



East Fallowfield Township

Open Space, Recreation & Environmental Resources Plan Update

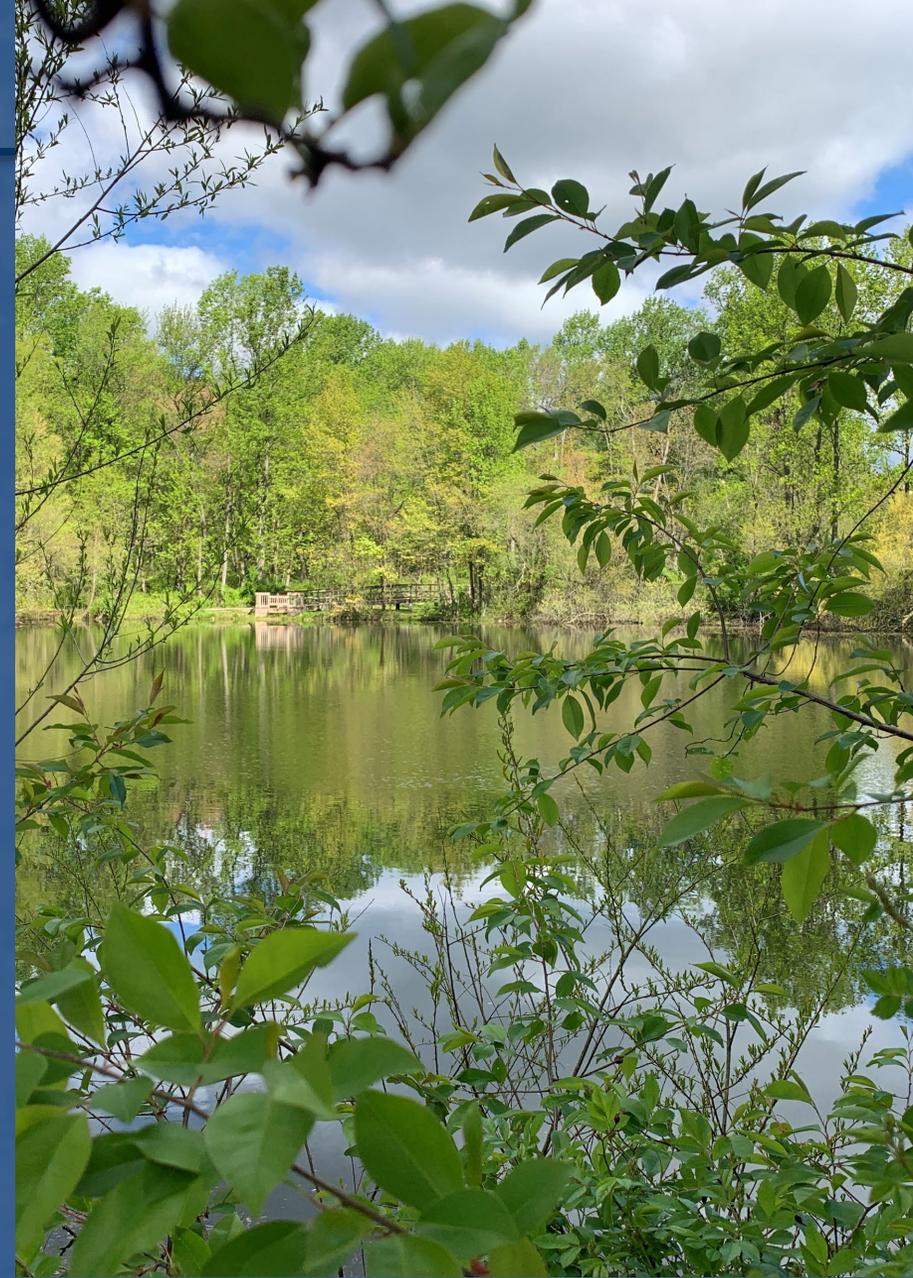
Partially Funded by the Chester County Vision Partnership Program

Public Meeting #3

Thursday, February 29th, 2024 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Meeting Agenda

- Introduction
- Project Schedule
- Mission, Goals and Objectives
- Public Participation Review
- Projected Community Park Facility Needs
- Potential Open Space & Recreation Expansion / Acquisition
- Historic Preservation
- Proposed Trail Connections
- Administrative, Recreation and Maintenance Analysis and Recommendations
- Funding Sources
- Discussion
- Next Steps



Open Space Committee

Wilson T. Lambert	Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Mike Domboski	Chairman, Planning Commission
Teri Dickinson	Chairman, Park & Recreation Committee
Tanner Burns	Member, Environmental Advisory Committee
Jeanne Berlin	Member, Environmental Advisory Committee
Brian Carling	Township Resident
Jen Hewczuk	Office Assistant
John Hewczuk	Police Officer
Joe McCormick	Township Historical Commission
Joe Mento	Township Resident
Katja "Kat" DiRado	Township Supervisor
John Nielsen	Township Supervisor
Nina Petro	Township Resident
Kate Clark	Senior Community Planner, Chester County



Project Team

SIMONE COLLINS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE – 610.239.7601

- Peter Simone, RLA, FASLA, Principal
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- Michelle Armour, ASLA, Staff LA
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CERTIFIED PARK & RECREATION PROFESSIONAL

- Patrick Stasio, CPRP
pstasio@uppermoreland.org

Project Schedule

Meeting Type	Date	Time
Committee Meeting #1	Monday, May 22, 2023	7:30pm-9:30pm
Committee Meeting #2	Wednesday, June 14, 2023	7pm-9pm
Public Meeting #1 – Project Intro / Brainstorming	Monday, June 26, 2023	7pm-9pm
Web-Based Survey	June 26, 2023 - February 22, 2024	
Wikimapping	June 26, 2023 - February 22, 2024	
Committee Meeting #3	Thursday, September 7, 2023	7pm-9pm
Public Meeting #2 – Initial Concepts	Thursday, September 28, 2023	7pm-9pm
Focus Group Meeting #1 – Active Recreation	Thursday, October 5, 2023	11am-12pm
Focus Group Meeting #2 – Passive Recreation	Thursday, October 5, 2023	2pm-3pm
Key Person Interviews (6)	TBD	TBD
Committee Meeting #4	Thursday, October 26, 2023	7pm-9pm
Committee Meeting #5	Thursday, December 7, 2023	7pm-9pm
Public Meeting #3 – Draft Plan	Thursday, February 29, 2024	7pm-9pm
Committee Meeting #6	Thursday, April 25, 2024	7pm-9pm
Public Meeting #4 – Final Plan	Thursday, May 30, 2024	7pm-9pm

Mission Statement, Goals & Objectives

Mission Statement (Draft)

The mission of the East Fallowfield Township Open Space, Recreation & Environmental Resources Plan is to:

“Enhance the quality, connectivity, and accessibility of the Township’s valuable recreational and open space facilities and environmental resources to meet current and future demands for recreation and programming and benefit the health and welfare of the entire community.”



Plan Goals (Draft)

- Engage in an **open and transparent** exchange of ideas where all ideas are considered and where everyone's voice can be heard throughout the design process.
- Provide for the recreational needs of **all age groups**.
- Provide for the recreation needs of residents who are **physically or developmentally challenged**.
- Protect and enhance the Township's **Open Space**.
- Consider **new lands for protection**.
- Create a **sustainable plan** for parks, recreation and open space
- Provide **equitable access** and opportunities to all residents
- Preserve cherished Township characteristics and **valued natural resources**
- Plan for **safe multi-modal connections** between various Township park, recreation, and open space resources



Plan Objectives (Draft)

- **Survey** area residents to determine current perceptions and needs regarding park, recreation, and open space facilities and programs in the Township;
- **Conduct** public meetings to gather information, comments, and suggestions from residents, local organizations, and other stakeholders;
- **Inventory** existing park, recreational facilities, preserved open space, trails, schools, private sector recreation providers and other important recreation destinations within the Township;



Plan Objectives (Draft)

- Compare the existing inventory of park facilities with other similarly sized communities;
- Analyze current active and passive recreational facility use;
- Suggest ways to enhance existing and planned trails with additional connections to area recreational, employment, residential, shopping, and other destinations;
- Develop a phased implementation and funding strategy to make the plan a reality; and,
- Ensure that all recommendations are socially, economically and environmentally sustainable.



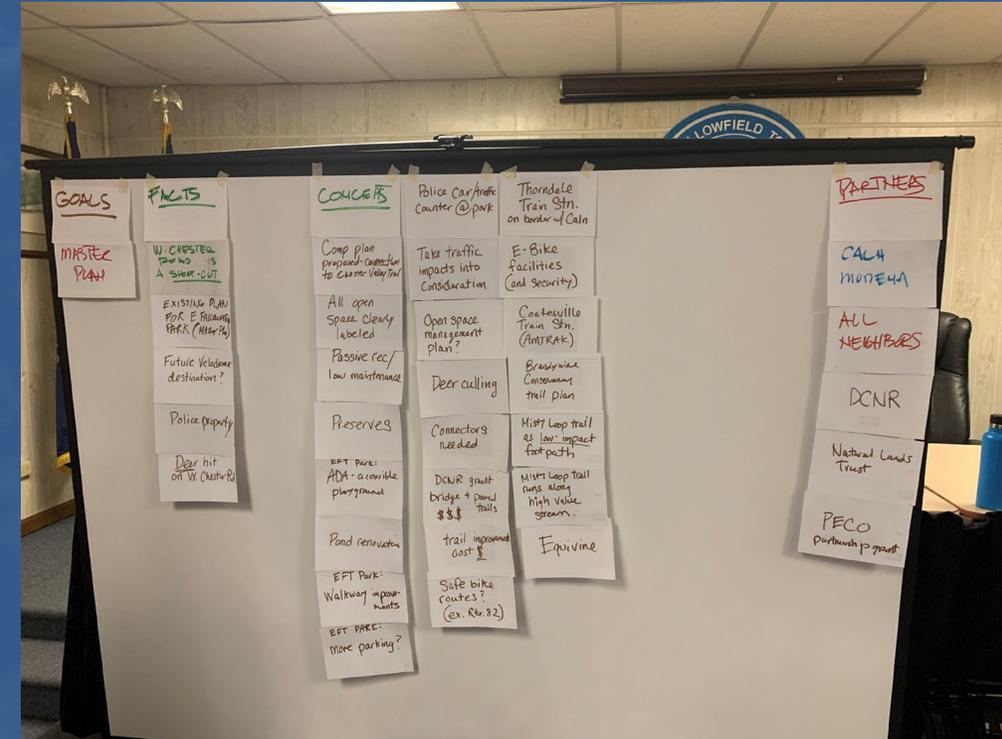
Public Participation Review

Review of Public Meeting 2 – September 28th, 2023

- Proposed connections are local, not regional, trails
- Obtaining easements is a long and complicated process
- Trees and other riparian vegetation help to clean and cool water
- Brandywine Greenway Plan is a broader, generational plan
- Eminent domain is rare
- If a parcel is marked on the Official Map for future open space and is proposed for residential development, Township can negotiate with owner for compact units, more open space, etc.
- Brownfield site on Mortonville Rd. could be considered a high priority because of its high potential for use as open space/recreation
- E-bikes make it easier to navigate challenging topography
- PA state law requires a 4' passing distance when passing cyclists
- DCNR gave over \$70 million in grant funding last year
- Other funding sources include an increase in the EIT where the increased portion goes into an open space fund or having a referendum to issue bonds to acquire open space

Focus Groups and Key Person Interviews

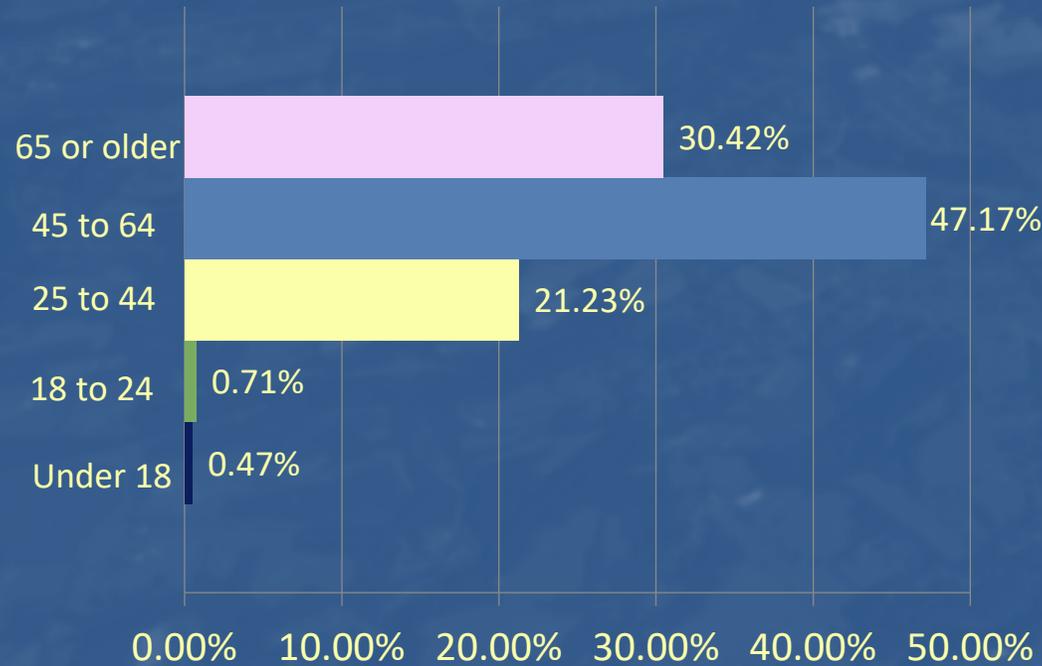
- Focus Groups
 - Brandywine Conservancy
 - East Fallowfield Environmental Advisory Committee
 - East Fallowfield Parks and Recreation Committee
- Key Person Interviews
 - Brandywine Conservancy
 - Caln Athletic League
 - Chester County Parks and Preservation Department
 - East Fallowfield Community Park Pond Volunteers
 - East Fallowfield Parks and Recreation Committee
 - East Fallowfield Planning Commission
 - East Fallowfield Police Department



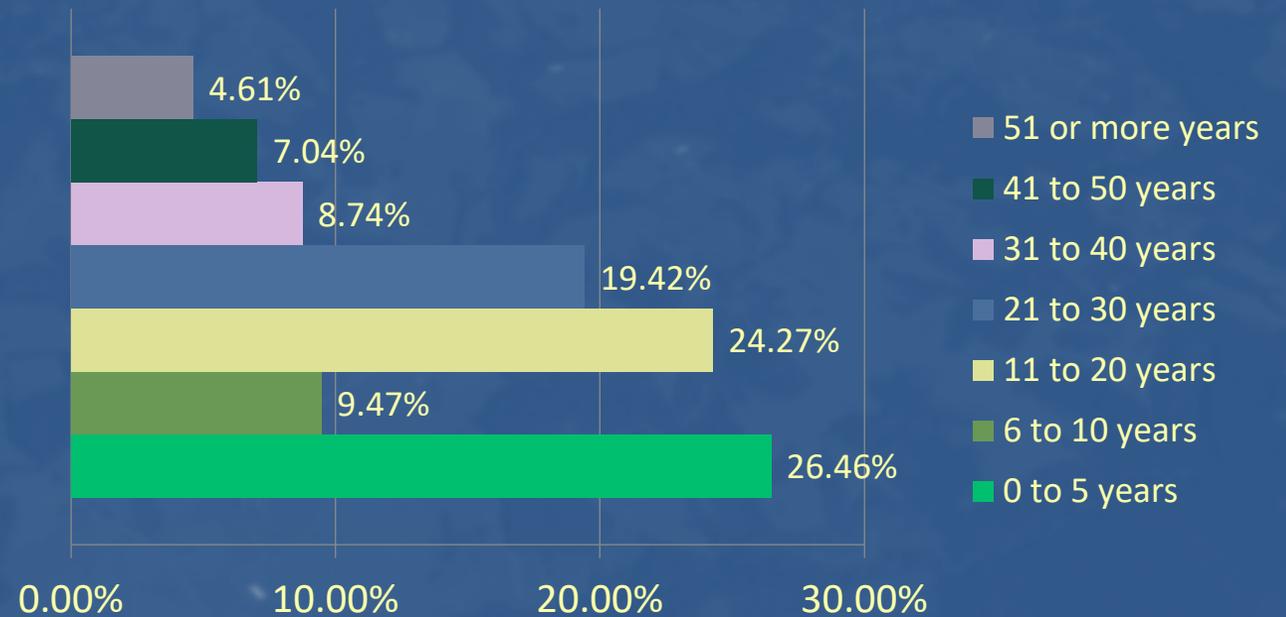
Public Opinion Survey Update

431 Responses as of 2/27/2024

What is your age?

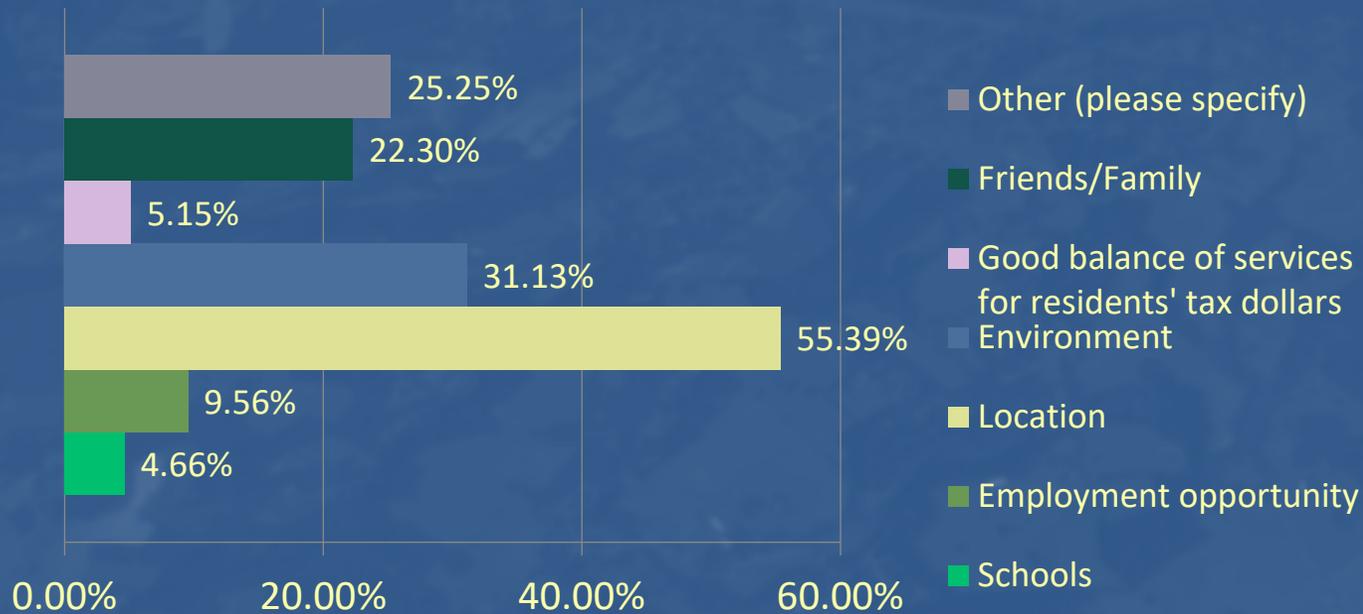


If you live in East Fallowfield, how long have you lived in the Township?



Public Opinion Survey Update

If you are a resident of East Fallowfield Township, why did you choose to move here? (Please check all that apply.)

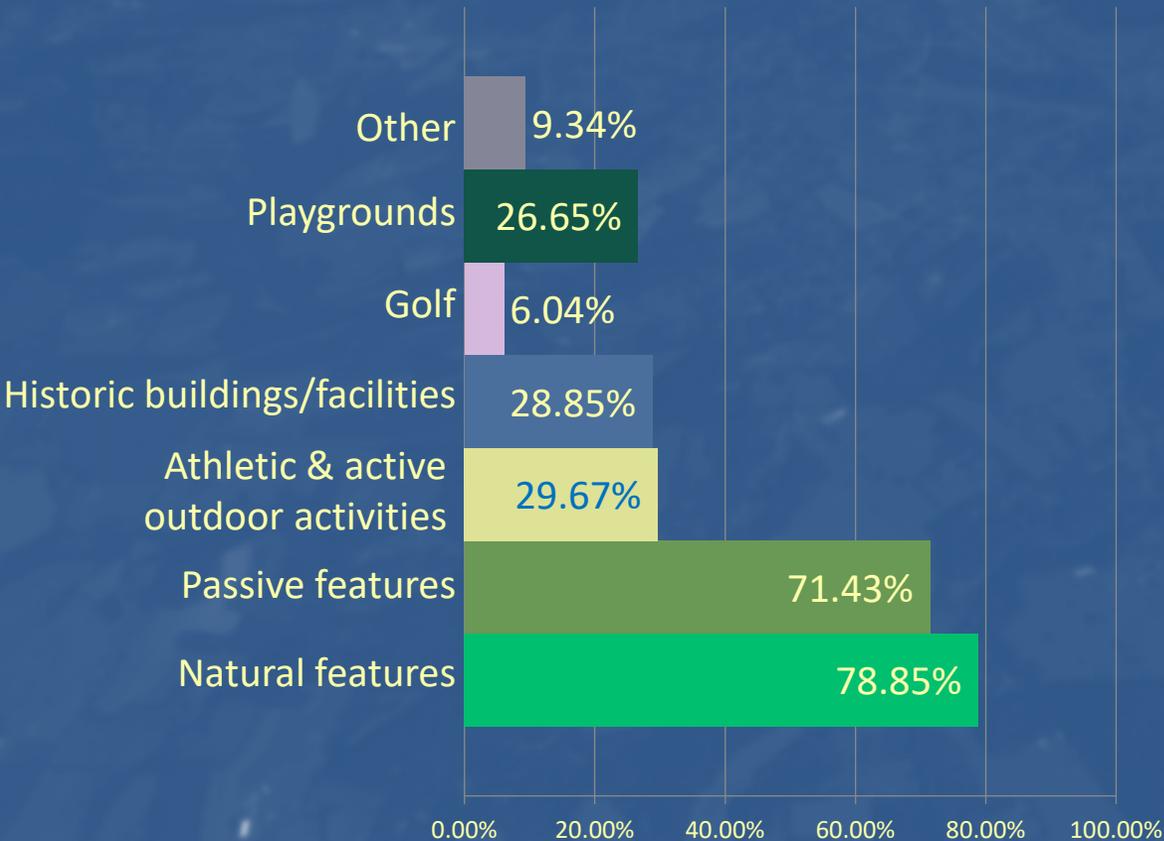


Other responses include:

- *Housing affordability*
- *Born and raised here*
- *Open space*

Public Opinion Survey Update

Favorite types of **park features**
(Check all that apply)

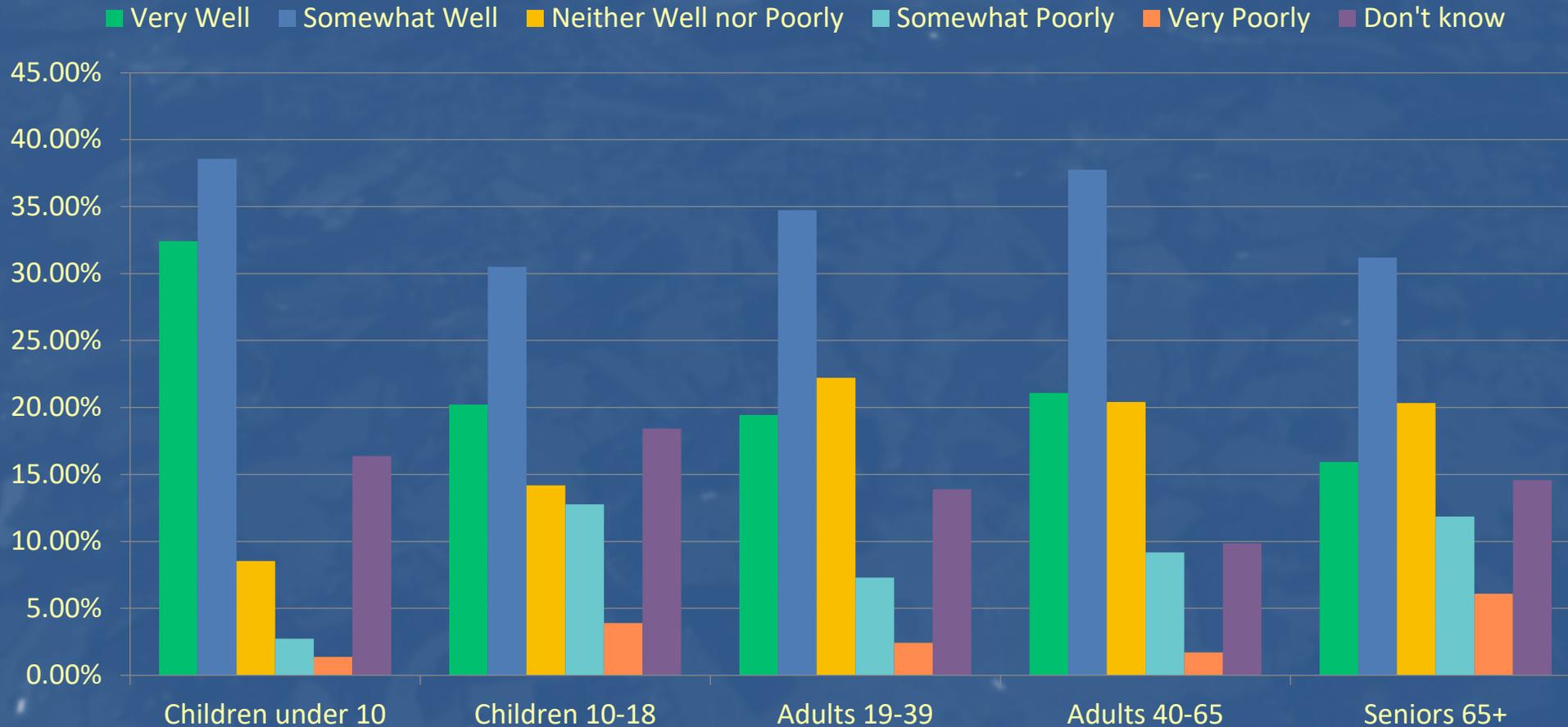


Other responses include:

- Dog park
- Walking trails
- Biking trails
- Disc golf
- Splash pad/water features
- Restrooms (year-round)
- Pond
- Horse accessibility
- Fishing

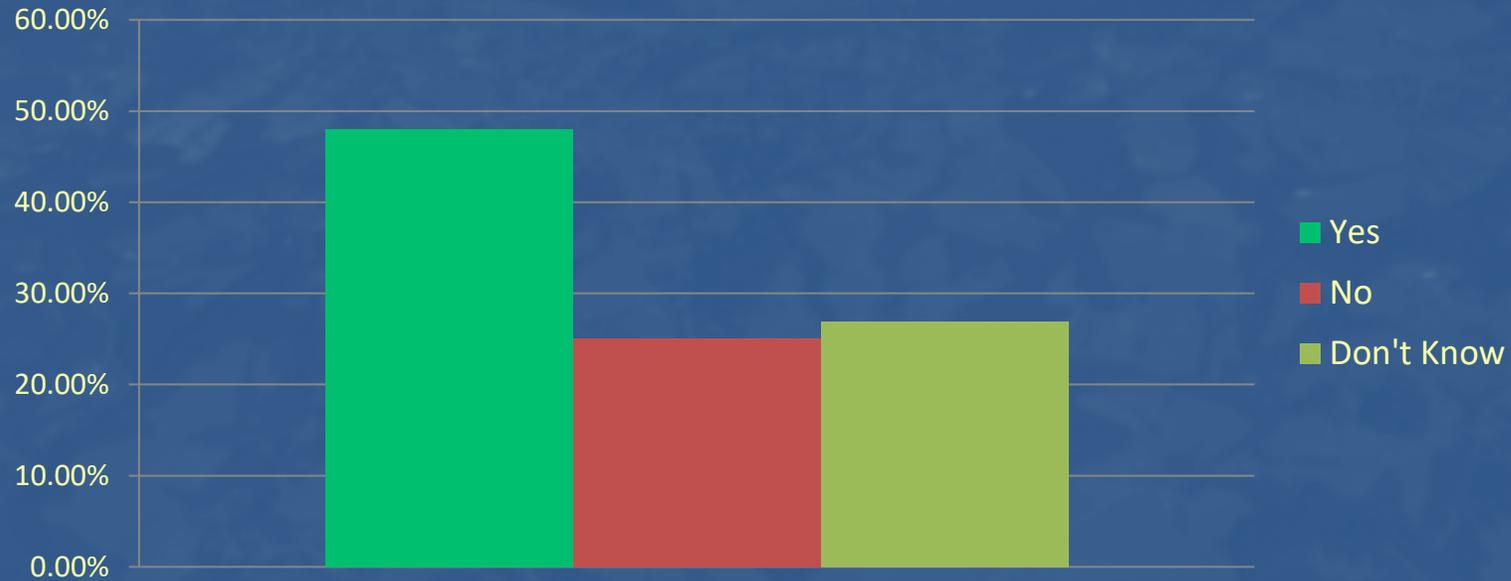
Public Opinion Survey Update

In general, how well do you think the age groups listed below are served by parks, recreation, and open space in or near East Fallowfield Township?



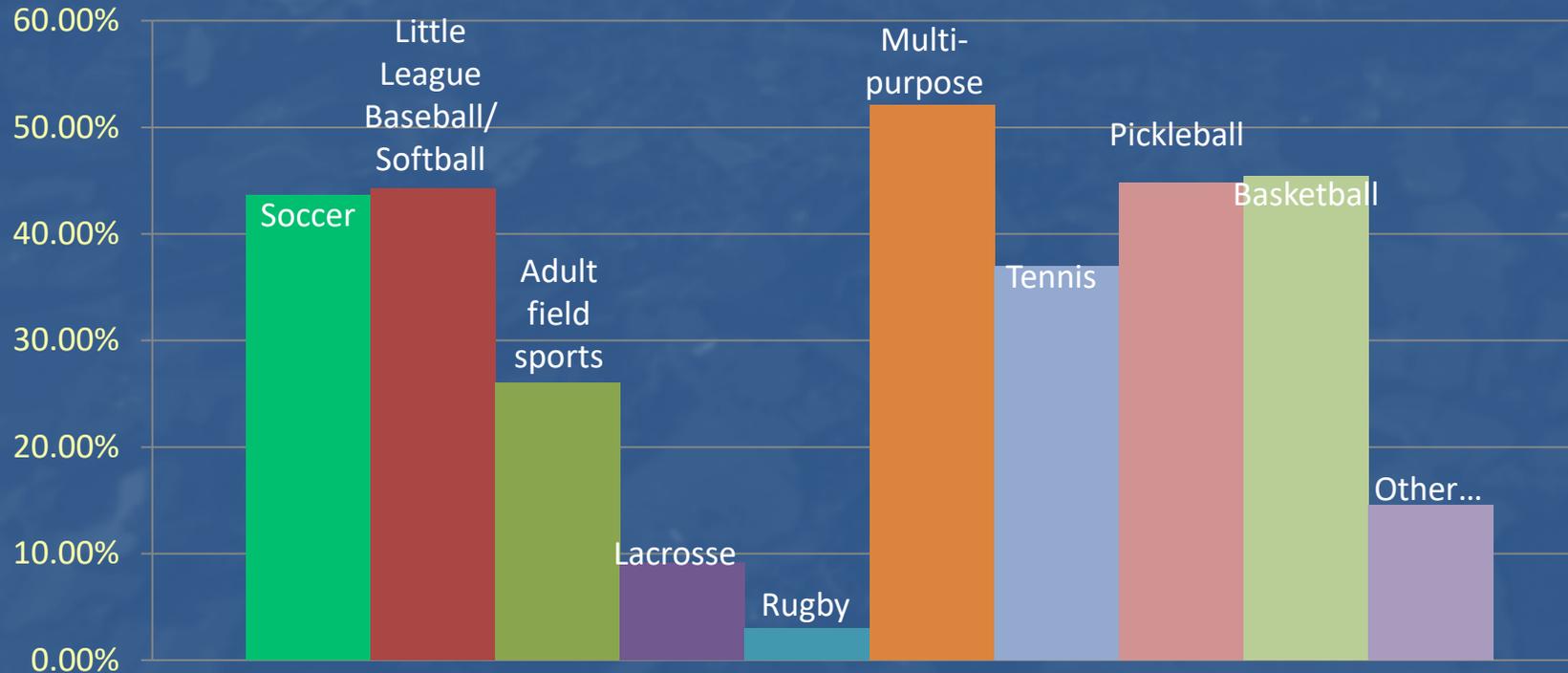
Public Opinion Survey Update

Do you think East Fallowfield Township needs more sports fields or courts (soccer, baseball, football, tennis, pickleball, basketball, etc.)?



Public Opinion Survey Update

If you answered yes on the previous question, which sports do you feel are in need of fields or courts? (Please check all that apply)



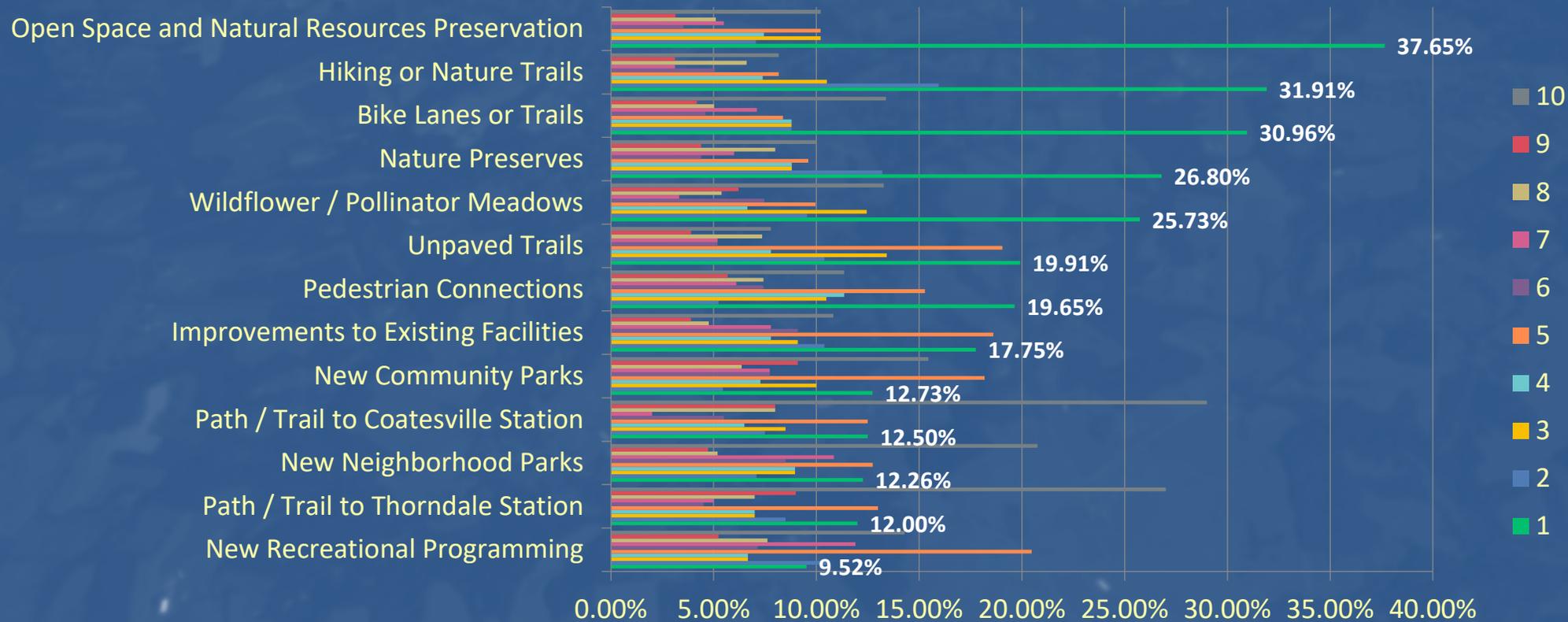
Other responses include:

- *Off-road biking*
- *Football*
- *Pool*
- *Disc golf*
- *Volleyball*
- *Hockey*
- *Grass fields*
- *“Literally anything...for my kids to play sports”*

Public Opinion Survey Update

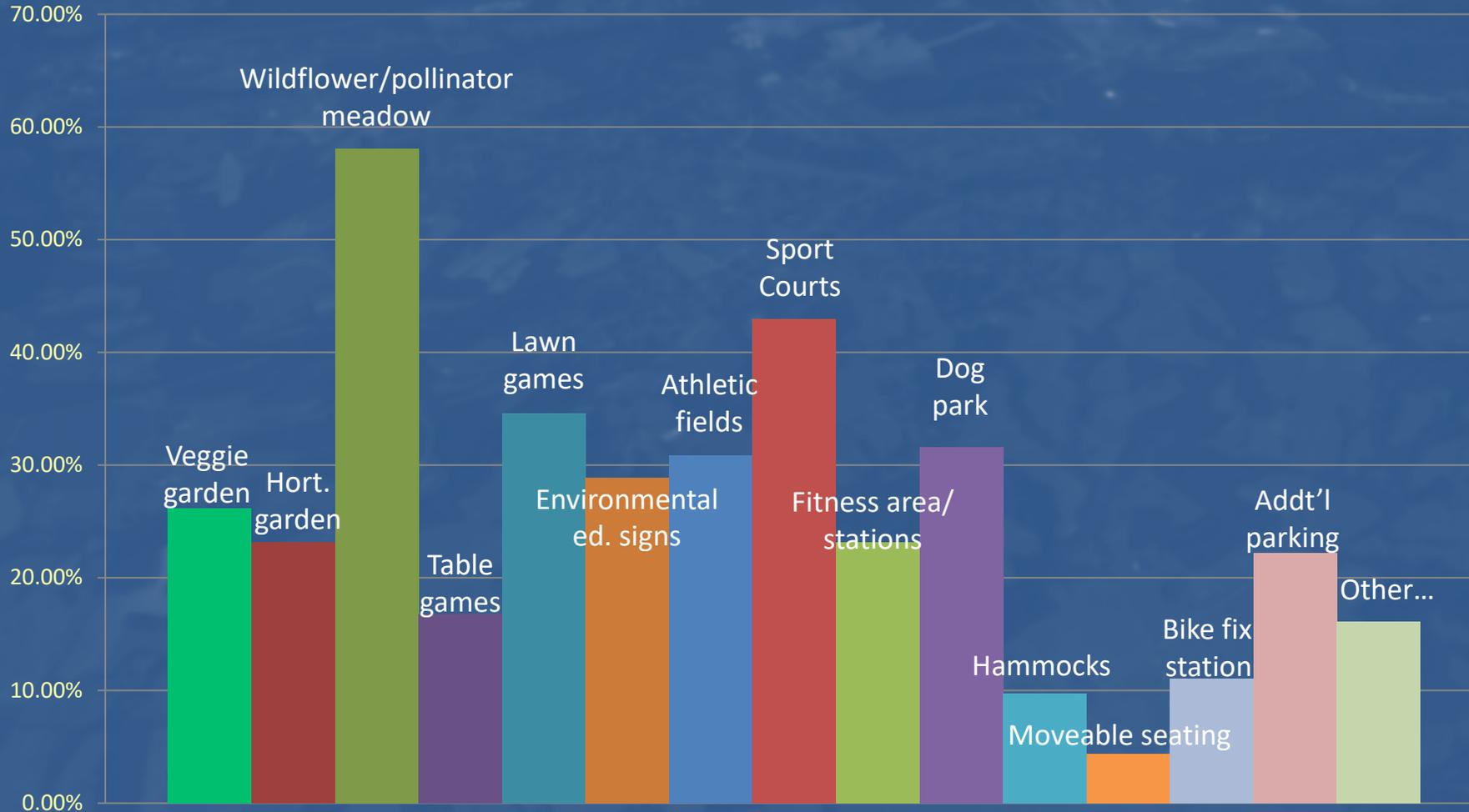
Please rank the top 10 priorities that you feel East Fallowfield Township should focus on in the parks and open space plan. (1 = High Priority, 10 = Low Priority)

Sorted by 'High Priority'



Public Opinion Survey Update

What facilities should be added at East Fallowfield Township Park?



Other responses include:

- Disc golf
- Pool / splash pad
- Off-road biking
- Shade
- Fountain/water feature
- Signage / Maps
- New playground equipment
- Hockey rink
- Benches
- Restrooms
- Historical education
- No pickleball

Public Opinion Survey Update

What concerns might you have about

improvements to East Fallowfield Township Park?

- Parking
- Overcrowding / Traffic
- Safety / Security concerns
- Costs / Improvements might lead to higher taxes
- Resources better spent on road maintenance or a new park?
- Environmental impacts (habitat, trees, stormwater)
- Park becoming a teen “hangout”
- Park not ADA accessible
- Park not accessible from surrounding roads
- Need better walking trails
- Pond is unfishable
- Opportunities for Eagle Scout environmental projects
- Dirt bike / ATV track amidst trees (get kids “off the streets”)
- Maintain the rural feel of the Township
- Keep it as a natural, peaceful space
- Hard-working grounds staff – provide education in best practices
- Walking trail from new planned elementary school

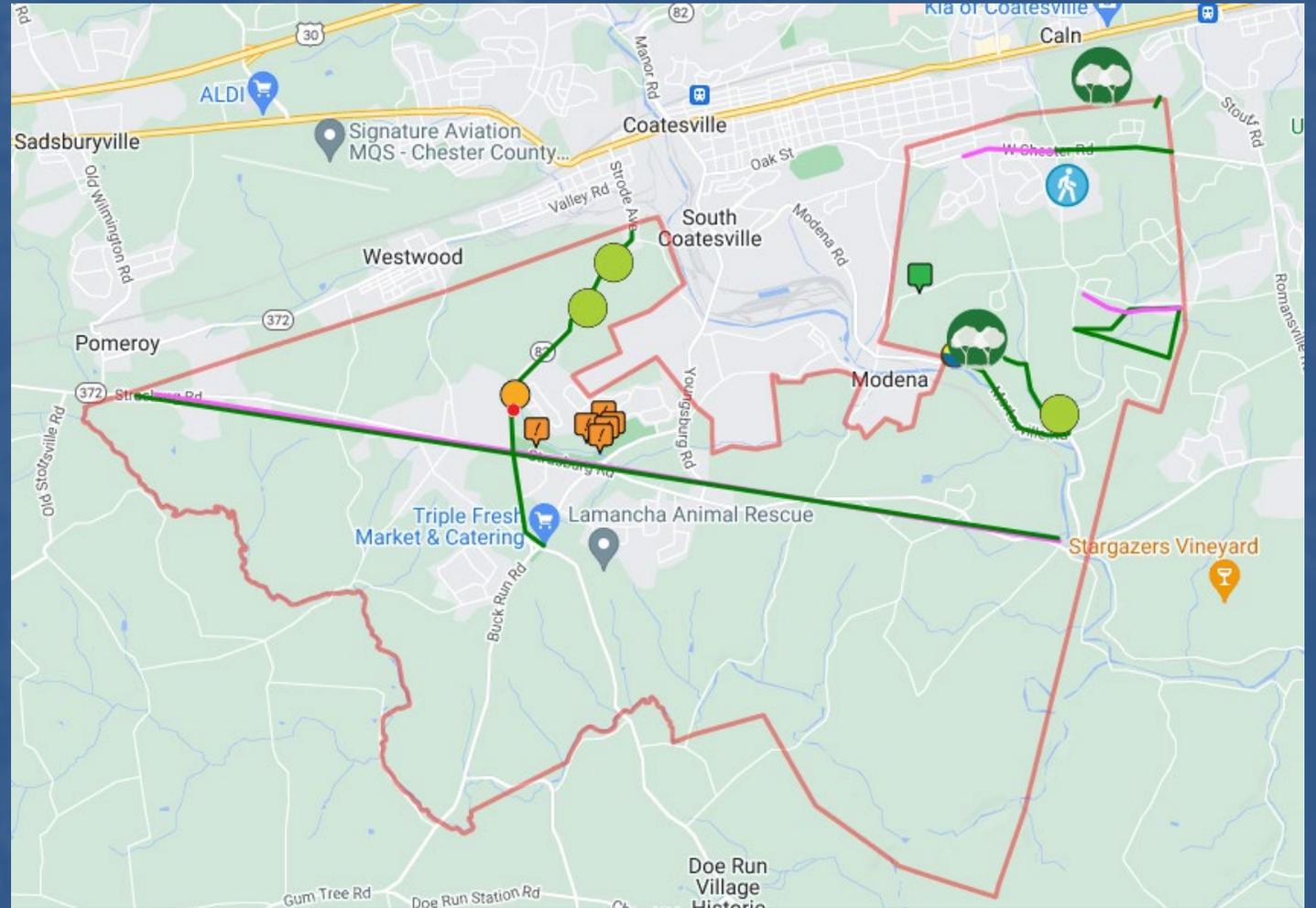
Additional comments or ideas

- More events; concerts, food trucks, outdoor movies, Park Day
- No paths in residents’ front yards
- Zero depth water feature / Splash pad / Pool
- Purchase East Fallowfield Elementary School
- New nature preserve
- Make park totally accessible
- More trees in the park
- Moratorium on new construction
- More youth sports within EFT – generate Township revenue
- Protect open space / no new space for activities
- Township is turning into an Exton-like environment
- Dog park
- Extend Township Park access path into the surrounding communities
- Connect existing trails in and around the Township with safe bike / walking routes
- Link to Rails to Trails – bring commerce into area
- Focus new recreation improvements in eastern EFT – major housing developments

WikiMapping Results

26 WikiMap comments made as of February 27, 2024

Routes	Points
 Desired Sidewalk	 All Other Comments
 Desired Trail	 Barriers
 Existing Sidewalk	 Challenging Ped / Bicycle Area
 Existing Trail	 Desired Location for Crosswalk
 Waterway Good For Recreation	 Desired Location for Park / Recreational Facility
	 Desired Parks & Recreation Improvement / Access
	 Desired Water Access
	 Existing Park / Recreation Area
	 Important Local Destination
	 Scenic Views
	 Wildlife Spotted Here



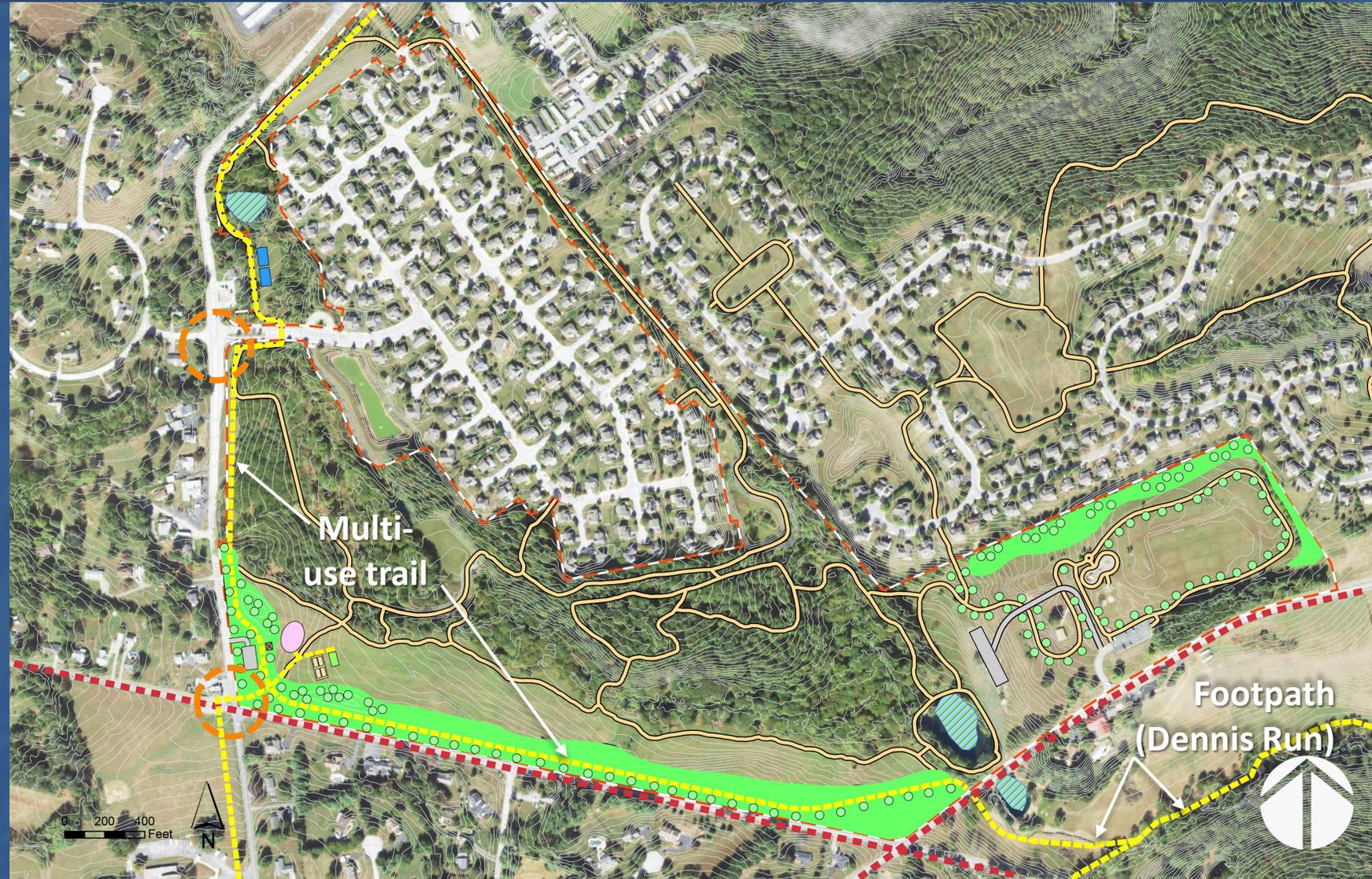
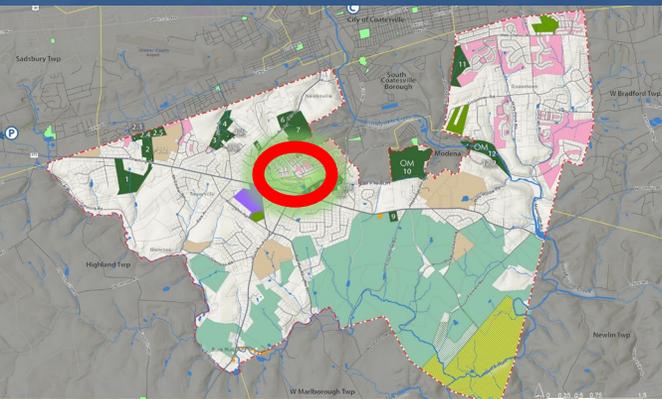
Projected Community Park Facility Needs

Projected Park Facility Needs

Community Park

Not a design, layout is for spatial & conceptual purposes

-  Mixed buffer planting
-  Shade tree planting
-  Off-road trail/path (proposed)
-  On-road trail (proposed)
-  Trail/path (existing)
-  Improved intersection/road crossing



Projected Park Facility Needs

Community Park

Not a design, layout is for spatial & conceptual purposes

-  Mixed buffer planting
-  Shade tree planting
-  Off-road trail/path (proposed)
-  On-road trail (proposed)
-  Trail/path (existing)
-  Formalized/paved parking & drive
-  Improved access
-  Open play field – could be formalized



Projected Park Facility Needs

Community Park

Not a design, layout is for spatial & conceptual purposes

-  Mixed buffer planting
-  Shade tree planting
-  Stormwater Management BMP
-  Off-road trail/path (proposed)
-  On-road trail (proposed)
-  Trail/path (existing)
-  Improved intersection/road crossing
-  Formalized/paved parking & drive
-  Inclusive playground
-  Tennis (1) or pickleball courts (4)
-  Volleyball court
-  Restroom



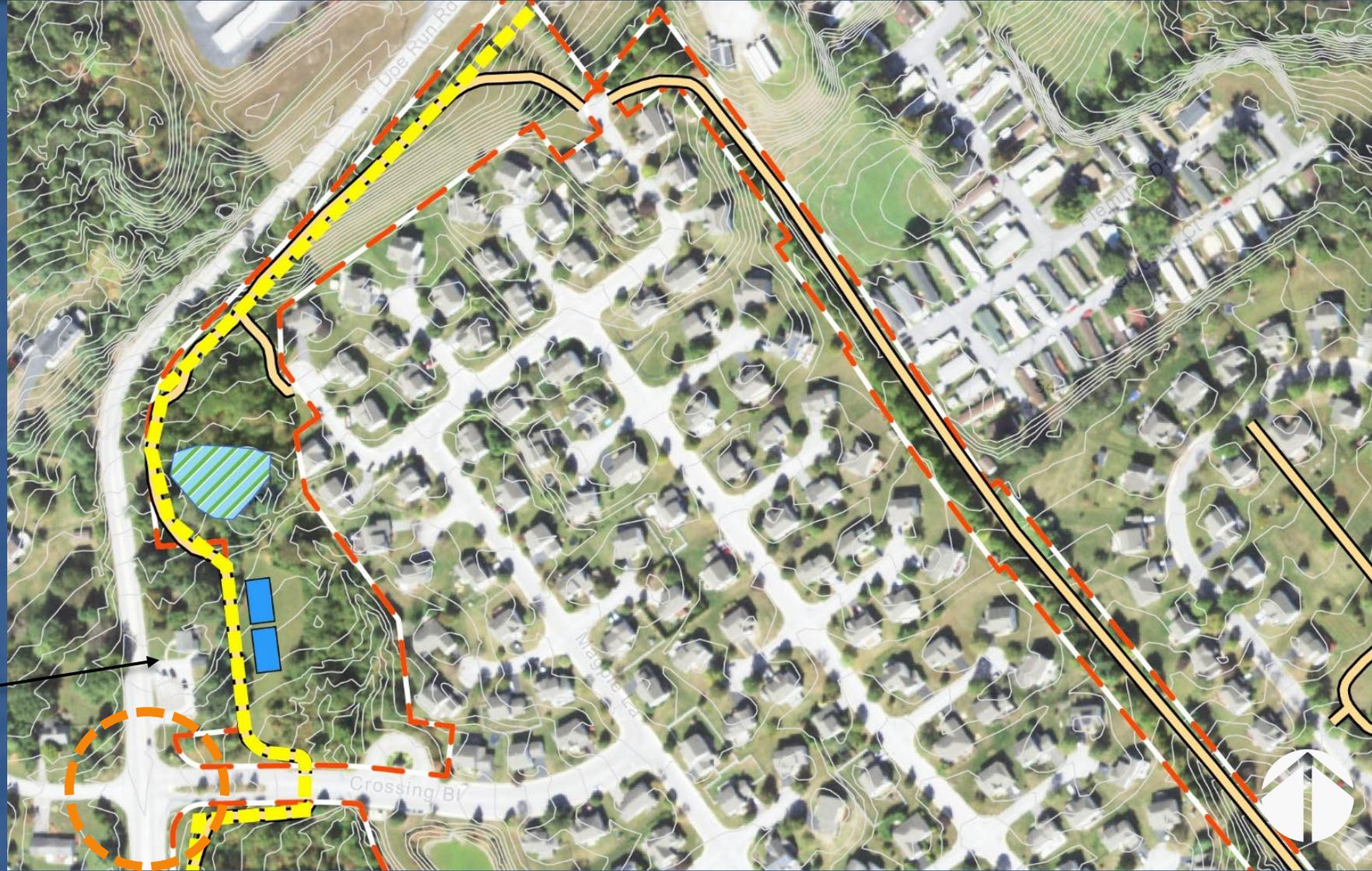
Projected Park Facility Needs

Community Park

Not a design, layout is for spatial & conceptual purposes

-  Mixed buffer planting
-  Shade tree planting
-  Off-road trail/path (proposed)
-  On-road trail (proposed)
-  Trail/path (existing)
-  Improved intersection/road crossing
-  Basketball Courts (2)

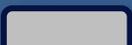
Repurposed building & parking lot

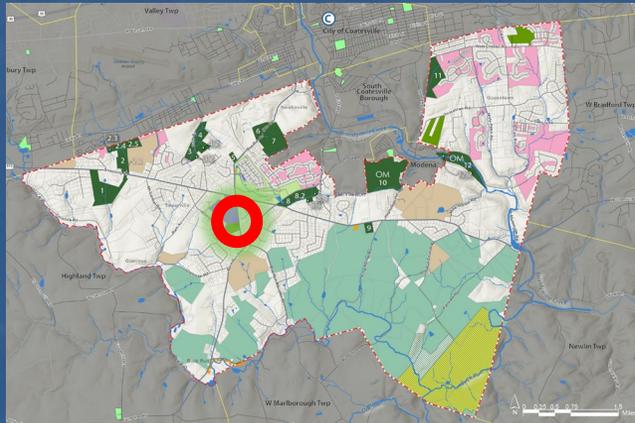


Projected Park Facility Needs

Wilmington Road Parcel

Not a design, layout is for spatial & conceptual purposes

-  Inclusive Playground
-  Ballfield (20' base path)
-  Soccer/multi-purpose field (200' x 330')
-  Pickleball/tennis court
-  Fitness station
-  Parking (+/- 80 cars total)
-  Road crossing
-  Path Connection
-  Driveway

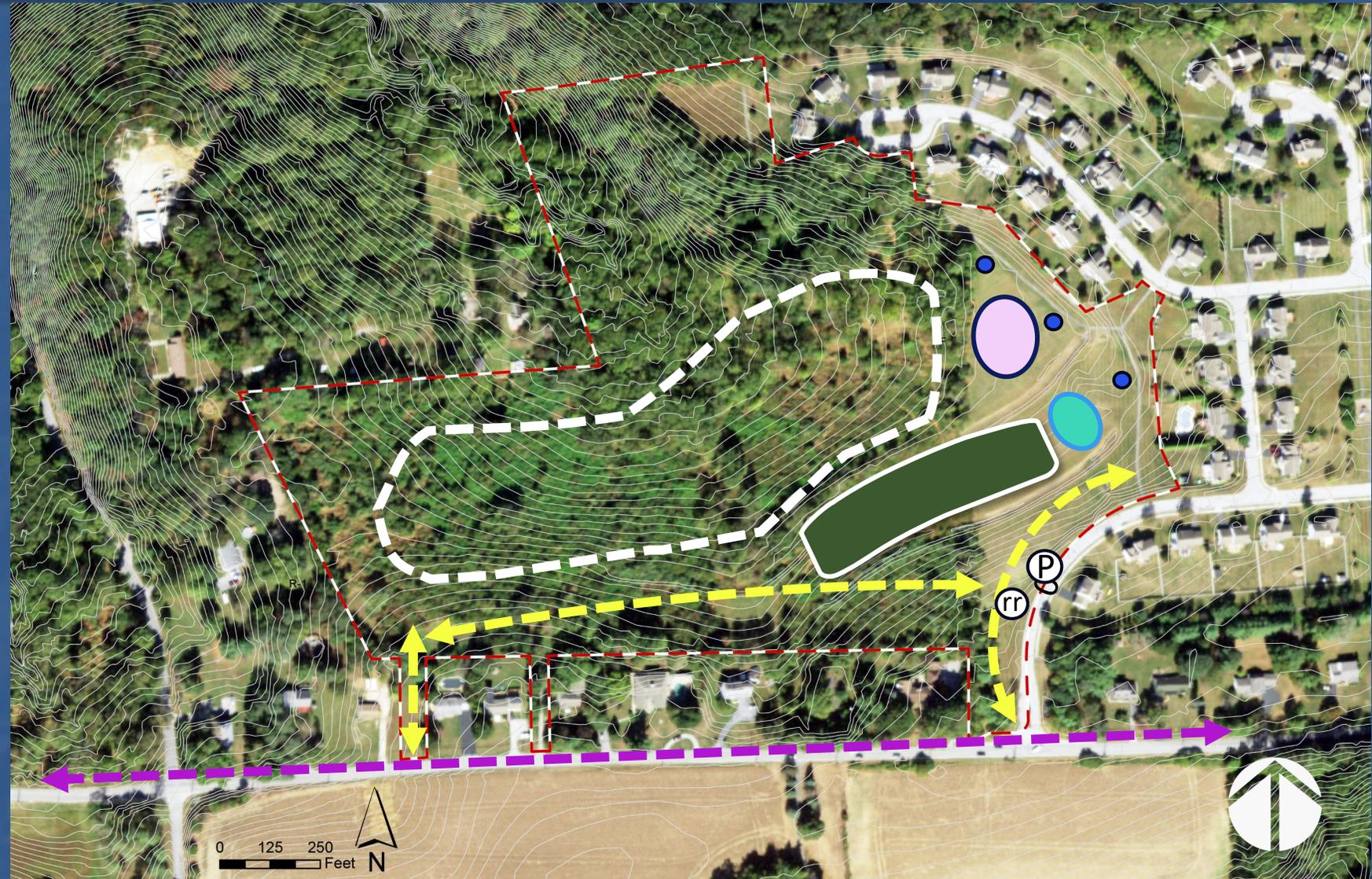
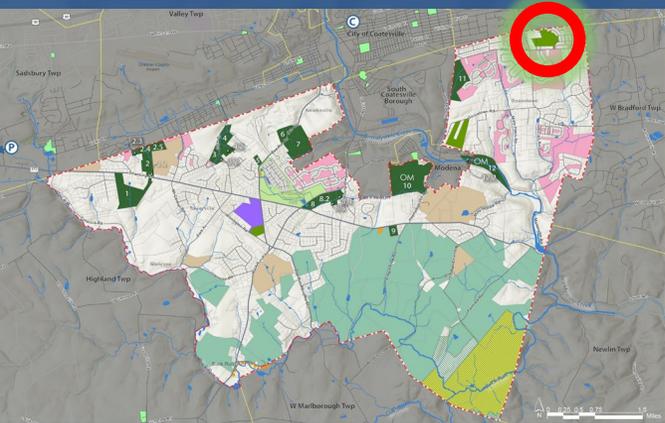


Projected Park Facility Needs

W. Chester Rd Parcel

Not a design, layout is for spatial & conceptual purposes

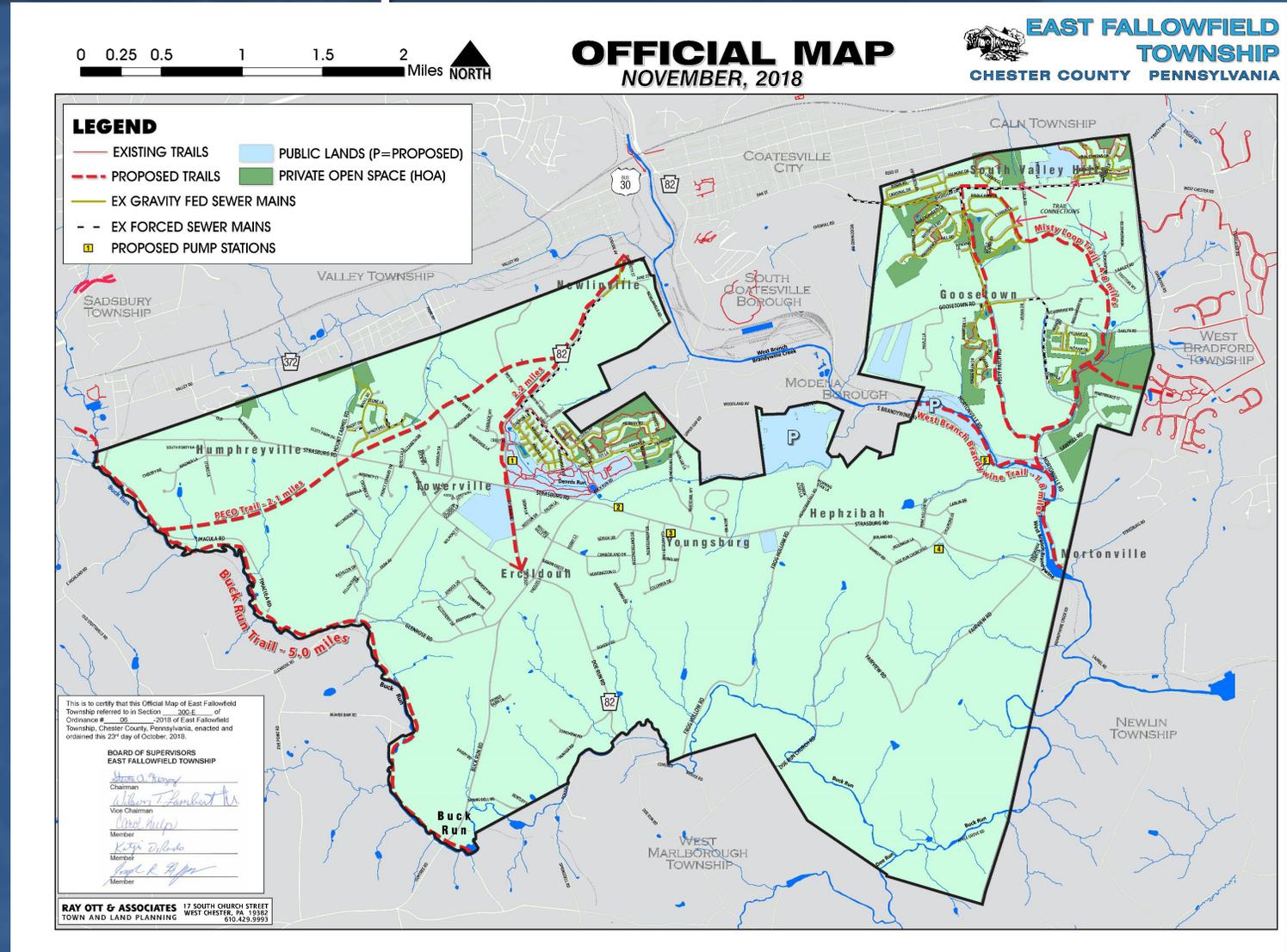
-  (Nature-Based) Playground
-  Fitness station
-  Dog Park
-  Disc Golf
-  Path
-  Sidewalk
-  Stormwater BMP
-  Single-unit restroom
-  Parking 10 spaces



Potential Open Space & Rec Expansion / Acquisition

Potential Open Space & Rec Expansion

- East Fallowfield Township Official Map - Completed in 2018
- **An Official Map is an effective negotiating tool for municipalities,** helping to ensure long-term preservation of open space
- An Official Map can include:
 - Existing and proposed **public parks, playgrounds and open space**
 - Existing and proposed **trail alignments**
 - Flood control areas, **floodways and floodplains, stormwater management areas** and drainage easements



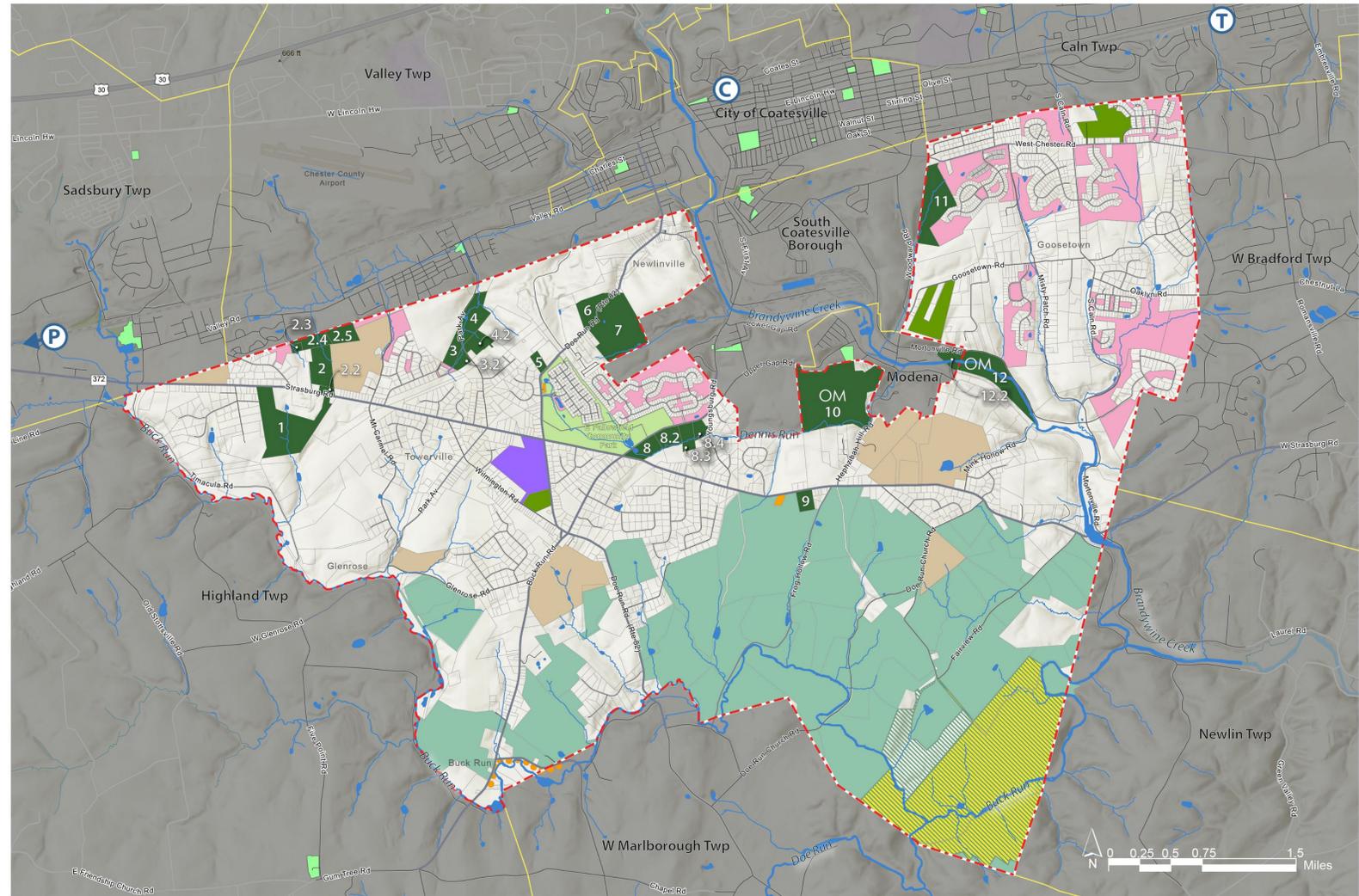
Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

- Mix of undeveloped open space, agriculture, wooded areas, slopes, creeks/streams, adjacent to HOA lands

-  Potential Open Space Parcels
-  Proposed Public Lands – from East Fallowfield Township Official Map, 2018

Existing Conditions

-  East Fallowfield Township Boundary
-  Municipal Boundaries
-  Parcels
-  Water Body
-  Local (Township) Road
-  Turnback Township Road
-  State Route
-  Township Open Space (Passive)
-  Township Recreation (Active)
-  Other Township Properties
-  School District Properties
-  Other Local / Neighborhood Parks
-  Home Owners Associations
-  Agricultural Easements
-  Parcels with Easements held by Brandywine Conservancy
-  Parcels Owned In-Fee by Brandywine Conservancy
-  Parcels with Easements held by Natural Lands
-  Parkesburg Station (AMTRAK)
-  Coatesville Station (AMTRAK)
-  Thorndale Station (SEPTA)



Parcels to Add to the Official Map

- *Recommended parcels to add to the Official Map*
- *Not all parcels will be acquired*
- *Parcel 10 (Beagle Club-106.8 acres) and Parcel 12 (Brownfield Site-39.4 acres) are already on the Official Map*

Parcel Number	Site	Size (Acres)	Potential Use
1	Strasburg Rd. behind Weaver Mulch	64	Athletic Facilities
2, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5	Strasburg Rd. opposite Weaver Mulch	44.5	Athletic Facilities
3, 3.2, 4, 4.2	Park Ave., near asphalt plant	47.6	Resource Protection, Passive Open Space
5	Doe Run Rd., wooded lot next to A Safe Self Storage	4.7	Athletic Fields
6, 7	Doe Run Rd. – Sisk Farm	69.5	Athletic Fields
8, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4	Buck Run Rd., opposite Community Park	36.9	Cultural Landscape
9	Elementary School site	7.5	Adaptive Reuse; Community / Senior Center
11	Open space adjacent to Providence Hill	41.7	Conservation / Open Space
TOTAL		316.4	
TOTAL (Including Beagle Club and Brownfield Site)		462.6	

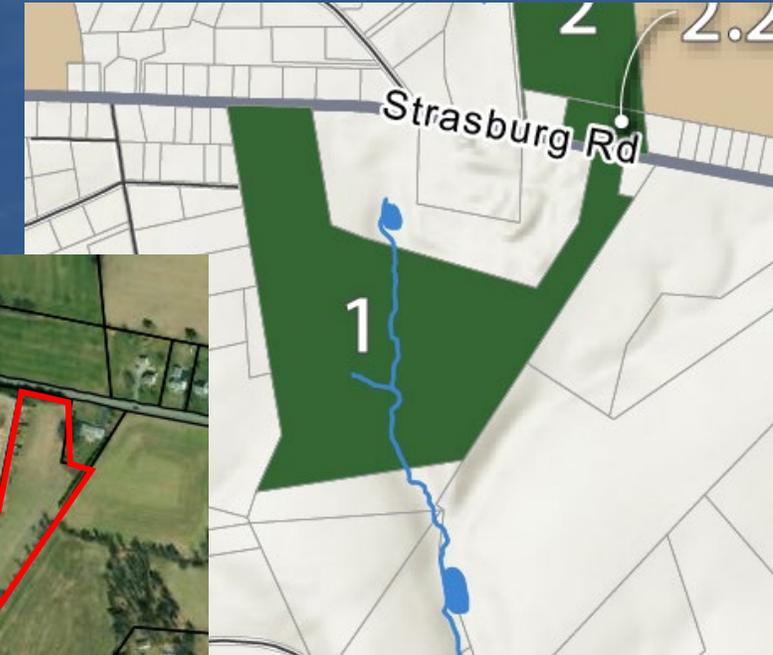
Potential Priority Parks and Open Space Plan Acreage

Potential Priority Parcels for Parks + Open Space	Acres	% of Township
East Fallowfield Township	9990.4	100%
Potential Priority Parcels for Township Acquisition		
Site 2 – Strasburg Road opposite Weaver Mulch	44.5	0.4%
Sites 6, 7 – Sisk Farm	69.5	0.7%
Site 8 – Buck Run Road opposite Community Park	36.9	0.4%
Site 12 – Brownfield Site along Mortonville Road	45.7	0.5%
Total Potential Acreage	196.6	2.0%

Acquisition of the properties would help reduce the acreage deficit of parks and open space in the Township.

Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

- Parcel 1 – Strasburg Rd. behind Weaver Mulch
 - Size: 64 acres
 - Characteristics:
 - Buck Run tributary
 - Could be used for athletic facilities
 - Prime agricultural soils on less than 50% of the site
 - Adjacent to single family residential development on 3 sides
 - Potential Uses:
 - Active sports fields
 - Trails
 - Passive riparian areas



Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition



Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

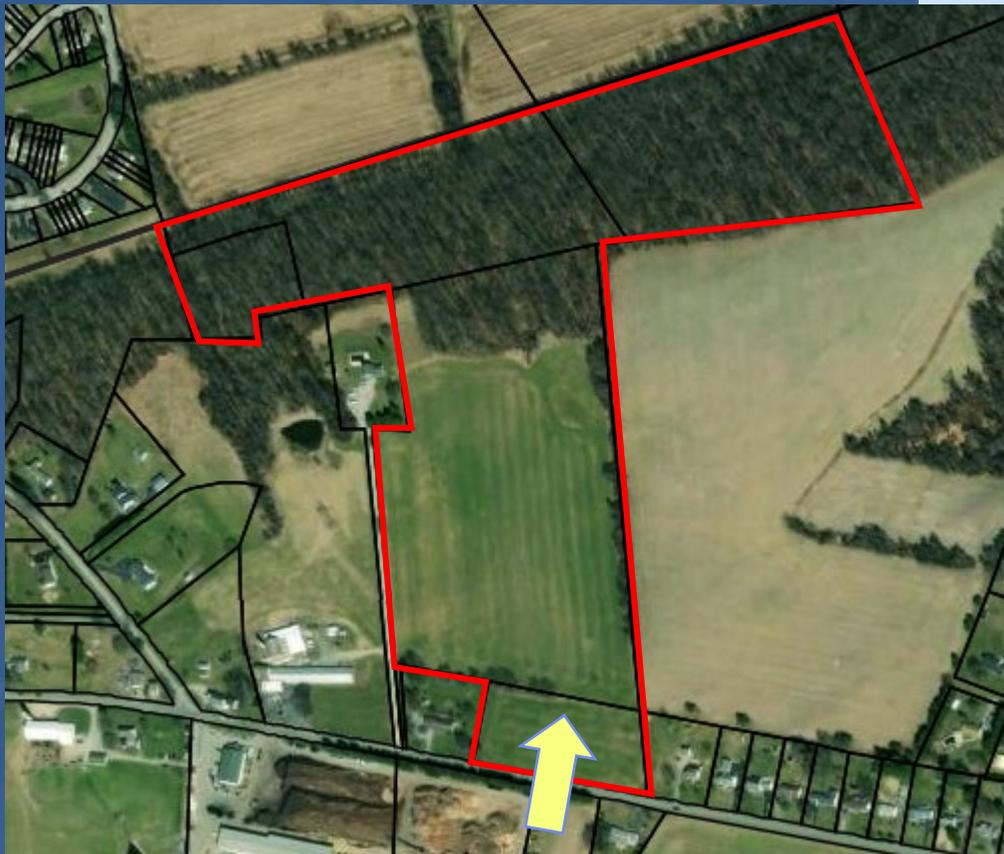
- **Parcels 2, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 – Strasburg Rd. opposite Weaver Mulch**

- Size: 44.5 acres
- Characteristics:
 - Headwaters onsite
 - Prime agricultural soils on at least 50% of the site
 - Adjacent to agricultural land and HOA land
 - Adjacent to single family residential development on 3 sides
 - Adjacent to multi-family development
 - Woodlands coverage at rear of site



- Potential Uses:**
- Active sports fields (southern half)
 - Trails (north)

Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition



Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

- **Parcels 3, 3.2, 4, 4.2 – Park Ave., near asphalt plant**

- Size: 47.6 acres
- Characteristics:
 - Headwaters onsite and on adjacent parcels
 - Agricultural soils of statewide importance on less than 50% of the site
 - Woodlands coverage on 50-75%+ of the site
 - Adjacent to HOA open space
 - Adjacent to single family residential development
 - Presence of historic site



Potential Uses:

- Passive open space
- Natural resource protection

Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

- Parcel 5 – Doe Run Rd., wooded lot next to A Safe Self Storage

- Size: 4.7 acres
- Characteristics:
 - Prime agricultural soils on at least 50% of the site
 - Woodlands coverage on 50-75% of the site
 - Adjacent to Community Park
 - Adjacent to single family residential development on 2 sides
 - Presence of trails
- Potential Uses:
 - Passive uses



Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition



Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

- **Parcels 6, 7 – Doe Run Rd., Sisk Farm**

- Size: 69.5 acres
- Characteristics:
 - Headwaters on adjacent parcel
 - Tributary to Sucker Run on site
 - Prime agricultural soils on at least 50% of the site
 - Woodlands coverage on 25-50% of the site
 - Adjacent to single family residential development on 1 side
 - Presence of historic site



- Potential Uses:**
- Active sports fields

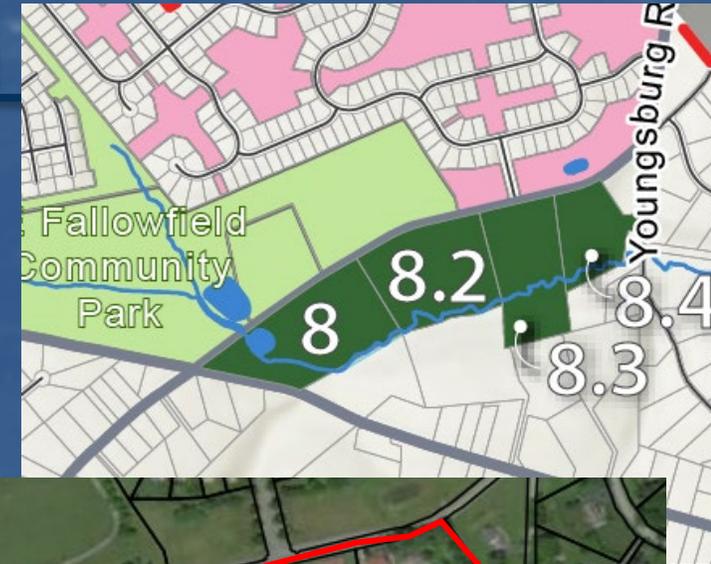
Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition



Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

- **Parcels 8, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4 – Buck Run Rd., opposite Community Park**

- Size: 36.9 acres
- Characteristics:
 - Presence of Dennis Run
 - Former dairy farm / Existing residence
 - Historic & cultural landscape
 - Prime agricultural soils on at least 50% of the site
 - Woodlands coverage on 25-50% of the site
 - Adjacent to Community Park & single family res. development
 - Presence of wetlands
- Potential Uses:
 - Passive open space
 - Trails
 - Historical interpretation/education



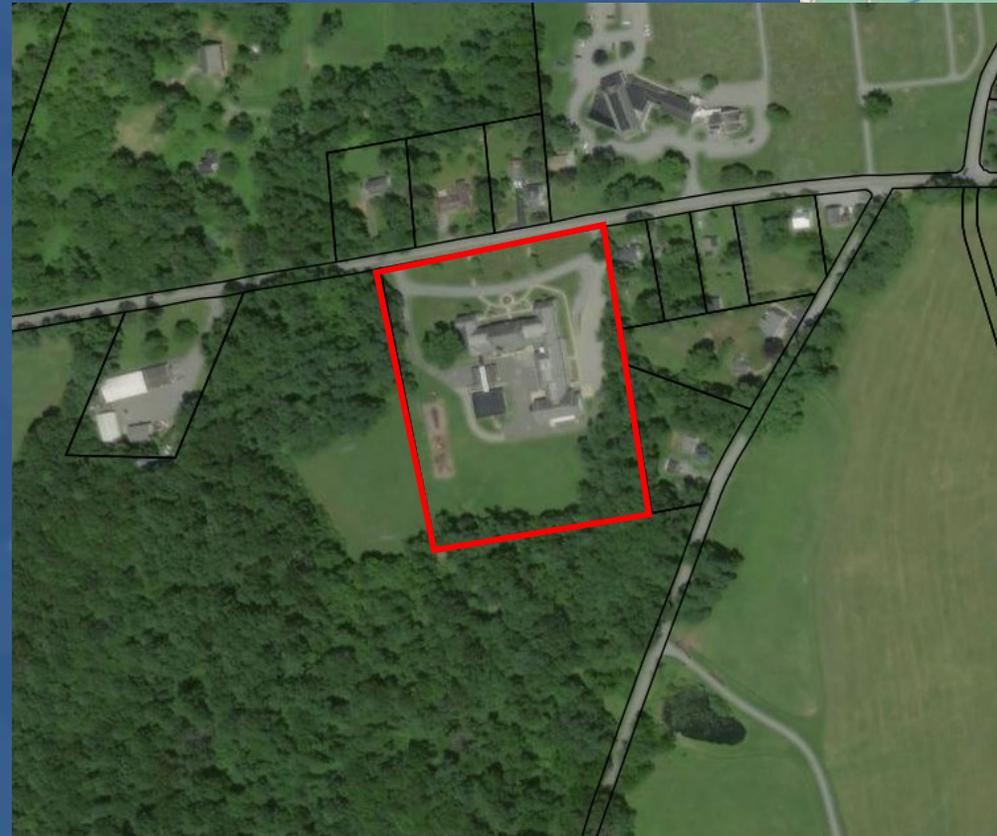
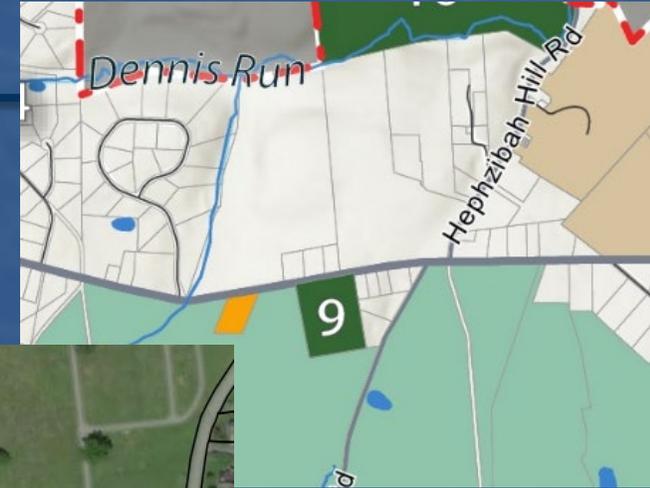
Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition



Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

- Parcel 9 –Elementary School Site

- Size: 7.5 acres
- Characteristics:
 - Prime agricultural soils on at least 50% of the site
 - Adjacent to permanently preserved land
 - Adjacent to single family residential development on 2 sides
- Potential Uses:
 - Community center?
 - Sports courts
 - Skatepark?



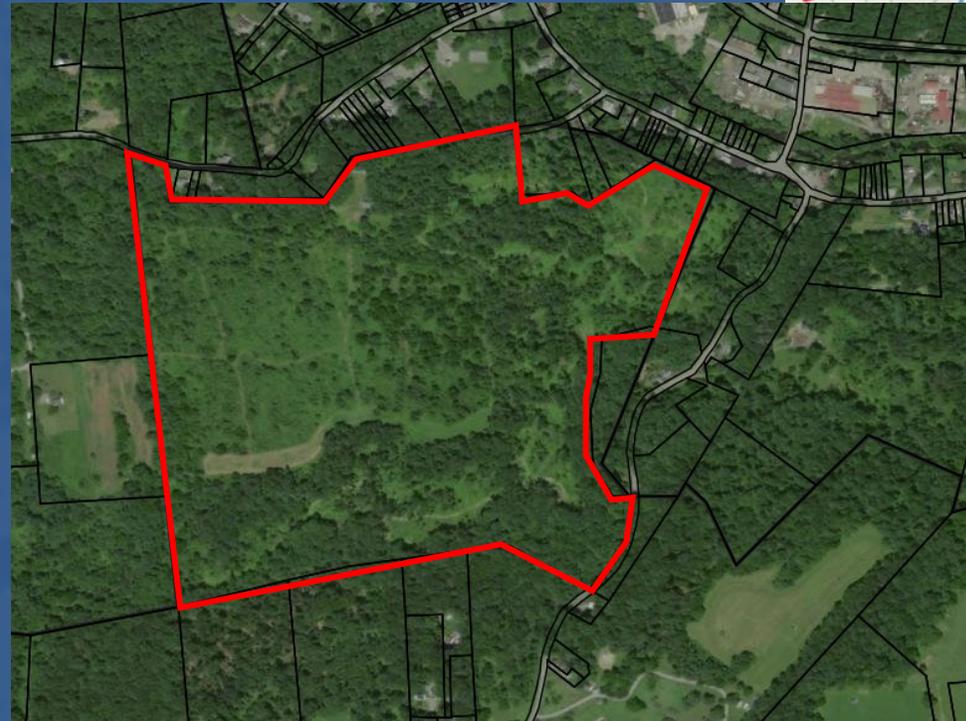
Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition



Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

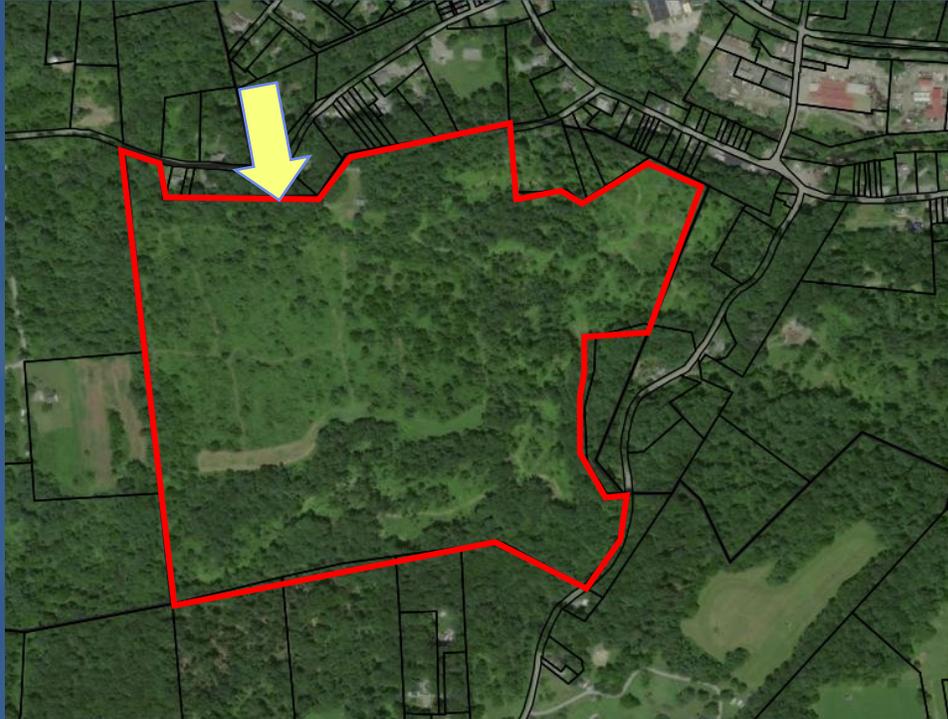
- Parcel 10 – Beagle Club (on Official Map)

- Size: 106.8 acres
- Characteristics:
 - Presence of Dennis Run
 - Trail along greenway
 - Prime agricultural soils on at least 50% of the site
 - Woodlands coverage on 50-75% of the site
 - Adjacent to agricultural land
 - Adjacent to single family residential development on 4 sides
 - Adjacent to historic site
 - Planned off-road trails



- Potential Uses:
- Passive open space
 - Nature preserve

Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition



Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

- Parcel 11 – Open Space Adjacent to Providence Hill Development

- Size: 41.7 acres
- Characteristics:
 - Tributary of Brandywine Creek on site
 - Constrained for development / conservation value / open space
 - Prime agricultural soils on less than 50% of the site
 - Woodlands coverage on at least 75% of the site
 - Adjacent to HOA land
 - Adjacent to single family residential development on 2 sides
 - Adjacent to neighborhood trails



- Potential Uses:
- Passive open space

Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

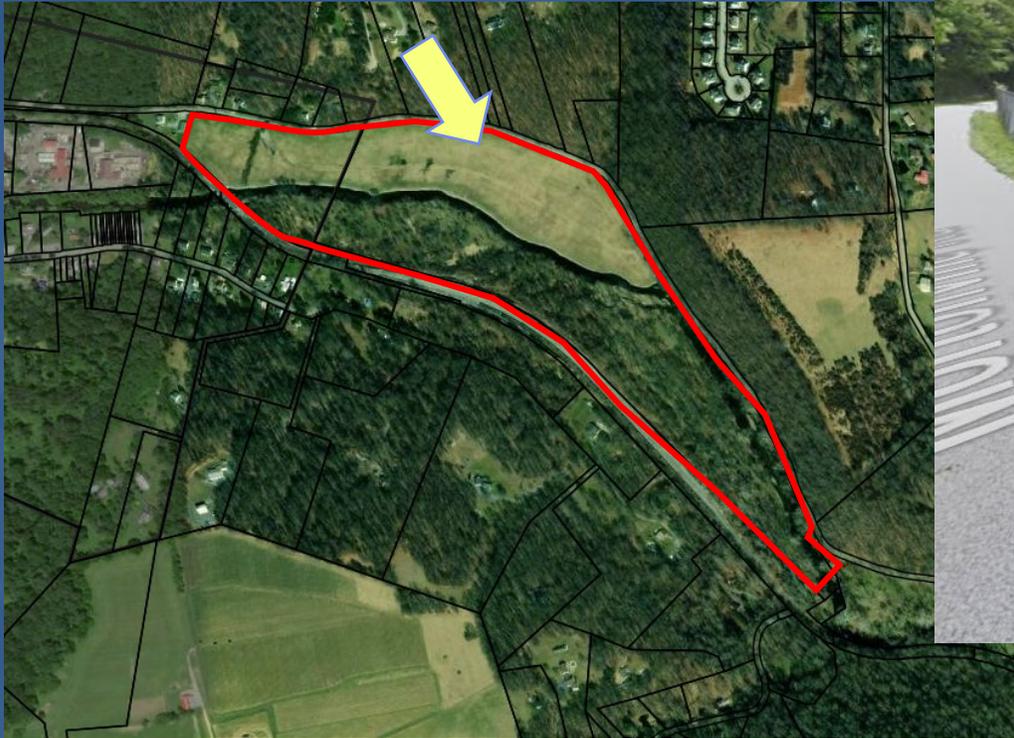
- Parcel 12, 12.2– Brownfield Site Along Mortonville (Priority Site / On Official Map)

- Size: 45.7 acres
- Characteristics:
 - Brandywine Creek on site
 - 75% of site is in the 100 Year Floodplain
 - Woodlands coverage on 50-75% of the site
 - Planned off-road trails
- Potential Uses:
 - Active sports fields
 - Bird habitat / Meadow / Trails
 - Canoe/kayak launch
 - Nature preserve (south side of creek)



Potential Open Space & Rec Acquisition

Aug 2021



Historic Preservation

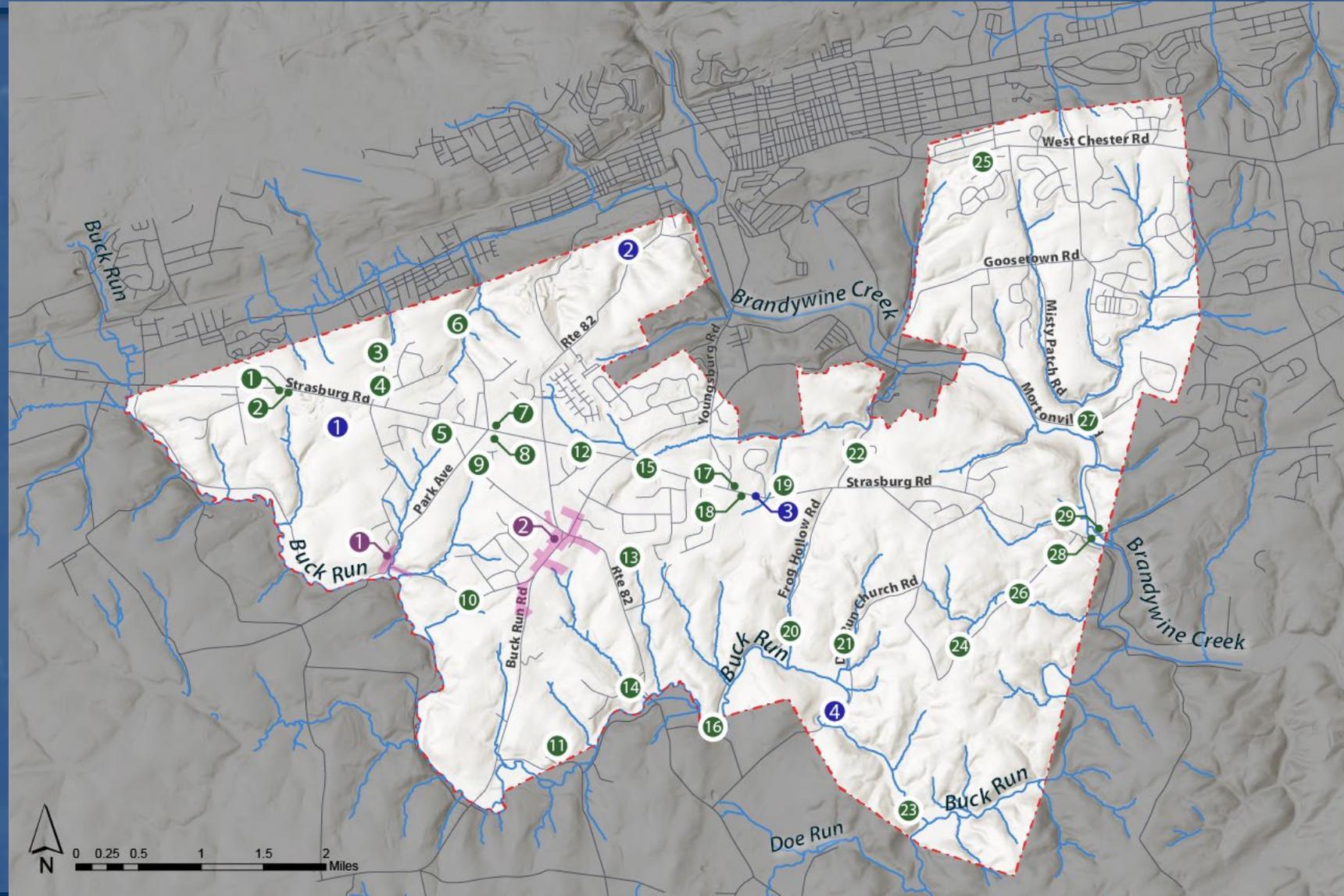
Historic Preservation

- Benefits
 - Historic buildings or areas help reinforce a community's heritage and identity
 - Preservation allows residents to have greater pride and recognition of their past and shared history
 - Reuse of these structures as new businesses can help boost jobs, spur private development and investment and allow them to be contributing resources to the local economy
 - Historic districts can help preserve community heritage (East Fallowfield has 2 historic districts)



National Register of Historic Places

- Listed – 29 ●
- Eligible – 4 ●
- Districts - 2 ●



Promoting Historic Preservation

- National Register of Historic Places
 - Nation's official repository of structures, districts, buildings, etc. that should be preserved
 - Sites may qualify for tax credits based on costs of preserving the resource
 - PA Historical & Museum Commission is the official State Historic Preservation Office and determines which resources are eligible
- Historic Districts
 - Groups of buildings or sites that have a unique historic character or style
 - Historical Commission can assist Supervisors with regulations on construction, demolition and alterations in these districts

Historic Preservation Recommendations

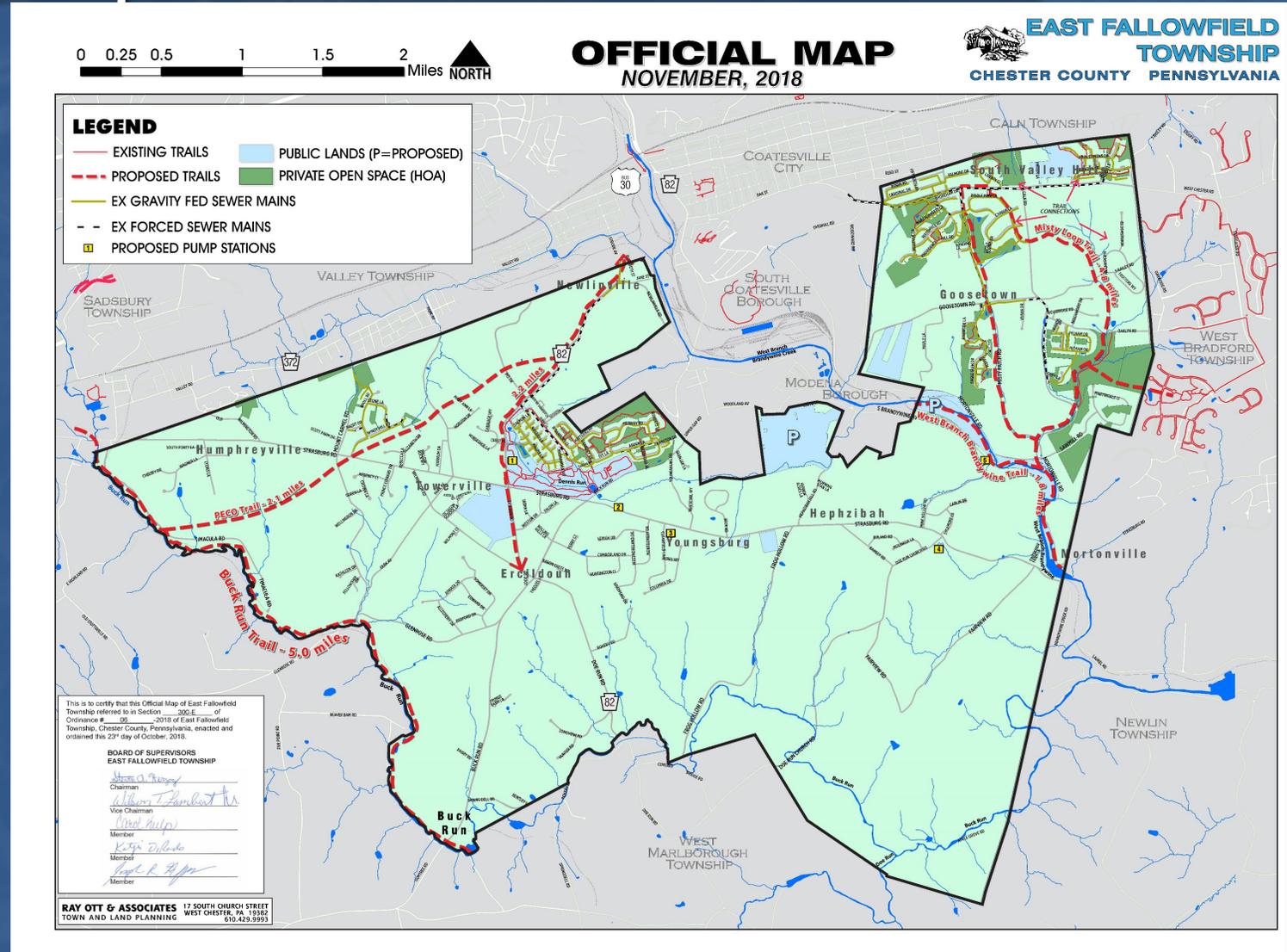
- Identify additional historic resources that may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- Apply existing zoning regulations that allow for the adaptive reuse of historic structures and ensures adherence to historic architectural styles
- Develop education programs that teach residents and students about the history and heritage of East Fallowfield Township



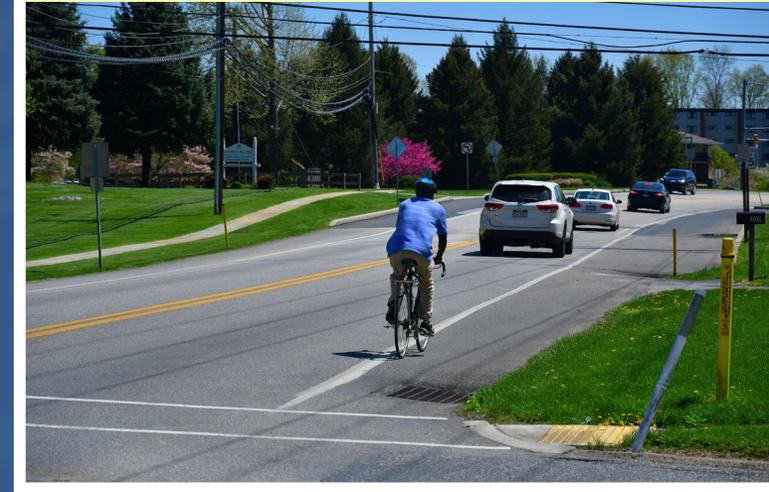
Proposed Trail Connections

Trails on the Official Map

- East Fallowfield Township Official Map - Completed in 2018
- **An Official Map is an effective negotiating tool for municipalities,** helping to ensure long-term preservation of open space
- An Official Map can include:
 - Existing and proposed **public parks, playgrounds and open space**
 - Existing and proposed **trail alignments**
 - Flood control areas, **floodways and floodplains, stormwater management areas** and drainage easements



Trail Types – On-Road



Sharrows

Signage

Improved Shoulders

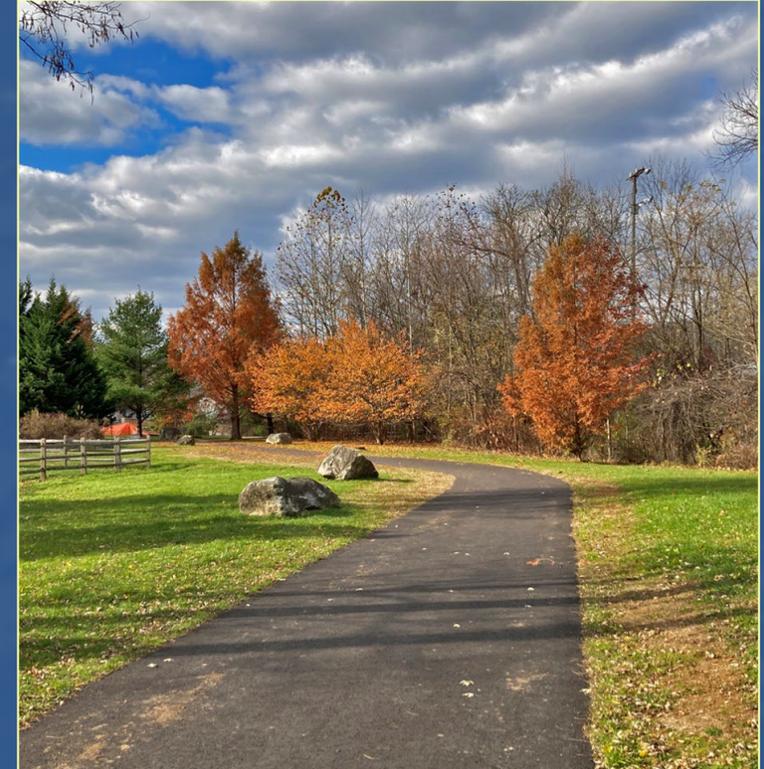
Trail Types – Off-Road



Earthen Path



Side Path



Paved Multi-Use Trail

Revised Proposed Trail Connections

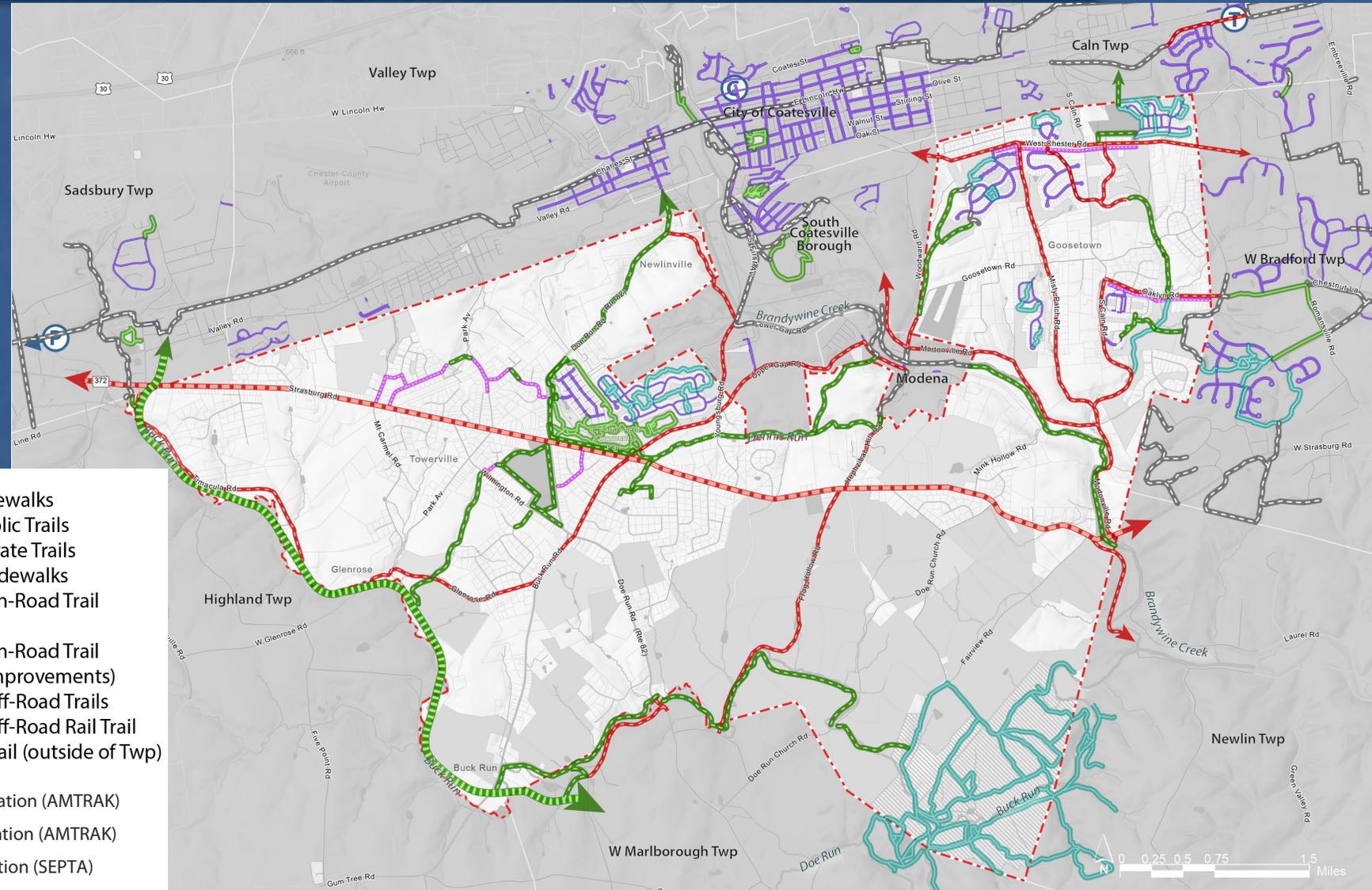
On-Road Trails – Exceptional Cyclists

- Strasburg Rd
- Newlinville Rd, Youngsborg Rd, Buck Run Rd, Glenrose Rd
- Timacula Rd
- Upper Gap Rd / Woodland Ave, N Brandywine Ave
- Hephzibah Hill Rd / Frog Hollow Rd
- Mortonville Rd
- Misty Loop Trail (from OM):
S Caln Rd, Misty Patch Rd, W Chester Rd, Bridle Path Ln / Vinebury Ln / Covewood Way
- Oaklyn Rd

Off-Road Trails

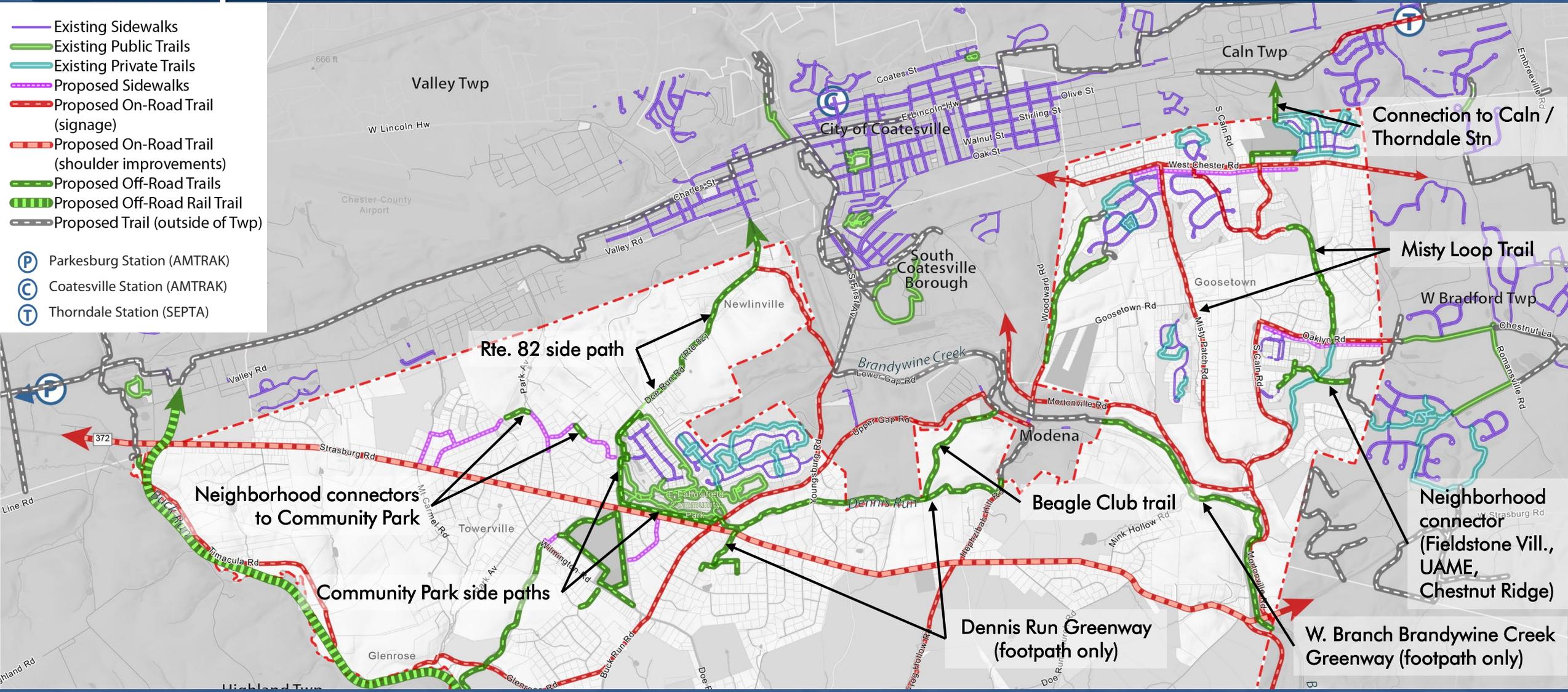
- Route 82 (from OM)
- W Brandywine Creek Greenway (from OM)
 - Parallel to Mortonville Rd
 - Buck Run Rail Trail
- Dennis Run Greenway
- Trail Caln Twp (and Thorndale Stn)

- Existing Sidewalks
- Existing Public Trails
- Existing Private Trails
- - - Proposed Sidewalks
- - - Proposed On-Road Trail (signage)
- - - Proposed On-Road Trail (shoulder improvements)
- - - Proposed Off-Road Trails
- - - Proposed Off-Road Rail Trail
- - - Proposed Trail (outside of Twp)
- (P) Parkesburg Station (AMTRAK)
- (C) Coatesville Station (AMTRAK)
- (T) Thorndale Station (SEPTA)

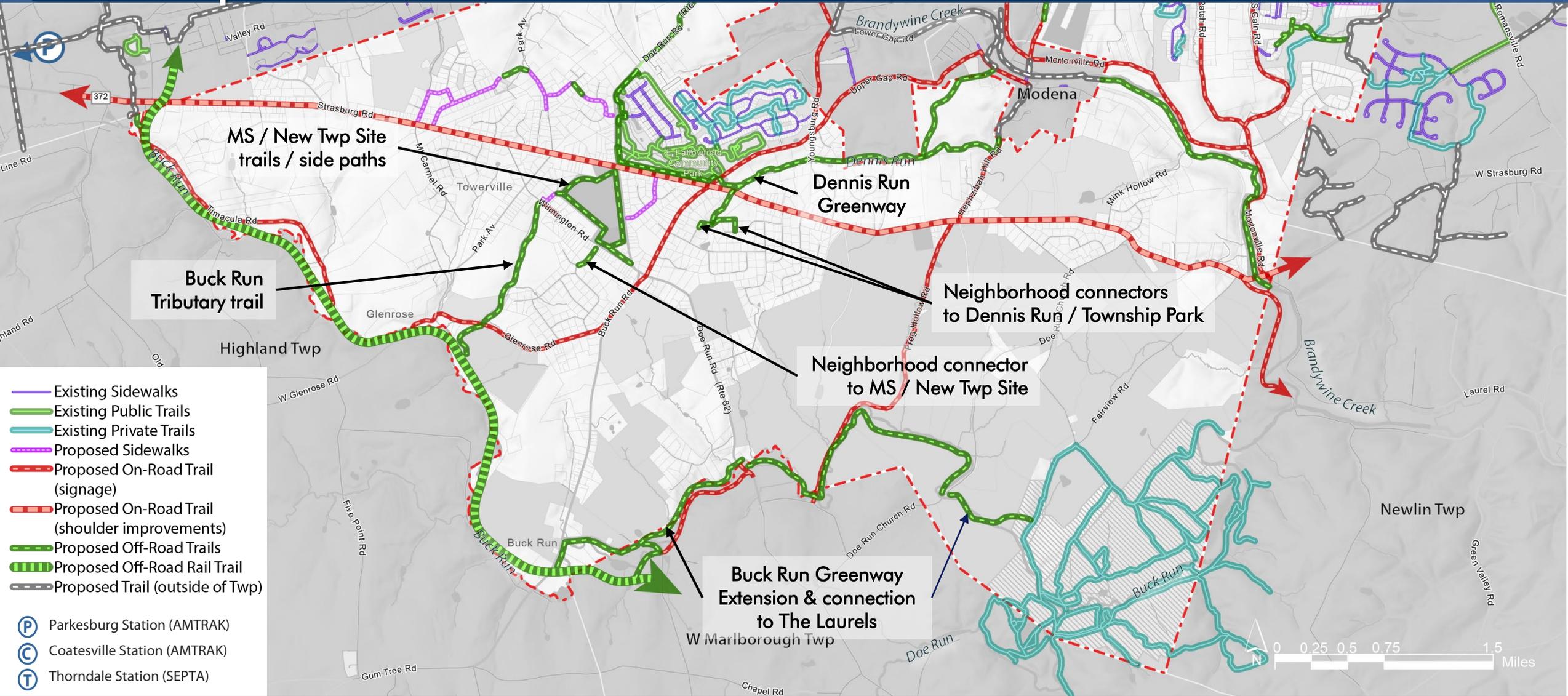


Conceptual Trail Connections

- Existing Sidewalks
 - Existing Public Trails
 - Existing Private Trails
 - - - Proposed Sidewalks
 - - - Proposed On-Road Trail (signage)
 - - - Proposed On-Road Trail (shoulder improvements)
 - - - Proposed Off-Road Trails
 - - - Proposed Off-Road Rail Trail
 - - - Proposed Trail (outside of Twp)
-
- P Parkesburg Station (AMTRAK)
 - C Coatesville Station (AMTRAK)
 - T Thorndale Station (SEPTA)



Conceptual Trail Connections



Administrative, Recreation and Maintenance Analysis and Recommendations

Administrative, Recreation and Maintenance Analysis

- Administrative Analysis
 - Staff has limited time available for recreational offerings due to other administrative responsibilities
 - Administrators work collaboratively with Park Board, and beyond their scope, to assist with recreation opportunities offered to residents
 - Limited written policies concerning Park Board responsibilities, volunteer recruitment / responsibilities, and Township's responsibilities
 - Historical special events records are disjointed



Administrative, Recreation and Maintenance Analysis

- Recreation Analysis

- Recreation / special event ideas are garnered through various sources
- Funding sources lead to event planning constraints
- Volunteer recruitment is challenging
- Events are well attended
- Improved communication (staff, board, residents) will enhance resident experiences



Administrative, Recreation and Maintenance Analysis

- Budgeting for Recreation / Special Events Analysis
 - Limited funding is available for recreation / special events
 - Volunteer reimbursement issues
 - Attracting sponsorships proves difficult
 - Park Board wishes to be more involved in the budgetary process



Administrative, Recreation and Maintenance Analysis

- Maintenance Analysis

- Township parks are maintained properly as observed on several visits
- Maintenance has necessary vehicles and equipment to perform current maintenance tasks
- (4) Full-time employees, (3-4) seasonal employees currently employed
- Additional maintenance staff will be necessary if future improvements occur
- Some services are contracted out



Administrative, Recreation and Maintenance Analysis

- Recommendations

- Review / consider the addition of a part-time staff member to lead recreation / special event opportunities
- Develop Memorandum of Understanding forms (M.O.U.) for Park Board responsibilities, volunteers, sponsorship, township responsibilities, and events
- Discuss Special Events budget during budget process
- Recreational software package to provide registration, history, reservations, financials, and increased communication with residents
- Establish a secure location to store historical events information for succession purposes
- Explore additional partnerships with other communities or businesses for special events
- Establish an annual special events calendar



Priority Recommendations

- Administrative Changes
- Improvements at Community Park
- Improvements at Wilmington Road Site



Funding Sources

Funding Resources

- **State Grants and Programs**

- **Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)**
 - Community Conservation Partnership Program
 - Land and Water Conservation Fund
- **Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)**
 - Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program
 - Multimodal Transportation Fund
- **PennDOT**
 - Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program
 - Safe Routes to Schools
 - Multimodal Transportation Fund

- **Other Funding Sources**

- Chester County Vision Partnership Program
- Chester County Preservation Partnership Program
- PECO Green Region Open Space Program
- Legislative Funding
- Private Foundations / Land Conservancies
- Local Organizations
- Friends' Groups
- Donation Opportunities
- Conservation Easements
- General Township Fund / Fee-in-lieu
- Earned Income Tax

Discussion

Next Steps

Project Schedule

Meeting Type	Date	Time
Committee Meeting #1	Monday, May 22, 2023	7:30pm-9:30pm
Committee Meeting #2	Wednesday, June 14, 2023	7pm-9pm
Public Meeting #1 – Project Intro / Brainstorming	Monday, June 26, 2023	7pm-9pm
Web-Based Survey	June 26, 2023 - February 7, 2024	
Wikimapping	June 26, 2023 - February 7, 2024	
Committee Meeting #3	Thursday, September 7, 2023	7pm-9pm
Public Meeting #2 – Initial Concepts	Thursday, September 28, 2023	7pm-9pm
Focus Group Meeting #1 – Active Recreation	Thursday, October 5, 2023	11am-12pm
Focus Group Meeting #2 – Passive Recreation	Thursday, October 5, 2023	2pm-3pm
Key Person Interviews (6)	TBD	TBD
Committee Meeting #4	Thursday, October 26, 2023	7pm-9pm
Committee Meeting #5	Thursday, December 7, 2023	7pm-9pm
Committee Meeting #6	Thursday, January 25, 2024	7pm-9pm
Public Meeting #3 – Draft Plan	Thursday, February 29, 2024	7pm-9pm
Committee Meeting #7	Thursday, April 25, 2024	7pm-9pm
Public Meeting #4 – Final Plan	Thursday, May 30, 2024	7pm-9pm



SC Next Steps

- Finalize Draft Plan
- Draft Plan review period
- Conduct upcoming Committee Meeting
- Prepare for final Public Meeting

YOU'RE INVITED!

PUBLIC MEETING #4

**East Fallowfield Township
Open Space, Recreation**

**Environmental Resources
Plan Update**

Attendees will have the opportunity to hear about future park improvements and open space preservation in East Fallowfield.

May 30th, 2024 | 7-9 pm

East Fallowfield Township Building
2264 Strasburg Rd, East Fallowfield, PA 19320

For more information, please contact:

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(610) 239-7601

or visit:

www.eastfallowfield.org

Previous meeting materials can be found at:
<http://tinyurl.com/EFallowfieldRecPlanMaterials>



Thank you!

Please feel free to contact us anytime.

Simone Collins Landscape Architecture: (610) 239-7601

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