- Activity: Mow, trim, landscape bed maintenance
- Activity: Tree plantings

Service: Miscellaneous Repairs

Service: Participate on Strategic Project Teams

- Park Rehabilitation and Capital Projects

Services and Levels of Service Structure

Ferguson Township Centre Region Parks and Recreation: Maintenance and Operations Program Summary

Service: Daily Park Maintenance

- Activity: Daily inspections

Service: Township Park Initiatives

- Activity: Special Event Set-up and Support
- Activity: Local Community Activities and Organizations

Service: Daily Work Orders and Repairs

Service: Contracted Services

Service: Custodial Services

Service: Miscellaneous Repairs

Service: Participate on Strategic Project Teams

Services and Levels of Service Structure

Ferguson Township Centre Region Parks and Recreation: Recreation, Operations, and Program and Event Services and Service Levels Program Summary

Service: Administration

Service: Policy Development

Service: Special Events

Service: Leisure Classes

Service: Camps

Service: Youth Sports Association

Service: Aquatics

Service: Rentals and Reservations

Service: Sport Field Management and Maintenance

Service: Community Gardens

Service: General Programming and Events

Service: Special Programs

Service: Outdoor Recreation and Athletic Programs

Service: Marketing and Promotions



How?

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Scenario 1

Ferguson Township Add-on

Service: Daily Park Maintenance

Service: Daily Work Orders/Repairs

Service: Contracted Services

Service: Custodial Services

Service: Miscellaneous Daily Repairs

Service: Township-wide Park
Initiatives

Park Operations and Maintenance

Key considerations for cost-benefit-analysis:

Administration

Management Software

Equipment needs

Equipment maintenance

Park operation and maintenance

Personnel needs

Reduction of services and service levels

Scenario 2

Ferguson Township Add-on

Service: Daily Park Maintenance
Service: Daily Work Orders/Repairs
Service: Contracted Services
Service: Custodial Services
Service: Miscellaneous Daily Repairs
Service: Township-wide Park
Initiatives

Service: Rentals and Reservations
Service: Sport Field Management
and Maintenance

Park Operations and Maintenance

Rentals, Reservations and Sport Field Management and Maintenance

Key considerations for cost-benefit analysis:

Administration

Management Software

Equipment needs

Equipment maintenance

Park operation and maintenance

Personnel needs

Reduction of service and service levels

Scenario 3

Ferguson Township Add-on

Service: Daily Park Maintenance
Service: Daily Work Orders/Repairs
Service: Contracted Services
Service: Custodial Services
Service: Miscellaneous Daily Repairs
Service: Township-wide Park
Initiatives

Service: Rentals and Reservations
Service: Sport Field Management
and Maintenance

Service: General Programming
Service: Camps
Service: Pools & Aquatic Programs
Service: Social Media & Marketing

Park Operations and Maintenance

Rentals, Reservations and Sport Field Management and Maintenance

Recreational Programming, Camps, Aquatics and Social Media

Key considerations for cost-benefit analysis:

Administration

Management Software

Equipment needs

Equipment maintenance

Park operation and maintenance

Personnel needs

Reduction of services and service levels



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Next step

- Park Governance Worksession
- Public Engagement
- Board of Supervisors Review and Consideration