



TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

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**Parks and Recreation Committee
Meeting Agenda
Ferguson Township Conference Room 2
Monday, August 12, 2019
4:00 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. CITIZEN'S INPUT
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- IV. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Narrative

The Board of Supervisors reviewed and made changes to the 2020 – 2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) at the CIP work session held in July. The Board made the following amendments to the CIP:

- Solar Array at Whitehall Road Regional Park moved from 2020 to 2021
- Fairbrook Park Master Plan Update from 2022 to 2021
- Fairbrook Park native landscape plantings added for 2022
- Installation of the compost toilet from 2020 to 2022
- Pavement of washed out areas in parks reduced from \$40,000 to \$20,000

Following the work session, staff added back an additional \$20,000 for washed out areas for the 4 sections in Tudek Park. This change was communicated to the Board at the regular meeting on Monday, August 5.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee **review and accept** the changes made by the Board.

V. COMPOST TOILET INSTALLATION IN TOWNSHIP PARK

Narrative

In December 2018, the Board referred a request to the Parks and Recreation Committee to review and recommend a location for the installation of a compost toilet in a park. Staff has obtained specifications on a Clivus Multrum Model M54 Compost Toilet which is included in the CIP. The Committee is asked to discuss and recommend to the Board a location for the installation of a compost toilet in a Township Park.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee **recommend** to the Board a location for the installation of a compost toilet in a Township Park.

VI. TREE BUFFER ZONE AT CECIL IRVIN PARK

Narrative

The Township received complaints from residents that live on Sunday Drive with property lines that meet the undeveloped section of Cecil Irvin Park. Property owners expressed discontent with the Grow Zone area because of the unpleasant aesthetics and invasive plant species growing tall in this area. The Township Arborist has prepared two planting plan scenarios for the Parks Committee to review, discuss and provide a recommendation. Attached to this Agenda is the Township Arborist’s narrative, cost estimate, and two maps each illustrating one of the planting plan scenarios.

<p>STAFF RECOMMENDATION That the Committee <i>recommend</i> a solution for the problem resulting from the undeveloped section at Cecil Irvin Park.</p>

VII. REPORTS

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

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

**FERGUSON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, July 8, 2019
4:00 P.M.**

I. ATTENDANCE

The Parks and Recreation Committee held its parks tour meeting on Monday, July 8, 2019, at Ferguson Township in Conference Room 2. In attendance were:

Committee:

Niki Tourscher, Chairperson,
Andrew MCKinnon, Vice Chairperson
Kathie Vondracek, Secretary-Absent
Shawna Doerksen
Connie Puckett
Norris Muth
Denise Myer

Staff:

David Pribulka, Township Manager
Centrice Martin, Assistant to the Manager

Others in attendance were: Summer Krape, Recording Secretary.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Niki Tourscher called the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting to order on Monday, July 8, 2019 at 4:00 pm.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2019 MEETING

Mrs. Shawna Doerksen made a motion to approve the June 10, 2019 minutes with the following corrections, she was not absent and she is no longer the Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Norris Muth seconded the motion.

IV. CITIZEN'S INPUT

V. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PARKS TOUR

Mr. David Pribulka, Township Manager, stated there are four parks that staff suggest for the Committee to tour this year. The suggested parks include: Fairbrook Park, Cecil Irvin Park, Homestead Park, and Greenbriar/Saybrook Park. Touring the other four parks will be dependent on time.

The Parks Mobile Tour started at Fairbrook Park. Mr. Pribulka pointed out the grow zone to the Committee, he stated that this area looks nice and the Township has not received any complaints. There has been discussion with Centre Region Parks and Recreation about expanding the grow zone area and planting a more purposeful landscape mix. The Committee walked throughout the park and Mr. Pribulka noted that the area beside the walkway will be mowed during the winter months by the Ferguson Township road crew and will be planted with a more purposeful landscape mix. Mr. McKinnon asked if it would be a possibility to implement this grow zone area in other parks. Mr. Pribulka stated that he would like to see the outcome of the mowing and replanting before implementing this idea in other parks.

The second park the Committee visited was Cecil Irvin Park. The Committee discussed parking at the park. Mr. Pribulka stated that there is one parking space and one Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) parking space. Mr. Pribulka explained that phase two of the park would include grading and more parking being built off of Nixon Road. Mr. Pribulka noted that this his observation is that this park does not seem to be heavily used. Mr. Pribulka also noted that the Township applied for a Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) grant last year for this park. Staff would

like to get some suggestions from the Committee on what to do with this park. Ms. Laura Dinnini was at the park and joined briefly joined the conversation with the Committee tour. She stated that she feels a clump of people visit this park. Ms. Dinnini asked about the pollinator garden that was mowed and if it will be allowed to grow back. Mr. Pribulka stated that the basin was cleared to keep the function of the basin they are still figuring out the maintenance for pollinator areas.

The third park that the Committee toured was Homestead Park. Ms. Martin pointed out the slide has several small cracks and can be fixed with money from the Playground Safety Fund. Mr. Pribulka noted that the field at the park is on a rotation and not being used and not being mowed to help it regrow. Ms. Martin stated that the paved areas will be updated. The Committee asked about options for updating the playground equipment or using the money on Greenbriar/Saybrook master plan. Mrs. Doerksen stated that in her opinion there needs to be updated playground equipment at Greenbriar/Saybrook Park, her and her family frequently visit the park and she feels the playground equipment is for smaller children.

The fourth park that the Committee toured was Greenbriar/Saybrook Park. The Committee discussed the current playground equipment, possible options and associated pros and cons of each option. Ms. Tourscher suggested the current playground equipment could stay but add a swing set or another piece of equipment. Mrs. Myer agreed that adding a swing set would be a good idea. Mr. Pribulka stated that if there the Township did a masterplan update; updated park data would be collected as part of the project. Ms. Martin remarked on options to engage the public and solicit resident feedback. Mr. McKinnon agreed that the public outreach was a good option. Ms. Tourscher suggested using \$75,000 for Homestead Park improvements and using \$25,000 for the addition of a swing set and a possible smaller piece of equipment. All Committee members agreed. Ms. Martin suggested holding the next Parks and Recreation Committee meeting at Suburban Park.

Mr. Pribulka and Ms. Martin wanted to go over some additional Capital Improvement Park information with the Committee before the meeting adjourned. Ms. Martin stated that next year will be the last year for the drinking fountain updates. Mr. Pribulka stated that in 2021 the Township will plan to complete Suburban Park phase 1A; flood plan study, drainage way and then development of the rest of the park. The Township will plan to do Fairbrook Park master plan update in 2024. Also, in 2024, the Township will plan to update the Greenbriar master plan and install the Haymarket Park restroom facility.

OPEN DISSCUSSION

None

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, the Parks and Recreation Committee adjourned at 6:00 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

KATHIE VONDRACEK, SECRETARY
FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

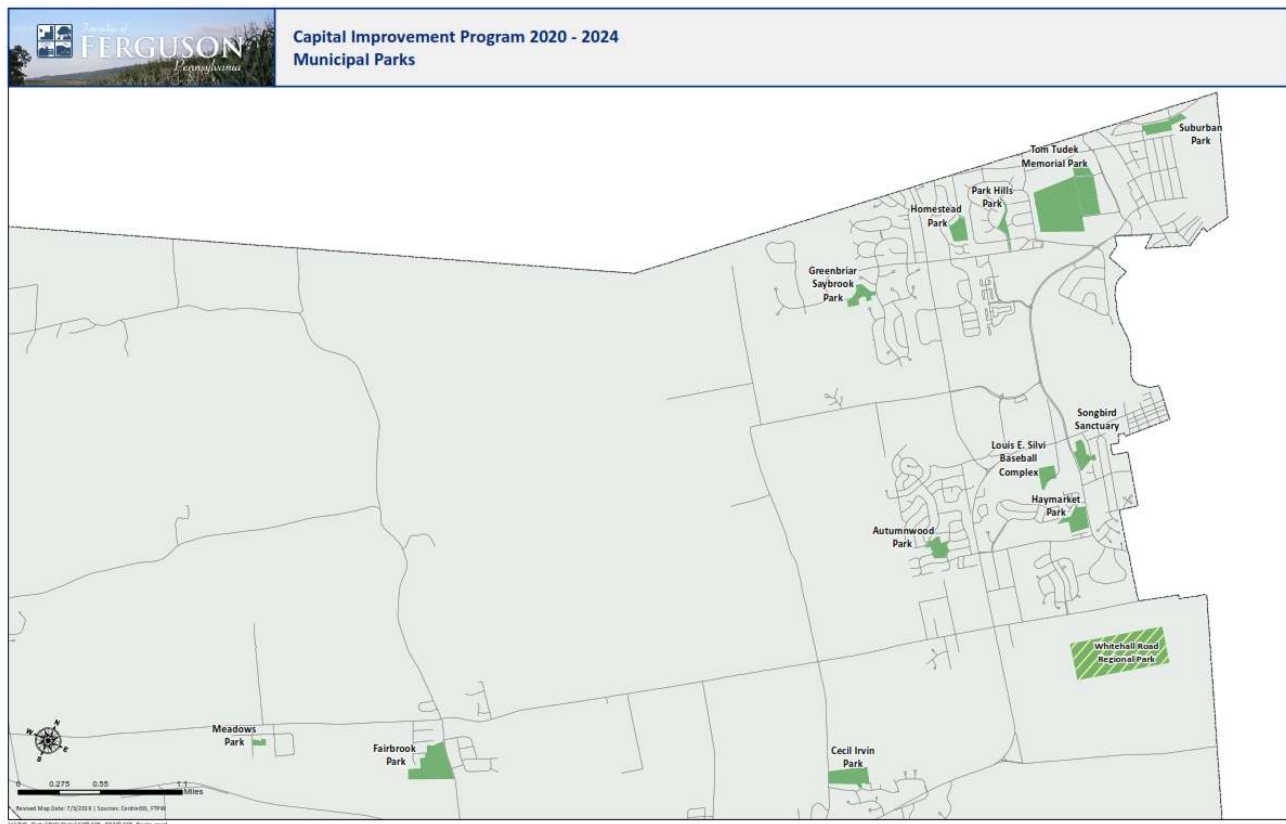
PARKS AND RECREATION

The proposed five-year Capital Improvement Program Budget for Parks and Recreation (not including CRCOG) totals **\$1.8 Million or 12.6%** of the **Capital Reserve Fund Requests**. The following projects are recommended to be included in the upcoming five years of the CIP.

These projects represent the park improvements to meet the growing needs of the township's residents and are consistent with the Township's Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan and each of the parks' master plans. The projects are proposed to be paid for through grant funds, parkland fee-in-lieu funds, and general funds. It should be noted that the township is a partner in the Centre Region Parks and Recreation, Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority, and in the various regional programs offered by the CRCOG. Long-term debt has been issued to renovate and expand the two regional pools and regional parks. The township's portion of the repayment is now incorporated into the township's annual operating costs.

The 2020-2024 CIP includes Suburban park phase A improvements, Cecil Irvin park improvements, Tudek Park Phase IIIA and restroom facilities at Haymarket Park

The CIP also includes two park master plans updates. Fairbrook and Greenbriar/Saybrook Parks.





Suburban Park Master Plan
 Ferguson Township, Centre County, Pennsylvania
 May 2019

Prepared For: **FERGUSON** Pennsylvania
 Prepared By: **ysm**
 YSM GROUP, INC.
 1000 W. MARKET STREET, SUITE 200
 HARRISBURG, PA 17104



DRAFT PLAN
WESTFIELD/HILLSIDE FARM ESTATES PARK
MASTER SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN
 FERGUSON TOWNSHIP
 CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

HRG
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 Engineering & Retained Services
 474 Wilderness Drive, Suite 100
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Strategic Plan Alignment

The Capital Improvement Plan seeks to advance the goals, objectives, and action steps as outlined in the Ferguson Township Strategic Plan. Over the next five years, several of the Strategic Plan items will be accomplished through the proposed expenditures in the Capital Improvement Plan.

- **Objective 10.1: Promote environmental and social stewardship in parkland development.**

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP							
2020 – 2024 CIP CAPITAL EQUIPMENT DETAIL-CASH BASIS							
PARKS & RECREATION							
30.400.452.750							
Description	Loan/Grant Amount	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023	TOTAL
Cecil Irvin Park Phase II	320,000			320,000			320,000
Compost Toilet in Parks				25,000			25,000
Drinking Fountain Replacements		10,000		10,000			20,000
Fairbrook Park Master Plan Update			25,000				25,000
Fairbrook Park Native Landscape Areas				6,000			6,000
Greenbriar/Saybrook Master plan						25,000	25,000
Haymarket Restroom Facilities						235,000	235,000
Homestead Park Play Equipment			100,000				100,000
Pave wash out areas for various pathways		20,000					20,000
Playground Safety & Updates		37,500		37,000	37,000	37,000	148,500
Solar Array @ Whitehall Regional Park			45,000				45,000
Songbird Sanctuary Passive Recreation		75,000					75,000
Suburban Park FEMA/CLOMR/LOMR & PADEP Permits		70,000					70,000
Suburban Park Phase A	325,000		325,200				325,200
Tudek Farmhouse Roof Replacement (\$25,000)							-
Tudek Park Phase IIIA	177,500				355,000		355,000
Tudek Park Native Landscape plantings		5,000					5,000
Total	822,500	217,500	495,200	398,000	392,000	297,000	1,799,700

2020	
Playground Safety & Update Program	\$37,500
This item is to provide for equipment upgrades and replacements to meet playground safety standards.	
Drinking Fountain Replacements	\$10,000
At the recommendation of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Department, the Township began upgrading drinking fountains in parks in 2016. This item includes the equipment and installation of one drinking fountain. If Public Works staff is available to install the fountain, two fountains can be replaced with this appropriation	
Songbird Sanctuary – Passive Recreation	\$75,000
The Township acquired 9 acres of the property identified as Natural Area Conservation on the 2008 Ferguson Township Official Map. In 2019, Staff, along with the Ferguson Township Parks and Recreation Committee, completed a Master Plan for the park in-house. The Master Plan recommends passive recreational amenities such as walking and dirt bike trails, educational kiosk, nesting boxes, educational signage and benches for an enjoyable wooded area to recreate in an otherwise urbanized environment	
Tudek Farmhouse Roof Replacement	\$25,000
The farmhouse needs a new roof. It is anticipated that the Tudek Trust Fund will fund this project.	
Tudek Park Natural Landscape Areas	\$5,000
The Board of Supervisors approved designated native landscape areas at Tudek Park. This appropriation will support the removal of the existing brush, purchasing seed mix, and signage.	
Suburban Park FEMA CLOMR/LOMR and PADEP Permit	\$70,000

<p>The Suburban Park Master Plan Update was approved by the BOS May 2018. Staff is recommending the Township perform a hydraulics and hydrology analysis to design the floodway channel through Suburban Park to fulfill the requirements before constructing the Master Plan and future design of Suburban Park.</p>	
Pave Washout Areas	\$40,000
<p>Staff recommends that funds be appropriated to pave four sections of the Tudek Park path.</p>	
2021	
Homestead Park Play Equipment	\$100,000
<p>The Parks and Recreation Department is recommending updating and adding age-appropriate play equipment and installation by a certified installer.</p>	
Fairbrook Park Master Plan Update	\$25,000
<p>Fairbrook Park is a 23-acre public facility with playing fields, play areas, picnic facilities, perimeter walking path, hard court, and parking facilities. The park offers an opportunity to convert some of the highly maintained turf areas to low maintenance as no-mow or pollinator areas. A revised master plan would evaluate the areas of the park for conversion as well as consider improving amenities. The revised master plan is anticipated to be updated in 2022 to identify specific park improvements and a probable construction cost opinion to serve as a more accurate planning tool.</p>	
Solar Array at Whitehall Road Regional Park Fund 31	\$45,000
<p>In October 2018, the Board authorized the appropriation of \$45,000 toward the acquisition and installation of solar photovoltaics on the rooftop of the pavilion to be constructed at Whitehall Road Regional Park. The Board directed that funding for this commitment be drawn from the Regional Capital Recreation Projects Fund.</p>	
Suburban Park Phase 1A	\$325,200
<p>The Suburban Park Master Plan Update was approved by the BOS May 2019. Staff recommends the Township initiate park improvements by budgeting for Phase A1 to allow for the drainage improvements which will create a free-flowing drainage channel through the park. Also, part of this phase will include stormwater BMP's associated with the channel and the bridge/boardwalk crossings.</p>	
2022	
Drinking Fountain Replacements	\$10,000
<p>At the recommendation of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Department, the Township began upgrading drinking fountains in parks in 2016. This item includes the equipment and installation of one drinking fountain. If Public Works staff is available to install the fountain, two fountains can be replaced with this appropriation.</p>	
Fairbrook Park Natural Landscape Areas	\$6,000
<p>The Board of Supervisors approved a Grow Zone and two designated native landscape areas at Fairbrook Park. This appropriation will support the removal of the existing brush, purchasing seed mix, and signage.</p>	
Compost Toilet Installation in Township Park	\$25,000

<p>In December 2018, the Board referred a request to the Parks and Recreation Committee to review and recommend a location for the installation of a compost toilet in a Township park. The staff has obtained specifications on a Clivus Multrum Model M54 Compost Toilet and has budgeted an appropriation adequate for one installation at a location to be determined</p>	
Cecil Irvin Park Phase II	\$320,000
<p>The Township plans to submit a grant application to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Community Conservation Partnerships Program in 2020 to continue the development of Cecil Irvin Park. Planned improvements include a pervious pavement parking area off of Nixon Road, a pavilion, and a connecting shared use path to the existing developed area of the park. The amount budgeted reflects the total cost of the project, but a 50% grant match will be requested</p>	
Playground Safety & Update Program	\$37,000
<p>This item provides funding for equipment upgrades and replacements to meet playground safety standards.</p>	
2023	
Tom Tudek Memorial Park Phase IIIA	\$355,000
<p>Completion of Tudek Park Phase 3a includes the construction of two basketball courts, completion of remaining sidewalk connections, paving the remainder of the parking lot, and associated landscaping and stormwater improvements. Phase IIIA is located on land owned by the Tom Tudek Memorial Trust and is adjacent to the park entrance on Herman Drive.</p>	
Playground Safety & Update Program	\$37,000
<p>This item provides funding for equipment upgrades and replacements to meet playground safety standards.</p>	
2024	
Saybrook/Greenbriar Master Plan	\$25,000
<p>Saybrook/Greenbriar Park is an 8.39-acre public facility that offers a basketball court, play areas, pavilion, walking path, and parking facilities. The Township Playground Inspector recommends that total replacement of playground equipment will soon be needed. The park offers the opportunity to convert some of the highly maintained turf areas to low maintenance as no-mow or pollinator areas. A revised master plan would evaluate the areas of the park for conversion as well as consider improving amenities.</p>	
Playground Safety & Update Program	\$37,000
<p>This item provides funding for equipment upgrades and replacements to meet playground safety standards.</p>	
Haymarket Park Restroom Facilities	\$235,000
<p>The master plan for Haymarket Park includes the construction of restroom facilities. This park is a highly-used, centralized park. Currently, the only township park where permanent restroom facilities are constructed is at Tom Tudek Memorial Park.</p>	

Cecil Irvin Park Landscape Buffer Options

Background:

As the township has implemented a low mow policy in the undeveloped section of Cecil Irvin Park, the township has received complaints from abutting property owners regarding the aesthetics of that particular area. The Arborist was tasked with preparing a planting plan and cost estimate for a tree line buffer between the residential lots and the park property to make the area more aesthetically pleasing. Below are the options prepared.

Option 1-Mixed Species Planting:

This options utilizes 3 species of trees, 1 continuous row of White Pines spaced at 25' on center, along with another offset row nearer the residential properties composed of a mix of Prairie Fire Crabapple and Purple Robe Black Locust with the same spacing. The trees are a minimum of 10' from the park property line and the entire buffer yard area will be mulched. The arborist's opinion is that this option would be more pleasing for the residents due to the mix of evergreens and flowering deciduous trees while still providing a visual buffer to the low mow area.

Option 2-Evergreen Planting

This option utilizes a double offset row consisting of all white pine spaced at 25' on center. This buffer yard would not include mulch, and the area around the trees would need to be mowed until they mature. This option also provides a visual buffer to the low mow area but requires some added maintenance and may not be as aesthetically pleasing.

Option 3- Mowing

This option could be considered if the township does not have sufficient funding to plant the tree buffer. The township could simply resume mowing the area to make it more aesthetically pleasing for the abutting property owners. This option is more maintenance intensive over time and not considered pollinator friendly.

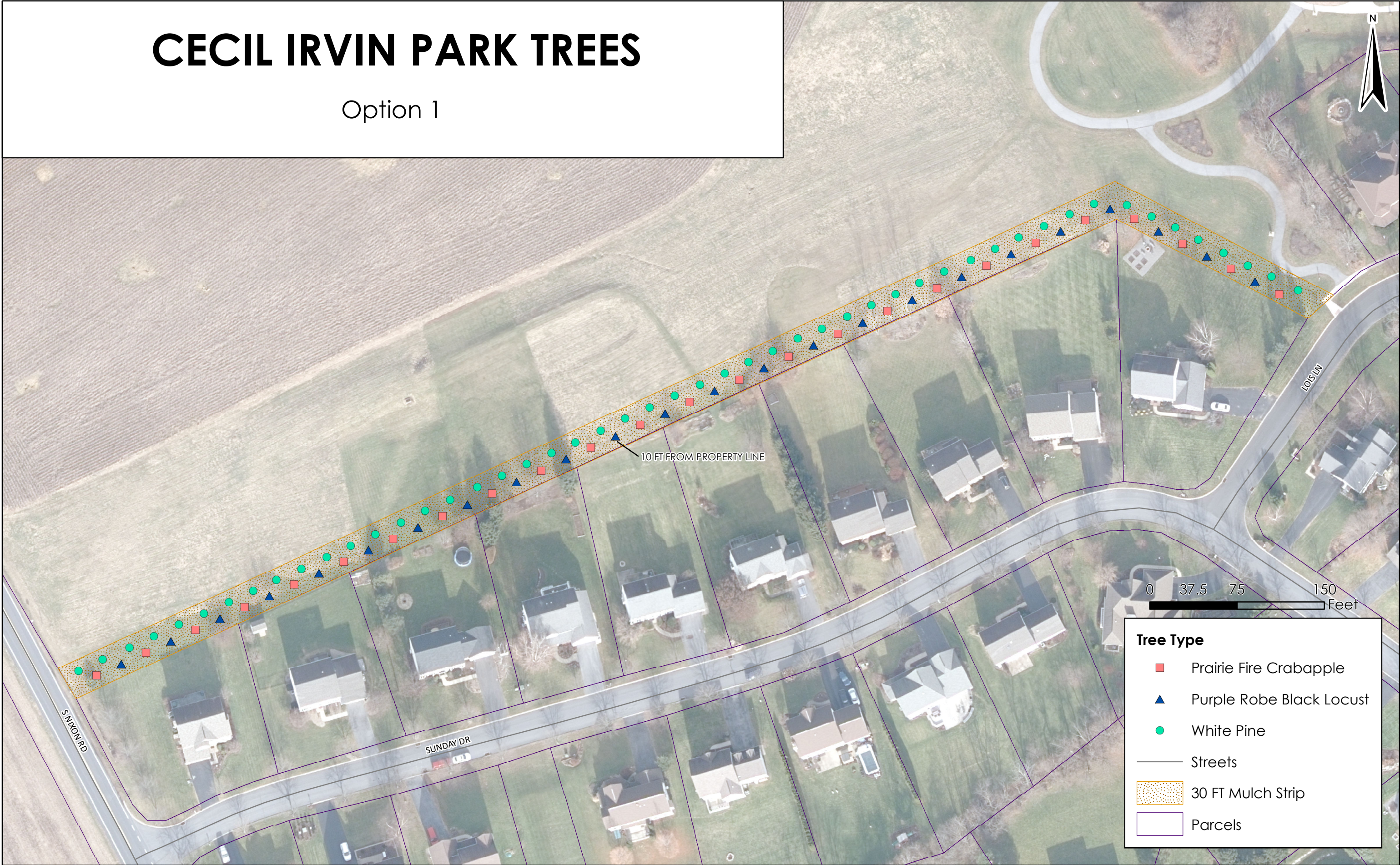
Keep in Mind:

These prices are estimated with the following assumptions:

1. All plant material is purchased wholesale. Tree prices do not include shipping.
2. All work to be done by Ferguson Township Public Works if man hours are available. Prices do not include labor.
3. All trees would need to be watered on a continuous basis by Ferguson Township Public Works for the first year to ensure survival. Prices do not include this labor.
4. Also provided is a 1 line estimate for contractors to perform Option 1 and Option 2. If work is done by contract no man hours from Ferguson Township Public Works are needed and all plant material is warrantied by the contractor for 1 year from planting date.

CECIL IRVIN PARK TREES

Option 1



Tree Type

- Prairie Fire Crabapple
- ▲ Purple Robe Black Locust
- White Pine
- Streets
- ▨ 30 FT Mulch Strip
- Parcels

CECIL IRVIN PARK TREES

Option 2



10 FT FROM PROPERTY LINE

	White Pine
	Streets
	Parcels

0 37.5 75 150 Feet

Cecil Irvin Park Buffer Cost Estimate**Option 1**

Species	# Trees	Cost per tree	Total
6' White Pine	50	\$ 94.00	\$ 4,700.00
1.5" Prairie Fire Crabapple	25	\$ 104.00	\$ 2,600.00
1.5" Purple Robe Black Locust	24	\$ 117.00	\$ 2,808.00
Mulch	Cubic Yards	Cost per yard	Total
Mulch Cost	330	\$ 18.00	\$ 5,940.00
Total for Option 1			\$ 16,048.00

Option 2

Species	# Trees	Cost per tree	Total
6' White Pine	99	\$ 94.00	\$ 9,306.00
Total for Option 2			\$ 9,306.00

Contract Estimates

Contractor Estimate Option 1			\$ 41,700.00
Contractor Estimate Option 2			\$ 29,700.00



Staff Report
August 12, 2019

1. The Manager and Assistant to the Manager attended the Pennsylvania's first-ever official Park and Recreation Professionals Day on July 19, 2019 at Orchard Park.
2. The Songbird Sanctuary Committee hosted two outreach events in July to inform residents on the park's environmental benefits and the passive amenities being proposed.