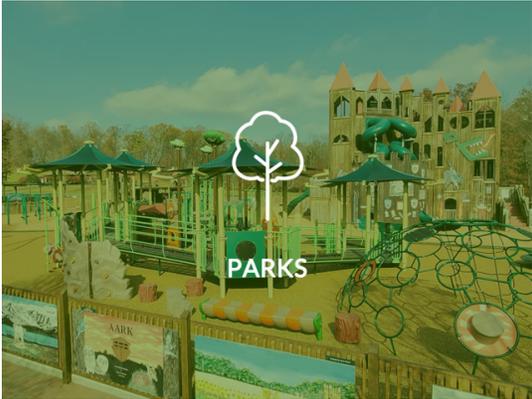


Doylestown Township Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update 2021

PLAY ○ EXPLORE ○ PRESERVE



GILMORE & ASSOCIATES, INC.
ENGINEERING & CONSULTING SERVICES

and Patrick Graham, CPRP, CPSI

RESOLUTION NO. 2278
A RESOLUTION OF THE DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
BUCKS COUNTY PA

**ADOPTION OF THE DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE CLOSING OUT THE COMMUNITY CONSERVATION
PARTNERSHIPS GRANT PROJECT (BRC-TAG-23-28)**

WHEREAS, the Township of Doylestown has prepared the Doylestown Township Park, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan Update for Doylestown Township; and

WHEREAS, this plan provides a framework by which the Doylestown Township community can come together in working towards a common vision for parks, recreation and open space; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the plan is to set forth an action program for improving the quality of life in Doylestown Township through parks, recreation and open space; and

WHEREAS, this plan is intended to be a living document that will be responsive to changing needs and emerging opportunities; and

WHEREAS, this plan will be used to guide future parks, recreation, open space development, improvement, operations and maintenance; and

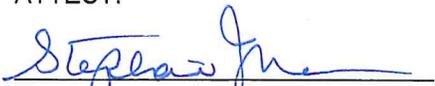
WHEREAS, this plan was financed in part by a Community Conservation Partnerships Program grant under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, under contract number BRC-TAG-23-28.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors of the County of Bucks:

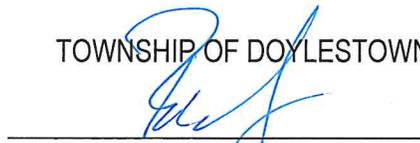
- a. The project was completed in accordance with the Grant Agreement.
- b. All project expenditures have been made and were in accordance with the Grant Agreement.
- c. The Plan and related materials are acceptable to the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors.
- d. The Plan and related materials will be used to guide future decisions relative to recreation, park, open space and conservation acquisition, development, operations, and maintenance.

RESOLVED AND APPROVED THIS 16TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021.

ATTEST:


Stephanie J. Mason
Secretary

TOWNSHIP OF DOYLESTOWN:


Barbara N. Lyons, Chairman
Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors

This plan was financed in part through a grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation. Doylestown Township provided funds to match the grant.

Please note that the updates prepared for this report are based around the text and formatting from the 2007 Doylestown Community Joint Park Recreation and Open Space Plan. Where text from the original plan is still relevant and accurate, it has been retained as part of this update.

Images and slogan on cover are from the Doylestown Township Park and Recreation Website, September 1, 2020.

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Acknowledgements

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Chapter 1: Plan Overview



Chapter 1: Plan Overview

Doylestown Township in conjunction with the Park & Recreation & Open Space Comprehensive Plan Committee has developed this Recreation, Parks and Open Space Master Plan Update to guide future decision-making regarding parks, recreation facilities, programs and services, facility management, and the allocation of financial resources. Making decisions based upon solid information is necessary to have community support and buy in. This plan provides current operational information and demographic data, identifies critical issues and trends, and establishes strategies and recommendations for improving and building upon the prior success of Doylestown Township's parks and recreation system.

The **Doylestown Township Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan** will guide park and recreation improvements in Doylestown Township over the next ten years. It addresses all aspects of public recreation from facilities to finances, from programs to parks, and from ideas to options.

About the Plan

The plan is not law or a regulatory document. It presents recommendations to achieve a parks and recreation system that serves the residents of the Township. It suggests management strategies and policies to protect natural resources and provide quality recreation opportunities. The recommendations of this plan update build upon the policies established in the 2007 Doylestown Community Recreation, Parks and Open Space Plan and the following key issues identified by the Township:

- Aging facilities
- Inventory
- New facilities or park amenities
- Recreation programs
- Mission/vision/core values
- Partnerships
- Funding for future improvements

Related Plans

Although the intent of this Plan is to focus on the values, needs and expectations of Doylestown Township the use and enjoyment of these types of facilities do not end at municipal boundary lines. Consistency and cooperation with neighboring areas and the greater community provides an invaluable regional perspective for planning for the future of recreational facilities. Other planning documents analyzed as part of the development of this Plan include:

- ❖ Pennsylvania Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2014-2019
- ❖ Connections 2045 – The Greater Philadelphia’s Long-Range Plan (2017)
- ❖ Bucks County Park and Recreation Plan (1986)
- ❖ Bucks County Comprehensive Plan (2011)
- ❖ Bucks County Open Space and Greenways Plan (2011)
- ❖ Bucks County Bicycle Master Plan (2012)
- ❖ Bucks County Natural Areas Inventory Update (2011)
- ❖ Neshaminy Creek Watershed Conservation Plan (1997)
- ❖ Doylestown Township Strategic Plan (1999)
- ❖ Doylestown Township Open Space Plan (1998)
- ❖ Doylestown Township Comprehensive Plan Update (2019)
- ❖ Doylestown Community Joint Comprehensive Pedestrian/Bicycle Transportation Plan (1994)
- ❖ Doylestown Community Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan (2007)

Additionally, this update is consistent with the 2014-2019 Pennsylvania Statewide Comprehensive Recreation Plan in broad strokes but adopts a local perspective on the values, needs and expectations of Doylestown Township.

Future Planning Resources and Updates:

The Pennsylvania Outdoor Recreation Plan (2020-2024)

Frequently Asked Questions

Is this plan a law?

No, it is a guide. The elected and appointed officials will use the plan to make informed decisions and set policy relative to parks and recreation.

What will the plan do?

Doylestown Township Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan provides framework for decision-making and sets forth recommendations and strategies to improve the quality of life in the Township.

What will the plan *not* do?

The plan does not mandate or require actions. It does not preclude adding new projects based upon trends, evolving needs, and opportunities. The intent of the plan is to provide an overall framework and guidelines to improve the Township through parks and recreation.

How will the plan be used?

The plan is intended to be a living document that will play a role in the decisions the Township makes about parks, recreation, financing, management, trails, and related efforts. This plan serves as a reference document and a framework for overall municipal and collaborative planning and management.

Benefits of Parks and Recreation

- Enhance the beauty and environmental quality of neighborhoods
- Associated with higher levels of physical activity and lower levels of instances of chronic disease
- Strengthen the economy by contributing to the tax base
- Foster community pride, bring people together, create destination-oriented places, and connect people to each other and nature
- Conserve scenic vistas, maintains healthy ecosystems, and provides carbon-reducing sustainable landscapes

Sources: National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) and Pennsylvania Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2014-2019

Chapter 2: Doylestown Township Profile



Chapter 2: Doylestown Township Profile

The Facts and Figures

Background and Location

Location

Doylestown Township is in the heart of Central Bucks County, about 25 miles north of Philadelphia. It is bordered by New Britain and Doylestown Boroughs, and Warwick, Warrington, Buckingham, New Britain, and Plumstead Townships. Doylestown Township is part of the Central Bucks School District.

Size

The Township comprises approximately 15.58 square miles in area.

History

The Doylestown area harkens back to 1745 when William Doyle established a tavern at State and Main Streets within the Borough of Doylestown. Officially, the Township was established in 1818. The Township has been mainly residential and agricultural in development. The Township developed in the 1970's, much later than other suburban Philadelphia communities that experienced the post-World War II growth.

Today

Today, the Township is nearly fully developed. The local economy is stoked by services such as health care, education, retail, tourism, and other professional enterprises. The community is frequently cited in publications as one of the best places to live or visit in the region, state, and nation. Challenges include an emerging climate of fiscal austerity due to a stabilizing tax base, affordable housing for future generations as housing values escalate, continued provision of high-quality public services, and the continued development of the parks and recreation system.

Government

Type:

Township of the Second Class.

Elected

Officials:

In the Township, the Board of Supervisors has five members who are elected to six-year terms and together represent the entire Township. They serve both legislative and executive functions.

Appointed

Officials:

The Township has a Park and Recreation Board and an Environmental Advisory Council/ Shade Tree Commission. The Township and the Borough of Doylestown have a joint Bike and Hike Committee and a joint Dog Park Advisory Board.

Municipal

Administration:

The Township has a professional manager to carry out policy and manage daily operations.

Parks and Recreation Department Overview

The Doylestown Township Department of Parks and Recreation is an active and dynamic part of the Township. They have recently updated and enhanced their digital presence to better convey and distribute information to the public about the parks and recreation opportunities available to the public. They have also recently updated their mission, vision statement, and statement of core values. The following information is from their new website:

“The Doylestown Township Department of Parks and Recreation offers a variety of services and activities to residents and visitors. Over 30 miles of trails wind through Doylestown Township and are suited for a variety of activities including walking/running and biking.

The park system provides wonderful opportunities for residents and visitors to explore and enjoy. Our 400 acres of dedicated parks and parkland include 7 parks that range in size from 6 to 155.56 acres. Our parks are diverse and offer both active and passive areas and include both organized and self-directed activities and special events, wildlife/plant observation and interpretation. Active pursuits such as hiking, biking, exercise, tennis, pickleball, and other recreational pursuits are also enjoyed.”

Our Commitment to You

As residents and customers, you deserve the best possible service, programs and facilities! Doylestown Township Parks and Recreation department promises to do everything possible to cheerfully and respectfully serve you by providing clean, safe facilities, enjoyable, safe programs, and timely and effective services, which include, listening and responding to your suggestions and concerns.

Mission

To provide a comprehensive system of quality parks, open space, recreation facilities and trails, while efficiently and responsively offering programs and events which enhance personal development, promote healthy lifestyles, encourage community involvement and collaboration, and foster environmental stewardship. To responsibly manage parks, facilities and the natural environment to protect and maintain Park and Recreation assets.

Vision

We envision a comprehensive system of vibrant community parks, diverse recreational facilities, sustainable park resources and engaging programs, that contribute to healthy individuals and families, an active and engaged community and an enhanced quality of life for current and future generations.

Core Values

- **Excellence:** Striving to set the standard for quality programs, parks and services through leadership, vision, innovation and dedication to our community.
- **Customer Service:** Exceeding customer expectations through responsive and respectful service delivery.
- **Sense of Community:** Providing facilities and programs that encourage personal connections and relationships.
- **Enrichment:** Enhancing lives and promoting connectivity and engagement through resources, education and programs.
- **Environmental Stewardship:** Preserving and conserving cultural, natural and historical resources through education, conservation, and sustainable practices.
- **Health & Wellness:** Providing and promoting healthy lifestyle opportunities.
- **Accessibility:** Reducing physical, social and other barriers to our programs, facilities and services.
- **Diversity & Inclusion:** Enhancing a park system that reflects the diversity of our community.
- **Collaborations and Partnerships:** Fostering and maintaining partnerships with individuals and organizations that benefit the community.
- **Safety:** Maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all employees and those who utilize our parks, facilities and programs.”

Demographic Trends

Population growth in Doylestown Township has tapered off since 2000. As shown in **Table 1**, growth in the Township has leveled off.

Population Trends

Nearly 18,000 people live in Doylestown Township. **Table 1** presents the population between 2000 and 2017. Between 2000 and 2017, the Township population decreased by 0.6 percent, as compared to the County and the state which continue to see between four and five percent growth.

Table 1
Pennsylvania, Bucks County, and Doylestown Township Population
2000-2017

| | 2000 | 2010 | 2017 | % Change 2000-2016 |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Pennsylvania | 12,281,054 | 12,702,379 | 12,790,505 | 4.1% |
| Bucks County | 597,635 | 625,249 | 626,486 | 4.8% |
| Doylestown Township | 17,619 | 17,680 | 17,512 | -0.6% |

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2000 and 2010 Census, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Despite the decrease in population growth since 2010, the population projections in **Table 2** show growth in Doylestown Township of 4.9 percent between 2020 and 2040. Overall, Doylestown Township is projected to gain nearly 1,100 people through 2040 according to the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

| Table 2 | | | | | | |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| Pennsylvania, Bucks County, and Doylestown Township Population Projections 2020-2040 | | | | | | |
| | 2020 | 2025 | 2030 | 2035 | 2040 | % Change 2020-2040 |
| Bucks County | 640,495 | 654,792 | 669,299 | 681,273 | 691,111 | 7.9% |
| Doylestown Township | 17,806 | 18,048 | 18,293 | 18,506 | 18,681 | 4.9% |

Source: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, County- and Municipal-Level Population Forecasts, 2015-2045, ADR 022, July 2016

Age

As interests change throughout one’s lifetime, it is important to look at age groupings in order to target services. **Table 3** represents population by major age group changes between 2010 and 2017 as well as comparisons with Bucks County and Pennsylvania. As a percentage of the population, Doylestown Township has fewer percentage of children and youth and greater percentage of people 65 years and older than Bucks County or Pennsylvania.

| Table 3 | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------|--------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| Percent Population by Age Group* 2010-2017 | | | | | | |
| Age Groups | Doylestown Township | | Bucks County | | Pennsylvania | |
| | 2010 | 2017 | 2010 | 2017 | 2010 | 2017 |
| Under 5 | 4.0% | 3.8% | 5.5% | 4.9% | 5.7% | 5.6% |
| 5-19 | 19.8% | 17.4% | 19.8% | 18.5% | 19.2% | 18.3% |
| 20-44 | 25.7% | 29.9% | 29.3% | 28.5% | 31.5% | 31.3% |
| 45-64 | 31.7% | 28.2% | 30.8% | 31.9% | 28.1% | 27.7% |
| 65-84 | 15.2% | 16.6% | 12.5% | 14.7% | 13.2% | 14.5% |
| 85+ | 3.7% | 4.1% | 2.2% | 2.4% | 2.4% | 2.5% |
| Median Age | 45.3 | 44.5 | 42.0 | 43.6 | 40.1 | 40.7 |

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2010 Census, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

*Due to rounding, percentages do not add up to 100%

The Township’s median age of 44.5 is higher than the median age of both Pennsylvania at 40.7 and Bucks County at 43.6. Nearly half of Doylestown’s population is 45 years of age and older.

Population figures help guide age group planning. **Table 4** presents the raw number of citizens by age group. For example, one of the community’s prime target groups for recreational services is the age group 5 to 14. This group has 1,949 people so this is the target audience for programs for this age group. The family life stage age group of 35 to 54 has about 4,535 people suggesting that family-oriented programming is important. About 3,620 people are 65 and older suggesting that community recreation services should also include and address the needs of this group.

| Table 4 Doylestown Township 2017 Population Age Group Raw Numbers | |
|--|---------------|
| Age Group | Number |
| Under 5 years | 670 |
| 5 to 14 years | 1,949 |
| 15 to 19 years | 1,112 |
| 20 to 34 years | 3,177 |
| 35 to 54 years | 4,535 |
| 55 to 64 years | 2,449 |
| 65 to 85 years | 2,899 |
| 85 years and over | 721 |

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Family Structure

One of the most marked changes in Pennsylvania’s population in recent years has been the alteration of the family structure. Between 2010 and 2017, the following changes occurred:

- Percentage of married-couple families in the Township increased from 58.8 percent to 63.8 percent.
- Householders living alone decreased from 27.1 to 23 percent in the Township.
- Nonrelatives included as part of a household has increased from 2.4 percent to 3.7 percent.

Income

Table 5 shows the income comparisons for the Township, the County, and the State. About 683 people in the Township were living below the poverty level according to 2017 ACS Estimates. Bucks County and the Township has a lower rate of poverty compared to the state and the nation as a whole.

| Table 5 Median Per Capita Income 2017 | | | | |
|--|------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Area | Household | Family | Per Capita | % Individuals in Poverty |
| Pennsylvania | \$56,951 | \$72,692 | \$31,476 | 13.1% |
| Bucks County | \$82,031 | \$101,384 | \$41,924 | 6.1% |
| Doylestown | \$107,175 | \$132,358 | \$48,995 | 3.9% |

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Education

Doylestown is a well-educated community. Education is an important community value as evident in the support for the public school system as well as in the number of families who send their children to independent schools. Educational attainment is the strongest indicator of an individual’s income potential, attitudes, and spending habits. The trend nationally is toward higher levels of education. Doylestown has a much higher percentage of residents with college degrees as well as advanced or professional degrees than the state does as a whole. **Table 6** represents the educational attainment levels for the Township, the county and the state.

| Table 6 | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Educational Attainment of People 25 Years and Older, 2017 | | | |
| | High School Graduate + % | Bachelor's Degree % | Advanced or Professional Degree % |
| Pennsylvania | 35.6% | 18.3% | 11.8% |
| Bucks County | 29.3% | 23.6% | 15.8% |
| Doylestown Township | 24.5% | 29.3% | 22.0% |

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Race

About 93 of every 100 citizens is Caucasian in Doylestown Township. Diversification has decreased within the Township as shown in **Table 7**. People of color represent approximately 6.6% of the population.

| Table 7 | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| Racial Composition by Percentage of Population 2010-2017 | | | | | | |
| | Doylestown Township | | Bucks County | | Pennsylvania | |
| | 2010 | 2017 | 2010 | 2017 | 2010 | 2017 |
| White, alone | 92.8% | 93.4% | 90.3% | 88.5% | 82.3% | 81.1% |
| African American, alone | 3.3% | 2.4% | 3.6% | 4.0% | 10.6% | 11.1% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native, alone | 0.2% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.2% | 0.1% | 0.2% |
| Asian, alone | 1.4% | 1.7% | 3.7% | 4.6% | 2.6% | 3.3% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, alone | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.02% | 0.0% | 0.02% | 0.0% |
| Some other race alone | 0.5% | 0.4% | 0.8% | 1.0% | 2.0% | 2.0% |
| Two or more races | 1.7% | 2.0% | 1.2% | 1.8% | 1.5% | 2.3% |

Source: 2006-2010 and 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

People with Special Needs

Table 8 presents the statistics regarding people with special needs in the community. Doylestown Township has a lower proportion of people with disabilities than Bucks County or Pennsylvania. According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, a disability is defined as a substantial limitation in a major life activity. It is commonly measured as difficulty on performing activities of daily living (personal care tasks), instrumental activities of daily living or difficulty (household management), and in performing more general mobility-related activities.

| Table 8 | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Disability Status of Civilian Non-Institutionalized Population in 2017 (Raw Number and Percent*) | | | |
| | Doylestown Township | Bucks County | Pennsylvania |
| Under 18 | 52/1.6% | 5,162/3.9% | 140,996/5.3% |
| Ages 18-64 | 505/5.6% | 30,249/7.9% | 869,035/11.1% |
| Ages 65+ | 811/25.4% | 31,546/30.2% | 720,159/34.3% |

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

* - percentage of Total Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population

Housing

Table 9 shows information about housing. The Township consists mostly of single-family homes (approximately 64%). The number of new housing units being constructed has steadily decreased since 1999 where housing construction peaked at 1,601 new units having been built between 1990 and 1999. Despite the decrease in median house value in the Township and the county from 2010-2017, median gross rent has increased. About 43 percent of renters pay 35 percent or more of their income in rent, which is just slightly higher than the county's rate of around 42 percent of renters paying 35% or more of their income in rent.

| Table 9 Housing Information, 2010-2017 | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|
| | Doylestown Township | | Bucks County | | Pennsylvania | |
| | 2010 | 2017 | 2010 | 2017 | 2010 | 2017 |
| Owner Occupied % | 83.7% | 79.0% | 78.5% | 76.6% | 71.0% | 69.0% |
| Renter Occupied % | 16.3% | 21.0% | 21.5% | 23.4% | 29.0% | 31.0% |
| Detached single family homes % | 65.5% | 63.7% | 63.5% | 63.3% | 56.9% | 57.1% |
| Median House Value | \$448,700 | \$446,300 | \$321,500 | \$315,700 | \$159,300 | \$170,500 |
| Median Gross Rent | \$1,493 | \$1,616 | \$997 | \$1,171 | \$739 | \$885 |

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census 2010 Census, 2006-2010 and 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Public Opinion

This planning update included a four-part public participation process: a study committee, key person interviews, a sports forum and related questionnaire, and a parks and recreation focus group.

Study Committee

The study committee brought committee members, the township, and the consultant team together to examine the existing Doylestown Community Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan and determine what areas to focus on for the Township's update. They handled coordination and engagement of the various interest groups within the township.

Community members representing a broad base of community interests participated in the Study Committee. They included representatives from the Township, elected and appointed officials, the Park & Recreation Board, the Dog Park Advisory Committee, the Environmental Advisory Council, the Bike and Hike Committee, the Ways and Means Committee, and Township residents. The Study Committee collaborated with the goal of bringing in the various opinions of the community through the numerous interests and constituencies that the Committee members represent. They also prioritized groups/individuals for the key person interviews and organized a focus group for athletic associations (the sports forum).

Key Person Interviews

The Doylestown Township Parks and Recreation department and the Plan Study Committee identified interviewees from the following:

- Bucks County General Services Division

- Bucks County Director of Operations
- Bucks County Director of Parks and Recreation
- Central Bucks School District
 - Superintendent
 - Director of Facilities & Energy Management
- CB Cares Educational Foundation
- Cornerstone Health & Fitness (Cornerstone Clubs)
- Doylestown Health
- Special Olympics of Bucks County

Notes from the interviews are included as Appendix D.

Sports Forum

The Study Committee held a Sports Forum meeting with members of the community sports associations and the study committee in attendance. The purpose of the forum was to identify opportunities, constraints, and needs for several local athletic associations. Representatives from the Bucks County Tennis Association, the Central Bucks Athletic Association/Buckingham United Soccer, the Doylestown Athletic Association, Curiosity Athletics/Doylestown Pickleball, Lenape Lacrosse Summer League, Doylestown Rugby, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Romans CYO Football, PA Rush Soccer Club, USAPA/Upper Bucks Pickleball, and Warrington Soccer all participated in the Sports Forum. The attendees identified the following key priorities/issues of concern:

- Field Lighting
 - Potential to extend fall practice times
- Artificial Turf
 - Turf at Turk I&II
 - Men's & Girls/Boys Lacrosse
 - Soccer
 - Rugby
- Field Maintenance
 - Field drainage is needed
 - Turf management is needed
 - Baseball field annual maintenance needed
- Additional dedicated tennis courts
- Dedicated pickleball courts
- Potential shared junior tennis/pickleball courts
- Field Ownership
 - Township ownership and maintenance
 - Association ownership and maintenance
 - County ownership and maintenance
- Parking Needs
 - Lined spaces
 - Upper Central Park - +/- 20 Spaces Needed
 - Turk I parking
- Provide water access to Turk I&II fields
- Address safety issues at Sauerman Park
- Improvements to the Almshouse Rd. pedestrian crossing between Turk I&II
- Bathrooms

- Check on Central Park irrigation
- Sports “season” dates need to be clearly defined
- Indoor sports facility or dome
 - Turf
 - Batting cages
 - Basketball (hardcourt/multi-use)
 - Tennis (indoor asphalt surface or concrete)

Parks & Recreation Board

The consultant attended a regularly scheduled meeting of the Park and Recreation Board on January 8, 2019, to provide an update on the progress of the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update, and to receive input regarding potential indoor recreation facilities.

Public Visioning Meeting

During the course of preparing this plan, the Township determined that additional public input was desired with respect to the potential for a Community Recreation Center. A Community Visioning Session was held on September 19, 2019 at the Township Building. The meeting was well-publicized on social media and the Township’s website, announcements were made at public meetings, and invitations were sent to members of all boards and commissions in the Township, all members of the Township’s Google Groups email list, and leaders of the sports associations. Elected officials and members of the Park and Recreation Board and Ways and Means Committee attended, but were observers for the evening and did not actively participate in the exercise. Approximately 30 members of the public participated and were broken into three groups of ten people with each group taking turns answering a series of questions.

Questions were worded in both the positive and the negative in order to allow people to respond according to their natural inclination. Participants were asked about activities/programs and spaces/facilities that they either want or do not want in the facility, allowing participants to focus both on programming for the building and the building itself; and there were some interesting themes in the responses.

Activities and programs that participants want to see provided in an Indoor Recreation Facility focused on classes and educational opportunities, gathering events for people to interact such as family movie nights, dances and special events, board games, and indoor sports such as basketball and floor/broom hockey. An interesting response to note was that one group voted shelter/emergency services as one of their top three responses. Other activities that received top votes include cooking classes and therapy dog training. Activities and programs that people do not want to see provided focused around religious and political activities, aquatics, and indoor shooting ranges. One theme that came across is that people want affordable programming that does not duplicate programs that are accessible elsewhere in the community. It is also interesting to note that basketball received both a strong positive and a strong negative response from participants.

Spaces and facilities that participants want to see provided in an Indoor Recreation Facility focused on multipurpose, flexible rooms that would provide suitable space for many different activities. Another interesting theme was the desire for technologically up-to-date facilities with WIFI and the desire for the building to be “green” or eco-friendly. Other positive responses included a cooking kitchen, track, a gym with two full basketball courts, and an emergency management

staging area. There was again a focus on providing affordable or free spaces for the community to use. Spaces and facilities that participants do not want to see provided in an Indoor Recreation Facility include swimming pools, spas and saunas, arcades, exercise rooms/equipment, and cafés or kitchens. It should be noted that while cooking classes received many votes as part of question 1, the space for a café or commercial kitchen received both a strong positive and a strong negative response in questions 3 and 4. As with previous questions, there was also a focus on not providing facilities that would either be expensive or increase debt or that exist elsewhere in the community.

For a list of all responses to each question and the number of votes received by each, please refer to **Appendix G, Visioning Meeting Data.**

Findings of the Public Participation Process

Overall, the public participation process revealed a great deal of enthusiasm and dedication among stakeholders in the community. The following points summarize the findings and are presented without respect to priority:

1. Space and resources for fitness and wellness opportunities is needed.

Wellness and fitness in many forms was a priority among stakeholders, particularly lifelong fitness activities that work for a wide variety of ages and abilities including seniors. Walking and trail use will continue to grow, but biking, pickleball, spartan/obstacle courses, and yoga were all discussed as additional fitness activities to plan for.

2. A variety of sports in the township are experiencing growth and need more space and resources.

Sports leagues are growing and thriving for all age and ability ranges. Accommodating the timing, spatial, and usage needs of these groups will be an ongoing challenge for maintaining the vitality of athletics and parks in the Township.

3. Year-round recreation is a priority

Indoor facilities ranging from pickleball and tennis to field sports like soccer and lacrosse were frequently requested by many groups. The indoor spaces provided by school facilities are already heavily used and very limited in available time and space. Developing an indoor recreation center or outfitting an outdoor field with a dome to meet Township indoor recreation needs was brought up as a priority.

4. Lighting athletic fields and gaining additional playing hours is a priority.

Extending the use times for existing fields is a high priority for sports associations and interviewees. Providing lighting would free up additional peak season time slots for fields in some of the most heavily used parks in the township.

5. Adding or improving park amenities like restrooms and parking is a priority at heavily used parks.

Among the Township's most heavily used parks, the need for additional and improved amenities became a clear need. Additional bathrooms (beyond portable toilets), additional and improved parking, safer routes to parks, and water access were all mentioned.

6. Drainage and maintenance for athletics fields is an ongoing concern.

The heavy use that many of the Township's existing athletic fields receive was a reoccurring theme in discussions and questionnaire responses. Maintaining existing athletic fields is clearly a consideration for many stakeholders. Annual maintenance, regular irrigation, turfgrass management, and resting fields throughout the season were all discussed as solutions.

7. Inclusion and Social Equity in recreation are essential and should be prioritized.

Providing recreation that accommodates multiple ability and challenge levels at once as well as the commitment to fairness, justice and equality for all users will continue to be an important consideration moving forward. Unified sports and the amenities they require for activities like pickleball, bocce, tennis, and field sports should be added to existing facilities or considered for new improvements. Of particular concern is the provision of recreation opportunities for Senior Citizens. Social Equity concerns should always be considered as they relate to public open space areas, recreation, programming, maintenance, accessibility, and all other aspects of public recreation in Doylestown Township

8. Partnerships continue to be vital.

Collaboration between the township, county, school district, community organizations, and sports associations has served the community well in the past and should be strengthened and continued moving forward. Many stakeholders expressed an interest in partnering on specific projects to make the Township's park and recreation opportunities the best they can be.

9. Indoor recreation space is a priority.

Removal of the red Activities Building from recreational use has resulted in a deficit of indoor space for Township recreation programming. A new indoor facility will be needed to meet the Township's programming needs for indoor recreation and events, primarily for Township programs but also for the indoor recreational needs of residents and athletic groups and organizations and events. Currently, the Township is considering options to provide a new Community Recreation Center in Central Park.

Chapter 3: Open Space-Parks, Greenways, Trails, Natural Areas, Agricultural Areas and Historic Areas



Chapter 3: Open Space - Parks, Greenways, Trails, Natural Areas, Agricultural Areas, and Historic Areas

Introduction

Doylestown Township had been on the path of growth for many years. As more land was developed, for both residential and non-residential uses, less open space remained. In 1998, Doylestown Township prepared an Open Space Plan. The plan identified the current open space available at that time. It also identified natural resources, cultural resources, historical resources, areas vulnerable to development, and opportunities for open space preservation. With grants from the Bucks County Open Space Fund and with the generosity of some landowners that permitted the municipality to purchase conservation easements on land at less than the appraised rates, the Township was able to preserve additional acres of open space in the late 1990's through the 2010's.

Open Space Conservation

What is Open Space?

Open Space is a term that includes all parcels or areas of land or water set aside, dedicated, designated, or reserved for public or private use or enjoyment or for the use and enjoyment of the land by the land owners, occupants and their guests, or for the general benefit of the community as preserved lands. Open Space is the general “umbrella” category, which includes active and passive parks, recreational facilities, greenways, trails, natural areas, agricultural and historic areas in the community.

This Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan builds upon the previous work accomplished by the Township in open space and park and recreation planning. As a result of the implementation of the Open Space Plan adopted by the Township (1998) and the Doylestown Community Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan (2007), the plan departs from planning “from scratch”. Doylestown Township has been aggressively pursuing the preservation of open space in this climate of fast-paced development and escalating property values. The Township has conducted outreach to landowners of significant properties. Often, these properties have been preserved. Other times, landowners were not willing to part with their properties or engage in discussions regarding future preservation. These discussions are complex and time intensive. Potential open space parcels remain in the Township. Doylestown Township has the expertise to pursue the property owner

outreach and this should continue. The Township could also draw upon the expertise of the Heritage Conservancy when additional assistance is needed.

Many of the key parcels identified as being prime parcels for open space acquisition in these prior studies have been preserved either through outright acquisition, conservation easements, or dedication as open space from developers as required during the subdivision and land development process. Some of these include land from Judge Edmund Ludwig, land along Pine Road, land along Pebble Hill Road, land adjacent to Central Park, and other lands dedicated as a part of the subdivision and land development process in Doylestown Township.

In the Open Space Plan, the Township identified methods, plans, and policies to preserve open space and protect resources. These included:

- Natural resource protection standards – in zoning ordinances
- Cluster development options with an open space requirement – in zoning ordinances
- Require more open space as part of major developments
- Encourage density where appropriate to provide larger open spaces
- Preservation of important land through purchase
- Zoning to enhance existing parkland
- Increase awareness about environmental quality and protection / through our Environmental Advisory Council
- Neshaminy Creek - River Conservation Plan
- Preservation of the Neshaminy Creek and Greenway
- Comprehensive Plan, Park and Recreation Plan, and special studies
- Edison Village and Neshaminy Creek access
- Bike and Hike Path Planning and Implementation
- Programs to increase education and awareness of open space issues
- Acquisition of conservation easements
- Gifts and donations of open space
- Negotiate Right-of-First Refusal agreements for open space, where appropriate
- Fee Simple Purchase of open space parcels

Potential open space parcels still remain in the Township, just as development pressure continues to increase for these same parcels and land values are escalating. **Map 1** depicts the existing public open space areas.

Doylestown Township has been very fortunate to have institutional and private lands that also serve as “open space” in the community. Unfortunately, since these lands are not under municipal ownership and have not all been subject to deed restrictions and/or permanently preserved, they may not remain as open space in the future. These lands include the Doylestown Country Club, the significant land holdings of Delaware Valley University (some of which have been sold off over the years), and lands owned by the Central Bucks School District. The golf course at the Doylestown Country Club and “extra” land holdings by Delaware Valley University could potentially be prime targets for development in the future and this potential needs to be addressed.

Private Open Space Areas

Numerous privately-owned open space areas exist within Doylestown Township, mainly as undedicated open space within developments. Other private open space areas, as highlighted earlier, include the Doylestown Country Club, open space areas owned by homeowners' associations, and other private recreation facilities. While these areas are not necessarily open and available to the general public, they provide great value in aesthetic views for the community and preserve natural and open space areas surrounding residential and other development. For the locations of existing private open space areas, please see **Map 1**.

In addition to these areas traditionally defined as private open space, the Township also contains many areas that are perceived as open space, not because of their use by the public, but because of their traditional use as agricultural lands, woodland areas or due to their cultural and historical significance. Fordhook Farm, located adjacent to Delaware Valley University, was used by the Burpee Seed Company as their test gardens for new seeds and plants and also as the family estate. It has great cultural and historical significance in the community and was noted in the Open Space Plan as one of the main parcels in the Township to be targeted for preservation through acquisition or limited development options. This property is currently vulnerable to potential development. Other parcels, such as the Patchwork of Farms (several small farms and landholdings leased to farmers and currently in agricultural use) in the northern portion of the Township and the agricultural land holdings in the Pebble Hill Road portion of the Township were also identified for preservation and protection through the purchase of easements and donations of easements in exchange for tax benefits. These farms were noted as worthy of preservation in the Doylestown Township Open Space Plan due to their value as farmland, their scenic value, and their potential to also preserve environmentally sensitive lands. Again, these parcels are vulnerable to development pressures.

Parks

The purpose of the parks and recreation facilities assessment is to determine if Doylestown's parks and recreation facilities meet community needs and what improvements, expansion, and changes are needed to meet future recreation requirements, including linking facilities with the Bike and Hike Path and greenway system. **Map 1** illustrates the inventory of parks, recreation, and open space in Doylestown Township. **Map 2** illustrates the locations of parks in the Doylestown Township Parks system in relation to other community destinations. The following is an assessment of current public facilities within Doylestown Township.

The analysis of parks and recreation facilities was completed by the planning team through:

- On-site fieldwork.
- Evaluation of park and facility conditions.
- Consideration of key person interview, sports forum, and survey findings.
- Assessment of the distribution of parkland throughout the community.
- Identification of trends and community needs.
- Developing options to meet the needs of citizens now and in the future through parks, recreation facilities, and trails.



Park, Recreation and Open Space Areas Existing Within Doylestown Township

Public Park, Recreation and Open Space Areas

DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP:

- 1 Fonthill Museum & Moravian Tile Works/Mercer Woods
- 7 Victorian Gardens
- 13 Covered Bridge Crossing
- 14 Hagan Court
- 15 The Ridings
- 16 Pine Run Reservoir & Open Space
- 18 Irongate Open Space
- 28 Cedarcrest Farm
- 29 Castle Valley Park
- 30 Valley View
- 31 Neamand Park
- 32 Central Park
- 36 Thiessen Open Space
- 37 Bridge Point Park
- 38 Fish & Game Assn. Shooting Range
- 39 Turk Park
- 40 Sauerman Park
- 42 Dark Hollow Park
- 48 Bucks County Historical Society
- 49 Doylestown Hunt
- 50 Spring Valley Road Open Space
- 51 Triangle Park
- 53 651 North Shady Retreat Rd.

Conservation Easements

DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP:

- 10 Eves Property
- 11 Ludwig Property
- 19 Fox Property
- 43 Aloa Property
- 44 Arrison Property
- 46 VanDine Property

Educational Facilities

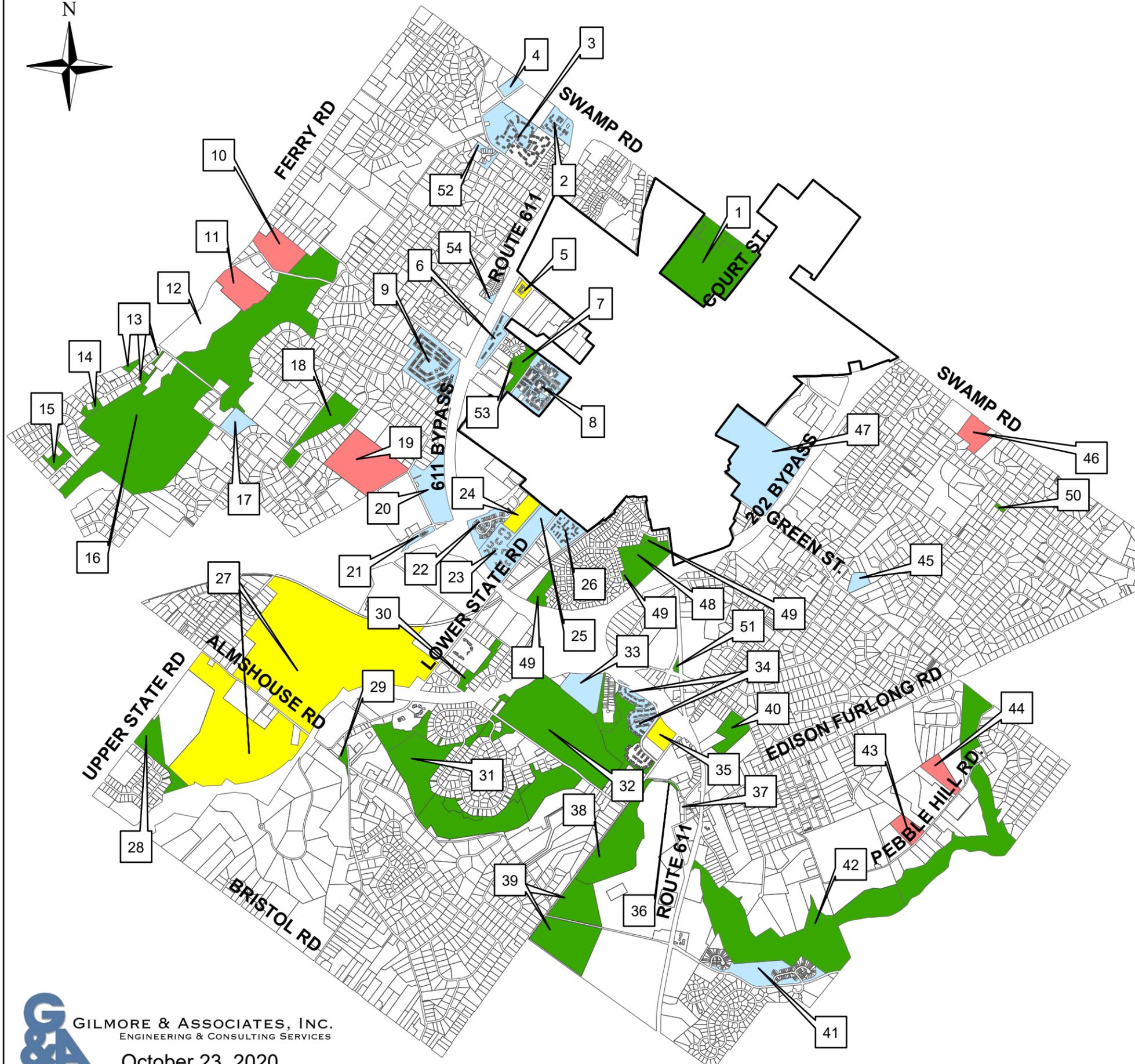
DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP:

- 5 Bucks County Schools Intermediate Unit no. 22
- 24 Central Bucks West Athletic Fields
- 27 Delaware Valley College
- 35 Kutz Elementary

Private Park, Recreation and Open Space Areas

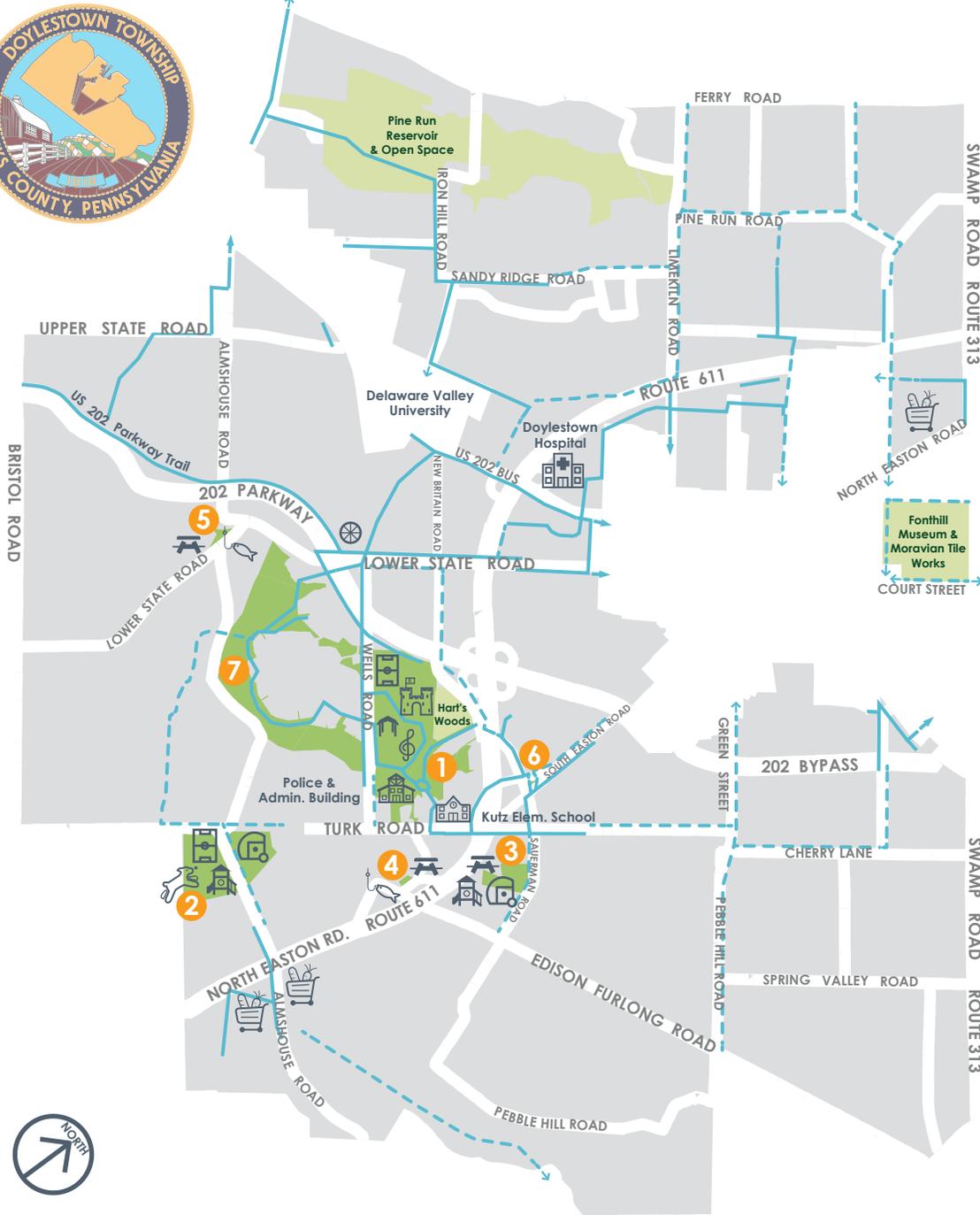
DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP:

- 2 Baliwick Office Campus
- 3 Charing Cross
- 4 Doylestown Racquet Club
- 6 Georgetown Commons Professional Center
- 8 Westwyck
- 9 Old Colonial Greene
- 12 Pine Run Community
- 17 Brenneman Point
- 20 Stonington Farms
- 21 800 West State Street
- 22 Villages of Doylestown
- 23 Teversall
- 25 Central Bucks YMCA
- 26 Chestnut Grove
- 33 Hart's Woods
- 34 Doylestown Station
- 41 The Greens
- 45 Mercer Gate
- 47 Doylestown Country Club
- 52 Stone Barn Manor
- 54 Carriage Hill



Map 1

Map 2



Legend

-  Township Park
-  Township Boundary
-  Existing Trail & Connection to Other Trails
-  Future Trail & Connection to Other Future Trails
-  Playing Field
-  Baseball/Softball Field
-  Shopping Center & Restaurants
-  Playground
-  Picnic Table
-  Pavilion
-  Fishing Access
-  Kids Castle
-  Dog Park
-  C&N Amphitheater
-  Bike Repair Kiosk

Parks Legend

-  1 Central Park
-  2 Turk Park
-  3 Sauerman Park
-  4 Bridge Point Park
-  5 Castle Valley Park
-  6 Triangle Park
-  7 Neamand Park

Park Factor 1: Amount of Parkland

Doylestown Township has seven parks, two of which are leased. The five parks owned by the Township total 307.56 acres and range in size from 3.8 to 155.65 acres. Central Park is the largest active park with 155.65 acres. Other parks owned by the Township are Castle Valley Park, Neamand Park, Sauerman Park, and Triangle Park. The Township leases 57 acres of land from Bucks County for Turk Park. Bridge Point Park is a Natural Resource Area/Reserve of approximately 2.25 acres which is also leased from Bucks County. The township’s total owned and leased parkland is 366.81 acres. For the locations of existing parks, please see **Map 1**.

The Central Bucks School District is a major provider of facilities for community recreation. The School District has about 32 acres of land in the Township which are used for community recreation and sports. This land is not permanently dedicated for recreation purposes. Theoretically, its use could change at any time given school district needs. While the school district has been generous in permitting the recreational use of school lands for community sports, the sports areas are not protected for this purpose. There has been a trend statewide that school districts have been limiting or prohibiting the use of school fields for community sports. The use of school district facilities for community sports and recreation has been an ongoing and increasingly important issue in the Township, as the demand for both indoor and outdoor recreational facilities has increased. The perception of the community is that the school district facilities are publicly owned and maintained, and they should be made available for use by the public.

Doylestown is fortunate to have several Bucks County parks in the community as well as several hundred acres in natural resource and undeveloped open space. These lands are based upon the nature of the resource itself and are preserved for conservation. While they are used for recreation, they are first and foremost for cultural and natural resource protection, not active recreation.

For the past 30 years the NRPA (National Recreation & Park Association) has endorsed 10.5 acres per 1,000 people as the minimum standard for parkland for active recreation in communities. **Table 10** shows the parkland acreage and its protection status as recreation lands for the Township and the School District. The Township now uses about 366.81 acres of land for recreation. Of that, about 307.56 acres are permanently protected for recreation.

| Table 10 Parkland and Protection Status | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Jurisdiction | Amount of Parkland/Recreation Lands in Use | Acreage Protection Status | |
| | | Permanently protected for recreation | Not permanently protected for recreation |
| Doylestown Township | 366.81 | 307.56 | 59.25 |
| Central Bucks School District | 32.00 | 0 | 32.00 |
| TOTAL | 398.81 | 307.56 | 91.25 |

Table 11 presents a list of the parks according to jurisdiction, park type, ownership and acreage.

| Table 11 Park Acreage by Jurisdiction, Park Type, and Acreage | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Park | Type | Acreage |
| Doylestown Township | | |
| Bridge Point Park* | Natural Resource Area | Leased 2.25 |
| Castle Valley Park | Natural Resource Area/Preserve | 3.80 |
| Central Park | Community Park | 155.65 |
| Neamand Park | Natural Resource Area | 131.47 |
| Sauerman Park | Neighborhood Park | 13.64 |
| Triangle Park | Special Use Facility | 3.00 |
| Turk Park* | Sports Complex | Leased 57.00 |
| Total: Township | 7 Parks | 307.56 owned 59.25 leased 366.81 total |
| Central Bucks School District Sports Areas | | |
| Kutz Elementary | School | 22.00 |
| Central Bucks West Athletic Fields | School | 10.00 |
| Total: School District | 2 Schools | 32.00*** |

*Leased from Bucks County *** Includes buildings, parking lots and roads

Parkland Needs

Table 12 compares the parkland acreage for the major park types using the 10.5 acre per thousand population standard based on 2017 ACS population estimates and forecast populations. This table presents the permanently protected lands. It shows that there is an excess of 13.2 acres of community parkland and an excess of 107.39 acres in neighborhood parkland. Based on population projections for 2040 and the traditional standard of 10.5 acres per population, the current parkland acreage should meet the recreation acreage needs for the Township through 2040. However, in 1996 the NRPA moved away from solely “the acre per population” standard: to advocate that communities set their own standard based upon their actual needs and conditions.

- The 10.5-acre standard was devised before the establishment of year-round sports; the increased popularity of soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse; the recent trend toward higher levels of female participation in organized sports; and the national epidemic of obesity with its associated health risks. Based upon the number of leagues, participants, sports, age groups, and trends in Doylestown Township, a standard of 15 acres per thousand in the Township should be considered. Based on the 2020 population estimate for Doylestown Township, and the amount of Township-owned parkland, the Township currently provides approximately 17.27 acres of parkland per thousand population.

**Table 12
Parkland Acreage / Standards Analysis**

| Park Type | Required Acres/2020 Forecast Population Twp.: 17,806 | 2020 Deficit (-) Excess (+) | Required Acres/2040 Forecast Population Twp.: 18,681 | 2040 Deficit (-) Excess (+) |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Permanently Protected Lands (Excludes leased lands) | | | | |
| Community Parks & Sports Complexes @ 8 Acres/1,000 Population | 142.45 | +13.20 | 149.45 | +6.20 |
| Neighborhood & Mini Parks @ 2.5 Acres/1,000 Population | 44.52 | +107.39 | 46.70 | +105.21 |
| Totals | 186.97 | +120.59 | 196.15 | +111.416 |

In addition to park and recreation lands, the community also has open space, heritage conservation and natural resource lands as shown in **Table 13**. These are used for natural and cultural resource protection, passive recreation and connections for greenways and trails. They are not counted towards the national standards for recreation lands. Some lands could be converted to community recreational areas and used for informal recreation. These lands total:

- Township: 83.25
- County: 664.82
- Total: 748.07

**Table 13
Open Space, Natural and Cultural Resource Lands**

| Property by Ownership | Type | Acreage |
|---|--|---------------|
| Doylestown Township | | |
| Cedarcrest Farm | Open Space | 18.20 |
| Covered Bridge Crossing | Open Space | 4.67 |
| Doylestown Hunt | Open Space | 9.54 |
| Hagan Court | Open Space | 3.30 |
| Irongate Open Space | Open Space | 23.21 |
| Spring Valley Road Open Space | Open Space | 0.75 |
| The Ridings | Open Space | 5.31 |
| Thiessen Property | Open Space | 1.38 |
| Valley View | Open Space | 7.14 |
| Victorian Gardens | Open Space | 8.70 |
| 651 N. Shady Retreat Road | Open Space | 1.05 |
| Total Township | | 83.25 |
| Bucks County | | |
| <i>Doylestown Township</i> | | |
| Bucks County Historical Society | Cultural, Open Space | 24.22 |
| Dark Hollow Park | Open Space | 212.20 |
| Fish & Game Association Shooting Range | Open Space | 34.00 |
| Fonthill and Moravian Tile Works/Mercer Woods | Cultural, Open Space & Natural Resource Area | 77.20 |
| Pine Run Reservoir and Open Space | Open Space | 317.20 |
| Total County and Quasi-Public | | 664.82 |
| Total: | | 748.07 |

Park Factor 2: Configuration of Parks

Table 14 presents the park classification system for Doylestown Township based upon National Recreation & Park Association guidelines. For the locations of park service areas, please see **Map 3**.

Mini-Park Service Areas

These parks are generally 0 - 5 acres in size and serve an area of 1/4 mile radius or less, depending on geographical and topographical features. These service areas generally cover individual neighborhoods and are used primarily by residents in (or employees that work within) the immediate vicinity of these tracts. These parks generally address a limited recreation need, and often include picnic facilities, passive recreation or minor playground facilities, and access to natural features. The major mode of transportation to these parks is from pedestrian and bicycle traffic, although some users do tend to drive from the immediately surrounding neighborhoods. No Mini-parks are located within the Township. Due to the lower housing densities and population distribution, the Township tends to be more vehicular oriented and the Township park facilities tend to be more “destination” parks than mini parks.

Neighborhood Park Service Areas

Neighborhood Parks are generally 3 – 15 acres in size and have a wider range of activities and facilities that serve people from larger geographical and topographical areas (approximately 1/2-mile service radius). These facilities generally focus on the surrounding neighborhood, and are generally located within walking and biking distance of visitors. On occasion, residents may drive from surrounding neighborhoods to use facilities from these parks, but this is rare.

Community/Regional Park Service Areas

Community Parks are generally 15 – 20 acres or greater in size and serve a much larger area than Mini and Neighborhood Parks (approximately 1/2 to three-mile service radius), and service areas can often extend into neighboring municipalities. Many park visitors drive from surrounding areas to take advantage of the facilities. Community parks contain large areas for passive and active recreation. It should be noted that Central Park, as it was originally designed in 1992, was intended to be a Community Park and a focal point of the Doylestown Township Park System. In 1997, Kids’ Castle was designed and then constructed with the assistance of volunteers over a period of two weeks. Since its opening, Kids’ Castle has continued to draw large crowds from throughout the region, to the extent that the nature of Central Park has evolved from the Community Park that it was originally designed to be to the Regional Park that it has now become.

School/Community Park Service Areas

Recreational areas at schools serve not only the students at those schools, but members of the surrounding communities as well. These recreational areas have approximately a 2-mile service area and could be used to maximize available public recreation potential with minimal expense to the local municipality.

School/Community Parks located within Doylestown Township include:

- Kutz Elementary School
- Central Bucks West Athletic Fields

It should be noted that these facilities are all under the control of the Central Bucks School District and that there are no formal agreements dictating that these fields and facilities would be available for use by the athletic associations or the general public in future years.

Sports Complex Service Areas

Sports Complex Facilities are ideally about 100 acres in size and serve a variety of users from a wider geographical area than other types of parks. These facilities generally contain consolidated sports field and related facilities in a centralized location, making these parks ideal for sports tournaments. These activities attract large numbers of visitors, which stimulate the local economy in addition to acting as a showcase for municipalities. The consolidation of athletic fields makes these complexes easier to maintain and manage, more economical than having fields spread throughout numerous community parks, and more convenient to families who can drive to one location instead of multiple scattered fields. Turk park is the only Sports Complex located within the Township.

**Table 14
Doylestown Township Park Classification System**

| Type/Size/Service Radius | Definition | Benefits | Appropriate Facilities | Parks/Acres | Maintenance Level |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mini Park 0-5 acres ¼ mile service radius | Smallest park type, addresses limited recreation need | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides close to home recreation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Benches, seating area | None | High level of maintenance associated with well-developed park and playground; reasonably high visitation |
| Neighborhood Park 3-15 acres minimum ½ mile service radius | Focus on neighborhood; in walking/biking distance of visitors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides access to basic recreation opportunities Contributes to neighborhood identity Establishes sense of community | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play areas Ballfields Game courts Picnic/seating Pathways Community gardens | Sauerman Park 13.64 acres | High level of maintenance associated with well-developed park and reasonably high visitation. |
| Community Park 75+ acres ½-3-mile service radius | Large park for active and passive recreation; serves residents community-wide. Accommodates large groups. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of recreation opportunities for all ages and interests Space for organized, large scale, high participation events Family destination Fitness and wellness opportunities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play areas Organized sports facilities Pavilions Permanent restrooms Lighting Amphitheaters Pools, rinks Parking | Central Park 155.65 acres | Moderate level of maintenance associated with moderate level of development, budget restrictions, and inability to perform higher levels of maintenance. Try to get park friends or establish adopt-a-park. |
| School/Community Park 2-mile service area | Parkland adjoining a school used for both recreation and education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combines two public entities for expanded year-round recreation Maximizes public resources Expands recreation opportunities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth-oriented games courts and ballfields Play areas Seating Pathways Lighting | Central Bucks West Athletic Fields 10 acres Kutz Elementary 22 acres | Moderate level of maintenance associated with moderate level of development, budget restrictions. Try to get cooperative agreement with school. |
| Sports Complex 100+ acres | Consolidates sports fields and related facilities in a centralized location | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economy of scale Improved management City showcase Attracts visitors who stimulate local economy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ballfields Lighting Spectator areas Restrooms, concessions Landscaping Parking | Turk Park 57 acres | State of the art maintenance applied to high quality facilities. Associated with high visitation; revenue generating facilities, tourism. |
| Special Use Facility Varies | Facility for a single purpose | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides special focus recreation opportunities Contributes to community identity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depends on purpose | Triangle Park 3 acres | High level of maintenance associated with well-developed park and reasonably high visitation |
| Greenways and Trails | Tie park areas together to form a contiguous park environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connects community Reduces auto dependency Improves air quality Contributes most desired recreation facility for people throughout their lifetime Attracts visitors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pathways – multipurpose Trailheads Support facilities Signage | Doylestown Hike & Bike Path Route 202 Parkway Trail Neshaminy Greenway Trail (planned) | Lowest level of maintenance. Focus on trailheads and trail safety |
| Natural Resource Areas/Preserve | Natural areas for the protection and management of the natural environment. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect resources Provide wildlife habitat Offer opportunities for environmental education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trails Signage Support facilities | Bridge Point Park 2.25 acres Castle Valley Park 3.8 acres Neamand Park 131.47 acres Mercer Woods | Lower level of maintenance. |



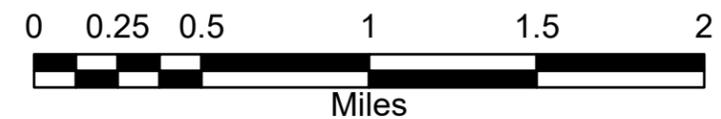
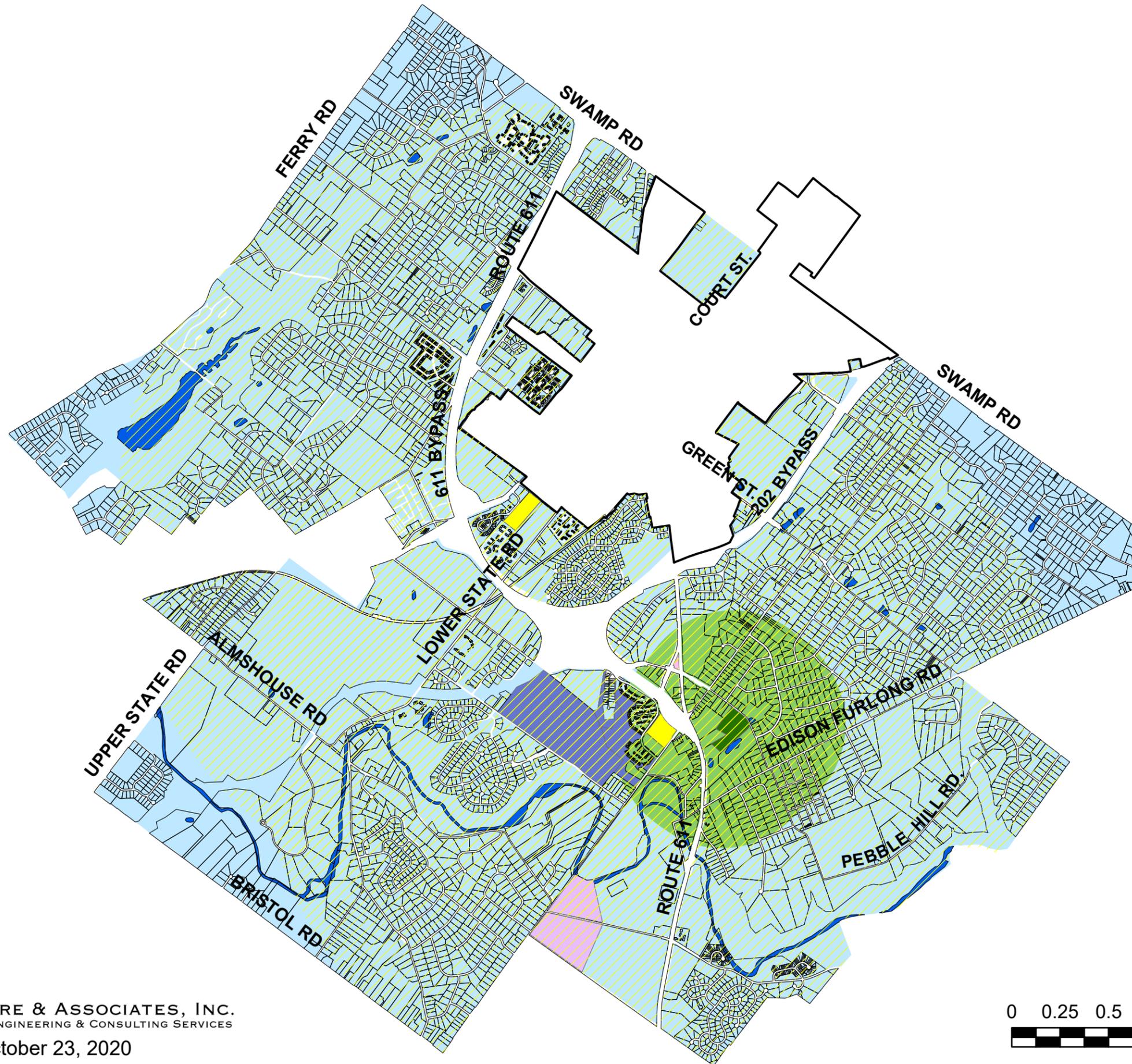
Park Service Coverage Areas

Park Types

- Community Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- School/Community Parks
- Special Use Facility
- Sports Complex

Service Areas

- Community Park Service Areas
- Neighborhood Park Service Areas
- School/Community Park Service Areas



Park Factor 3: Location of Parks

Map 3 illustrates that all areas of the Township are currently served by park and recreation areas. However, no areas are served by mini-parks and not all areas are served by neighborhood parks.

While it appears that many neighborhoods within Doylestown Township have public open space, there are many areas that currently do not have available passive and active recreation facilities. Many areas within the community have an abundance of passive open space or neighborhood parks, while also incurring a deficit of active recreation areas and playing fields. No mini-parks and fewer neighborhood parks are located within the Township, as the Township has developed in a much less dense manner. Due to the different housing densities and population distribution, the Township tends to be more vehicular oriented. However, the Doylestown Community has a Bike & Hike network of trails that boasts over 30 miles of completed trails with many more proposed, which enables movement from one end of the Township to the other without the use of a motor vehicle, and thus enabling non-vehicular access to many of the Township's active recreation parks.

Park Factor 4: Connections between Parks

Bicycle/Pedestrian Friendly Communities

Doylestown Township currently has many bicycle and walking paths available for recreation. **Map 4** shows the existing and proposed network throughout the community. A regional bicycle map of the Greater Philadelphia Area shows Sandy Ridge Road and Pine Run Road being favorable for bicycle activity and shows a number of other roads as being suitable for moderately experienced bicycle riders. In addition, a joint comprehensive Pedestrian/Bicycle Transportation plan was drafted in June 1994. This report gives recommendations for connecting local amenities with bicycle and walking paths. A comprehensive community-wide Bike / Hike system is one of Doylestown Township's priorities for recreation development. The current Bike Hike Path is designed as a spoke and wheel system, with over 30 miles of bike / hike paths already constructed. Paths tend to be the primary conduit for bike / hike transportation within the Township.

Doylestown Township has established a goal of working with Doylestown Borough to create a bicycle /pedestrian friendly community. Members of both the Township and the Borough sit together on the Bike and Hike Committee, which functions as joint committee for the two municipalities. Future connections are proposed that would link the system to Peace Valley Park in the northwest and to the Route 202 corridor through Buckingham Township, Solebury Township and New Hope Borough connecting to the Delaware & Lehigh Canal National Heritage Corridor. From that point, the potential would exist to connect to over 160 miles of trails.

Delaware Valley University is linked via a trail system to the Doylestown Train Station and Doylestown Borough as a part of the Destination Doylestown program, the Doylestown Hike and Bike Path System and to Central Park through the construction of additional paths, which were funded by a grant as a part of the Hometown Streets Safe Routes to School Program. In addition, trails have been added along Lower State Road from the Borough out to Wells Road.

Additional trail connections have been made to Central Park in order to better serve the surrounding community, and the 202 Parkway Trail provides even greater long-distance connectivity between Central Park and the surrounding community, and between Doylestown Township and the surrounding areas of Bucks County and into Montgomery County.



Doylestown has a network of 25 miles of completed trails and sidepaths for use by bicyclists and pedestrians. The Doylestown Community Bike and Hike System will continue the effort to develop the proposed additional trails as grants and donations permit.

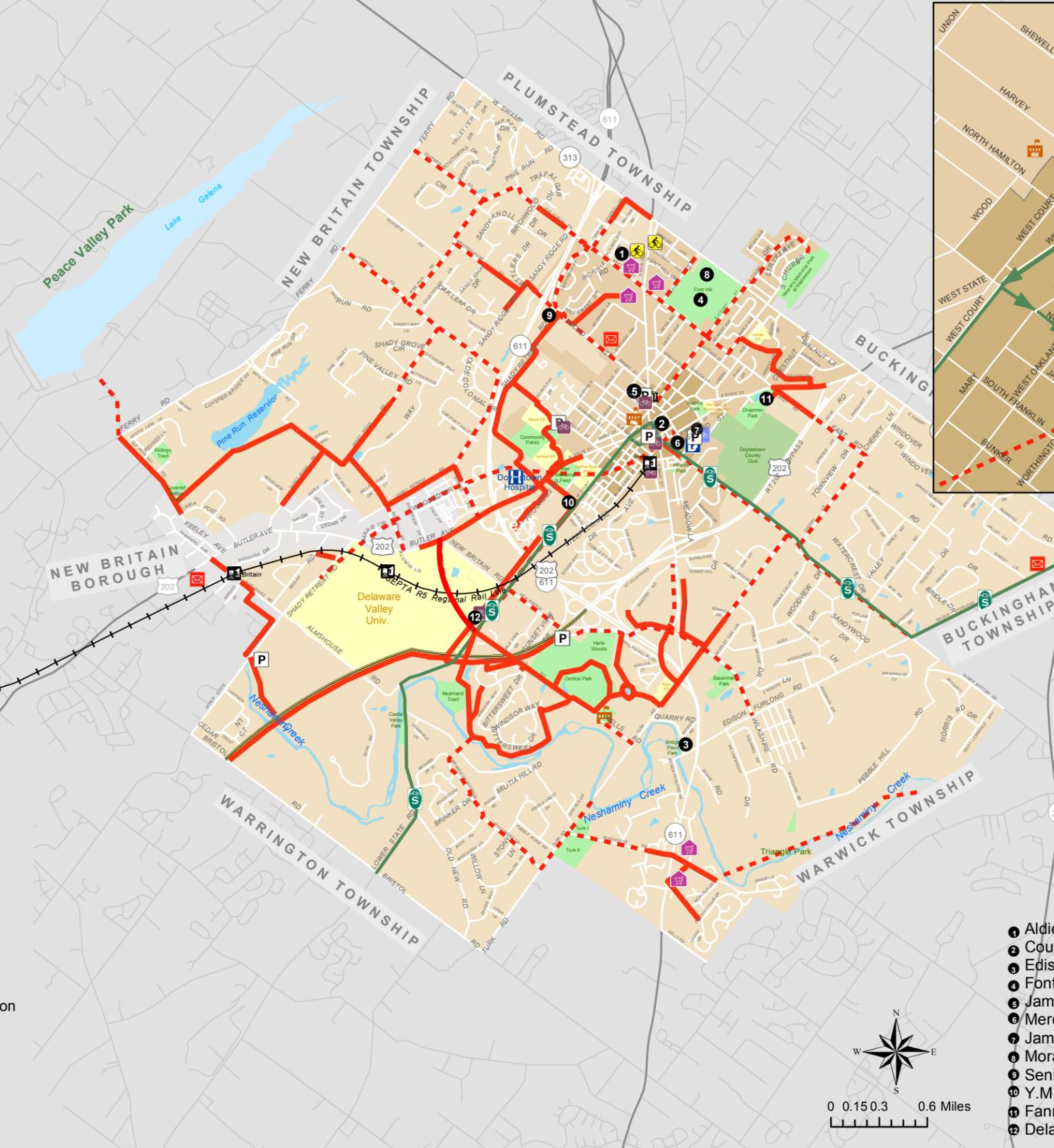
Existing trails are presented as solid red lines, proposed trails as dashed red lines.

Map updated June, 2018

- Existing Trail
- - - Proposed Trail

LEGEND

- R5 Stations
- R5
- Bicycle Parking - Existing
- Bicycle Parking - Proposed
- Bike Shop
- County Courthouse
- Doylestown Hospital
- Library
- Municipal Building/Police Station
- PA State Bicycle Route
- Post Office
- Shopping Center
- Vehicle Parking
- Proposed Route 202 Bypass
- State Highways
- Roads
- Water
- Schools
- Parks
- Historic district



Points of Interest

- 1 Aldie Mansion
- 2 County Theatre
- 3 Edison Village Park & Historic Area
- 4 Fonthill Museum
- 5 James Lorah Memorial Home
- 6 Mercer Museum
- 7 James A. Michener Museum
- 8 Moravian Pottery & Tile Works
- 9 Senior Citizen's Center
- 10 Y.M.C.A.
- 11 Fanny Chapman Pool
- 12 Delaware Valley College The Farm Market



An extensive trail system currently exists in the park and connections to the park currently exist from Lower State Road, from Neamand Park and from neighborhoods along Wells Road. A pathway has been constructed through the Doylestown Station residential community and Township-owned open space to connect Kutz Elementary School to Central Park. Additional connections to Del Val University, through the University and into the Borough and to the 202 Parkway Trail have been completed.

The Neshaminy Creek River Conservation Plan has fostered greenway development. Implementation grants obtained through the PA DCNR Rivers Conservation Program (in conjunction with local matching funds from Doylestown Township) supported the trail system development through Castle Valley Park, Bridge Point Park and Neamand Park, as well as information kiosks in Castle Valley and Bridge Point Park that focus on watershed issues and education.

As a part of its 1986 Parks and Recreation Plan, Bucks County proposed a greenway that spans from the Delaware River and along the Neshaminy Creek north to Peace Valley Park in New Britain Township. Portions of the greenway have been constructed, and the Neshaminy Creek Greenway will provide additional opportunities for connections beyond the Doylestown community. Additional opportunities for trails and greenways are being pursued by the county as part of the Bucks County Open Space and Greenways Plan (2011) and the Bucks County Bicycle Master Plan (2012).

Local Hubs

The major hubs throughout the community are best defined in the mission statement developed by the Hike & Bike Committee:

Bike & Hike Path Mission Statement

To safely interconnect principal population centers, places of work, schools, commercial areas, historical and cultural sites, park and recreation areas, mass transit and other inter modal connections in both Doylestown Township and Doylestown Borough.

These hubs include the downtown area of the Borough, the Michener Museum, the Mercer Museum, Fonthill and the Moravian Tileworks, the library, Delaware Valley University, the YMCA, all of the Central Bucks Schools within the Borough and the Township, all of the parks within the park systems of the Township and the Borough, Doylestown Hospital, the shopping centers, the movie theaters, the Senior Citizens Center, the residential neighborhoods and the Bucks County Courthouse.

Regional Hubs

Beyond the local community, regional hubs have been identified as Peace Valley Park, the Neshaminy Creek Greenway, Dark Hollow Park, the Borough of New Hope, the Delaware & Lehigh Canal National Historic Park, and the City of Philadelphia.

Regional Linkages

Regional linkages in the municipalities include the Neshaminy Creek Greenway Trail, the Route 202 Parkway trail and the Pine Run Link Parks. These trail systems connect to adjacent municipalities and Peace Valley Park located in New Britain Township to the Northwest, as well as Dark Hollow Park in Warrington Township, located to the southeast. The Route 202 Parkway trail connects Doylestown Township to municipalities to the west including Warrington Township and Montgomery Township. Route 611 connects to a large number of surrounding municipalities, and the SEPTA Regional Rail R-5 train and the SEPTA bus route 55 ultimately connect the area with the City of Philadelphia. Two regional bus lines, DART and Bucks County Transport serve people in the region. In addition, stream corridors provide natural resource connections to surrounding municipalities and the entire Delaware Valley Watershed.

One concern that was raised during the course of this study was the current inadequate public transportation system in the community. Senior citizens, residents who do not drive and community members without access to cars cannot easily access the recreation and fitness facilities located in the community. A portion of the population of the community is essentially cut off from access to recreational opportunities simply because they do not have the ability to get to the facilities. Although public transportation does exist (in a limited form) in the community, it does not offer access to the major recreational facilities.

Park Factor 5: Recreation Facilities

Table 15 presents the facilities inventory for each of the parks in the Township. This facilities inventory was prepared by the Doylestown Township Park and Recreation Board and was received by them on August 20, 2020. A detailed assessment of each of the facilities, also received from the Park and Recreation Board on August 20, 2020, is included in Appendix A. This appendix also includes park descriptions as shown on the Township Park & Recreation website. For a map of recreation facilities, please see **Map 1**.

Although the **Table 15** Recreation Facilities indicates that there is an extensive number of recreational facilities in the Township, the condition of the fields and courts are not always appropriate for the age groups and level of play of the participants. The issues are related to both safety standards and quality standards. Field maintenance and overuse of fields have been two topics that were articulated by residents in the surveys and by members of the community during the sports forum that was held as a part of this project.

Based upon the number of sports teams and participants that use the fields, it is not surprising that overuse is an issue. In many instances, some of the fields are scheduled and used so heavily during the playing seasons that they become packed down, huge divots and ruts are created during wet weather play, and they are not “playable” due to the extensive overuse. The fields themselves have become the victims of the popularity and success of the youth and adult sports leagues and associations in the community. It has become apparent that many of the existing sports fields in the community were not designed and constructed to accommodate the level of play and intense use that they now accommodate. Additional fields are needed to accommodate the needs of safe playing fields for the existing sports programs in the community, as well as the future needs of the community.

Indoor recreation space has also been identified as a major issue, both through prior resident surveys and the sports forum. Indoor space is needed for all types of recreation programs. Indoor space also

provides the potential to generate additional revenues through fees and charges. The athletic associations have demonstrated and documented a great need for additional indoor gym space for both traditional indoor sports, such as basketball and volleyball, but also for indoor practice during the winter months for sports that are traditionally played outdoors in the spring and summer months, such as baseball, softball, and soccer. Many local teams have not been able to obtain practice time in the local school gyms and have been renting time at private schools and facilities outside of the community. Primarily though, multi-functional indoor space is needed for Township recreational programming and events.

Central Park has become a major regional park and is home to many activities, festivals and events. The update for the master plan for this park was prepared in 2009.

Doylestown Township is very fortunate in that there are park and recreation opportunities that exist within the community to supplement and augment those facilities and opportunities offered by the Township. Public swimming and swimming lessons are offered by Fanny Chapman Pool. The Central Bucks Family YMCA offers both indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities. Local places of worship, such as Doylestown Presbyterian Church, Doylestown Mennonite Church, Doylestown United Methodist Church, Temple Judea, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and others offer gym time and meeting rooms to sports teams and scouting groups for a nominal fee. Local private schools, such as Solebury School offer gym time and groups and teams rent space at indoor facilities throughout the greater region. The Doylestown Country Club offers golf and swimming to its members and the Doylestown Racquet Club offers indoor tennis facilities.

In addition, a shooting range exists on land owned by Bucks County at Turk and Quarry Roads in the Township. This facility is adjacent to a branch of the Neshaminy Creek and in close proximity to both Central Park and Bridge Point Park. These two parks could be connected by a greenway trail, if not for the presence of the shooting range.

Park Factor 6: Park Descriptions and Conditions

Appendix A contains the Doylestown Park and Rec Board Parks Assessment 2020 Report. Information about each park includes positive points for each park, areas for improvements, maintenance issues, and general observations and overall needs for the whole park system. The report was provided by the Doylestown Township Park and Recreation Board on August 20, 2020.

Following are descriptions of each of the Township parks, as described on the Township Parks and Recreation Website:

Bridge Point Park

Address: [30 Edison Road, Doylestown, PA 18901](#)

Bridge Point Park, located in the small village of Edison just south of Doylestown, is an intimate, shady retreat that sits adjacent to the Neshaminy Creek Greenway. A bucolic hideaway it provides space for picnicking and quiet shade for sitting, reflecting, and reading. The restored historic stone building on the site, in its former life, was a wheelwright/blacksmith shop. Its small size (2.25 acres) invites a walk along the banks of the creek following a path down to the water's edge for wading and fishing. It is part of the Neshaminy Creek Watershed and Rivers Conservation Project.

Castle Valley Park

Address: [Lower State & Almshouse Roads, Doylestown, PA 18901](#)

Castle Valley Park, a hidden off-road 3.8 acre retreat, winds through wooded paths along the Neshaminy Creek, featuring small outlooks over the rushing sounds of water. Along the path is a spot to sit, reflect and enjoy a snack. On the creek side are a few pools of deeper water and shade to attract fish. Down at the water's edge is a sandy spot for sunning, wading, and skimming stones. A peaceful site to commune with nature. It is part of the Neshaminy Creek Watershed and Rivers Conservation Project.

Central Park

Address: [425 Wells Road, Doylestown, 18901](#)

Central Park (155.56 acres) is the flagship of the Doylestown Park System. Expansive, it stretches from New Britain Road to Wells Road, interconnected by bike and hike and wooded trails. The park is accessible from Wells Road and New Britain Road.

The New Britain Road access point is adjacent to the 202 Parkway Trailhead, with ample parking and rest areas as well as a porta-potty. It spreads out in all directions, offering open vistas to soccer fields lined by wooded areas and old growth trees that invite exploration. A circular connecting interpretive trail rims the fields and winds through forested areas. It offers engagement with nature in its many guises.

Along the way, a sensory trail, nestled in and at the edge of the woods, provides engaging activities for all children. Paved surfaces also connect both sides of the park and meander through meadows and wetlands. Flowers, butterflies, bluebirds abound, enchanting both bikers and hikers. It is the start of Circuit Trails network (Circuit Trails.org) leading to Montgomeryville and on. A destination for walking and biking and simply enjoying nature.

The Wells Road access point is both an active and passive family friendly venue, offering sport and recreational activities for all ages. Whether you are a biker, walker, or nature enthusiast, there is something at the park for you. It is home to the township amphitheater, that hosts concerts and events. There is parking and rest rooms.

Miles of paved trails within the park encourage exploration of the environmental education areas, the bird blind, native plant garden, and perhaps a stop for lunch or a snack at one of the pavilions or the picnic grove.

For active families, there are sports fields, tennis, pickleball, and bocce courts, as well as open spaces for kite flying and active family fun. Adult exercise stations are threaded throughout, encouraging physical fitness. All children will enjoy imaginative adventures, wandering through the multi levels of Kids' Castle and the surrounding creative and diverse play opportunities. A tot lot sits next to the soccer fields for younger children.

Central Park also serves as a hub for connecting to other trails and destinations, including the 202 Parkway Trail, Kutz Elementary School, Neamand Park, and the proposed Neshaminy Greenway Trail. Wooded and paved trails connect to the New Britain areas of the park.

The shady quiet game grove invites reading, thinking, playing cards and games.

All township parks welcome well behaved leashed dogs (electronic leashes are not permissible). Handlers are required to pick up after their pets.

Neamand Park

Address: [61 Radcliff Drive, Doylestown, PA 18901](#)

Neamand Park is a 131.4 passive park nestled between the Neshaminy Creek and Doylestown Crossing Development. It consists of open spaces, woodlands and paved trail running along the Neshaminy Creek that provides easy access to both Central Park on the Wells Road side and the 202 Parkway Trail.

An ideal location to sit on a bench surrounded by nature to read, reflect, and rest or for leisurely walks and bike rides. Neamand Park is a gem for exploration, contemplation and connecting with nature.

Sauerman Park

Address: [Sauerman Road, Doylestown, PA 18901](#)

Sauerman Park sits off Sauerman Road just minutes from South Main Street. A shady 13.5 acre neighborhood park, it provides for a variety of outdoor, nature loving family activities. In the center of the park is a small ball field complete with dugouts and bleacher seating for impromptu ballgames. Picnic tables sprinkled under trees offer great opportunities to sit and play games or have snacks. A nature trail winds through the wooded areas in a circle around the park. There is plenty of parking, a tot lot for young children, and a porta potty for visitor's convenience. A great dog walk.

Triangle Park

Address: [2000 South Easton Road, Doylestown, PA 18901](#)

Triangle Park is a 3 acre diminutive respite nestled at the crossroads of South Main Street, New Britain, and Sauerman Roads. The focal point is a monumental sculpture by Ashby Saunders presenting the many faces of Doylestown Township public servants and volunteers, and veterans who fought to protect our freedoms. A place to stop and reflect for a moment on those contributions.

Turk Park

Address: [1260 Almshouse Rd, Warrington, PA 18976](#)

Turk Park off Almshouse Road (57 acres) has two expansive areas, Turk 1 and Turk 2 primarily devoted to sports activities. The open spaces include bleachers for spectators and fields for soccer, baseball, lacrosse, rugby and football. Both areas have a small playground for young children.

A walking trail that circles Turk 2 passes by a small gazebo for informal gatherings, rest and shade. Lots of bench seating and tables are scattered throughout the park for tired walkers and snacking spots. The proposed Neshaminy Greenway trail will intersect Turk 2.

Porta potties and ample parking are available at both Turk 1 and Turk 2.

Doylestown Dog Park

Situated within Turk Park, The Dog Park is a 3-acre member-based dog park where dogs can run and play off leash.

Table 15
Doylestown Township Recreation Facilities Inventory*

| Park Name: | Bridge Point | Castle Valley | Central Park | Neamand Park | Sauerman Park | Triangle Park | Turk Park TP1 | Turk Park TP2 |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---|--------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Acres | 2 | 3.8 | 155 | 131 | 13 | 3 | 57 | |
| Date of Assessment | 2/15/2020 | 2/15/20 | 2/15/20 6/20/20 | 6/20/20 | 2/15/20 6/20/20 | 6/20/2020 | 2/15/2020 | |
| ACTIVE Facilities | | | | | | | | |
| Fields/Courts | | | | | | | | |
| Rectangular fields | 0 | 0 | 4 | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Hard surface courts | 0 | 0 | 3 Multi-use 2 Basketball 2 Pickleball | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Diamond Field | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| Features | Wheelwright Bldg. | | Amphitheatre | | | Sculpture | | Dog Park |
| | | | Game Grove | | | | | |
| | | | Envir. Ed. Area | | | | | |
| | | | Sensory Trail | | | | | |
| | | | Bocce Court | | | | | |
| | | | Adult Fitness Circle | | | | | |
| | | | Kids' Castle | | | | | |
| Playground/Tot Lot | | | Ages 2-5 | | Ages 5-12 | | Ages 2-5 | Ages 5-12 |
| Lighting | No | No | yes | | no | no | no | No |
| Appurtenances | | | | | | | | |
| Dog Mutt Mitts & Receptacles | | No | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | Yes |
| Water Fountains | | No | yes | No | no | no | no | No |
| Picnic Table | | 1 | 30+ | | 5 | no | no | 6 |
| Benches | | 2 | 20+ wood 4 metal | 4 | 0 | 5 | no | 6 |

| Park Name: | Bridge Point | Castle Valley | Central Park | Neamand Park | Sauerman Park | Triangle Park | Turk Park TP1 | Turk Park TP2 |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Trash Receptacles | | Yes | yes | 0 | yes | yes | yes | Yes |
| BBQ/Cooking | | No | 1 | 0 | no | no | no | No |
| Pavilions | | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | no | no | 1 |
| Restrooms | | 0 | yes | No | 0 | no | no | No |
| Porta-Potty | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | no | 2 | 4 |
| Hazards | bank support | Creek | no | creek & drainage | pond | no | no | No |
| Signage | Yes | Yes | yes | No | yes | yes | yes | Yes |
| PASSIVE Facilities | | | | | | | | |
| Walking paths | No | Yes | yes | yes | yes | no | yes | Yes |
| Lighting | No | No | yes | No | no | yes | no | No |
| Signage | Yes | Yes | yes | No | yes | yes | yes | Yes |
| Benches/Tables | 5 & 3 | Yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | Yes |
| Trashcans | Yes | Yes | yes | No | yes | yes | yes | Yes |
| BBQ/Cooking | No | No | no | No | no | no | no | No |
| Porta-Potty | No | Yes | yes | No | yes | no | yes | Yes |
| Hazards | creek bank | Creek | no | creek & drainage | pond | no | no | No |
| Parking | Yes | Yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | Yes |

*Received from Doylestown Township Park and Recreation Board on 8/20/20.

Greenways and Trails

Greenways Defined

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has adopted the following definition of a greenway:

A greenway is a corridor of open space. Greenways vary greatly in scale, from narrow ribbons of green that run through urban, suburban, and rural areas to wider corridors that incorporate diverse natural, cultural and scenic features. They can incorporate both public and private property, and can be land or water-based. They may follow old railways, canals, or ridge tops, or they may follow stream corridors, shorelines, or wetlands, and include water trails for non-motorized craft. Some greenways are recreational corridors or scenic byways that may accommodate motorized and non-motorized vehicles. Others function almost exclusively for environmental protection and are not designed for human passage. Greenways differ in their location and function, but overall, a greenway will protect natural, cultural, and scenic resources, provide

*recreational benefits, enhance natural beauty and quality of life in neighborhoods and communities, and stimulate economic development opportunities*¹.

Greenways are a high priority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has a statewide greenways plan in place and offers funding for the planning, acquisition and development of greenways.

From “Link Park” to Greenways

In 1986, Bucks County adopted the **Bucks County Park and Recreation Plan**. The plan proposed “Link Parks”, linear parks along streams, ridgelines and rights-of way connecting parks and activity centers. The plan recommended the establishment of the Neshaminy Creek Link Park, which would traverse Bucks County from the Delaware River to Peace Valley Park. Since then, the term, Link Park, has evolved into “Greenway”. In 2011, Bucks County adopted the **Bucks County Open Space and Greenways Plan**, which proposes additional greenway connections along the Neshaminy Creek.

The Doylestown Township **Open Space Plan** lists the greenway establishment as one of its methods for open space preservation. Techniques used to create greenways include the adoption of ordinances to protect riparian buffers, the purchase of conservation easements/development rights, various zoning options, donations of land, and fee simple purchases. Sections of the Neshaminy Greenway are in place. Pine Run Link Park branch and portions of the Neshaminy Creek Greenway stretch along sections of these stream corridors, connecting many existing recreation facilities. They provide opportunities for future recreational trail connections. Remaining stream corridors in Doylestown Township are often surrounded by large tracts of farmland, vacant land, and minimally developed land, creating rural-feeling stream corridors.

Bike and Hike System

The Doylestown Community Bike and Hike System, shown on **Map 4** is an integral part of the open space network in the Township and serves as a major recreational feature and also as a major connection to and between other hubs and recreational areas. The system is described in detail in the parks section under “Bicycle / Pedestrian Friendly Communities.”

For greenways with trails, it is important to provide bike lanes on bridges over creeks and also provide pedestrian connections under the bridges where possible along the actual stream corridor. Bike lanes and pedestrian bridges should be provided as a part of all future bridges and all bridge replacements.

Highway Corridors

The 202 Parkway and 611 Bypass corridors effectively bisect Doylestown Township, providing opportunities to connect existing recreational areas. The 202 Parkway Trail, part of The Circuit Trail (Greater Philadelphia's trail network) connects four townships —Montgomery, Warrington, New Britain, and Doylestown—on its 8.4-mile route paralleling the scenic byway. The paved 12-foot-wide pathway is separated from the roadway by split-rail fences and grassy strips and offers numerous access points and ample parking at designated trail-heads.

SEPTA Rail Corridor

¹ Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. (2001) **Pennsylvania Greenways: An Action Plan for Creating Connections**. Harrisburg: PADCNR. P 12.

This corridor runs from the center of Doylestown to the west and ultimately to the City of Philadelphia. The rail corridor is currently active. However, if the rail line were ever to be deactivated in the future, it would be recommended that a Rails-To-Trails program be considered.

Natural Areas

Natural resources currently mapped within Doylestown Township include floodplains, water bodies, streams and rivers, prime agricultural soils and soils of statewide importance. **Map 5** depicts the community's natural resources. The largest water body is the Pine Run Reservoir. Other ponds and smaller water bodies are located throughout the Township. Streams within the Township include Pine Run, Cooks Run, Country Club Creek and the Neshaminy Creek. The Neshaminy Creek covers the most area of the three creeks, and all streams and creeks are surrounded by significant areas of floodplains. Soils of Statewide Importance and Prime Agricultural Soils are located throughout the township.

Areas of the Township that have been identified in the Open Space Plan as being worthy of preservation and protection due to their natural resources include the area along the Neshaminy Creek, the Cooks Run, Pine Run and Country Club Creeks, and Harts Woods.

Doylestown Township has adopted resource protection standards as a part of the zoning ordinance. These standards require that specific percentages of each natural resource, such as floodplains, wooded areas and wetlands, are protected and preserved. The Township has been able to preserve many acres of valuable natural resources due to these ordinances. The Township has been able to benefit from the resource protection standards in their Zoning Ordinance and the tree protection / replacement standards in their Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. The natural resource protection standards and requirements in the ordinances of the Township appear to be generally consistent with the stated open space preservation goals of the municipality.

Doylestown Township has a Mandatory Dedication of Park Land Ordinance. This ordinance requires that a developer dedicate land to meet the recreational needs of the future residents. The ordinance should be updated to reflect the recommendations of this plan and current land values, should a fee-in-lieu of the dedication of park land be offered.

Agricultural Areas

The Doylestown area was once known for its rolling hills and farmland surrounding the "town". In the last forty to fifty years much of that farmland has been developed and is now occupied by residential and commercial development. Much of the land that is not directly occupied by development has been converted to lawn areas and is no longer used for any agricultural use.

Three areas of the Township remain in agriculture and they are: a portion of Delaware Valley University; several large land holdings in the Pebble Hill Road portion of the Township; and the Patchwork of Farms (several farms and landholdings leased to farmers and currently in agricultural use) in the northern portion of the Township. These areas are all under private ownership and are currently in agricultural use. The Township has acquired conservation easements on some parcels, but many remain vulnerable to the continuing pressures of development.

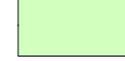
The preservation of agricultural areas is important to the community and was identified as a resource worthy of preservation and conservation in the Doylestown Township Open Space Plan, from both environmental and cultural perspectives.

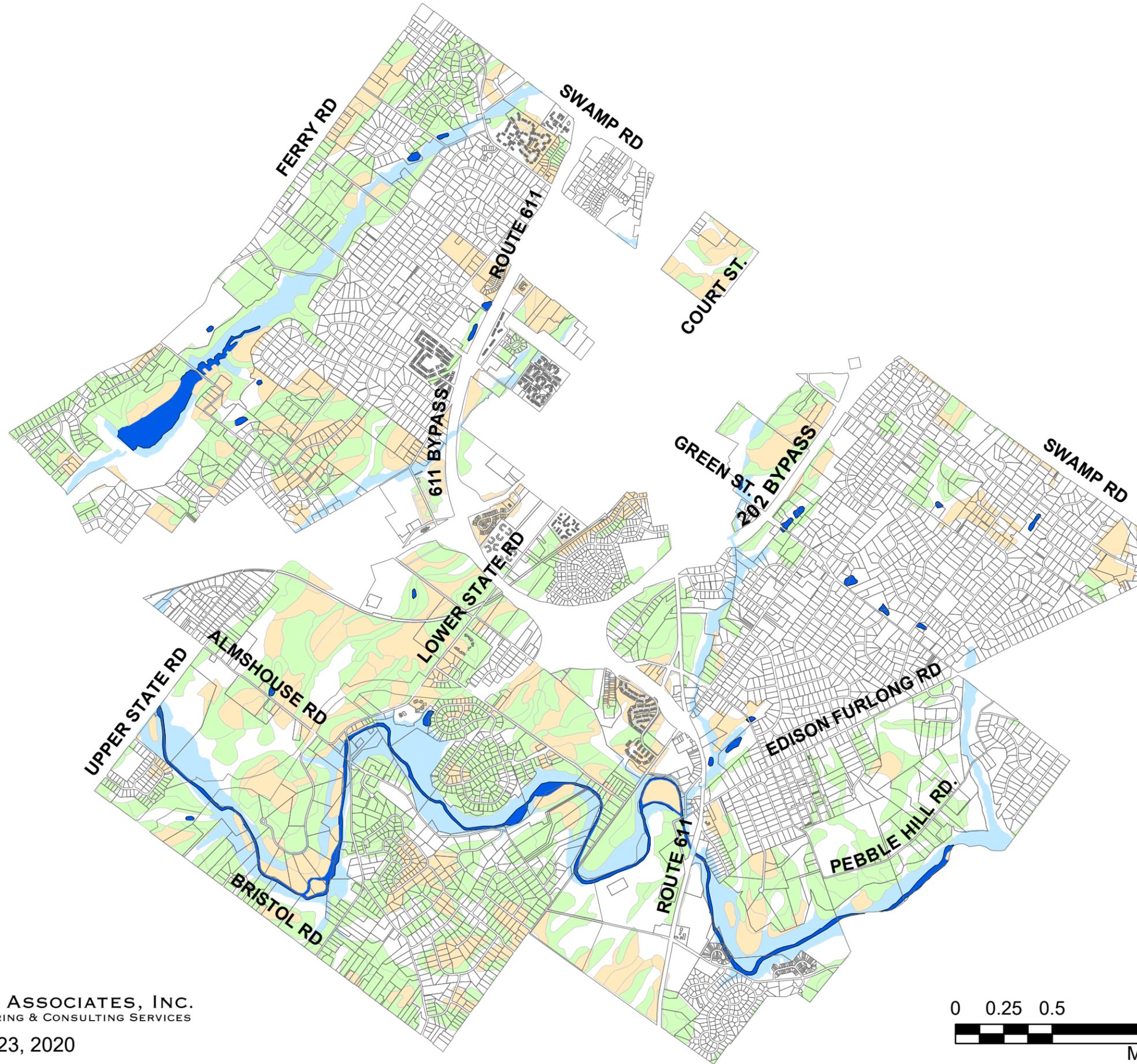
Historic Areas

Doylestown Township is rich in history and is home to many historic open space areas. Sites such as Fonthill, the Moravian Tile Works, and Fordhook Farm provide open space for the community and also provide a link to the past and a “sense of place” to the community. Cultural heritage landscapes are few and far between in this region and merit vigilance in terms of protection both on-site and through compatible surrounding land uses.



Natural Features

-  Floodplains
-  Prime Agricultural Soils
-  Soils of Statewide Importance
-  Water Bodies
-  Streams and Rivers



Privately Owned Open Space

Doylestown Township contains privately owned open space areas and these areas present two very separate and distinct issues for the community.

The first designation of “private” open space areas are those owned by homeowners’ associations and tend to be incorporated as open space in developments or either stormwater management areas or remnant parcels that were created as a part of a subdivision or land development. There is an opportunity to provide additional connectivity to many of these parcels by knitting them together through a greenway plan with pedestrian connections. Generally, these areas have been deed restricted from further development and will remain as open space, with no threat of future development.

The second group of “private” open space areas include areas such as Doylestown Country Club, the “extra” holdings of Delaware Valley University, and the land areas owned by the Central Bucks School District. These areas are unique in that they could potentially be sold at some point in the future for development and may not remain as open space. These lands could be considered “vulnerable” open space lands and are worthy of additional preservation efforts, whether they be in the form of a Right-of-First Refusal agreement in the case of a pending sale, or through deed restrictions and easements.

Analysis

Achieving a balance of natural resource and open space protection along with parks for recreational use is a goal of Doylestown Township. Conservation of the scenic beauty and cultural charm is of the utmost importance for people who live, work, and visit here. The other arena in which balance is required is in park design. Parks should be designed as public recreation spaces for people of all ages and interests, for gathering, socializing, nature study, outings, fitness and wellness, play, fun, rejuvenation, and reducing isolation – in addition to sports!

Park Land

Doylestown Township owns seven active parks totaling 366.81 acres and leases two of those parks which total 59.25 acres. Based upon a recommended standard of 15 acres of park land per 1,000 residents, the Township will not require additional parkland until after 2040 to meet the standard. Another 57 acres of secured parkland can be added to this calculation if a long-term lease can be secured for Turk Park.

Athletic Fields

All of the data collection, research, interviews and analysis indicate that there is a great need in the community for additional playing fields. This includes fields and practice areas that are sufficient in number, type, level of play, condition and lighting. These needs are based upon the users’ ages, ability, and level of competition. Given the demand for fields, the Township may want to consider

the investigation and potential development of artificial turf fields and lighting of fields to permit more playing time and potential availability of fields for longer seasons.

It will be imperative for the community to adapt and accommodate participants in new or different sports, as the trends continue to evolve. Consideration needs to be given to providing lit playing fields to maximize the field use. Although a potentially contentious issue in any community, field lighting needs to be considered, as the availability of field time is currently limited to daylight hours. Fields are not available for any evening practice or games from October to April because of the limited amount of daylight during these months.

In the past, municipalities with limited park land created “multi-purpose” fields that could be used by various sports that have similar playing field size requirements. Multi-purpose fields are not as functional as they once were when sports were played in a single season instead of year-round and when participation was lower than it is today. Some sports such as soccer and field hockey require a playable ground surface for ground ball action while sports like lacrosse, rugby, and football with air ball play do not. Multi-purpose fields also require a higher level of maintenance than single purpose fields. The Central Bucks School District has one multi-purpose field within the Township and the Township has five. While these fields are available for play, not all of the fields are suitable for use by all of the sports that are currently competing for these spaces. The fields vary greatly in their conditions, drainage, topography, orientation and suitability for play at higher levels of competition. Some fields are simply a flat grassy area that has been lined (or simply used) for practice or youth sports games. Others have been designed, properly graded and crowned and have been provided with proper drainage to accommodate a much more intense use and a higher level of competition.

Creating a gradation of fields helps to provide suitable and appropriate conditions for the various levels of play by different age groups levels of competition in the community. For example, a t-ball field would not need to meet the same standard as a little league field, which would not need to meet the same standard as a PIAA high school baseball field.

The need for more playing fields is further compounded by the lack of available land for further acquisition which could be lessened by lighting some sports fields. An analysis of available land in the Township has indicated that most of the undeveloped land parcels are not suitable for playing fields due to their size and/or configuration, environmental constraints such as streams, floodplains, wetlands, steep slopes or woodlands; or their significance as prime agricultural lands.

In addition to outright acquisition of additional active recreation land, the opportunity may exist for creating partnerships to create playing fields for joint use and for the good of the community. For example, the opportunity may exist for Delaware Valley University and the Central Bucks School District to work with the community and/or the sports associations to construct additional playing fields for both scholastic sports programs and community programs. The partners could benefit from a shared arrangement in which the community may have access to the fields when the academic institution is not in session and/or when the fields are not scheduled for use by the school/college. The partners could benefit from the shared construction and maintenance costs thus providing additional facilities at less cost for the municipalities, School District or University.

University Collaboration

Doylestown Township is fortunate to be the home to Delaware Valley University. Forming a strategic alliance with the University regarding parks, recreation, and open space would be beneficial to the university and the community.

Central Park Amphitheater

The Amphitheater in Central Park provides a wide variety of entertainment and programming. The annual Performing Arts series presents free music concerts and movies during the summer, and various celebrations and performances are held throughout the year.

Indoor Recreation Facilities

School district facilities are limited in their potential for community recreational use which is restricted to those times when school activities are not utilizing facilities. Additional indoor facilities are needed for year-round opportunities for people of all ages throughout their lifetime. The Activity Center, which was previously used for indoor recreation, is no longer available. The indoor recreation space provided at the Activity Center will need to be replaced and increased. This includes areas for programs as well other unique areas for drop-in self-directed recreation, sports training, preschoolers and senior adults. While the Central Bucks Senior Center operates with a membership of over 1,800, the trend in planning for the Baby Boomers shows that long term, the use of dedicated senior citizen centers will decline and be re-directed towards multi-generational recreation centers that people use throughout their lifetime and on an expanded basis when they retire.

Greenways and Trail Systems

Doylestown Township has joined together with the Borough to create an ambitious Hike and Bike Path Plan. Over 30 miles of pathway have already been constructed. It is recommended that the Hike and Bike Committee continue its efforts and continue to update and improve upon the current plan and the additional sections of Bike and Hike Pathways to connect the various recreational and open space areas and greenways.

The stream corridors and greenways within the Township offer opportunities for pedestrian connections, environmental protection and environmental education. Several enhancement and improvement projects have already been implemented throughout the community along the streams as a part of the Rivers Conservation Program. It is suggested that measures continue to be taken to preserve and enhance additional sections of stream corridors, and that the Township continue to aggressively support educational exhibits, workshops and events to further protect and enhance these resources, especially when adjacent to existing open space areas within the community, such as the land currently leased by the Fish and Game Club.

Bucks County Trail and Greenway Planning

Bucks County adopted an Open Space and Greenways Plan in 2011 and a Bicycle Master Plan in 2012. The Bucks County Open Space and Greenways Plan is meant "to provide a decision making, implementation and management tool designed to protect and create linkages between the county's vast natural resources, open space and farmland, recreational facilities, and historic and cultural resources. The plan identifies an interconnected network of greenways that protect ecologically valuable lands, provide open space and recreational opportunities, protect important habitat areas and migration paths for wildlife, and provide access to the county's historic and cultural resources. Specifically, the plan identifies corridors that could potentially host trails for public recreation, wildlife viewing, lessons in history, and alternative transportation."

The intent of the Bucks County Bicycle Plan is to "inventory existing conditions, advance opportunities for the improvement and expansion of a broader network of multimodal routes serving existing residential and business areas of the County, enhance the outreach and education of bicycle safety and leverage the existing recreational resources in the communities at large." As identified in the County Plan, the Doylestown to New Hope Spine was prioritized for its potential for successful completion.

Natural Areas

Doylestown Township contains many natural resource areas including stream corridors, wetlands, floodplains and woodlands. The Township, in its Open Space Plan, recognized and highlighted the natural resources of the community as areas worthy of preservation and protection. These include areas along the Neshaminy Creek and its tributaries and the Pine Run, Cooks Run and Country Club Creeks, as well as Harts Woods. It is recommended that even as the Township strives to provide additional facilities and programming for active recreation, that it also continues to provide opportunities to actively acquire additional natural resource areas to further protect and enhance these environmentally sensitive areas. Acquisition could be in the form of outright purchase, the purchase of conservation easements, deed restrictions and/or gifts of land to the municipalities.

Historic Areas

Doylestown Township has a rich history and is fortunate to have historic open spaces. These areas are important to the community from a cultural and historical perspective but are also important from an open space perspective. Cultural institutions including Fonthill Museum and the Moravian Tile Works, with their expansive lawns, have become gathering areas for community festivals and events as well as major locations for informal recreation by the residents of nearby homes.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Doylestown Township has a variety of parks, recreation facilities and special purpose parks connected by over 30 miles of hike and bike path.

The number of sports fields is inadequate for the number and types of leagues, participants and future growth trends. A sports turf management program is needed to improve the condition of

athletic fields given the intense level of use they receive. The Bike and Hike Path, one of the best loved facilities in the community, needs to fill in some crucial connections.

The following conclusions and recommendations are numbered for ease of discussion and do not reflect the rank order of importance.

1. Plan, design, construct and maintain open space and park and recreation facilities as safe and attractive public spaces.

Continue to improve playgrounds to meet the guidelines of the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSI) and ASTM (American Society of Testing Materials) for playground safety and ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act). Design facilities for a broad array of uses. **Continue to address maintenance and improvement issues as outlined in the Park and Rec Board Assessment 2020 report, attached herein as Appendix A.**

2. Park land.

Adopt a parkland standard of 15 acres of recreation land per 1,000 residents in the Township.

Community Standards

It should be noted that the residents of Doylestown Township appear to have a much higher recreational standard than the national average. This is due to the increasing population in the area, the increase in registration for youth and adult sports, the emergence and expansion of sports leagues, and the increasing distance that people will travel to attend and participate in sporting events. Increasing the number and caliber of playing fields and recreational opportunities available to residents should be a priority of the Township

3. Provide unique and diverse park amenities to make parks enjoyable places to visit for all residents and visitors.

4. Enhance existing facilities with additional amenities such as restrooms, shade trees, pavilions, and lighting for people to use throughout their lifetime. Create a plan to “reach out” to sectors of the population that are not adequately represented in the current park and recreation facility usage patterns, such as non-athletic programs for youth, teens, and adults that do not participate in athletic programs and adult sports leagues for young adults and senior citizens / active adults within the community. Incorporate more traditional sport and wellness activities.

a. Lighting - Explore sports field lighting.

b. Additional sports fields - Investigate the option of installing lighting at existing and future parks to enable extended use of playing fields to meet the current and future demand.

c. Artificial turf fields - Consider the investigation and potential development of artificial turf fields to meet the current and future demand by permitting more playing time and potential availability of fields for longer seasons.

5. Add indoor recreation facilities.

Removal of the Activities Building from recreational use has resulted in a deficit of indoor space for Township recreation programming. A new indoor facility will be needed to meet the Township's programming needs for indoor recreation and events, primarily for Township programs but also for the indoor recreational needs of residents and athletic groups and organizations. Other creative uses and public health/emergency uses should be considered during planning. Currently, the Township is considering options to provide a new Community Recreation Center in Central Park.

6. Continue to conserve open space and protect natural resources.

7. Complete the Bike & Hike Path.

Continue planning and construction of planned trails. Establish regional connections for the Hike and Bike Trail to connect beyond the borders of the Doylestown Community.

8. Review the Level of Staff Maintaining Parks

Evaluate current park maintenance staffing levels and add additional staff when needed to ensure enough personnel is available to meet park maintenance needs.

9. Review and Revise Park Signage and Recreation Branding

Implement consistent signage and branding across all parks, including directional, interpretive, and branding/identification signage. Consider incorporating Wi-Fi to the parks, digital signs, QR codes, etc.

10. Continue to Evaluate Parks and their Maintenance on a Regular Basis

Continue to evaluate the conditions of parks, facilities, maintenance, etc. on a regular basis in order to address outstanding issues, the issues presented in this report, and to revise goals and objectives for the improvement and maintenance of parks as needed. Continue to work toward development of a Maintenance Management Plan and asset management and inventory.

11. Provide more Unique Recreation Opportunities in Unique Ways

People are moving away from gathering in large groups to recreate. Implementation of structured activities that can be participated in online, virtual, or via a 'box' delivery are examples of enabling people to participate in activities while avoiding crowded social situations. Continue to explore and implement these ideas to provide these unique recreation opportunities.

Chapter 4: Recreation Opportunities



Chapter 4: Recreation Opportunities

The Doylestown Township parks and recreation system is the catalyst for the citizens to try out, explore, and enjoy the arts, music, drama, dance, nature, fitness, sports, volunteering, “spectating”, family activities, and social events. Research shows that what people do as children, they tend to do as adults. At a time when the lack of physical activity among adults and obesity for people of all ages have been identified as the chief public health issues in the United States, it is impossible to overstate how important parks and recreation are.

Best of the Best – Close to Home

- Central Park
- Kids’ Castle
- Doylestown Town Center
- Bike & Hike Path
- Fonthill
- Mercer Museum
- Michener Museum
- Moravian Tile Works
- Bucks County Library
- Fanny Chapman Pool
- YMCA
- Peace Valley Park
- Tyler State Park
- Arts Festival
- Bucks Fever
- Sports Training Centers
- Scouts
- Bucks County Fencing Academy
- Art Galleries
- Music Conservatory
- State Street Players
- Town & Country Players
- PumpkinFest
- Riding Stables
- Dance Studios
- Bucks County Play House
- Central Bucks School District
- Central Bucks Community School
- Day Care & Pre School Centers
- Day Camps
- Thompson Bucks County Classic-Criterium
- Kids Triathlon
- Golf Courses
- Sports Leagues
- All of the resources of the Philadelphia Metropolitan area including: professional sports, museums, theater, concerts, restaurants, zoo, shopping, special events, amusement parks

...

The Doylestown Township Parks and Recreation Department is a professionally managed year-round municipal service. The municipal department collaborates with many community organizations including youth sports, service clubs, schools, sponsors of programs, businesses and others in facilitating community services.

Recreation Trends

Public recreation trends are those changes that go beyond fads and that have affected society so much that they are now a part of our culture. Trends include the following:

Public Recreation: Important Tool for Social Change

- Today public recreation is viewed by major forces at regional, state, and federal levels as a means to achieve important public policy objectives including the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, state tourism and economic development agencies, anti-crime agencies, and environmental organizations.
- Programs and activities that directly affect the health of the residents of the community, and the minimum support required to maintain those services, is becoming a principle mission of a public park and recreation agency. The focus of public parks and recreation is becoming directed towards essential and fundamental life and health services, not only community vitality and enrichment.
- Doylestown Township recognizes that they are a diverse community. A current emphasis in programming and delivery of service is inclusion and social equity to ensure that all residents feel welcome and are afforded opportunities to participate.

Participation Trends

- In 2018, 72.7% of all Americans participated in some type of physical activity regularly. This number has been consistent with population increase from 2013-2018.⁶
- 35.9% of Americans ages 6+ participated in a high calorie burning activity at least 3 times a week in 2018. This is defined as an activity that raises the heart rate to enable calorie burning, fat shredding, and promoted cardiovascular functions. When including those who were “casually” participating in high calorie burn activity, over 50% of Americans ages 6+ participated in high calorie burning activity at least once a week.
- Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in the country, and the need for dedicated courts and multi-use courts is starting to become more important for municipal recreation departments to consider.
- Youth sports are continuing to be played throughout four seasons, which is causing a field shortage and a need for field lights to extend playing time
- Today’s seniors with extensive free time, unprecedented good health, and solid retirement plans, are indulging in active lifestyles that are well beyond rocking chairs, front porches, and bingo. There is a mismatch between what retirees are looking for and what society provides.

⁶ Physical Activity Council. (2019). *2019 Physical Activity Council's Overview Report on U.S. Participation*. Retrieved from <http://www.physicalactivitycouncil.com/pdfs/current.pdf>

- Baby Boomers turned 70 in 2016. They represent the major planning challenge for parks and recreation. They will be more active, well-educated, and healthier than previous generations and will most likely be more involved in recreational pursuits. The sheer number of baby boomers will require more facilities and services than did previous generations of people over the age of 70.

- **American’s Top Outdoor Recreation Activities (2019)**

The National Recreation & Parks Association conducted a survey of Americans and found the following activities were most popular for outdoor recreation. Data is inclusive of all ages groups, genders, nationalities etc.:

- Gathering with family/friends in a park- 58%
- Going to the pool- 48%
- Walking or hiking on a local trail- 45%
- Attending community social events- 38%
- Attending performing arts events- 32%
- Camping- 30%
- Playing in a team sports league- 12%
- Playing racquet sports- 11%
- Running/cycling races- 10%

Active Recreation’s Competition

- **Activities that are encroaching on physical activity and sports among younger ages include the following:**
 - “Binge watching” streaming services – especially with younger generations
 - Computers & Smart Phones – young, singles
 - Socializing – by both males and females
 - Health clubs – young, less affluent and male
 - Video and Computer games, musical instruments and dedicated listening to music.

Natural Resource Protection and Stewardship Trends

- The President's Commission: Americans Outdoors⁷ issued a report that stated that the protection of natural resources and open space was the first priority for the future. Public recreation providers are positioned to lead in land stewardship because collectively they are often among the largest land managers in a

⁷ President’s Commission on Americans Outdoors. (1987) *Americans Outdoors: The Legacy, The Challenge*. Washington D.C. U.S. Department of the Interior

community. Because public recreation professionals tend to be activity and service oriented and may not have formulated an environmental ethic to guide decision making, anti-land stewardship dilemmas result. The President's Commission stated "Our philosophy must be grounded by ecological principles, not in merchant values".

- Linking parks with green corridors and trails and linking public transportation systems with trails, parks, and recreation facilities. Much of the new park land acquisition that is desired today appears to be of this type: developing linear green spaces designed to link people using foot and bicycle transportation to parks, to shopping, and to other neighborhoods.

Challenges of the Times*

Despite these changes demonstrating increasing participation in recreation, new sports and activities, and a broadening of the participation base from younger males to both males and females of all ages, there is a conundrum regarding recreation. The conundrum is that obesity and the lack of physical activity in the United States is at an all-time high. More than one third of adults in the United States (35.7%) and the health care costs of obesity are \$117 billion annually. By 2030, one in every 10 adults (552 million people) could have diabetes as a result of unhealthy or obese lifestyles.⁸ It is imperative that Parks & Recreation departments provide their communities with easily accessible parks facilities for activities such as walking, hiking, biking, etc., and encourage healthy habits and exercise through community initiatives and program offerings.

Another challenge facing both private enterprise and all arenas of public recreation is that the growing demand for facilities is outpacing availability and the resources to develop and manage new ones. Combined with rapid development in the metropolitan areas of Pennsylvania, the available open space is dwindling and land costs are escalating. Public recreation opportunities in the future may be limited because of large demand and/or tight budget constraints. There is already evidence of this with respect to sports fields and gyms.

It will become increasingly important to find creative ways of bringing recreation opportunities and facilitating healthy active lifestyles of the citizens in the future. Consideration needs to be given to the perception of "senior citizen" centers with respect to what will be in demand in the future. While senior centers have been in operation for many years, the trend now is to plan community recreation centers that people use throughout their lifetime and on an expanded basis upon retirement.

Doylestown Recreation Trends and Issues*

Based upon key person interviews, work sessions with Township officials, and visits to the parks, the following trends are apparent in Doylestown:

- Soccer, lacrosse, and softball/baseball report the need for more fields to accommodate their participation rates and expanded seasons. Field overuse causes poor playing surface conditions. Because of high demand on sports fields, the fields cannot be rested.

⁸ <https://www.nrpa.org/contentassets/f768428a39aa4035ae55b2aaff372617/obesity.pdf>

- The Township needs to consider the installation of field lights to all existing parks where sports organizations are using fields for their leagues. This will help to alleviate the field shortage concerns by extending the amount of time that these organizations can play on a given day.
- Nontraditional sports are becoming more prevalent and popular due to low barrier to entry, multi-generational interest and more casual game play that allows for social interaction. These sports include skateboarding, archery, pickleball, bocce, as well as “yard games” such as cornhole, Kubb, wiffleball etc.
- The need for additional fields and gym time has resulted in community organizations seeking facilities outside of the Doylestown Community. Community organizations have been both acquiring land and buildings to develop facilities as well as renting sports facilities from other organizations.
- Special events are extremely popular as evident in increasing numbers at all of the events. The Township provides support for these events by working closely with local organizations planning the special events.
- Doylestown Township has a fantastic working relationship with local organizations including the Central Bucks School District, Cornerstone, CB Cares Educational Foundation, senior groups, the special Olympics, and many others. These relationships help broaden the reach of the Township’s impact on the community by collaborating with these organizations for creative uses of the Township’s parks and facilities.
- Kids’ Castle is a regional attraction. The large play structure is important to the community.
- While many citizens volunteer in a wide variety of parks and recreation related endeavors, there is a high level of expectation by the citizens for government services, especially in parks and recreation. Analysis of community parks and recreation management and resources found that Doylestown Township provides a very high level of service given the resources available in terms of staff time and budget.
- The Bike & Hike System has provided an important recreation opportunity in the community. People of all ages use the bike paths seven days a week year-round.
- The importance of achieving a balanced park and recreation system with opportunities for people of all ages and interests was an important message found through the public participation process.
- Year-round indoor recreation programs are popular in Doylestown Township. These programs are limited by the lack of indoor facilities. The Township will need to consider the construction of an indoor facility to accommodate this type of programming.

Community Recreation Services in Doylestown

The Township

Doylestown Township offers programs in a variety of recreation categories. The Parks & Recreation Department offers over 160 *scheduled* programs and events annually. These range from annual major community events such as concerts and fireworks with thousands of participants, to scheduled recreation programs lasting for several weeks. In addition to scheduled programs and events, the Township coordinates recreation offerings by other organizations and provides the facilities. The Department also facilitates activities that people can undertake at their own pace such as the Discount Ticket Sales program in which residents can buy tickets at a discounted rate to places such as ski resorts, amusement parks, cultural and historical destinations and local movie theaters.

Parks and Recreation Municipal Program Inventory*

Tables 16 and **17** present the program inventory for the public recreation programs and services for Doylestown Township. The inventory is presented in tabular form, organized around eight elements: program, age group, gender, activity classification, activity format, season, participation numbers and comments. The chart depicts organized scheduled programs. In addition to these programs, facilities such as the parks and Bike & Hike Trails offer citizens the opportunity to pursue their own recreational activities on their own.

Program - Title of program.

Gender - Males, females, both, or both/emphasis on one gender.

Age Group - Target age group for the program.

Classification - The classification system presents a grouping of activities according to the functional areas of recreation. The number of activities is vast. Classifying activities by functional area provides a simple method of coding activity into a system that is easily understood. It guides measuring the balance and variety of the total services of the agency.

Format - Format expresses the idea of what form the leisure experience takes. Program formats are tools for offering a variety of experiences within activities. Formats include: self-improvement, competition, social, participant-spectator, and self-directed. For example, “soccer” could include league play, a trip to a soccer game, or volunteerism through coaching.

Season - Doylestown Township uses a three “season” programming schedule: Summer, Fall, and Winter/Spring.

Comment - Information about the program such as number of sessions, weeks, or other data.

Inventory Key

The Program Inventory offers a significant database for program planning. With 28 factors and 75 programs, the data need to be focused on summary types of information. For this reason, the data is organized in **Tables 16 and 17**. While program data can be sorted in a variety of ways, the tables are consolidated according to the above noted program elements. **Table 16** shows the key to the programs in **Table 17**.

| Table 16 | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------|-----------|--------|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Key to Doylestown Program Inventory | | | | | | | | | | |
| Age Group | | Class | | Format | | Gender | | Season | | Number |
| C | Children: pre-school Youth 5-14 Yrs. Teens 15-17 Yrs. Adults 18+ Yrs. Families | A | Arts | S | Social | F | Female | F | Sept. | # of participants |
| Y | | C | Crafts | SI | Self-Improvement | M | Male | | Through | |
| | | Dc | Dance | C | Competitive | B | Both | | December | |
| T | | Dr | Drama | PS | Participant/ Spectator | | | W/Sp | Winter/ Spring: | |
| A | | E | Environ. | SD | Self-Directed | | | | Jan through April | |
| F | | F | Fitness | | | | | S | Summer: May through August | |
| | | Mt | Mental | | | | | | | |
| | | Ms | Music | | | | | | | |
| | | Sp | Sports | | | | | | | |
| | | So | Social | | | | | | | |
| | | V | Volunteer | | | | | | | |

| Table 17 | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|---|--------|-------|------------|-----|--|
| Doylestown Program Inventory (2019) | | | | | | | |
| Trips | | | | | | | |
| Radio City Trip | All | B | So | S | F | 26 | 1 day long trips |
| NYC & 9/11 Museum Trip | All | B | So | S | Sp | 25 | 1 day long trip |
| Premier Tours (Rome & Tuscnay) | All | B | So | S | F | 6 | Vacation trip opportunities through business partnership |
| Discount Ticket Sales | All | B | So | SD | All | | Amusement parks, Ski, Events, Zoo, Shore venues, Movie tickets |
| Sports & Fitness Programs | | | | | | | |
| Tennis lessons | All | B | Sp | SI | Sp, S,F | 150 | 8 six week sessions |
| T Birds T Ball | Y | B | Sp | S, Si | Sp, S, F | 88 | 3 sessions per year |
| Kids Karate | Y | B | F, Sp | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 35 | |
| Multi-Sport Program | Y | B | F, Sp, | S, Si | W/Sp, S, F | 25 | |
| Ultimate Warrior | Y | B | F, So | S, Si | S | 8 | |
| Exploring Archery | Y, T, A | B | F, Sp | S, PS | F | 58 | |
| Outdoor Boot Camp | A | B | F | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 24 | |
| Indoor Boot Camp | A | B | F | Si | W/F | 19 | |
| Aqua Toning | A | B | F | Si | F | 3 | |
| Deep Water Aerobics | A | B | F | Si | F | 5 | |
| Lace Up & Run | A | B | F | Si | F | 2 | |
| Hatha Yoga | A | B | F, Mt | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 1 | |
| Pilates Mat Express | A | B | F, Mt | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 1 | |
| Spinning | A | B | F | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 3 | |
| Silver Sneakers | A | B | F | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 4 | |
| Silver Sneakers Yoga | A | B | F, Mt | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 8 | |
| Barre Fitness | A | B | F | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 6 | |

Table 17 continued
Doylestown Program Inventory
TOWNSHIP continued

| Program | Age | Gender | Class | Format | Season | # | Comment |
|--|------|----------|--------|-----------|------------|----|--|
| Educational/Recreational | | | | | | | |
| Group Active | A | B | F | Si | W, F | 3 | |
| Metabolic Training | A | B | F | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 1 | |
| Vinysa Yoga | A | B | F, Mt | Si | W, F | 2 | |
| Zumba & Zumba Toning | A | B | | Si | WSp, S, F | 9 | |
| Doylestown Rock Gym Family Climbing | F | B | F | Si, PS | F | 2 | |
| Babysitting workshop | YT | B | Mt | Si | W/Sp, S | 23 | Two sessions |
| Ballroom Dancing | A | B | Dc | Si | W/Sp | 16 | |
| Rex Arts- Wicked & Mary Poppins | A | B | Ms, Dr | Si | S | 18 | |
| Origami for Beginners | A | B | A | So, Si | W/Sp | 2 | |
| Wickline Casting Acting for the Camera | A | B | Ms, Dr | Si | S | 2 | |
| Mad Science Camp | Y | B | Mt | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 21 | Includes camp program and Secret Agent lab program |
| EFK Science programs | Y | B | Mt | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 83 | Topics include: Crazy Concoctions, Electronic Game Design, Marine Engineering, Medieval Defense, Hardware Engineering, Hardware Physics & Digital Interface, Lego Robotics, Apprentice Robotics, & Aerospace Engineering |
| Kitchen Wizards Insta Pot | A | B | So | So, Si | S | 6 | |
| Kitchen Wizards | | | | | | | |
| Photography Tweens/Teens | T | B | A | Si | S | 9 | |
| Photography Basics | A | B | A | Si | S | 5 | |
| Kids Cartooning | Y | B | A | Si, So | S | 7 | |
| Shining Knights Chess Program | Y | B | Mt | Si, So, C | S | 32 | |
| Confidence & Courtesy Workshop | A | B | Mt | Si | F | 4 | |
| Getting Paid to Talk Workshop | A | B | Mt | Si | S, F | 9 | |
| Mindfulness Matters | A | B | Mt | Si | W/Sp, F | 10 | |
| QPC Training for Suicide Prevention | A, F | B | Mt | Si, | F | 29 | |
| Know Your Medicare Options | A | B | Mt | Si | W/Sp, S, F | 72 | |
| Sewing for Beginners (Adult) | A | B | A | Si, So | W/Sp | 8 | |
| Sewing for Beginners Parent & Child | F | B | A | Si, So | W/Sp | 3 | |
| Special Events | | | | | | | |
| Fido Float | All | B & Dogs | S | S | F | 77 | Fanny Chapman pool |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------|---|--------|-------|------------|-----|--|
| Touch a Truck | Y, F | B | So | SD | Sp | 800 | Event for children to explore and learn about fire trucks, police cars and DPW trucks |
| Golf Outing | A | B | So, Sp | C, So | S | 99 | |
| Home Run Derby | Y | B | So, Sp | C, So | Sp | 142 | |
| Canine Programming | | | | | | | |
| Canine Capers | A | B | E | SI | W/Sp, S, F | 191 | Multiple six week program sessions including puppy kindergarten, teen leash & greet, & Therapy Dog prep. |

Chart Highlights

There are a number of key points to note about the Doylestown Program Inventory. These include information about participants, classification, and service to clients.

- **Participants** – The participation numbers reflect a single registration by an individual for a program. It does not include multiple visits by one client for most of the programs. The numbers shown do not include spectators, unless the event is spectator based such as some of the special events. With multiple visits and the spectators factored in, the volume of service and the real numbers become very large.
- **Program Numbers** – The Township sponsors about 200 programs annually.
- **Large Scale Programming** – What the chart does not reflect is the enormity of many of the programs. Large scale community events such as the Summer Performing Arts Series, Golf Outings, Touch-A-Truck, and Fido Float all require many hours of planning, volunteer coordination, sponsorship solicitation, event management, security, coordination, financial management and customer service.
- **Classification** – The program classification is broad based including sports and fitness, culture, performing arts, special events, trips, nature and the environment.
- **Service to Clients** – The programs are targeted to both males and females and are gender specific when appropriate. Recreation opportunities are available for a wide cross section of people for the young through the young-at-heart with a wide variety of interests community wide.
- **Location** – Many of the programs are held outdoors. Indoor programs are offered at the temporary activity center (trailer) as well as through offsite public/private partner locations that are not owned by the municipality, including commercial enterprises. The Township does not have access to school district facilities except as a rain location for the summer performing arts series.

Partnerships – Many of the programs are the product of partnerships that the municipality has developed and sustained. The municipality does not compete with the private sector but instead embraces the opportunity to collaborate and partner with private providers for the common goal of providing quality recreational services to the community. This enables the small staff to leverage their hours for additional services

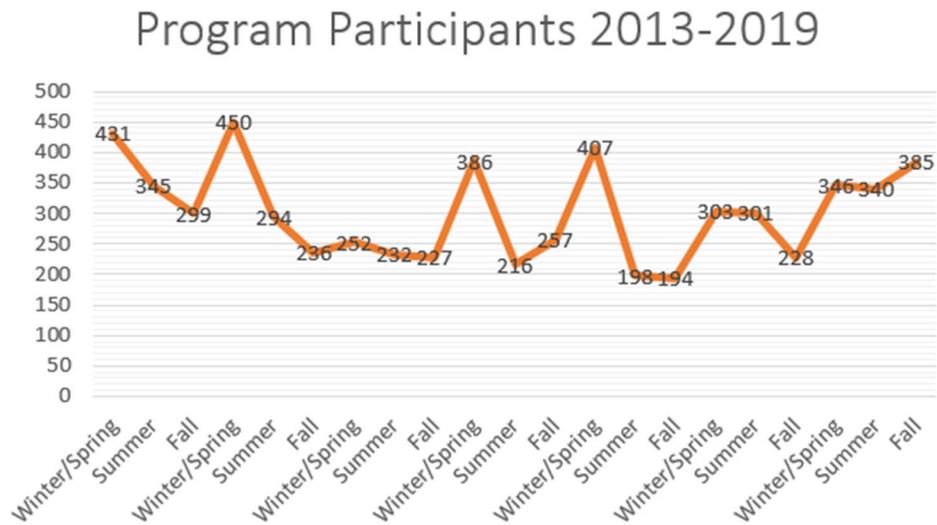
and programming expertise that would not be possible to provide with municipal staff alone. Partnering with commercial recreation-related enterprises has the added benefit of providing uniquely qualified specialists that serve as recreation leaders in community recreation programs. This helps community businesses to gain public visibility through inclusion in the overall program slate as well as seasonal program guide, newsletter, website etc.

Recreation Partners

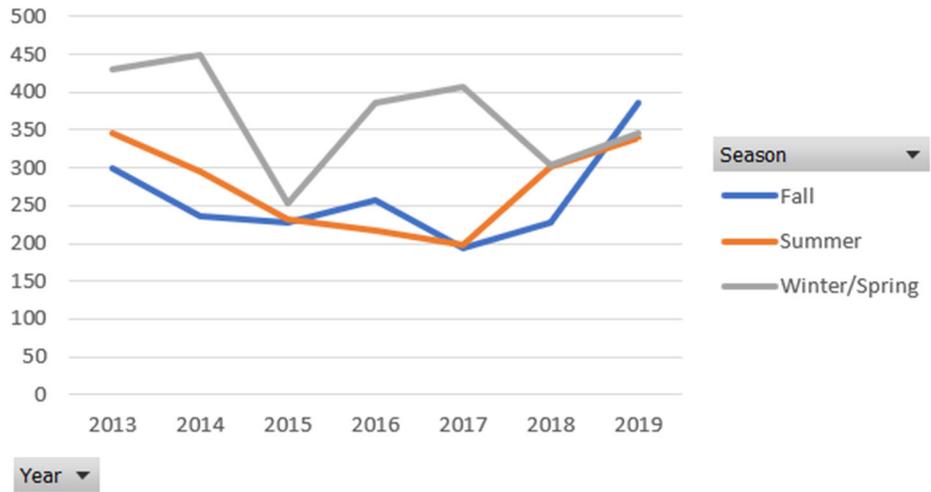
CB Cares Educational Foundation, Cycle Sports, Bucks County Parks & Recreation Department, Training Tails Dog Training, Smart & Safe Seniors, DAA, Lenape Valley, CBAA, WAA, Doylestown/UB Pickleball, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, PA Rush, Warrington Soccer, Bucks County Tennis Association, Cornerstone Health & Fitness, Doylestown Hospital, The Bucks County Special Olympics, neighboring municipal park and recreation departments

Program Growth*

Program participation has decreased slightly over the last 6 years, but has seen a slight increase in 2019. There are many factors as to why this is, including lack of indoor space, limited staff, a shift in interest in certain program types and combatting the rise of internet usage on smart phones and video games. The following charts (**Figure 1.**) detail the level of participation in six distinct program types that Doylestown Township offers the community:

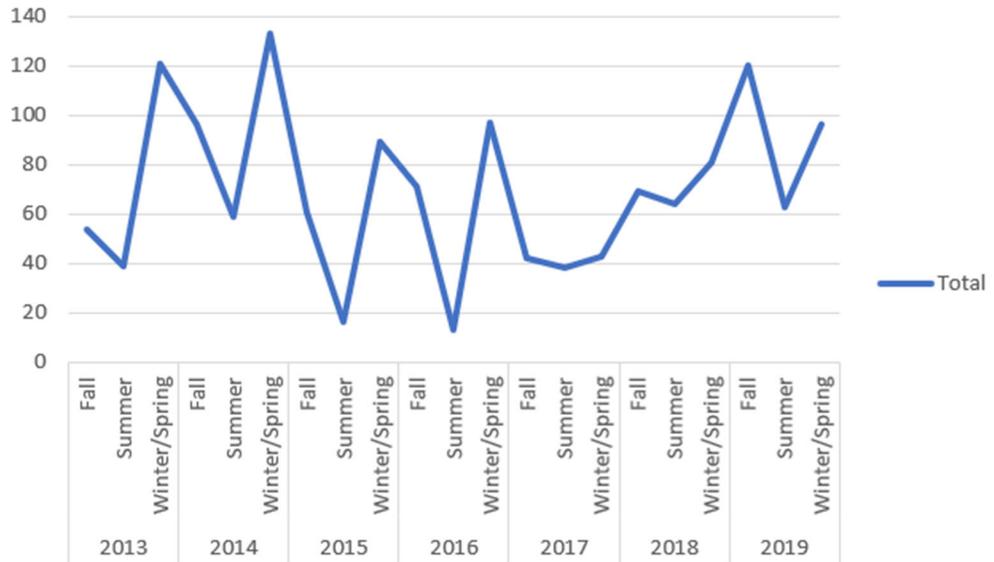


Sum of Program Participants

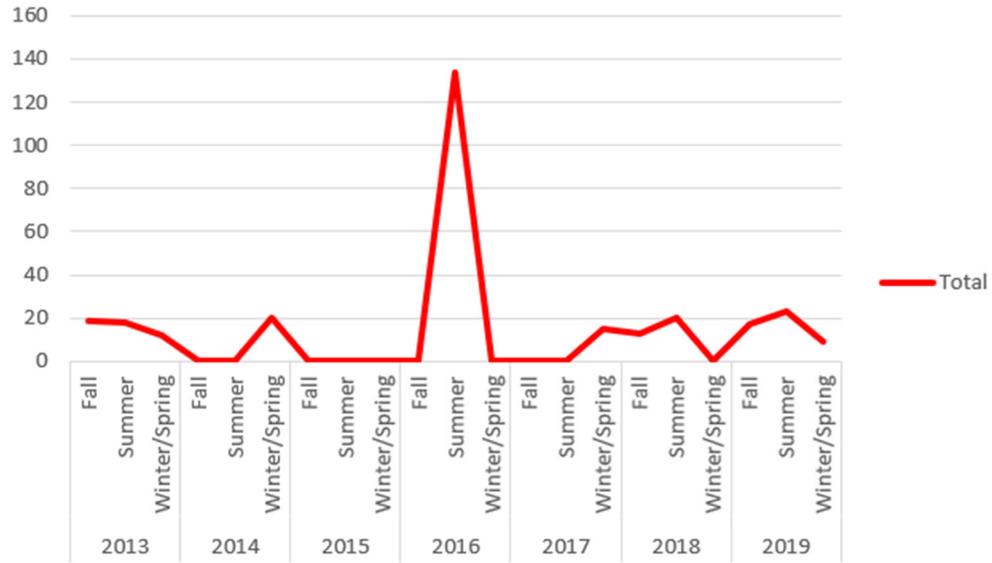


Sum of Adult Participants

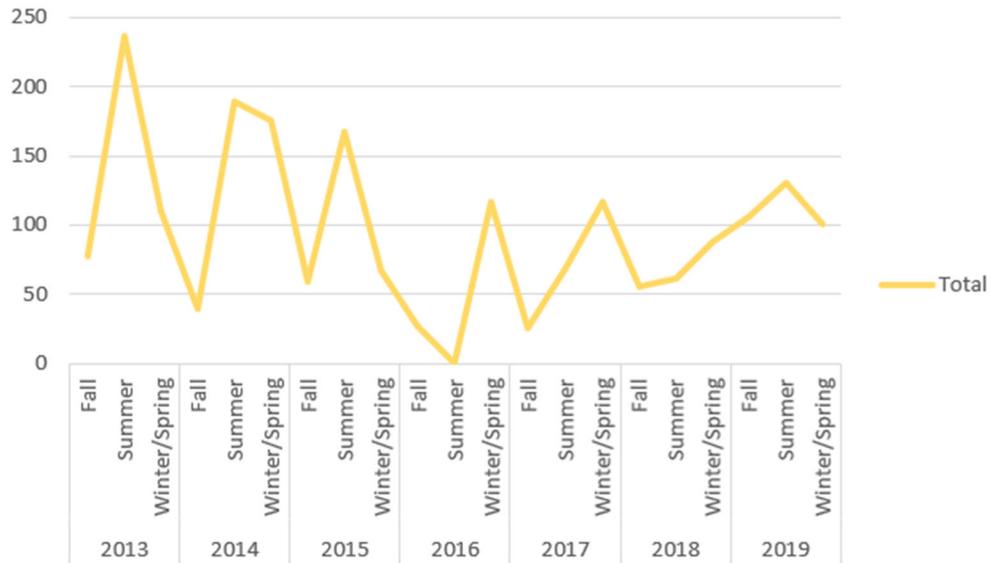
Adult Program Participation 2013-2019



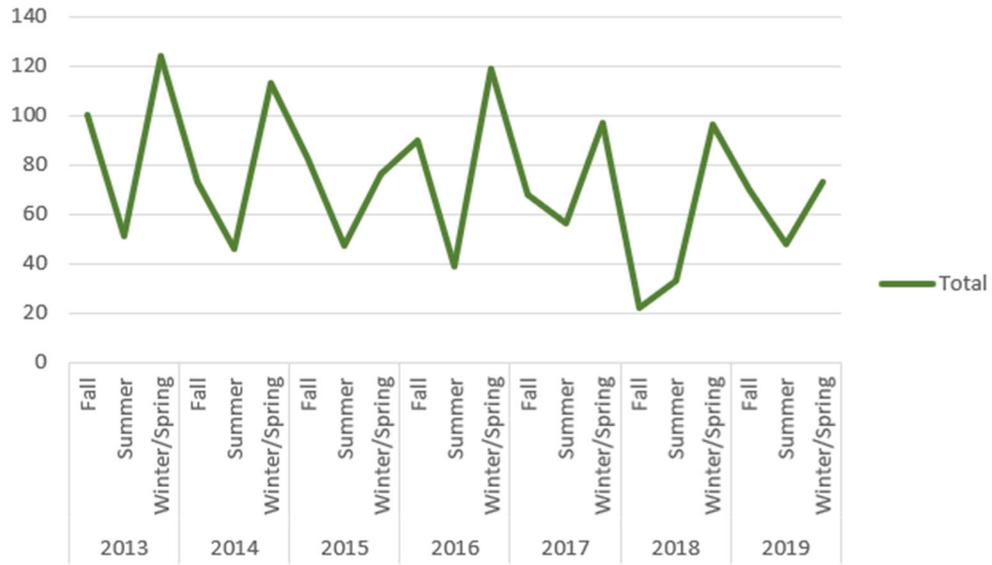
Teenage Program Participation 2013-2019



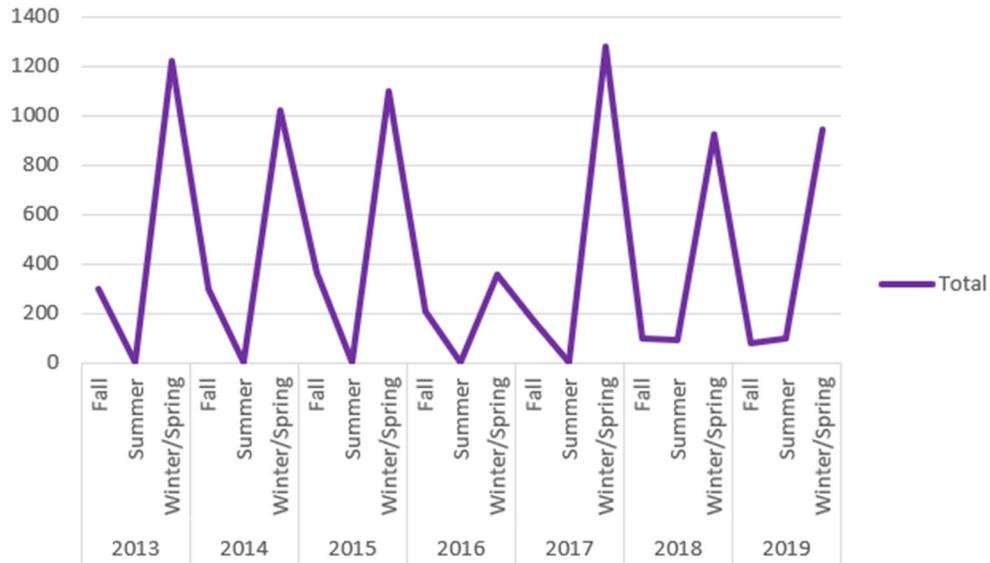
Youth Program Participation 2013-2019



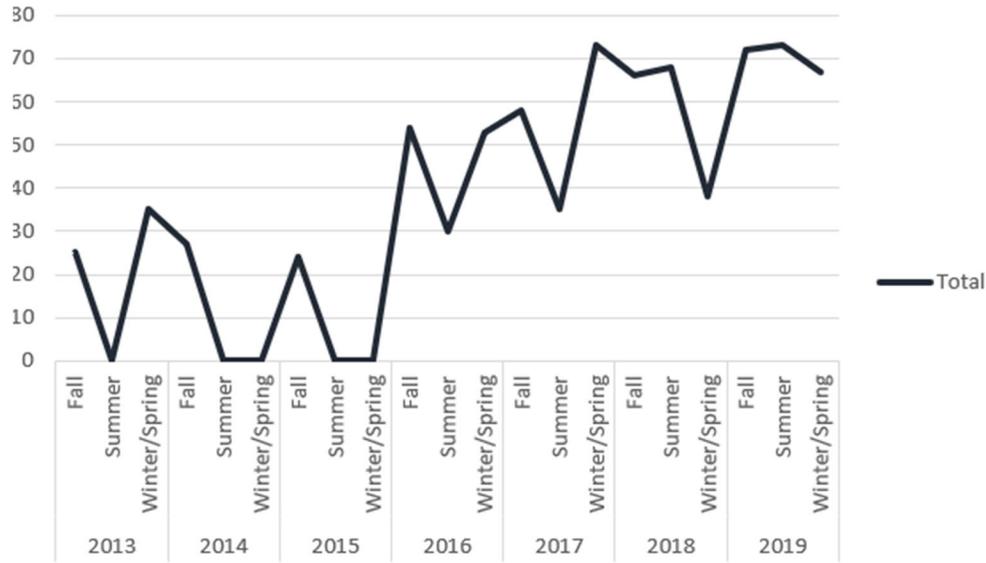
Canine Program Participation 2013-2019



Special Event Est. Participation 2013-2019



Other Program Participation 2013-2019



*Other participants were for programs that did not fit the previous user group criteria, such as family programs or mixed age group programs.

Facility Rentals

The public can rent Township picnic pavilions, ballfields, and the amphitheater in Central Park. This enables citizens to plan and schedule their own social outings. When the facilities are not reserved, they are available for use on a drop-in basis without charge. The picnic pavilion rentals are popular. The Township issues permits with a fee for special events. Non-profit organizations can request a waiver of the fee but not a waiver to the Township’s direct costs.

Other Recreation Service Providers

Doylestown residents are fortunate to have a number of recreation service providers in addition to municipal park and recreation services. The role of the Township is to work in cooperation with the other providers and to facilitate their programming wherever possible. A host of community groups contribute to parks and recreation including the museums, sports organizations, and the Central Bucks School District

The Doylestown Township Parks and Recreation Department disseminates information about other activities and events in the community offered by organizations such as the Bucks County Parks and Recreation Department and community sports organizations.

The Township embodies the philosophy that collaboration is mutually beneficial and results in effective public service for less cost. The Doylestown Township Parks and Recreation Department avoids duplication of effort to focus on programs that are not offered elsewhere.

Organized Sports

Organized sports are a major force in the Doylestown Community. In the Doylestown area over 11,000 players played adult and youth sports in 2018. About 5,000 players are Township residents. Some of these numbers represent the same individual playing multiple sports. The numbers are intended to show total number of players not individuals playing sports. **Table 18** presents the community sports inventory. While DAA (Doylestown Athletic Association) is the primary sports organization in Doylestown, several others in the Central Bucks region also offer services in which Doylestown residents participate. The organizations operate independently and compete for the same limited number of fields and gyms.

Sports organizations include: DAA, CBAA (Central Bucks Athletic Association), Bux-Mont American Legion Baseball, Connie Mack Baseball, Lenape Valley Athletic Association, CYO (Catholic Youth Organization of Our Lady of Carmel), Warrington Soccer Club, Doylestown Pickleball, PA Rush Soccer, and USAPA Pickleball. Most of these organizations cover multiple sports. Overall community sports include soccer, football, lacrosse, field hockey, baseball, softball, t-ball, basketball and pickleball.

The volunteers provide:

- Thousands of hours of volunteer time.
- Field maintenance tasks
- Field development
- Raise funds for equipment for facility improvements
- Partner with the municipalities in cost sharing and facility improvements
- Purchase land and facilities for sports and training

The Doylestown Township Parks and Recreation Department serves in the role of facilitator by providing facilities, maintenance, and coordination for the leagues. Over the past ten years, new sports emerged, participation has increased, year-round play emerged, more females are playing, and players are involved at older and younger ages. This results in the need for more facilities and additional maintenance requirements. Since the focus is on youth sports and fields are in demand, space for adult leagues is scarce.

Community Sports Issues

Interviews and the community sports forum attended by 13 people representing sports organizations yielded the following information regarding sports leagues:

- Leagues operate regionally within Central Bucks Leagues tend to specialize in sports and balance each other out so that players from one community will go to another to play soccer, baseball, softball, lacrosse or field hockey.
- The lack of sports fields is severe. The difficulty league volunteers experience in trying to find space for players is astounding.

- With sports becoming year round it has compounded the available field space issue. Field lights are needed to more efficiently utilize the fields that the Doylestown community currently has available. Turf fields should be considered to help with the effects of weather and maintenance on current playing surfaces to allow for more consistent and durable facilities.
- Some fields that are perceived as ball fields are not actually ball fields but are simply open areas that may or may not have grass and do not receive any regular maintenance that would provide a safe playing surface.
- Compared with facilities in other communities, the quality of athletic facilities is below par here. With the great pride people have in Doylestown, organizations would like sports areas to be at the same overall high quality of Doylestown.
- The level of maintenance provided by Doylestown Township to the clubs has not been adequate for the field fees charged, and organizations have had to pay outside organizations to assist with field maintenance on top of their permit fees.
- The rise of pickleball as a popular sport has caused there to be fewer resources to accommodate players of both pickleball and tennis on Doylestown facilities, and the need for dedicated pickleball courts has become more necessary to meet usage demands.
- Sports operate regionally and not within municipal boundaries. Sports play throughout the School District is the norm for participants.

**Table 18
Doylestown Township
Community Sports Participation Data -**

| Sport/Division | Ages | Gender | # Participants | # Twp. & Boro Residents | Playing Season | Days | Fields/Courts(# of fields) (Include Twp, Boro, School District and other facilities) | Player Fee | Support (Facilities, Coordination etc.) | Trends, Comments |
|--|----------|--------|----------------|-------------------------|---|----------|--|------------|---|---|
| Central Bucks Athletic Association (CBAA) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Soccer | 2-18 | B | 1200 | 490 | Fall | All | Central Park, Buckingham Twp (4 fields), Herbst Sports Complex, Central Bucks School District (6 Fields) Plumstead (2 Fields) | \$95-\$135 | | Needs indoor space and field lights |
| Soccer - Travel | | B | 625 | 265 | Yr. round | All | Central Park, Buckingham Twp (4 fields), Herbst Sports Complex, Central Bucks School District (6 Fields) Plumstead (2 Fields) | \$795 | | |
| Soccer- Adaptive Needs | 5 and up | B | 75 | 37 | Fall & Spring | Saturday | Holicong Park | N/A | | |
| Sport Camps | 6-13 | B | 280 | 135 | Summer | Weekdays | Central Park, Buckingham Twp. (4 fields), Herbst Sports Complex, Central Bucks School District (6 Fields) Plumstead (2 Fields) | \$35-\$150 | | |
| Lacrosse/Basketball | 6-13 | B | 1700 | 710 | Spring, Fall (LAX), Winter, Spring (Basketball) | All | N/A | N/A | | |
| TOTAL | | | 3680 | | | | | | | |
| Doylestown Pickleball | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pickleball | 3 and up | B | 358 | N/A | Yr. Round | All | Camp Curiosity & Doylestown Tennis Club (11 pickleball courts) | NA | | Designated courts for pickleball at Doylestown Twp. Park & Rec Facilities are needed to meet increasing demand of the sport |
| TOTAL | | | 358 | N/A | | | | | | |

**Table 18
Doylestown Township
Community Sports Participation Data – Continued**

| Sport/Division | Ages | Gender | # Participants | # Twp. & Boro Residents | Playing Season | Days | Fields/Courts(# of fields) (Include Twp., Boro, School District and other facilities) | Player Fee | Support (Facilities, Coordination etc.) | Trends, Comments |
|--|------|--------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------|--|------------|---|---|
| Doylestown Athletic Association (DAA) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baseball | 6-18 | M | 913 | 593 | 4/1-7/31 | All | Turk I & II, Kutz, Lenape Middle School, GM Bush Park, Sauerman Park (13 Fields) | \$90-\$199 | CBSD fields maintenance | Bleachers need some replacing, player benches are needed, back stop replacement, drainage/safety concerns, water main on Turk I side, pedestrian crossing from Turk I to Turk II, bathroom facilities. DAA has spent just shy of \$50,000 on improvements to Turk Park in 2017-2018 |
| Field Hockey | 7-13 | F | 423 | 296 | 9/11-11/16 | Sat | Lenape Middle School 3 Fields | \$45 | Lines, grass cutting, grass seed | |
| Softball | 6-18 | F | 314 | 204 | 4/1-6/30 | All | Neiss/Burpee (4 Fields), 2 Fields at Lenape Middle School | \$85 | CBSD fields maintenance | |
| Basketball | 7-18 | B | 500 | 263 | 11/1-3/31 | All | 8 Courts at Central Bucks School District Locations | \$100 | Pay \$45/hr gym time weekends | DAA pays over \$42,000 annually in gym fees to CBSD |
| Volleyball | 7-18 | B | 562 | 365 | YR | Mon-Wed. | Central Bucks School District Tohickon, Fanny Chapman | \$65 | | |
| | | | 2712 | 1721 | | | | | | |

**Table 18
Doylestown Township
Community Sports Participation Data – Continued**

| Sport/Division | Ages | Gender | # Participants | # Twp. & Boro Residents | Playing Season | Days | Fields/Courts (Include Twp, Boro, School District and other facilities) | Player Fee | Support (Facilities, Coordination etc.) | Trends Comments |
|-------------------------------------|----------|--------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|-----------|--|------------|---|--|
| TOTAL | | | 500 | 209 | | | Academy Turf | | | participation |
| | | | 408 | 209 | | | | | | |
| | | | 50 | 0 | | | | | | |
| OLMC CYO | | | | | | | | | | |
| Football | 9-14 | M | 64 | N/A | 8/15-11/30 | All | Turk Park I | \$290 | | Need lighted practice field, may be adding soccer which would require more field space |
| Volleyball | 9-14 | F | 50 | N/A | 8/15-10/31 | All | OLMC Gym | \$75 | | |
| Basketball | 9-18 | B | 250 | N/A | 11/1-2/28 | All | OLMC, Linden, Central Bucks School District Gyms, Solebury School | N/A | | |
| Cross Country & Track and Field | 9-14 | B | 120 | N/A | 8/15-11/30 | All | Central Park, East | N/A | | |
| TOTAL | | | 484 | N/A | | | | | | |
| USAPA/Upper Bucks Pickleball | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pickleball | 6 and up | B | 338 | N/A | N/A | Yr. Round | All Central Park, Robert O Keller Park, Quakertown YMCA, Tennis Zone, Camp Curiosity, Franconia Twp. Park, Montgomery Rec Center, Upper Gwynedd P&R Place, XL Sport Hatfield, Upper Dublin Tennis, Frog Hollow Tennis Club, Indian Valley YMCA, Green Valley CC | N/A | | 2.8 million pickleball players nationwide, 12.3% increase since 2017. In need of more indoor/outdoor permanent pickleball courts to accommodate growth of sport. |

**Table 18
Doylestown Township
Community Sports Participation Data – Continued**

| Sport/Division | Ages | Gender | # Participants | # Twp. & Boro Residents | Playing Season | Days | Fields/Courts(# of fields) (Include Twp, Boro, School District and other facilities) | Player Fee | Support (Facilities, Coordination etc.) | Trends, Comments |
|-------------------------------|------|--------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|-----------|--|------------|---|---|
| PA Rush Soccer | | | | | | | | | | |
| Travel Soccer | 8-18 | B | 600 | 423 | Yr. Round | Mon-Thur. | Central Park, PA Rush Complex, Unami Middle School, North Branch Park, West Branch Park, SMG | \$300 | | Field Lights and more fields to accommodate expanding program |
| Intramural Soccer | 8-18 | B | 300 | 198 | April-June | Mon-Thur. | Central Park, PA Rush Complex, Unami Middle School, North Branch Park, West Branch Park, SMG | \$80-\$130 | | Field Lights and more fields to accommodate expanding program |
| Adult League | 18+ | B | 350 | 267 | April-August | Fri & Sun | Central Park, PA Rush Complex, Unami Middle School, North Branch Park, West Branch Park, SMG | \$140 | | Field Lights and more fields to accommodate expanding program |
| Total | | | 1250 | 888 | | | | | | |
| Warrington Soccer Club | | | | | | | | | | |
| Soccer | 6-18 | B | 2000 | 100 | Yr. Round | All | Turk II, Turk III, King Fields Warrington, Warwick Fields, Central Bucks School District Fields (totaling 25 fields) | \$75 | Invests heavily in the fields | Need field lights and turf |
| TOTAL | | | 2000 | 100 | | | | | | |

- Overlapping field design results in organizations vying for the same space; irregular patterns of use affect play for sports using the same space for different purposes.
- Field scheduling is complex. Organizations tend to ask for blanket permission for field use. As a result, there are built in inefficiencies in field scheduling with respect to fields going unused when other groups are being turned down because theoretically the fields are scheduled.
- The lack of parking is a problem in most facilities. Access to parks is often a challenge.
- Year round play precludes the use of overlapping facilities. It also places more wear and tear on the fields requiring a higher level of maintenance.
- To enable younger players to have more contact with the ball, soccer leagues are fielding a smaller number of players during games and practice e.g. eight or six players on a side instead of 11. For younger children more but smaller fields than full size fields are needed.

Sports Suggestions

The organizations recommended the following:

- Sports complex with indoor and outdoor facilities with lights.
- Develop maintenance standards and explore supplemental maintenance agreements with sports clubs to take the maintenance burden off of the township staff, and allow the sports clubs to maintain the fields to the standard they need for their specific sport.
- Fields designed and constructed as athletic fields by landscape architects/engineers with expertise in sports field design and construction.
- Lighting for fields and game courts.
- Consider alternative playing surfaces for practice and games, such as turf fields.
- Create a mechanism through community parks and recreation municipal services to facilitate a defined communication and meeting system for sports organizations to discuss common issues and work collaboratively to share both the responsibility and use of facilities.
- Expand partnerships among municipalities, school district, private schools and sports organizations.
- Improve the quality of the facilities and consider the long-term constant use the facilities get.
- Evaluate, add restrooms and maintain them. Develop a policy for the type of parks that should have restrooms and the type of parks that would be assigned porta-potties.
- Consider adding a sports coordinator for the area for organizing, coordinating and scheduling facilities for the municipalities and the School District.

- Create facilities for adult use. Adult recreation is especially important with the growing group of active senior adults and the retirement of the baby boomers.
- Add and/or modify existing tennis courts for dedicated pickleball, not only adding to the service of active adults and seniors but also the growing, multi-generational interest.
- Establish a municipal league sanctioning policy before any further splintering of sports leagues occurs and to be prepared for additional sports groups emerging with their own individual needs and field demands.

Doylestown Bike & Hike Committee

The Bike & Hike Committee is a Township and Borough committee that has planned, secured grants, and developed the Bike & Hike Path connecting the community. This pathway system enables people to participate in the popular activities of walking and biking at their own discretion. About 30 miles have been constructed and another 25 miles are planned.

Doylestown Library

Located in the Cultural District on the campus of the Mercer Museum and the Michener Museum, the public library is a community treasure. It is the busiest library in Bucks County. In addition to lending books, videos, cd's and reference services, the library offers programs and special events such as speakers as well as a conference center. A variety of recreational reading programs are offered year round with a major one for children in the summer. Throughout the year, book clubs, story times and special events are held. The library also offers the Pearl Buck Public Meeting Room that is available for community meetings and gatherings.

Central Bucks School District

The Central Bucks School District is vital to community recreation. The Central Bucks School District offers interscholastic and intramural sports, clubs, and events related to educational services. The Central Bucks School District Community School offers year-round educational/recreational programs including Summer Kids, Evening School, and an aquatics program. Summer Kids is an eight week long summer camp at three elementary schools which offers before and after camp hours and transportation to meet the needs of working parents. The School District also offers "holiday" camp between the official camp season and the end of school to cover the time needed by working parents for their children. The community aquatics programming includes instructional swimming, competitive swimming and diving. The Central Bucks Evening School Serves thousands of participants annually. The evening school offers over 200 programs in fall and the winter/spring sessions.

CB Cares Educational Foundation

CB Cares Educational Foundation coordinates the 40 Assets program with youth and teens in conjunction with Doylestown Hospital, the Central Bucks School District, Doylestown Township, Doylestown Borough, other non-profit organizations and business partners. CB Cares Educational Foundation has facilitated public conversations about youth gathering in the town center and sponsored Y2C, teen live music events with local bands at Central Park.

CB Cares Educational Foundation also sponsors annual workshops in which high school students identify and discuss community issues and opportunities. It is rooted in the philosophy of planning with youth and not for youth. CB Cares Educational Foundation is a very productive force within the community that is looked upon as an organization that fosters collaboration.

Central Bucks Family YMCA

The YMCA on its 20-acre campus offers year round member/fee-based programs and services for people of all ages and interest in the community. A very popular community facility, the YMCA is undergoing a capital campaign for facility expansion. The YMCA has an indoor pool, fitness center, teen center, skateboard park, gym and activity rooms.

Mercer Museum and Fonthill

The Bucks County Historical Society manages the Mercer Museum and Fonthill. About 110,000 people from around the world visit the Mercer Museum and Fonthill annually. The Mercer Museum offers a variety of programs for all ages including an audio guide of the collections, grade-specific school programs, family craft activities, craft demonstrations and classes, and a summer craft camp for children. Fonthill's programs are offered to the public including guided tours, special "Behind-the-Scenes" tours, programs specifically geared to students, holiday events (such as an Old Fashioned Fourth of July), and murder mysteries.

Michener Museum

The Michener Art Museum offers innovative programs, designed to stimulate, excite and encourage people to explore their creativity, develop critical problem-solving abilities, and expand cultural heritage awareness. Classes are small and are taught by professional artists and trained educators. The Museum offers rotating exhibits, special events and programs.

Doylestown Art League

The Doylestown Art League was founded in 1959. The League offers art instruction, speakers, a lending library and exhibits of local artists. The League is based in the James Lorah House and has monthly membership meetings.

Central Bucks Senior Center

Located in Doylestown, the senior center is a gathering place for active senior citizens. Operating Monday through Friday, the Center offers activities, special events, education, fitness, trips, health and wellness support. The Center is membership based.

Program Analysis

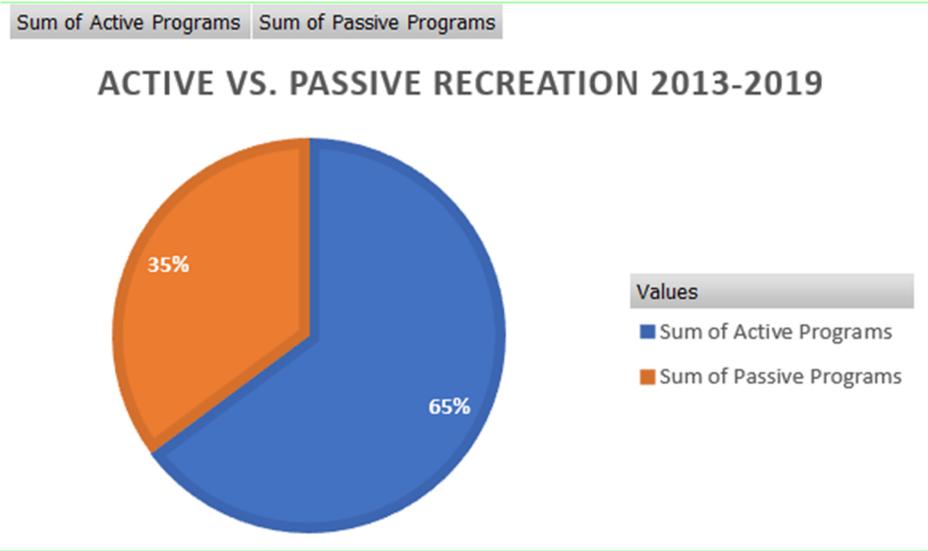
Recreation programs and services are important in Doylestown. The public recognizes the municipalities for providing effective services and in responding to public needs. The Township provides most of the on-going public recreation programming year-round through its fulltime year round department. Private sector support has generated programs

such as Pumpkinfest, the Doylestown Arts Festival, Mercer Museum Folk Festival, the Thompson Bucks County Classic-Criterium, and the Memorial Day Parade. Events by the cultural and county institutions are major happenings drawing both local residents and tourists. Examples of these include the Pumpkinfest, educational programs, and summer camps.

Programming for Diverse Age Groups

Programs and services are available for people of all ages and interests.

Active Vs. Passive Recreation*



Over the course of the last 7 years, Doylestown Township has offered a good mix of active and passive programs to its residents. Active programs make up roughly 65% of the program offerings, while passive programs make up the remaining 35%.

Programming Inclusivity

Doylestown insures that recreation opportunities are available for all genders, ages, and abilities. Doylestown must continue to ensure these opportunities for all residents and continue to stay educated about the changing climate with particular attention focused to inclusivity for diverse cultures and for the LGBTQ+ community. Connecting with this community and seeking input on policy and program offerings is imperative.

Program Structure

Doylestown Township Parks and Recreation Department offers a variety of program/event formats and durations of programs. In addition to the traditional multi-week programs, the Department offers special events, immersion programs, and the Performing Arts Series.

Program Fees and Revenue Philosophy

Doylestown Township charges fees that are fair and priced to be a public service. Cost recovery of programs is a goal for recreation programs that benefit a defined user and not the public at large. Free special events such as the concert series and are important since these reach the broadest range of the residents of all age groups. Parks and recreation is a public service and equitable access is important for all residents. About three percent of the community lives in poverty so provisions for those in need should be made. Doylestown community recreation programs serve non-residents as well. Non-resident participation in Doylestown Township programs serve the citizens well as friendships and community based organization relationships cross municipal boundaries. The fees generated through non-resident participation contribute to the support of parks and recreation in Doylestown Township.

Program Schedule

Three programming seasons are offered in the Township in winter/spring, summer and fall. This schedule corresponds with the public school schedule of Fall, Winter/Spring, and Summer and works well in terms of advertising, program planning, registrations and customer service.

Year-Round Recreation

One of the major limitations of the public recreation program is the lack of indoor recreation facilities with a gym, fitness center, and activity rooms. School facilities are limited for recreational use by their time available. While the schools could be important sources of indoor facilities, there are inherent limitations. Many groups are competing for the same facilities. The school programs have top priority for schedules. The Township is considered permittees of school facilities and not community partners.

While gyms for organized sports are needed, other indoor facilities to serve people of all ages, interests, and abilities are needed. Drop-in activity space, fitness facilities, gyms, pools, and community meeting rooms are usually spaces that enable people to participate in an active healthy lifestyle year-round at all ages throughout their lifetime.

Program Planning

Doylestown Township has a Program Coordinator position to assist the Director and facilitate program planning, implementation, and management. The program coordinator has helped to expand programs, increase participation, and generate positive evaluations by participants. Great recreation programming does not just happen: it requires expertise, training, initiative, creativity, and a willingness to take risks. Recreation programs must meet client needs for socialization, enrichment, creativity, adventure, and physical and emotional well-being.

Program Registration

Program registration is available online, by mail or drop in. The Township should continue to direct users to register online in an effort to cut down on paper registration forms and to expand efficiencies within the department. The department should continue to research online registration software to compare pricing and performance to ensure they are providing the best service to their customers.

Program Promotion

Doylestown Township mails out its Program Guide to every household. The Township has a website, a social media presence, email blasts, a newsletter, and advertises in the newspaper.

Program Evaluation

Doylestown Township evaluates its programs on a continuing basis. Written participant evaluations show satisfaction at the 80 percent mark or better which is very favorable. The Township also uses the written comments from the evaluations to guide program changes for enhanced public service. The township should also look to use a free survey creation service such as Survey Monkey to send out email program evaluations for more efficient data storage.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Doylestown area offers a wide variety of recreation opportunities year-round. Municipal parks and recreation services have developed an important niche: providing the foundation for services that spark life-long healthy active life styles. The residents can explore many different types of activities in public recreation programs and then move on to other enterprises or organizations in the region that offer a higher level or advanced program of choice. Research shows that most adults continue to participate in the activities in which they participated as children.

It is impossible to underscore how important public recreation is for children, youth, families, individuals, and senior adults.

The following conclusions and recommendations are numbered for ease of discussion and do not reflect the rank order of importance.

1. Doylestown strives to offer affordable experiential recreation opportunities for the community. The local sports organizations handle competitive sport, but focus more so on the youth sports side. While the local sports organizations provide the youth of the community with opportunities for sports engagement, there is an opportunity for Doylestown to fill the gap for adult team sports and competitive “yard games” in the community. Doylestown should look to expand this offering by creating adult leagues such as basketball, softball, kickball, bocce, pickleball etc., as well as programming for traditional “yard games” such as corn hole, Kubb, Polesh, wiffleball etc. Reaching this base will aid Doylestown Township in becoming a more desirable area for young adults to live in, or at the very least visit for the recreational activities that are offered.

2. At one time Doylestown offered a youth Summer Camp program, but it was cut from the program offering. There is a need for an affordable youth summer recreation program in Doylestown Township. Central Park would be a great location to offer a program such as this. It would not need to compete directly with any high end summer camps in the area, but fill the need for an affordable recreation opportunity for children whose families may not be able to afford other opportunities. In a recent NRPA study, 83% of departments nationwide offer some type of summer camp programming.
3. Teenage programming is nearly non-existent in Doylestown's program offering, outside of a babysitting course that is offered periodically. Doylestown should look into potential programming opportunities for this age segment including recreational sports leagues, instructional programming, athletic training, computer programming, art, and other topics of interest to this age group.
4. The Arts are underrepresented in this program offering. Doylestown should look to bolster their offering by finding local artists who could teach specialized art programs to residents of all ages.
5. Doylestown Township should consider adding a minimum of at least one more dedicated park maintenance staff as well as an additional Program Specialist/Sports Coordinator/Special Events Coordinator to the staff. With the need to reexamine park maintenance standards, the potential for investments in field lighting, and dissatisfaction from user groups at the level of maintenance, adding more positions to that staff will allow for these issues to be managed more effectively. The additional Program Specialist/Sports Coordinator/Special Events Coordinator will take some of the program load off of the director and allow the department to enhance its diverse program offering and accelerate the department's service diversity and growth.
6. Consider research and investment into new technology for the department. Keep up to date with emerging registration technology, and consider investment in WIFI in the parks to engage the community in outdoor technological play as it becomes more prevalent in the field. Examples include interactive digital displays, interactive park maps, beacon counters and geofences to track park usage, and technological play sets such as Yalp! Interactive playgrounds. According to a study done by the NRPA, 70% of Americans agree that kids are more likely to visit tech focused parks.
7. Doylestown should expand their use of social media for public relations and marketing of their recreation. The department should coordinate closely with the Township on creating content to be shared through the Township's social media outlets that would highlight the recreation programs and facilities that Doylestown Township has to offer.
8. Doylestown should continue to develop and maintain virtual programming for their residents who may not be able to join an in-person program, including online exercise classes and educational workshops. They should also add youth online learning programs such as STEM learning, arts, and music.
9. Consider acquiring land or developing a site for a community garden. 92% of Americans think it is valuable for children to have access to a community garden or farmers market to learn where food comes from. The millennial generation is a strong supporter of access to community gardens and locally sourced food. This will tap into new park users and provide a service and new programming opportunities to the population.

- 10.** Implement programming to combat ongoing public health crises such as the opioid crisis, mental health, wellness & obesity, COVID 19, senior loneliness, etc. Parks & Recreation must do their part to spread knowledge on the issues and help provide the public with resources to enact change in the community. Doylestown Parks & Recreation can do their part by educating staff on the various issues and what steps they can take from their roles to pass their education on to the community. The Parks & Recreation department can provide creative new opportunities including programs in partnership with local hospitals and health administrators to offer seminars to educate the community, and targeted programming for more specifics on each of the various health topics, such as nutrition courses, opioid use prevention and addiction education, CPR and first aid, life coaching, etc.
- 11.** Invest in lighting and indoor facilities for community to help expand upon the opportunities they have to play, as their sports become increasingly year round.
- 12.** Focus on gender equality and be mindful of the changing trends and policies as we become a more inclusive society. It will be increasingly important to increase efforts to adopt inclusive policies and engage the LBGTQ+ community. Staff training on LBGTQ+ inclusiveness and engaging members of the LBGTQ+ for assistance in developing new policies will frame the groundwork for the direction the department heads with revising policies going forward.
- 13.** It is important for Doylestown Parks & Recreation to recognize their role in representing the entirety of Doylestown Township residents, regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, age, ability, gender, gender identity, or socioeconomic status in order to provide equity and inclusion for all recreational program opportunities in the community.
- 14.** Indoor space for parks, recreation and community recreation is needed. The addition of an indoor facility will allow for opportunity to expand program offerings into a variety of new topics for all ages and interests, and will allow for facility rentals from members of the community for various use such as party rentals, group meetings, cultural events, etc.

Chapter 5: Management and Financing



Chapter 5: Management and Financing

Park and Recreation professionals need a diverse set of skills and techniques to manage the complex systems in the ever-changing and demanding world of public parks and recreation. Successful operations are rooted in effective management. While it is important to do things right, it is even more important to do the right things.

Long term, about 75 percent of the cost of public parks and recreation is in maintenance and management. While the focus of park and recreation planning tends to be on land acquisition, facility planning, and development, the heart and soul of a parks and recreation department lies in management. Securing funding for capital improvement projects is comparatively easier than getting adequate funding and staff to manage the facilities, lands, and services.

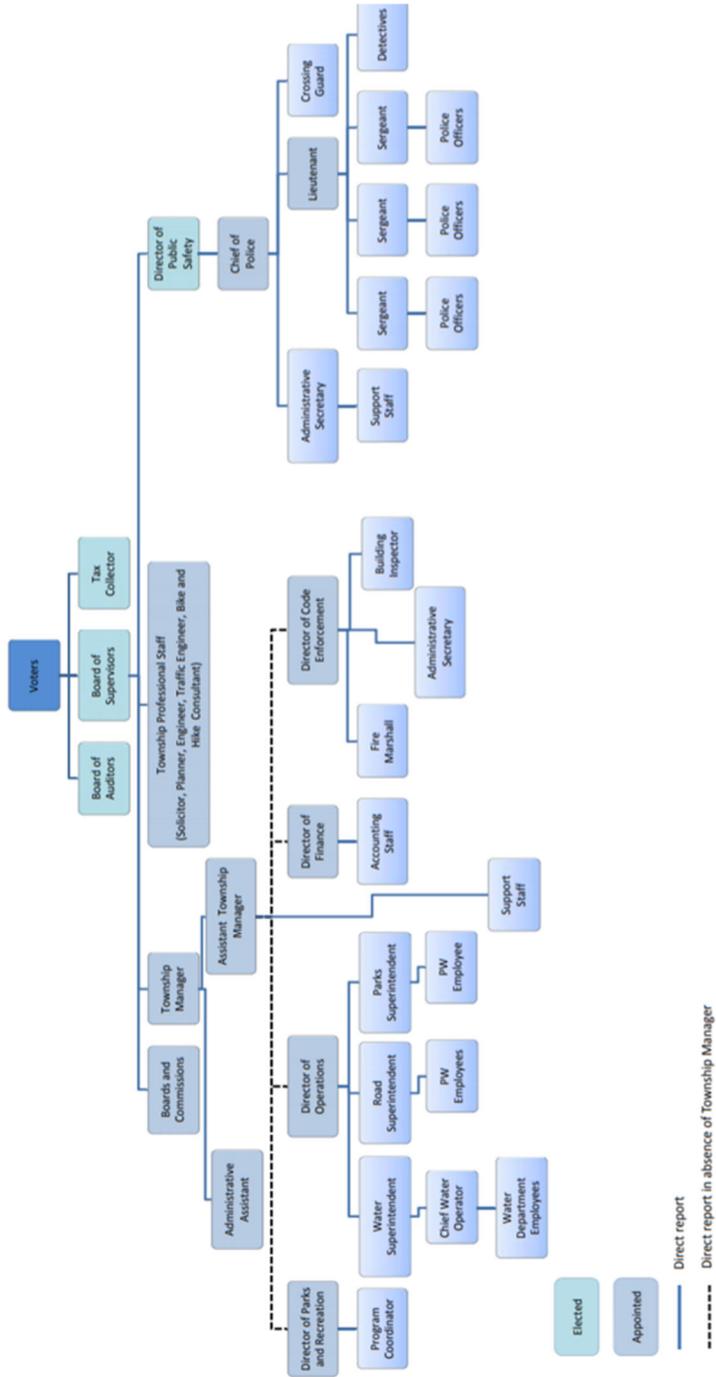
Purpose of the Management and Financing Assessment

The purpose of the management and financing assessment was to work with Doylestown Township in taking a fresh look at operations, revenues and expenditures. The assessment addresses organizational structure, volunteer advisory boards, staffing, employee development, public involvement, maintenance, information, and budget including revenues and expenditures.

Parks and Recreation Organization

Figure 2. depicts the organizational structure of Doylestown Township.

Doylestown Township Organizational Chart 2013



Management

The Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors has empowered professionals working for the Township to implement policy. This strategy to promote the day-to-day operations and planning by people trained and experienced in their professions, has produced a high caliber of innovation and collaborative management that has resulted in optimum public service with limited resources.

It is important to document in this assessment the central position and contributions of the Township Board of Supervisors, and the Township in the effectiveness of a team approach to parks and recreation. The Township Manager has taken an active role that has been vital to the success of the parks and recreation system, which has brought parks, recreation, and open space to front and center in the community as an essential public service.

Doylestown Township has a full-time professional parks and recreation system, which includes a full time Director of Parks & Recreation, Program Coordinator, and dedicated park maintenance staff that is overseen by the Parks Superintendent in the Department of Public Works. The Township also works closely with a variety of volunteer groups to accomplish important parks & recreation elements, such as the Park & Rec Board, the Hike & Bike Path Committee, and the Dog Park Advisory Committee.

Doylestown Township Parks & Recreation

- Director of Parks and Recreation
- Program Coordinator
- Director of Public Works
- Parks Superintendent
- Dedicated Parks Maintenance Employees (2)

The Township employs 6 full time employees and about 35 seasonal and part-time employees for recreation programs and park maintenance.

The Director is a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP) and a Certified Playground Safety Instructor (CPSI), a national certification based upon education and experience under the National Recreation and Park Association. The Director is responsible for the overall management and administration of the Parks & Recreation Department including planning, directing, controlling, and evaluating all aspects of the system including personnel, administration, programs, services, promotion, financing, parks planning, coordination with the Borough, and all other matters. The Director works closely with the Program Coordinator, Director of Public Works and the Park Superintendent. This coordination involves park scheduling, park use permits and assistance with partners and other community organizations. The Parks and Recreation Director is responsible for implementing the policy directives of Board of Supervisors through the Township Manager.

The Program Coordinator is responsible for planning, directing, and evaluating a broad array of community recreation programs, activities and events. The Coordinator assists with the supervision of seasonal and part time recreation staff, participates in planning projects, and provides input for the operation and management of the department. This position is integral to Township operations as the focus is on day to day activities and short term planning. It enables the Director to focus on financial management, long range planning,

goals, and departmental projects that would be impossible to address if dealing with the day-to-day details was required.

The Director of Public Works is responsible for managing and maintaining the infrastructure of the Township including roads, buildings, and grounds, including park maintenance. The Directors of Public Works and Parks & Recreation have an effective working relationship.

The Parks Superintendent is responsible for maintenance management of the parks. He is responsible for planning, directing, controlling and evaluating park and recreation facility maintenance. The Director of Parks & Recreation and the Parks Superintendent work closely together to achieve Township goals in terms of care of the parks.

The dedicated Park Maintenance employees are responsible for the day to day work that is necessary to keep the parks maintained, as well as support staff for programs and events. They remove hazards, maintain and repair surfaces and equipment, collect debris and trash, install and repair equipment, investigate complaints etc. The Park Maintenance employees report directly to the Parks Superintendent.

Since people and positions change over time, it is important to underscore the importance of a strong system of internal communication among the Township Manager, Public Works, Parks Maintenance, and the Parks & Recreation Director. The goal of effective communication is to insure that everyone has the same vision and goals for what needs to be accomplished in parks and recreation. Close direct communication between the Parks Superintendent and the Parks & Recreation Director is particularly important.

Volunteer Advisory Boards and Committees

Doylestown Township has a Park and Recreation Board, which is advisory with members appointed by the Board of Supervisors and includes a Board of Supervisors Liaison. The board meets monthly to provide general guidance, support and recommendations about community parks and recreation. They do not make policy or oversee daily operations which are the responsibility of the professional staff. They focus on parks and recreation within each of their jurisdictional boundaries.

Other volunteer committees operate outside the parameters of parks and recreation. However, the professional staff and members of governing body sit on the boards and participate in planning and implementation.

The Bike & Hike Committee

The Bike and Hike Committee has been in place since 1993. The Committee includes representation from both Doylestown Township and Doylestown Borough including a Board of Supervisors Liaison, the Borough Manager, the Township Manager, interested citizens, landscape architects, engineers, Central Buck School District, Doylestown Health, and business owners. Under their leadership, the community has established over 30 miles of paths connecting parks, the town center, schools, cultural institutions neighborhoods, the transportation center, Delaware Valley College, and Doylestown Hospital. The Committee achieved this through volunteer time, municipal support and grants.

Dog Park Advisory Board

The Dog Park Advisory Board has 14 members, including 1 Chairman, 1 Township Staff Liaison, 1 Township Board of Supervisors Liaison, 1 Doylestown Borough Staff Liaison, 4 Doylestown Township Residents, 3 Doylestown Borough residents, and 3 members at large. All members have an interest and commitment to the value of the dog park, the operational procedures as established, serve as an advocate and contribute to the awareness of the dog park. The Board's role is to observe, discuss, and make recommendations relative to ongoing maintenance, management and operations of the dog park. The also review incident reports, provide peer leadership at the park for safety and security, and coordinate clean up days.

Friends of Kids' Castle

The mission of the Friends of Kids' Castle is to assist the Board of Supervisors with the fundraising, maintenance, management, repair and operation of Kids' Castle.

Parks and Recreation Operations

The current organizational structure supports both independent and joint municipal parks and recreation operations. The multi-municipal boards model how effective the collaboration between communities is, such as the Dog Park Advisory Board. Looking at how parks and recreation operations could be enhanced or expanded collaboratively would be beneficial to the community. This section presents information about the functional areas comprising parks and recreation operations. These areas include recreation programs, public relations & promotions, maintenance, volunteerism, employee development & training, partnerships & sponsorships, and risk management.

Recreation Programs

Doylestown Township offers a variety of recreation programs and activities. The Township is the primary provider of year-round services to the Doylestown community. The addition of significant programs or program areas needs to be carefully evaluated to ensure that adequate staff, funding and/or partnerships are available to deliver a top-quality program. It is better to run fewer programs at top quality than more programs at a lower quality.

Public Relations & Promotions

Getting the word out on programs and services is particularly important in the Doylestown Community where a variety of activity choices are available for the public. An image for parks and recreation has been established, and continuing to build on existing success is critical. The image and information to be conveyed is a multi-faceted parks and recreation system that is targeted at launching life-long leisure interests for people of all ages.

- Continue sending out information via print publication to the community as a baseline for public relations of promotion of programs.
- Continue to maintain and improve an online presence with registration and promotion of programs. Stay ahead of the curve on registration software and continue to develop a coordinated social media campaign effort to effectively market and promote Doylestown Township recreational programs.
- Continue to develop and update the “branding” of Parks and Recreation services and facilities in Doylestown Township.
- Submit nominations of community parks and recreation programs and projects to PRPS Awards Program annually.

Maintenance

In Doylestown Township, Parks Maintenance Department falls under the auspices of Public Works. Park maintenance is performed in conjunction with public works functions.

Maintenance is the single largest recurring expenditure in park and recreation operations. Over the lifetime of a park, about 75 percent of its cost is in maintenance while only about 25 percent is in acquisition, development, design, and construction⁹.

Routine maintenance, as well as maintenance standards for athletic fields have been a struggle in the parks. A holistic perspective on the parks should incorporate park planning, use policies, maintenance, and facility management. In order to do this, a formal, written maintenance management system should be developed and put into place. This would include policies, procedures, and standards for planning, directing, controlling and evaluating maintenance. Potential areas for consideration for maintenance in the future include the following:

1. **Develop standards of care for the facilities, parklands, and natural areas.** Doylestown must review their park maintenance standards and update them on a regular basis to meet the expectations and usage of park users. The level of maintenance should be determined by three criteria: the visibility of the area, the desired state of landscape condition, and the intensity of use. Standards can and should vary within parks as well as among parks. To advance the standards of care concept, public education is required in order to inform the citizens that the municipalities are adopting a more naturalized approach. Otherwise, residents misperceive the naturalization as reduced maintenance. Information at park kiosks, mowing a pathway along newly formed meadows, and regular articles in the newsletters can all help to educate residents.

⁹ Lay, Francis. (1978). *Management of Grounds and Site Maintenance Operations. Manual of Site Management*, Environmental Design Press. p.4.

2. **Consider a maintenance for use agreement with high usage sports organizations in the community.** Doylestown Township should look to partner with the local sports organizations who have a high usage rate at the parks and reach a Maintenance for Use Agreement. The basis of the agreement would be for Doylestown to lower some of the fees associated with facility rental and use, and in exchange the sports organizations would have more responsibility to put money into maintenance as they see fit. Doylestown would still be responsible for general maintenance of the fields. Other details such as responsibility for capital improvements can be worked out during negotiating the terms of the agreement. It would be beneficial to both parties, because Doylestown Township would not have to pay to hire more maintenance workers for the parks, or pay the current staff overtime to handle the level of maintenance the clubs expect, in exchange for lowered fees from the sports clubs. The sports clubs will be able to use the savings they receive in fees and put that towards the maintenance that they feel they are not receiving from Doylestown currently.
3. **Develop standards of time for accomplishing tasks.**
4. **Develop a maintenance impact statement for all capital improvements and park master site plans.** Look for alternatives to providing the maintenance with municipal forces and resources where possible. Involve the Park Superintendent and Foreman in the park master planning process and all design projects.
5. **Computerize the maintenance workload/cost tracking system.** Use the reports for planning, scheduling and allocating resources as well as in setting policies such as fees and charges. Use grant funds to purchase computer software for maintenance tracking. Network with other park maintenance managers elsewhere to determine how they use computer software for effective maintenance planning and management. A formal maintenance management system with current written documentation of maintenance tasks and repair of facilities in need of attention will help to reduce the municipalities' exposure to liability and litigation. It will also provide accurate, timely reporting and enhanced accountability of resources.

Volunteerism

Volunteers are crucial to the success of parks and recreation. Organizationally, volunteers fall under the Parks and Recreation Director in the Township. Because of the extensive amount of time that volunteers require in terms of recruiting, supervising, training and recognition, volunteerism in the Doylestown community parks and recreation should be concentrated on group efforts rather than individuals.

Employee Development and Training

Doylestown Township provides financial support for professional parks and recreation staff and for the park maintenance staff for training, education, maintenance of certifications and licenses (such as CPSI: Certified Playground Safety Inspector), conferences, seminars, annual meetings, memberships, dues, and subscriptions. The Director of Parks and Recreation and/or the Program Coordinator attend annual parks and recreation conferences and workshops held in Pennsylvania and other training opportunities such as the National Recreation and Park Association Congress and NRPA specialized schools at Oglebay.

Other onsite and virtual training is made available relative to specialized skills including computer, marketing, development etc.

Training is essential to keep up with regulations, technology, and trends. Regulations, guidelines, and standards in parks and recreation are evolving and deal with such diverse topics as herbicide and pesticide spraying, playground safety standards, trail planning and management, and health guidelines. Our changing society has resulted in issues that impact services for children and youth: child custody, abuse, discipline issues, juvenile justice, violence, substance abuse, and other major concerns that were not in the picture in the past.

Consideration should be given to the following actions for employee development:

- 1. Phase in a regular budget for employee development.**
- 2. Include a variety of training modalities.** The employee development program can include in-service training; self-directed improvement through participation in seminars, conferences and so on; orientation for new and seasonal employees; rotating employees through jobs other than their own; brown bag lunch discussion sessions and networking with other parks and recreation departments. The idea is that training can be low cost and does not always have to be conferences. Consider including volunteer boards and organizations in the brown bag lunch training or breakfast meetings.
- 3. Institutionalize the training by scheduling department training sessions or “Lunch and Learn Sessions” for this purpose.** The trainee would use this forum to present summary information of how the training could be applied in the community parks and recreation system as well as to distribute materials or other media obtained at the training program. This would be an effective tool in strengthening the unification of parks and recreation communitywide.

Partnerships and Sponsorships

Partnerships with other organizations in the community enhance public service at reduced costs. Partnerships and sponsorships are the foundation for the major community events and amenities in Doylestown including the Summer Concert Series, Golf Outing, Dog Park, trails and other activities and other unique features. Businesses in the area provide donations of materials, supplies, and funds. With the many great cultural, social, recreational, and sports organizations in the community, obtaining partnerships is a great challenge and getting to be more difficult. Finding new and creative ways to package projects that make parks and recreation alliances highly visible and very desirable to businesses from a marketing perspective will be crucial in the future.

Central Bucks School District

The School District plays a pivotal role in public recreation in the community through the provision of facilities and in the involvement of school district officials in community initiatives such as CB Cares Educational Foundation. Examples of School District involvement include the following:

- Use of sports fields for community recreation and sports.
- Use of gyms for youth sports leagues.

- Use of the school auditoriums for summer recreation programs and for rain venues for the summer concert series.
- Provision of the Central Bucks Community School Program.
- Facilitating community activities and meetings through provision of meeting space for community groups.
- Distribution of Parks & Recreation information via E-Folder.

The relationship with the School District is currently based upon the use of facilities and the formal permitting process for facility use. The goal for community parks and recreation should be to establish a working relationship with the school district on programs and services for the community as partners in collaborative efforts. This is a relationship beyond the municipalities being merely applicants of the use of school space. Potential areas for further collaboration include sports facilities, land, environmental education, maintenance management, and community wellness.

Sponsorships

Doylestown Township has worked diligently over the years to generate corporate sponsorships and partnerships with the private sector.

The Township should continue to develop, sustain, and enhance sponsorship for parks and recreation programs, events, and facilities. Policies should be formulated to manage major sponsorship opportunities and civic projects to insure that the project is consistent with overall goals and resource capacity to sustain the project over time if necessary.

Risk Management

The most effective measures that a municipality can take in reducing exposure to liability is to design and construct facilities properly and to have an effective maintenance management system. The formal maintenance management plan should incorporate information tracking to document work performed, response to problems, and remediation.

Financing

Financing public parks and recreation services is a major challenge. The Township has a stable tax base. The major areas to be considered in financing are capital improvements, operations and maintenance. A capital improvement budget is used for improvements that cost more than \$15,000 and last more than 10 years. Such improvements include park and recreation facility development, purchase of major equipment such as trucks, or the rehabilitation of existing facilities. It could also include land acquisition. Many municipalities fund their capital improvement program through fees-in-lieu of dedication of parkland. As housing development slows, parkland and the amount of revenues generated from fees-in-lieu of dedication are decreasing as well. Other ways to fund capital improvements include grants and gifts, fundraising, bond issues, partnerships, and loans. An operations budget supports the daily operation of parks and recreation. The largest category is personnel salaries, wages, and benefits. An operations budget is funded through taxes, user fees & charges, grants, gifts, donations, and sponsorships.

Municipal Revenue Sources

Table 19 presents the sources of municipal tax revenues according to the Local Tax Enabling Act. Other municipal revenue sources include:

- ***Licenses and Permits:*** Revenues under this category are derived from cable television but also include revenues from permits for plumbing, zoning, alcoholic beverages, inspections, and occupancy permits.
- ***Fines and Forfeits:*** Fines from violations and accident reports.
- ***Interests and Rents:*** Property rentals such as meeting room rentals
- ***Grants and Gifts:*** The Township pursues grant funding and donations for community endeavors.
- ***General Government Permits:*** Fees charged by the municipalities for regulatory actions regarding development, planning, and zoning hearings.
- ***Public Safety:*** Charges for public safety include fees for inspections and accident reports to insurance companies.

School Districts

Pennsylvania's Local Tax Enabling Act empowers school districts to levy Special Purpose Taxes including a tax for Parks and Playgrounds at two mills (24 P.S. 20232 of the Act).

Municipal Financial Philosophy

Doylestown Township operates with a high degree of accountability, a deep sense of responsibility to the taxpayers, and a strong commitment to excellent public service. This approach enables the Township to accomplish a great deal with limited resources. Results are highly visible and a source of community pride including the Hike and Bike System, Kids' Castle, Sensory Trail and special events such as the Performing Arts Series, and the annual Golf Outing. The Township pursues grants and other non-tax funding sources aggressively.

Table 19**Sources of Municipal Tax Revenues**

| Potential Tax Sources | Townships of the Second Class | |
|---|--|--------------------|
| | Legal Limit | Doylestown Twp. |
| Real Estate | 14 mills | 7 mills |
| Occupation | 14 mills* | 0 |
| Act 511 | | |
| Per Capita | \$10 | 0 |
| Occupation (Flat Rate) | \$10 | 0 |
| Occupation (Millage) | No limit | 0 |
| Earned Income | 1 percent | 1 percent |
| Deed Transfer | 1 percent | 1 percent |
| Mechanical Devices | No limit | 0 |
| Amusement | 10 percent | 0 |
| Business Gross Receipts | 1 mill wholesale. 1 ½ mills retail no limit other businesses | 0 |
| Municipal Building (or firehouse or lockup for Borough) | ½ general rate | 0 |
| Debt Interest & Sinking Fund | N/A | |
| Pensions & Retirement | N/A | |
| Firehouses & Equipment | 3 mills | In real estate tax |
| Recreation | No limit | " |
| Debt Service | No limit | " |
| Permanent Improvement Fund | 5 mills | " |
| Road Machinery Fund | 2 mills | " |
| Library | No limit | " |
| Ambulance & Rescue Squads | ½ mill | " |
| Fire Hydrants for Water District | Apportioned cost | " |
| Fire Hydrants for Township | 2 mills | " |
| Street Lighting | 5 mills | " |
| Street Lights for District | Apportioned cost | 0 |
| Debt Payment | No limit | 0 |
| Community Colleges | Up to 5 mills of market value of real estate | 0 |
| Municipalities Financial Recovery Program | No limit | 0 |
| Distressed Pension System Recovery Program | No limit | 0 |
| Emergency Management Tax | Up to \$52 for workers earning over \$12,000 | \$52 |
| Shade Trees | N/A | N/A |
| Special Road Fund | N/A | N/A |
| Fire Equipment & Fire Houses | N/A | N/A |
| Gas, Water, Electric Light | N/A | N/A |

* 5 additional mills with court approval

Capital Improvement Funds

Table 20 presents the capital budget for Doylestown Township for years 2016-2020. The funds were used for park and recreation facility improvements such as walking trail improvements, park improvements, and maintenance.

| Table 20 | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Capital Improvement Budget and Parks & Recreation Debt Service | | | | | |
| 2016-2020 | | | | | |
| Item | 2016 Actual | 2017 Actual | 2018 Actual | 2019 Actual | 2020 Budget |
| Doylestown Township | | | | | |
| Capital Reserve Improvement Fund | | | | | |
| Participant Recreation | 0 | 604,993 | 648,116 | 160,671 | 91,500 |
| Off-Site Improvement Fund Expenditures | | | | | |
| Bike & Hike Path Maintenance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50,000 |
| Improving Heritage/NBRP | 80,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pedestrian Bridge Kids' Castle | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 73,500 |
| Shade Tree Program | 0 | 940 | 368 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Conservation of Natural Resources | 3,159 | 274 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NGWY Phase III Project | 244,893 | 180,393 | 40,479 | 0 | 0 |
| Trail Study Central Park to 313 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 14,239 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 356,794 | 181,605 | 40,848 | 47,000 | 155,000 |
| Off Site Improvement Fund Revenues | | | | | |
| Interest & Rents | 725 | 1,951 | 4,094 | 5,000 | 4,500 |
| Local Government Operation Grants | 487,480 | 0 | 84,190 | 0 | 30,000 |
| Fees in Lieu of Recreation | 63,871 | 29,194 | 42,939 | 2,569 | 10,000 |
| Interfund Transfers (Open Space) | 0 | 0 | 273 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 552,076 | 31,145 | 131,496 | 7,569 | 44,500 |
| Capital Fund Raising Fund | | | | | |
| Cultural Recreation Revenues | 102,489 | 101,222 | 84,614 | 101,997 | 95,000 |
| Fund Raising Expenditures | 52,333 | 46,346 | 56,194 | 48,012 | 75,500 |
| Debt Service Fund Expenses | | | | | |
| Debt Principal | 641,227 | 330,000 | 100,000 | 305,000 | 315,000 |
| Debt Service Interest | 5,610 | 178,482 | 299,580 | 298,580 | 289,430 |
| TOTAL | 646,837 | 508,482 | 399,580 | 603,580 | 604,430 |

Major Grants and Private Funding

What the chart does not show are major capital improvements that were supported by municipal, volunteer, and private partners. These include about \$1.7 million for the Bike and Hike Path and Safe Routes to School which was funded by the Transportation Enhancement Act, Kids' Castle supported with \$200,000 from private fund-raising, the Sensory Trail funded by DCED and corporate/individual sponsors, and the Dog Park funded by community sponsorship, private donations, in-kind donations, and municipal partnerships.

Revenue Sources for Capital Improvements

- Grants: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Bucks County Open Space Funds for open space preservation
- Bond issue
- Revenues from special events
- General fund taxes
- Private fundraising

Operating Budget

Table 21 presents the revenue sources for operating budget for Doylestown Township.

| Table 21 Doylestown Community Parks and Recreation Operating Revenue Sources 2016-2020 | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Item | 2016 Actual | 2017 Actual | 2018 Actual | 2019 Actual | 2020 Budget |
| Doylestown Township | | | | | |
| Interest Earned | 702 | 1,776 | 6,372 | 7,475 | 6,500 |
| State Capital & Grants | 57,402 | 0 | 5,000 | 127,195 | 7,500 |
| Recreation Services | 246,024 | 233,567 | 215,688 | 187,211 | 194,000 |
| Real Property Taxes | 200,188 | 202,147 | 204,356 | 545,548 | 617,977 |
| Contributions | 20,000 | 0 | 2,500 | 0 | 500 |
| Intergovernmental Transfers | 200,000 | 392,965 | 300,000 | 340,000 | 248,000 |
| Revenue from Other Sources | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,000 |
| TOTAL | 724,316 | 830,455 | 733,916 | 1,207,429 | 1,075,477 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Table 22
Doylestown Community Parks and Recreation
Operating Budget 2016-2020

| Budget Items | 2016 Actual | 2017 Actual | 2018 Actual | 2019 Budget | 2019 Actual | 2020 Budget |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP | | | | | | |
| Recreation | | | | | | |
| Salaries & wages: Recreation | 121,902 | 125,359 | 126,769 | 132,044 | 132,044 | 136,497 |
| Longevity | 3,150 | 3,300 | 3,450 | 3,600 | 3,600 | 3,750 |
| Overtime | 23,165 | 30,856 | 21,987 | 21,095 | 21,095 | 21,728 |
| Office Supplies | 131 | 834 | 314 | 300 | 1,272 | 600 |
| Training | 0 | 0 | 3,517 | 5,000 | 4,500 | 5,000 |
| Small office equipment | 3,927 | 5,615 | 8,278 | 4,400 | 4,400 | 10,500 |
| Computer equipment maintenance | 6,361 | 6,443 | 8,692 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Telephone | 5,091 | 5,543 | 4,758 | 4,500 | 3,071 | 3,145 |
| Postage | 5,648 | 5,113 | 5,203 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 |
| Advertising | 450 | 258 | 127 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Printing | 14,025 | 14,025 | 14,025 | 20,000 | 18,000 | 19,000 |
| Dues & Subscriptions | 1,074 | 1,415 | 1,397 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,600 |
| P&R Comp Plan | 0 | 0 | 10,542 | 5,000 | 15,000 | 2,500 |
| TOTAL Administration | 184,924 | 198,761 | 209,059 | 213,939 | 220,982 | 221,320 |
| PROGRAMS | | | | | | |
| Supplies | 3,060 | 2,157 | 4,077 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 6,400 |
| Programs | 67,563 | 53,306 | 55,539 | 60,000 | 45,761 | 50,000 |
| Credit Card Fees | 4,127 | 4,232 | 3,973 | 4,000 | 5,192 | 5,500 |
| TOTAL Programs | 74,750 | 59,695 | 63,589 | 69,000 | 55,953 | 106,350 |
| PARK MAINTENANCE | | | | | | |
| Salaries & wages | 175,565 | 169,265 | 183,399 | 183,190 | 175,565 | 175,070 |
| Longevity | 7,050 | 8,700 | 9,150 | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,500 |
| Park Maintenance | 103,002 | 76,269 | 105,268 | 100,000 | 80,000 | 270,000 |
| Training | 2,847 | 5,693 | 1,165 | 3,000 | 1,000 | 1,500 |
| Electricity | 7,169 | 12,204 | 13,471 | 15,000 | 11,516 | 13,500 |
| Fuels (Gasoline & Diesel) | 6,879 | 7,671 | 9,234 | 9,664 | 8,315 | 10,147 |
| Uniforms | 3,823 | 3,734 | 4,160 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,500 |
| Park & Recreation Signs | 3,096 | 1,811 | 2,696 | 5,000 | 6,618 | 5,000 |
| Contracted Services | 75,360 | 88,650 | 78,915 | 170,000 | 170,000 | 0 |
| Tree Trimming | 8,185 | 7,846 | 64,277 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Specific Project Maintenance Costs | 4,622 | 15,097 | 7,454 | 157,500 | 89,495 | 191,000 |
| P&R Culture-Recreation | 25,602 | 10,272 | 0 | 685,000 | 575,000 | 85,000 |
| TOTAL | 423,200 | 407,212 | 479,189 | 1,336,554 | 955,709 | 760,217 |
| TOTAL BUDGET | 683,658 | 675,676 | 754,462 | 1,618,492 | 1,400,026 | 1,085,987 |

Budget and Revenue Analysis*

Doylestown Township

Capital Budget- Table 20 shows that now that the debt on Central Park has been retired as of 2017, the Township has been able to reallocate borrowed funds to a variety of maintenance projects. These projects have included improvements to the Bike and Hike Path, the pedestrian bridge to Kids' Castle in Central Park, and a trail study for Central Park to 313. The Parks & Recreation department has done a great job running fund raising events to support their capital fund, which include their annual Golf Outing and Summer Concert Series.

Operating Budget – Table 21 shows the following:

- Program revenues have been on a slight decline for the last four years. This coincides with the lower participation numbers for Doylestown Township programming, and the loss of indoor programming space with the construction of the new municipal building and the transition of the former Activity Center to space for Public Works.
- Programs recover about 18 percent of the parks and recreation budget. This rate has gone down over the years and also has depended on park maintenance expenses from year to year. The program expenses have accounted for 30 percent of the program revenue brought in on those programs, which has been consistent in the last 4 years.
- The \$756,381 average annual park maintenance budget equates to a per acre maintenance investment of \$1,890. This range is based on the total park acreage of 400 acres for the active park acres. This is below the typical range of \$3,295 to \$8,208 per acre for an agency with a population below 20,000 people. As new parkland is added or new facilities are developed, additional funds would be needed for park maintenance.
- Over the past four years the Township has continued increasing its financial support for parks and recreation. While the Township investment in operating parks and recreation is down to 8 percent of the overall operating budget, the tax revenue dedicated to the operating budget of Parks & Recreation increased 37% from 2018 to 2019. This percentage shows that the Township places a high value on parks and recreation. The per-capita operating investment is about \$68.85 for Parks & Recreation. According to the most recent Agency Performance Review developed by NRPA in 2020, the range for per capita spending for municipal departments with populations of less than 20,000 is \$56.34 to \$199.36 with a median of \$96.77. These figures are nationwide figures without adjustment for cost of living. The per capita median was \$63.50 five years ago for communities of similar population nationally.
- The average homeowner in Doylestown Township pays about \$534 annually in municipal taxes to the township. For this amount of money, the homeowner gets a full range of services from public safety to parks and recreation. This includes free access year-round to one of the finest park and recreation systems in Pennsylvania

as evident in the numerous statewide awards garnered by the Township, in regional magazines regarding Doylestown as a desirable community in which to live and visit, and the community's standing as one of the most visited in Bucks County and the state.

Management and Financing Analysis

In a time of increasing accountability for all levels of government, decision-makers, staff, and citizens alike, expect efficient and effective operating systems. Doylestown Township has a professional management team that is committed to responsible, accountable, creative, and first-rate public service through parks and recreation.

Management Strengths

Productive Partnership – In partnership with Doylestown Borough, the two communities have created a first-class Bike and Hike System with over 30 miles of trails built to date, and have collaborated to build a successful Dog Park.

Next Steps - The elements that are not yet included are the completion of the Bike and Hike Path with regional linkages, much needed sports fields, and facilities and services for an active aging population.

Commitment - The Township has elected and appointed officials as well as a dedicated professional management team who are committed to parks and recreation. They are actively involved and provide a strong presence in planning and special events.

Park and Recreation Professionals - The Township has been developing its professional park and recreation management system since 1995. A Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP, CPSI, and CPP) Director along with a Program Coordinator provide a professional operation.

School District Relationship - Future partnership efforts would include the Central Bucks School District and Doylestown Health. The goal is to establish an ongoing working partnership in areas of common concern. This would position the municipalities beyond the role of facility applicants and bring them to the table with related school district projects and programs and wellness initiatives.

Volunteers - The Township has dedicated volunteers that offer strong leadership and vision in parks, recreation, trails, the arts, and sports.

Management Challenges

Maintenance Management – One of the most important things that can come out of this plan is the development of a formalized maintenance management system. This will enable the municipality to plan for the resources needed to adequately care for the parks and recreation facilities long term. This will help with budgeting, staffing, setting user fees and charges, and providing safer facilities to reduce exposure to liability.

Fiscal Strengths

The Township has invested a substantial amount of money in the acquisition and development of parkland and recreation facilities. With this investment made in recent years, funds are now tight for future projects. The municipality has been fortunate in having volunteers undertake major community projects successfully. Residents many generations from now will benefit from the wisdom and courage of the elected officials' decisions over the next 10 years.

Fiscal Challenges

The investment that positioned Doylestown Township as a top-notch parks and recreation system requires on-going attention. Just as a house requires on-going maintenance, regular bill payment, and cyclic repairs, the parks and recreation facilities require similar care and investment. Adding systems such as sports turf management, professional design and master planning, and continued inclusion of the arts in park design all require funding. Deferred maintenance results in higher costs long term.

The window of opportunity for open space conservation and park land acquisition is growing short, given the development pressure in the area. Land values are escalating, further limiting the ability of the municipality to acquire land or preserve it with conservation easements. Nevertheless, it is important for the municipality to plan for ways to preserve land that is vital to the charm and beauty of the community. Needs are going unmet because of limitations of both land and money. In lieu of land acquisition, creative use alternatives such as lighting of athletic fields should be a consideration.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Fiscal resources in Doylestown Township are tight and getting tighter. The Township has made notable capital investments in land acquisition, park development, and revitalization. The following recommendations are offered to guide the future management and funding directions.

The following statements are numbered for ease of discussion and do not reflect the rank order of importance.

- 1. Keep the standard for state-of-the-art customer service.** The relationship with the community and individual participants is productive. Maintaining and enhancing this in the future is crucial for success.
- 2. Build in maintenance plans with all new projects in order to provide a high level of quality.** It is recommended the Township does not take on any project that may negatively impact an existing facility or program. Use the sample Management Impact Statement shown at the end of this chapter as a guide.

3. **Consider the expansion of the “dedicated parks” public works staff.** The Township should consider adding at least one more dedicated parks maintenance staff to their Public Works Department. This will allocate more resources to the increasing park maintenance needs once the maintenance plans and standards are set.
4. **Formalize a park and recreation maintenance management system** for parks and recreation facilities. Establish and implement park maintenance standards. Establish a computerized asset management and tracking system to generate information about cost centers. This will enable the Township to make real-time informed decisions about planning, directing, controlling, and evaluating maintenance. Consider seeking a Peer-to-Peer Grant to develop the formal system.
5. **Plan for the regular revitalization of parks** on a ten-year schedule.
6. **Work out a financial plan for capital development and operations.** Develop a ten year capital improvement program. For operations, try to set a reasonable approach to setting an operational budget.
7. **Invest in the addition of an indoor recreation facility for the Doylestown community to meet the current and future recreational needs of township residents.**
8. **Continue to approach landowners regarding open space preservation.**

MIS

Management Impact Statement

Purpose

1. To assess the impact of a significant proposed project or a major program considering the capital and operating costs including human resources and the effect on other parks and recreation facilities and services.
2. To use the assessment to make an informed decision about feasibility and viability of the proposed project.

Method

Determine:

1. Capital cost of the proposed project.
2. Operating costs of the proposed project. Include:
 - Number of staff hours required
 - Cost of the staff hours
 - Cost of materials and supplies
 - Miscellaneous costs
 - Volunteer support over the long term
3. Impact on other facilities and programs with the implementation of the proposed project.
 - Will the project/service require funds needed for other facilities/programs?
 - Will the project/service require staff time needed for other services/programs?
 - How will the project impact the quality of service in Doylestown?
 - Will the project require resources from the community and are they available?
4. Revenue Sources
 - Grants
 - Donations
 - Municipal funds – additional appropriation
 - Municipal funds – within current budget
 - Non-tax funds to be generated from the project/program

Decision-Making

Based upon the above information, does the Doylestown Community have the resources to move ahead with this project?

Chapter 6: Goals and Recommendations



Chapter 6: Goals and Recommendations

The Goals identified herein are general statements, which are meant to set the tone for decisions to be made in terms of the community's desire to improve its quality of life. Goals are stable and long ranging; they are not measurable actions, and may take years to achieve.

The Objectives under each Goal are statements indicating the achievements necessary to meet an overall Goal. Objectives have measurable results and may range drastically in the length of time required for completion. This chapter lists objectives without assigning responsibility to any specific item. A more thorough breakdown of Action Items and responsibilities is provided within Chapter 8: Action Plan. Goals and Objectives listed within this chapter have not been listed or numbered in any significant order.

These tools and recommendations are to be used only as a guide for potential future development of the Township parks, recreation facilities, and programs. Any and all future funding of goals, objectives and projects outlined in the Plan must have the prior approval of the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors. It is understood that before any action is implemented it should be further investigated to reflect changing circumstances as well as feasibility and affordability.

Goals

Goal 1: Continue to sustain and enhance a quality system of parks, recreation facilities, greenways, and trails balanced for recreation and resource conservation.

Goal 2: Manage the parks and recreation system in a professional manner that conveys the greatest possible benefit to the public.

Goal 3: Provide unique and enriching recreation opportunities to residents of all ages and abilities, with an emphasis on inclusion and social equity.

Goal 4: Invest in parks and recreation to sustain and enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Goal 1

Continue to sustain and enhance a quality system of parks, recreation facilities, greenways, and trails balanced for recreation and resource conservation.

Objective 1

Plan, design, construct and maintain open space and park and recreation facilities as safe and attractive public spaces.

1. **Develop and/or update park master plans** for the future use, management, and programming of each of the open space and park and recreation areas managed by the Township. These plans should then serve as blueprints to meet the open space needs of the community.
2. **Build in maintenance plans with all new projects** to provide a high level of quality.
3. **Plan for the regular revitalization of parks on a ten-year schedule.**
4. **Review the level of staff maintaining parks.** Consider and continue to evaluate whether current park maintenance staffing levels are adequate and add additional staff when needed to ensure enough personnel is available to meet park maintenance needs.
5. **Continue to evaluate parks and their maintenance on a regular basis.** Continue to evaluate the conditions of parks, facilities, maintenance, etc. on a regular basis in order to address outstanding issues, the issues presented in this report, and to revise goals and objectives for the improvement and maintenance of parks as needed. Consider the establishment of a program to monitor the use of parks on a regular basis.
6. **Park Signage.** Implement consistent signage and branding across all parks, including directional, interpretive, and branding/identification signage.
7. **Analyze Current Land Holdings** to determine if any of the current open space holdings of the Township could or should be used for active recreational purposes.
8. **Continue to work on health and safety issues.** Improve playgrounds (as necessary) to meet Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSI) and the American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) guidelines for public playground safety. Continue to address maintenance and improvement issues as outlined in the Park and Rec Board Assessment 2020 report, attached herein as Appendix A.
9. **Continue to create and maintain ADA access** in parks and open space areas.
10. **Take steps to meet the demand for more sports fields including:**

- Turk Park:
 - ✓ Master plan Turk Park fields for proper design, construction, and maintenance of sports fields.
 - ✓ Consider the investigation and potential development of artificial turf fields and lighting of fields to permit more playing time and potential availability of fields for longer seasons.
- Delaware Valley University:
 - ✓ Explore options to establish a partnership with the university administration regarding recreational use and inter-cooperation.
 - ✓ Explore a cooperative effort to construct additional playing fields for use by both the university and the community on lands currently owned by the college.

11. Consider the following Open Space and Maintenance Improvements:

- Central Park:
 - ✓ Address court improvements including resurfacing, fencing and lights.
 - ✓ Replace shade structures.
 - ✓ Evaluate the existing bathroom facilities and the need for renovations and updates.
 - ✓ Establish a long-term plan for the retention pond at Wells Road, consider installation of an aerator or other means to minimize algae growth.
 - ✓ Evaluate the future use of Pavilion 1 and any structural updates needed.
 - ✓ Evaluate Bocce Courts and renovate/update as needed.
 - ✓ Add an additional mutt mitt container and waste container between Sensory Trail and Meadow Trail
 - ✓ Evaluate the parking plan for the Wells Road campus.
 - ✓ Evaluate the structural and long-term viability of the Kids' Castle structure.
 - ✓ Explore the need for a new restroom to service the Amphitheater, Picnic Grove and Kids' Castle.

- ✓ Review water collecting near the Invasive Plant Trail and evaluate for whether drainage corrections are needed to keep the trail from degrading.
 - ✓ Review the condition of retaining walls, gravel areas, and wood bases on fitness equipment to determine if repairs are required.
 - ✓ Work towards the addition of a Community Recreation Center to provide an indoor space for parks and recreation programming and to meet indoor community recreation needs.
- Turk Park:
 - ✓ Evaluate conditions and orientation of all fields for future use.
 - ✓ Review options for restrooms.
 - ✓ Evaluate existing volleyball court for future use and possible relocation.
 - ✓ Explore the option to replace fitness equipment if partnerships can be established.
 - ✓ Explore options to provide additional parking for anticipated increased use of entire park.
 - ✓ Provide water connection to the park.
 - ✓ Evaluate the lifespan of the pavilion.
 - ✓ Dog Park – evaluate and repair fence as needed, cap all gate jams, prepare a long-term plan for trees in off-leash areas, and replace/rebuild entrance and exit vestibules.
 - Neamand Park:
 - ✓ Address flooding hazard at trail near Radcliff Road entrance.
 - ✓ Continue to maintain vegetative growth around trail heads.
 - Triangle Park:
 - ✓ Improve general plant care and weed control.
 - Sauerman Park:
 - ✓ Evaluate old volleyball court location for potential new use and implementation.
 - ✓ Continue efforts for remediation of the pond and drainage.

- ✓ Consider the addition of a pavilion where the volleyball court currently exists.
- ✓ Evaluate and potentially rebuild diamond field.
- ✓ Consider options for restrooms at the park.
- ✓ Explore options for paving the parking lot and road.
- Castle Valley Park:
 - ✓ Explore options for paving the parking lot.
- Bridge Point Park:
 - ✓ Improve access to the creek for fishing and water access.
 - ✓ Consider options for adding restrooms
 - ✓ Evaluate possible replacement of gabion cages due to tripping hazard.
 - ✓ Consider resurfacing the parking lot.
- Overall Assessment of Playing Fields:
 - ✓ Undertake an assessment of the playing fields community wide. Develop a plan to revitalize fields in accordance with the level of play associated with the fields.
 - ✓ Develop a turf management program. Establish a system for indicating when fields cannot be used due to turf conditions and provide a method for notifying potential park/field users that the field is closed. This could be a “red flag” system, telephone calls to permittees, a dedicated telephone message for people to call in, a WEB notice or a related Internet method, text messaging, or a combination of these.
 - ✓ Match fields and parks to level of play, age level, and competitive level, and schedule accordingly.

12. Add Amenities to the Parks. Continue to develop plans to maintain the current park and recreation facilities in the Township and explore opportunities to enhance existing facilities with additional amenities such as restrooms, shade trees, pavilions, and lighting. Consider investing in providing Wi-Fi in the parks to enable outdoor technological play. Create a plan to “reach out” to sectors of the population that are not adequately represented in the current park and recreation facility usage patterns, such as non-athletic programs for youth and adults that do not participate in athletic programs, adult sports leagues, young adults, and senior citizens/active adults within the community.

13. **Explore the option of Sports Field Lighting** at parks to enable extended use of playing fields to meet the current and future demand.
14. **Consider the investigation and potential development of artificial turf fields** to permit more playing time and potential availability of fields for longer seasons to meet the current and future demand.
15. **Explore options to provide indoor recreation space.** Removal of the Activities Building from recreational use has resulted in a deficit of indoor space for Township recreation programming. A new indoor facility will be needed to meet the Township's programming needs for indoor recreation and events, primarily for Township programs but also for the indoor recreational needs of residents and athletic groups and organizations. Currently, the Township is considering options to provide a new Community Recreation Center in Central Park.

Objective 2

Acquire additional open space areas.

Recommendations

1. **Continue to follow the acquisition recommendations of the Doylestown Township Open Space Plans.**
 - Continue to meet with landowners on a regular basis to discuss potential acquisition of conservation easements and/or outright acquisition of land for open space purposes.
 - Create an educational brochure for landowners in which the various options for donating or bequeathing land or conservation easements to the Township are presented. Encourage the outright donation of land and/or the bequeathing of land, easements, and/or resources to the Township as methods of open space preservation.
2. **Adopt parkland standards.** Establish the standard of 15 acres of active recreation land per 1,000 residents in the Township.
3. **Secure additional parkland.**
 - Work with the school district and regional partners regarding land acquisition for sports complexes and other recreational facilities.
 - Update the Mandatory Dedication of Parkland Ordinance in the Township to 15 acres per 1,000 residents as the standard. Consider adding non-residential requirements for parkland or fee-in-lieu of dedication. Adjust the fee-in-lieu of dedication to reflect the market value of land. Consider expanding mandatory dedication of parkland to include non-residential development as well as residential development.

- Explore the option to require developers to construct active recreational improvements, where appropriate, rather than simply offer the fee-in-lieu of improvements.

Objective 3

Provide for a complete network of trails and greenways throughout the Doylestown Community.

Recommendations

1. Add Bike and Hike Trails.

- Work toward completion of the Doylestown Community Bike and Hike System.
- Continue to explore options to provide additional regional connections for the Bike and Hike Path to connect to destinations beyond the borders of the Doylestown Community. Specifically explore the following connections.
 - ✓ The future Route 202 trail to New Hope
 - ✓ New Hope and the Delaware & Lehigh Canal National Heritage Corridor
- Support Bucks County's Open Space and Greenways Plan and Bicycle Master Plan.
- Continue to connect various recreation hubs, natural areas and sports complexes throughout the Doylestown Community.
- Continue to connect to regional transportation hubs.

Objective 4

Provide for a variety of recreational facilities for all segments of the population within the Doylestown Community.

Recommendations

- 1. Provide recreation facilities and opportunities that include under-represented segments of the population.** Create a plan to reach out to sectors of the population that are not adequately represented in the current park and recreation facility usage patterns. This includes non-athletic youth and teen programs, adult sports leagues, programs for young adults, senior citizens and active adults.

2. **Prioritize Inclusion and Social Equity in Recreation.** Providing recreation that accommodates multiple ability and challenge levels at once as well as the commitment to fairness, justice and equality for all users will be an important consideration going forward. Unified sports and the amenities they require for activities like pickleball, bocce, tennis, and field sports should be added to existing facilities or considered for new improvements. Of particular concern is the provision of recreation opportunities for Senior Citizens. Social Equity concerns should always be considered as they relate to public open space areas, recreation, programming, maintenance, accessibility, and all other aspects of public recreation in Doylestown Township.
3. **Provide more Unique Recreation Opportunities in Unique Ways.** People are moving away from gathering in large groups to recreate. Implementation of structured activities that can be participated in online, (such as virtual exercise programs or educational workshops) or via a 'box' delivery are examples of enabling people to participate in activities while avoiding crowded social situations. Online youth programming such as STEM learning, arts, and music classes could be included. Continue to explore and implement these opportunities in order to provide these unique recreation opportunities.
4. **Consider offering a youth summer camp program.**
5. Continue to consider opportunities to establish a community garden.

Objective 5

Provide for a complete analysis of all current and future open space land holdings to determine their potential to meet the needs of the Doylestown Community.

Recommendations

1. **Provide more amenities in the parks and along trails.**
2. **Continue to develop plans to maintain the open space in the community** and explore opportunities to enhance existing facilities with additional amenities such as signage.
3. **Consider a policy for open space acquisition** that would analyze potential uses, management, and maintenance issues.

Objective 6

Establish and implement a five-year capital improvement program for parks, recreation, trails and open space conservation.

Recommendations

1. **Institute a five-year program of planned capital improvements** in Township parks, using the recommendations of this plan as a guide.
2. **Define a capital improvement investment** as improvements that last more than ten years and cost more than \$15,000.
3. **Continue to fund the Capital Reserve Fund** in the Township through events and other unique fundraising opportunities.
4. **Operate special events as dedicated funds** for the unique municipal parks and recreation facilities when possible.
5. **Plan for the cyclic replacement** of park furnishings/amenities such as playgrounds, field restoration, game court resurfacing, buildings and equipment.

Goal 2

Continue to manage the parks and recreation system in a professional manner that conveys the greatest possible benefit to the public.

Objective 1

Maintain and enhance the professionalism of municipal parks and recreation.

Recommendations

1. **Consider the overall staffing needs of parks and recreation.** Consider the addition of a Program/Event Specialist and Sports Coordinator.
2. **Uphold the current high level of professionalism** in parks and recreation through educational requirements, CPRP, CPSI, and other certifications. Provide training to staff in need of educational requirements.

Objective 2**Maintain the standard for state-of-the-art customer service.**

Recommendations

1. Provide customer service training for both internal staff and outside providers.
2. Consider research and investment into new technology for the department in order to keep up-to-date with registration technology.

Objective 3**Continue to provide training and employee development options for parks, recreation, park maintenance, and administrative support for parks and recreation.**

Recommendations

1. Continue to provide opportunities for participation in professional organizations, annual conferences, and workshops as part of the employee development program.
2. Continue to provide professional development training: CPRP (Certified Park & Recreation Professional) certification, CPSI (Certified Playground Safety Inspector), CPP (Certified Program Planner), NRPA Schools at Oglebay, and CEU's (Continuing Education Units).
3. Provide training to park staff for CPSI certification along with updating of the certification.
4. Keep the pesticide and herbicide certifications current.
5. Provide team building for parks, recreation, administrative staff, and Public Works. Everyone is part of the same team.

Objective 4**Develop and implement a park and recreation maintenance management plan and computer management system.**

Recommendations

1. Establish and implement park maintenance plan, maintenance standards, and asset management/inventory standards.
2. Update the annual, seasonal, and monthly schedules in accordance with the maintenance management plan.

3. Create an annual report of accomplishments, opportunities, and issues prior to budget planning.

Objective 5**Develop and implement a marketing strategy for parks and recreation**

Recommendations

1. Undertake ongoing needs assessment to understand community interests.
2. Participate in community advisory groups and organizations as a liaison to parks and recreation.
3. Evaluate programs, services, and facilities on an on-going basis to determine public preferences.
4. **Develop information about customer preferences, interests, and demographic characteristics.** Knowing who the customers are and their characteristics is essential to expand and position services effectively. This can be done through registration, program evaluations, focus groups, and intercept surveys in the parks, special events or programs.
5. **Develop measurements to determine if the budget and resources devoted to marketing achieve the goals of the marketing program.**
6. **Continue to enhance the Parks and Recreation website and use of social media tools.**
7. **Continue to develop “branding” for parks and recreation.**

Goal 3

Provide unique and enriching recreation opportunities to all residents, with an emphasis on inclusion and social equity.

Objective 1**Develop a program management plan.**

Recommendations

1. **Establish a three-year program management plan.** The plan establishes a set of priorities for Parks & Recreation Services to guide the use of public resources in support of recreation programs. The Recreation Program Plan works in concert with other key documents such as the Park, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, the Maintenance

Management Plan, and park master plans. Together, these documents convey the department's functions in providing parks, recreation, and community services.

2. **Continue to broaden the perspective on service delivery from organized scheduled programs to providing opportunities for self-directed recreation.** This will enable the community to expand recreation opportunities without increasing demands on staff time.
3. **Ensure that the program management plan addresses services and opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.** Create, sustain and enhance partnerships with community organizations dedicated to people with special needs including BARC (Bucks County Association of Retarded Citizens), Special Olympics, Senior Olympics, Autism, and others to be identified or emerge. Consider creating an ad hoc advisory committee for people with special needs and or including a representative for people with special needs on the Parks & Recreation Boards.
4. **Ensure that the program management plan addresses the needs of all residents,** with a commitment to fairness, justice and equality for all users.
5. Establish inclusion and social equity as goals for the program management plan.

Objective 2

Build upon community nature-based recreation opportunities.

Recommendations

1. **Advertise these areas and opportunities to the community.** Promote these recreational experiences that people can enjoy at their own discretion for relaxation, nature study, photography, bird and wildlife watching and destinations from the Bike and Hike Path year-round.
2. **Continue to explore partnerships with environmental organizations and the Central Bucks School District in environmental education.**
3. **Continue to encourage group use of environmental areas of the parks.**
4. **Continue to provide nature and environmental education as a program area.**

Objective 3

Continue to provide the arts as a program area within parks and recreation.

1. **Advertise these areas and opportunities to the community.**
2. **Continue community partnerships with CB Cares Educational Foundation, cultural organizations, and private entities.**
3. **Continue to provide the very popular Performing Arts Series.**

4. **Continue to provide opportunities for outside groups to use the amphitheater** for performances, events, and classes.

Objective 4

Continue to address the need to provide and promote recreation opportunities aimed at improving lifelong fitness and wellness.

Recommendations

1. **Continue to promote and advertise facilities** such as pathways, year-round recreation, and scenic natural areas to entice people to participate.
2. **Continue to promote the need for an active lifestyle**, its role in disease prevention, and how Parks & Recreation can help citizens to lead healthy lifestyles.
3. **Establish/enhance partnerships with community organizations** such as Doylestown Health, CB Cares Educational Foundation, the Area Agency on Aging, the Senior Olympics, and fitness and health care providers in this effort. Partner with the Central Bucks School District when feasible.

Objective 5

Monitor the pulse of the community to determine needs and interests in parks and recreation.

Recommendations

1. **Continue to evaluate programs, services, and facilities on an on-going basis to determine public preference.** This should be a formalized process instituted for the programs overall. Target both leaders and participants for the evaluation.
2. **Participate in community advisory groups and organizations as an acting liaison to parks and recreation.**
3. **Obtain public input from a variety of means including:**
 - Park and Recreation and associated Boards.
 - A community wide needs assessment that is updated every three to five years. Build upon the recent township and borough survey and other community surveys in future surveys. Use this plan as the basis for the next survey. To begin planning for active adult programs, consider a targeted survey of people age 55 and over.
 - Email, social media, letters and telephone calls. Suggestion boxes. Parks and Recreation website.
 - Focus groups. Identify and hold focus groups on an on-going basis.

- Periodic interviews in parks with park visitors.
4. Develop information about customer preferences, interests and demographics.

Objective 6

Continue to help facilitate community recreation services by other providers.

Recommendations

1. Continue to develop public/private partnerships with commercial recreation and private non-profit providers such as the fitness clubs and Doylestown Health in offering public recreation opportunities. This provides an important public service as well as operates as a feeder program to strengthen local recreation type businesses.
2. Continue to provide support and advertisement in a one source recreation guide for community groups with their contact numbers.
3. Monitor trends to determine how services can be enhanced or rejuvenated.

Goal 4

Invest in parks and recreation to sustain and enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Objective 1

Provide adequate financial support for parks and recreation through the Township operating budget.

Recommendations

1. Continue to fund parks and recreation operations at a minimum of current levels.
2. Explore additional program partnerships to make the best use of limited financial resources.
3. Continue to use a mix of tax funds, partnerships and non-tax funds to support public recreation.
4. Try to channel tax funds towards parks and recreation facilities and generate user fees for recreation services.
5. Use the Management Impact Statement to ensure that adequate financial and human resources are available to carry out, operate or maintain the initiative, before undertaking new projects or programs.

Objective 2

Establish a capital improvement program based upon decisions made for implementing this plan.

Recommendations

1. **Set forth a five-year capital improvement program** based upon the recommendations of this plan.
2. **Establish strategic alliances with other providers as a way of maximizing all of the available resources for specific projects.** These could include community sports groups, the Bike and Hike Committee, The Central Bucks School District, Delaware Valley University, Doylestown Health, the Doylestown Business Alliance, the Chamber of Commerce, and others.
3. **Update the Mandatory Dedication of Land Ordinance** in the Township to secure additional park land or fees-in-lieu of dedication based upon market value of land.

Chapter 7: Action Plan

Chapter 7: Action Plan

The action plan serves as recommendations for a course of action for Doylestown Township to consider over the next several years and beyond. The action plan is an effort to itemize the goals and objectives to be addressed by the Township. Goals and objectives, as well as action items are not binding, and may be modified, deleted or added to, as circumstances require. Plan recommendations should be re-evaluated on a regular basis to ensure they are still valid, appropriate, and current.

This action plan is to be used only as a guide for potential future development of the Township parks, recreation facilities, programs and policies. Any and all future funding must have the prior approval of the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors. It is understood that before any action is implemented it should be further investigated to reflect changing circumstances as well as feasibility and affordability.

The goals shown herein are general statements, which are meant to set the tone for decisions to be made in terms of the community's desire to improve its quality of life. Goals are stable and long ranging; they are not measurable actions, and may take years to achieve.

The objectives under each goal are statements indicating the achievements necessary to meet an overall goal. Objectives have measurable results, and may range drastically in the length of time required for completion.

Action Items – provide a further breakdown of tasks to be performed in order to meet overarching goals and objectives.

Responsible Entity – indicates the party responsible for completion of the task.

Priority – indicates approximate length of time for completion of the action item, or when the action item is to be completed. Immediate priority is to be completed within the next year, medium priority is to be completed within the next two to five years, and long term is to be completed between five and ten years after plan adoption.

Priorities may be changed based on the following: the overall feasibility and the value the initiative adds to the community weighted against the resources needed (financial and otherwise) to accomplish the goal. Before implementation, due diligence will be conducted as appropriate which may include strategic planning, public meetings, surveys, studies, etc.

Goal 1**Continue to sustain and enhance a quality system of parks, recreation facilities, greenways and trails for recreation and resource conservation.**

| Objective | Action Item | Priority | Responsible Entity |
|--|--|-----------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Plan, design, construct and maintain open space and park and recreation facilities as safe and attractive public spaces. | Develop and/or update park master plans | Medium | BOS/P&R Director |
| | Build in maintenance plans with all new projects to provide a high level of quality | Ongoing | BOS/ P&R Director/ Public Works |
| | Plan for the regular revitalization of parks on a ten-year schedule | Ongoing | BOS/ P&R Director/ Public Works |
| | Review the level of staff maintaining parks | Immediate | BOS/ P&R Director/ Public Works |
| | Continue to evaluate parks and their maintenance on a regular basis. | Ongoing | BOS/ P&R Director/ Public Works |
| | Implement consistent signage and branding across all parks | Medium | BOS/ P&R Director/ Public Works |
| | Analyze current land holdings | Medium | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Continue to work on health and safety issues. | Immediate | BOS/ P&R Director/ Public Works |
| | Continue to create and maintain ADA access | Immediate | BOS/ P&R Director/ Public Works |
| | Take steps to meet the demand for more sports fields | Medium | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Consider open space and maintenance improvements | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Add amenities to the parks | Medium | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Explore the option of sports field lighting | Medium | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Explore options to provide indoor recreation space | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| 2 Acquire additional open space areas | Continue to follow the acquisition recommendations of the Doylestown Township Open Space Plans | Ongoing | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Adopt parkland standards | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Secure additional parkland | Medium | BOS/Township Staff |
| 3 Provide for a complete network of trails and greenways throughout the Doylestown Community | Add Bike and Hike trails to complete the Bike and Hike System | Medium | BOS/Township Staff, User Groups |

| | | | |
|---|--|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 4 Provide for a variety of recreational facilities for all segments of the population within the Doylestown Community | Provide recreation facilities and opportunities that include under-represented segments of the population | Immediate | BOS/ P&R Director |
| | Prioritize inclusion and social equity in recreation | Immediate | BOS/ P&R Director/ Township Staff |
| | Provide more unique recreation opportunities in unique ways | Immediate | BOS/ P&R Director/ Township Staff |
| | Consider offering a youth summer camp program | Medium | BOS/ P&R Director/ Township Staff |
| 5 Provide for a complete analysis of all current and future open space land holdings to determine their potential to meet the needs of the Doylestown Community | Provide more amenities in the parks and along trails | Immediate | BOS/ P&R Director/ Public Works |
| | Continue to develop plans to maintain the open space in the community | Ongoing | BOS/ P&R Director/ Public Works |
| | Consider a policy for open space acquisition | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| 6 Establish and implement a five-year capital improvement program for parks, recreation, trails and open space conservation | Institute a five-year program of planned capital improvements in Township parks, using the recommendations of this plan as a guide | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Define a capital improvement investment as improvements that last more than ten years and cost more than \$15,000 | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Continue to fund the Capital Reserve Fund in the Township through events and other unique fundraising opportunities | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Maintain dedicated funds for unique municipal parks and recreation facilities | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |

Goal 2

Continue to manage the parks and recreation system in a professional manner that conveys the greatest possible benefit to the public.

| Objective | Action Item | Priority | Responsible Entity |
|--|---|-----------|--------------------|
| 1 Maintain and enhance the professionalism of municipal parks and recreation | Consider the overall staffing needs of parks and recreation | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Uphold the current high level of professionalism in Parks and Recreation | Ongoing | Township Staff |
| 2 Maintain the standard for state-of-the-art customer service | Provide customer service training for both internal staff and outside providers | Ongoing | BOS/Township Staff |

| | | | |
|---|--|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| | Consider research and investment into new technology for the department in order to keep up-to-date with registration technology | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| 3 Continue to provide training and employee development options for parks, recreation, park maintenance, and administrative support for parks and recreation. | Continue to provide opportunities for participation in professional organizations, annual conferences, and workshops | Ongoing | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Continue to provide professional development training | Ongoing | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Provide training to park staff for CPSI certification along with updating of the certification | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Keep the pesticide and herbicide certifications current | Ongoing | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Provide team building for parks, recreation, administrative staff, and Public Works | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| 4 Develop and implement a park and recreation maintenance management plan and computer management system. | Establish and implement park maintenance plan, maintenance standards, and asset management/inventory standards | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Update the annual, seasonal, and monthly schedules in accordance with the maintenance management plan | Ongoing | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Create an annual report of accomplishments, opportunities, and issues prior to budget planning | Ongoing | BOS/Township Staff |
| 5 Develop and implement a marketing strategy for parks and recreation | Undertake ongoing needs assessment to understand community interests | Immediate | BOS/ P&R Director/ Township Staff |
| | Participate in community advisory groups and organizations as a liaison to parks and recreation | Immediate | BOS/P&R Director |
| | Evaluate programs, services, and facilities on an on-going basis to determine public preferences | Ongoing | P&R Director |
| | Develop information about customer preferences, interests, and demographic characteristics | Medium | P&R Director |
| | Develop measurements to determine if the budget and resources devoted to marketing achieve the goals of the marketing program | Immediate | BOS/P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Continue to enhance the Parks and Recreation website and use of social media tools. | Ongoing | P&R Director |
| | Continue to develop “branding” for parks and recreation | Ongoing | BOS / P&R Director/Township Staff |

Goal 3

Provide unique and enriching recreation opportunities to all residents, with an emphasis on inclusion and social equity.

| Objective | Action Item | Priority | Responsible Entity |
|--|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Develop a program management plan | Establish a three-year program management plan | Immediate | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Continue to broaden the perspective on service delivery from organized scheduled programs to providing opportunities for self-directed recreation | Immediate | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Ensure that the program management plan addresses services and opportunities for people of all ages and abilities | Immediate | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Ensure that the program management plan addresses the needs of all residents, with a commitment to fairness, justice and equality for all users | Immediate/ Ongoing | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Establish inclusion and social equity as goals for the program management plan | Immediate | BOS / P&R Director/Township Staff |
| 2 Build upon community nature-based recreation opportunities | Advertise these areas and opportunities to the community | Immediate | Township Staff |
| | Continue to explore partnerships with environmental organizations and the Central Bucks School District in environmental education | Medium | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Continue to encourage group use of environmental areas of the parks | Ongoing | Township Staff |
| | Continue to provide nature and environmental education as a program area | Ongoing | Township Staff |
| 3 Continue to provide the arts as a program area within parks and recreation | Advertise these areas and opportunities to the community | Immediate | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Continue community partnerships with CB Cares, cultural organizations, and private entities | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Continue to provide the very popular Performing Arts Series. | Medium | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Continue to provide opportunities for outside groups to use the amphitheater for performances, events, and classes. | Medium | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| 4 Continue to address the need to provide and promote recreation | Continue to promote and advertise facilities | Immediate | P&R Director/Township Staff |

| | | | |
|---|---|-----------|--|
| opportunities aimed at improving lifelong fitness and wellness | Continue to promote the need for an active lifestyle | Immediate | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Establish/enhance partnerships with community organizations | Medium | Township Staff, Community Organizations |
| 5 Monitor the pulse of the community to determine needs and interests in parks and recreation | Continue to evaluate programs, services, and facilities on an on-going basis to determine public preference. | Ongoing | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Participate in community advisory groups and organizations as an acting liaison to parks and recreation | Immediate | BOS/P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Obtain public input from a variety of means | Immediate | BOS/P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Develop information about customer preferences, interests and demographics | Immediate | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| 6 Continue to help facilitate community recreation services by other providers | Continue to develop public/private partnerships with commercial recreation and private non-profit providers such as the fitness clubs and Doylestown Health in offering public recreation opportunities | Immediate | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Continue to provide support and advertisements in a one source recreation guide for community groups with their contact numbers | Immediate | P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Monitor trends to determine how services can be enhanced or rejuvenated | Ongoing | P&R Director/Township Staff |

Goal 4**Invest in parks and recreation to sustain and enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the community.**

| Objective | Action Item | Priority | Responsible Entity |
|---|--|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Provide adequate financial support for parks and recreation through the Township operating budget | Continue to fund parks and recreation operations at a minimum of current levels | Ongoing | BOS |
| | Explore additional program partnerships to make the best use of limited financial resources | Immediate | P&R Director |
| | Continue to use a mix of tax funds, partnerships and non-tax funds to support public recreation | Ongoing | BOS |
| | Try to channel tax funds toward parks and recreation facilities and generate user fees for recreation services | Immediate | BOS/P&R Director/Township Staff |
| | Use the Management Impact Statement to ensure that adequate financial and human resources are available | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| 2 Establish a capital improvement program based upon decisions made for implementing this plan | Set forth a five-year capital improvement program based upon the recommendations of this plan | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |
| | Establish strategic alliances with other providers as a way of maximizing all of the available resources for specific projects | Medium | BOS/Township Staff, Other Providers |
| | Update the Mandatory Dedication of Land Ordinance | Immediate | BOS/Township Staff |

Appendix A: Doylestown Park & Rec Board
Parks Assessment 2020

Appendix A: Doylestown Parks and Recreation Board Parks Assessment 2020*

The Doylestown Township Department of Parks and Recreation offers a variety of services and activities to residents and visitors. The park system provides wonderful opportunities for residents and visitors to explore and enjoy. Our 400 acres of dedicated parks and parkland include 7 parks that range in size from 2.25 acres to 155 acres. Our parks are diverse and offer both active and passive areas and include both organized and self-directed activities and special events, wildlife/plant observation and interpretation. Active pursuits such as hiking, biking, exercise, tennis, pickleball, and other recreational pursuits are also enjoyed.

A Park Assessment Sub-Committee of the Parks and Recreation Board (P&R Board) conducted park tours on February 15, 2020 and June 20, 2020. The goal was to gain insight of the good in our parks, what physical improvements are needed per park, and what maintenance is needed. Therefore, this report represents our findings for each park visited by the sub-committee.

General Observations:

Overall excellent maintenance of all parks

All parks provide receptacles to keep parks clean

All parks provide opportunities for all residents- toddlers, children, tweens, young adults, adults, and seniors

Overall needs:

Develop short-term, mid-range, and long-term improvement plans

Increase/improve use of social media for distribution of info

Provide detailed map at kiosk for each park

Make same map available on social media

The need for a Community Center is not addressed since the P&R Board already recommended/addressed this need to the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

Kids' Castle play area is NOT addressed in this assessment.

Bridge Point Park

Good:

- Sufficient parking facilities
- Existing structure provides opportunities for community use
- Benches, picnic table, info kiosk

Improvements:

- Improve access to creek - families and kids to access water's edge for fishing, adults with dogs
- Directional signs
- Consider options for restrooms

Maintenance:

- Good but building needs help
- HAZARD – rock cages used for bank stabilization create tripping hazard
- Consider resurfacing parking lot

Castle Valley Park

Good:

- Great use of space for fishing, picnic, water amenity

Improvements:

- Additional access to water

Maintenance:

- Explore options for paving parking lot

Neamand Park

Good:

- Benches but not too many
- Clean slate for passive/ minimal active activities
- Meadow provides great habitat for birds, insects, wildlife

Improvements:

- Signs – from CP, Dtown Crossing, 202 Parkway Trail and Med Office Center
 - Address flooding hazard at trail near Radcliff Rd entrance
 - Add interpretive sign addressing flood plain
-

Maintenance:

- Well maintained
- Watch vegetative growth along trail heads

Sauerman Park**Good:**

- Well maintained
- Great neighborhood park - most “complete” park outside of Central Park – passive and active recreation opportunities
- Provides opportunities for addition of bocce court(s), small field use
- Parking facilities

Improvements:

- Eliminate old volleyball court and evaluate for potential new use.
- Continue efforts for remediation of the pond/drainage
- Potential pavilion where old volleyball court is now
- Plan, design, potentially rebuild diamond field.
- Consider options for restrooms

Maintenance:

- Explore options for paving parking lot and road.

Triangle Park:**Good:**

- Parking, lighting, benches

Improvements:

- Signage

Maintenance:

- General plant / weed control
-

Turk Park

Turk 1 - North side of Almshouse Rd

Turk 2& 3 - Park area on south side of Almshouse Rd.

Good:

- Fences around fields/ back stops, etc.
- Fields except lacrosse field look good
- Parking lot expansion on Turk 3 is good
- Fence and Tot Lot on football side look great

Improvements:

- Evaluate condition and orientation of all fields for future use
- Consider options for restrooms
- Evaluate existing volleyball court for future use and relocation
- Explore option to replace all fitness equipment if partnership can be established
- Evaluate, repair or replace cedar shingles on picnic table and bench huts
- Minimize hornets
- Evaluate and plan for pedestrian access within all parts of Turk Park
- Explore options to provide additional parking for anticipated increased use of entire park
- Provide water to Turk Park

Maintenance:

- Evaluate lifespan of pavilion
- Dog Park- fence, cap all gate jams, long-term plan for trees in off leash areas, replace/rebuild entrance and exit vestibules

Central Park

Good:

- Over all maintenance is excellent
- Fields look good
- Fitness equipment – utilized and in decent shape
- Passive/active activities for all ages

Improvements:

- Signs: Provide Access, Directional, and Interpretive signs
 - Address all court improvements including resurfacing, fencing, and lights
 - Replace/remove on all shade structures
 - Evaluate existing bathroom facilities and need for updates
 - Establish long term plan for retention pond at Wells Rd/ aerator/ or means to minimize algae growth
-

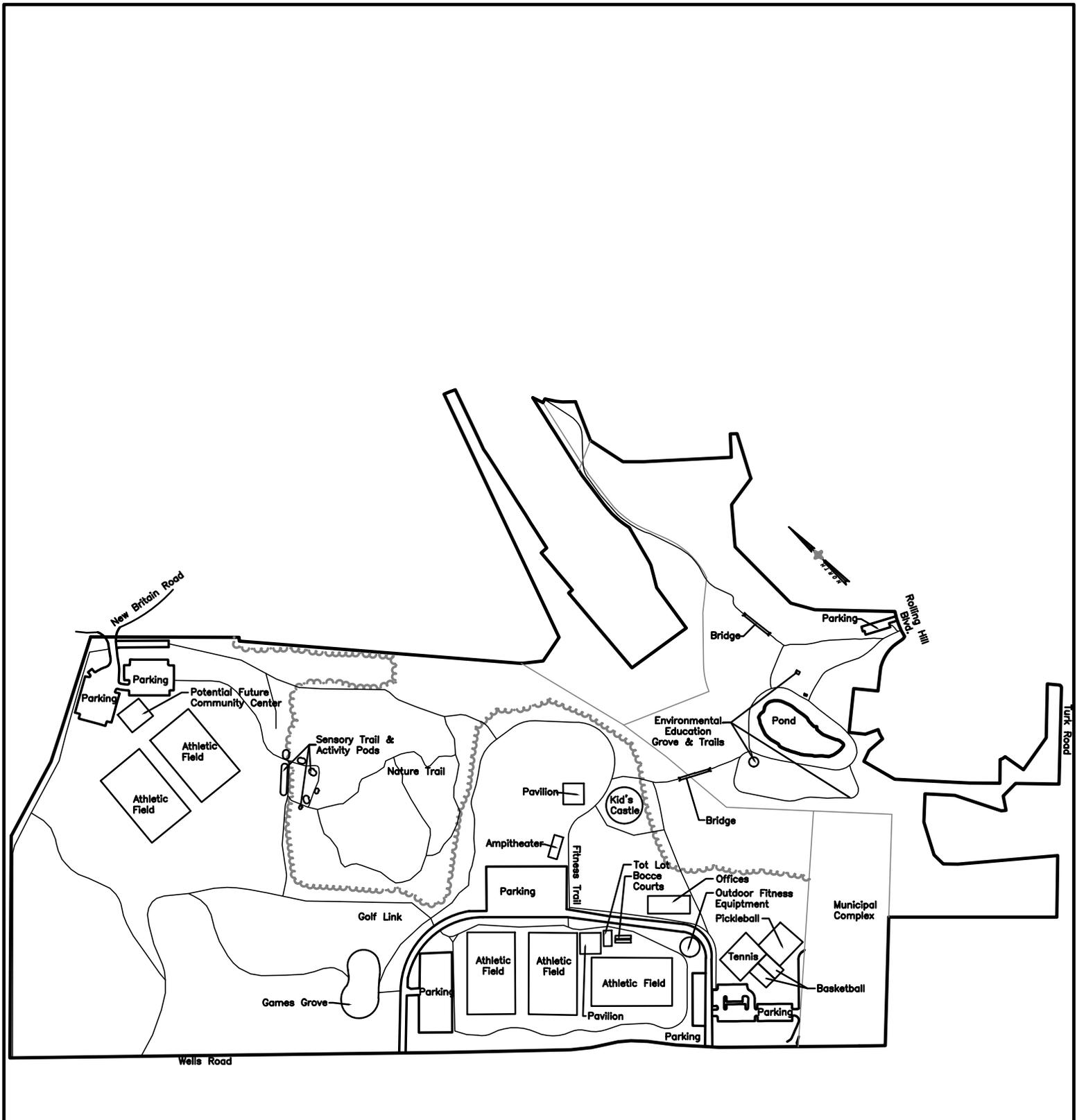
- Evaluate future use of Pavilion 1 and update it and Bocce courts as needed
- Add one more Mutt Mitt container and waste container near new bench between Sensory Trail and Meadow Trail
- Evaluate entire parking plan for Wells Rd campus
- Evaluate the structural and long-term viability of the Kids' Castle structure
- Evaluate pedestrian travel throughout entire Central Park
- Explore the need for a new restroom to service the Amphitheater, Picnic Grove and Kids' Castle area

Maintenance:

- Dip/ water collecting directly before the bridge coming from Environ. Ed Area to Kids' Castle
- Water at first curve of Invasive Plant Trail - potential undercut of trail? Is drainage needed?
- Clean up Stormwater and Ponds sign area at Environ. Ed Area and bench
- Retaining walls/gravel, wood base on some fitness equipment

*Report provided by the Doylestown Township Park and Rec Board on 8/20/20.

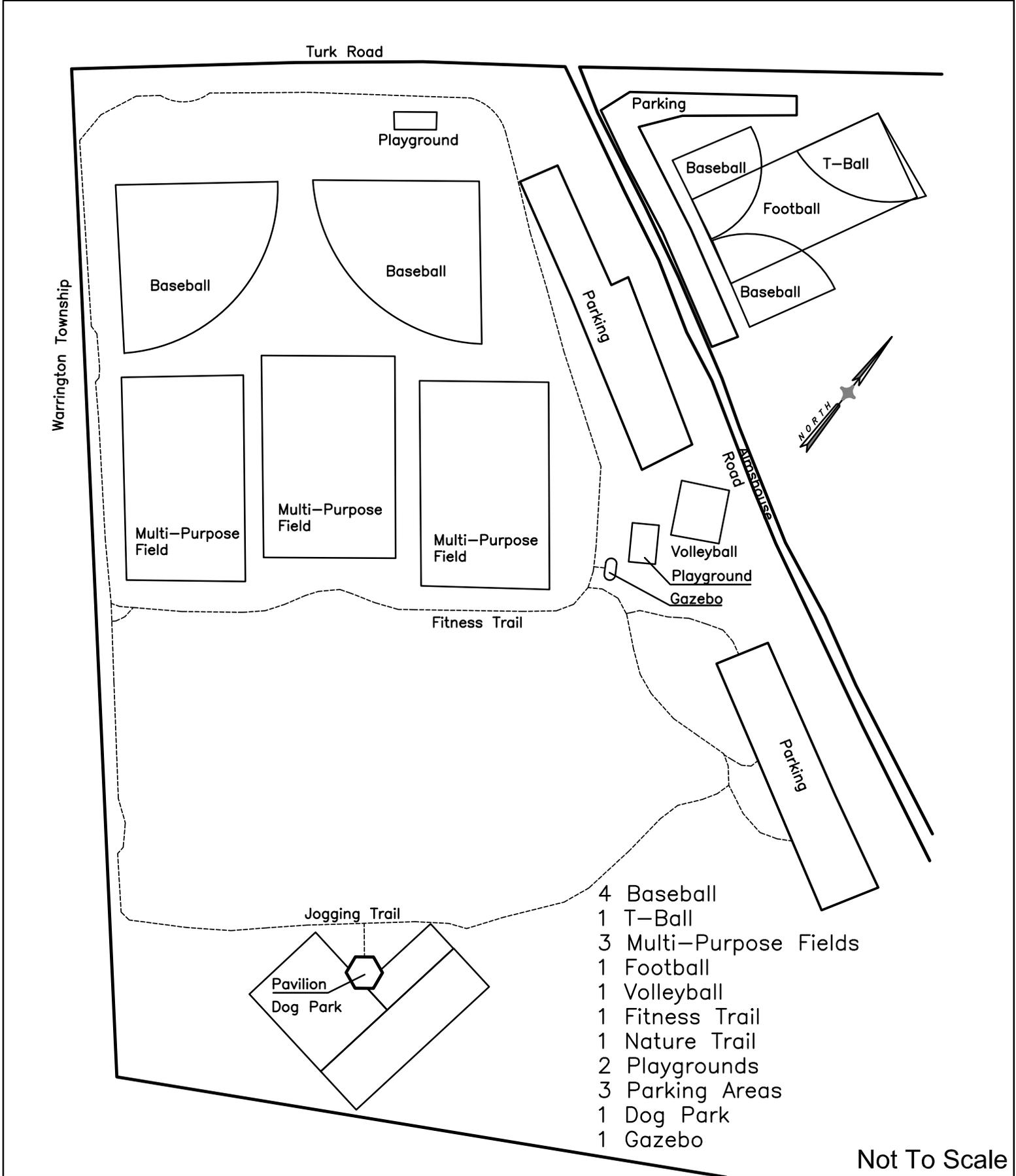
Appendix B: Park Diagrams



Central Park

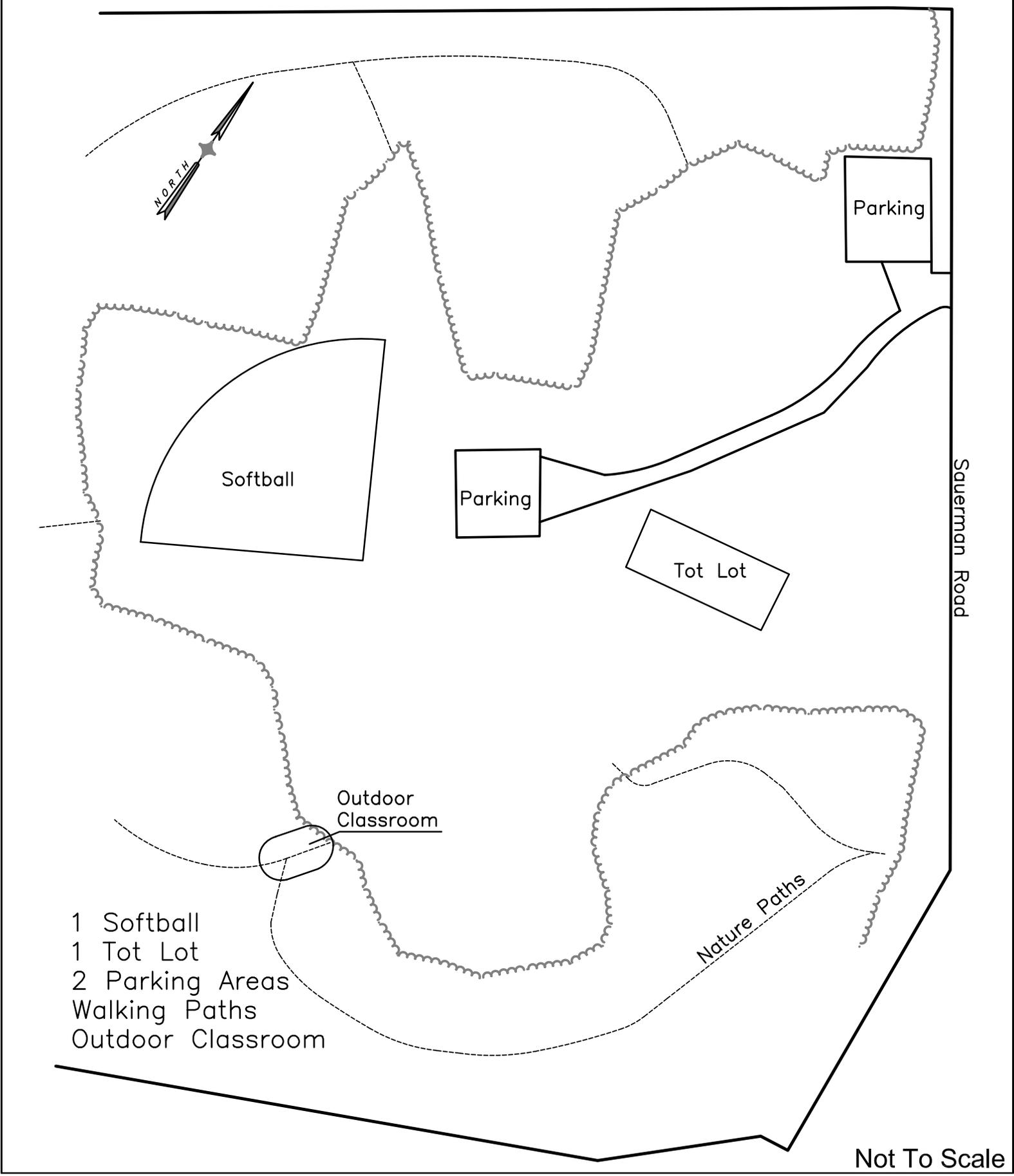
Draft Date: 10/21/2020

Not To Scale



Turk Park

Draft Date: 9/2/2020



- 1 Softball
- 1 Tot Lot
- 2 Parking Areas
- Walking Paths
- Outdoor Classroom

Not To Scale



Sauerman Park

Draft Date: 9/2/2020

Appendix C: Committee Meeting Minutes

**Doylestown Township
Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update Committee**

**Meeting Agenda
June 13, 2018**

1. Introductions
 - a. Committee, Township, and Consultant Team
 - b. Contact Information Chart

2. Brief Overview of the Plan Purpose and Scope of Project
 - a. Update to the 2007 JPROS, which was a Joint Plan with Doylestown Borough
 - b. Sections / Topics to be included in PROS Plan Update
 - i. Demographic information and projections
 - ii. Inventory of parks, greenways, trails, natural areas, and agricultural areas (both mapping and calculations)
 - iii. Recreation trends and program analysis
 - iv. Meetings and KPIs
 1. 4 Public meetings (Committee/focus group meetings and one Board of Supervisors meeting to present the final plan)
 2. 5 Key person interviews with stakeholders
 - v. Goals and Recommendations
 - vi. Action Plan

3. Role of the Committee

4. Work flow
 - a. Digital distribution of materials
 - b. "Homework" Assignments
 - c. All items go through Karen Sweeney
 - i. kasweeney@doylestownpa.org
 - ii. 215-348-9915

5. Key Person Interviews (names of individuals or groups)

6. Establish next meeting date and time

**Doylestown Township
Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update Committee**

**Meeting Notes
June 13, 2018**

1. Introductions
 - a. Committee, Township, and Consultant Team
 - i. JSG
 - ii. Patrick Graham, CPRP
 - iii. KAS – Director of Parks and Recreation
 - iv. Stephanie Mason – D. Township Manager
 - v. Kaitlyn Finley – D. Twp. Staff (program coordinator)
 - vi. Deb Macomas – Committee member
 - vii. Anne Woodbury – Committee member
 - viii. Kathy Brown– Committee member
 - ix. Bob Salanik– Committee member
 - x. Bill Wert– Committee member
 - xi. Jen Herring – Board Liaison
 - b. Contact Information Chart
 - i. passed around and asked members to fill out the information
 - ii. Contact information will be forwarded to all members
 - c. KAS to provide hard copies of the 2007 JPROS Plan to Bob, Anne, and Deb

2. Brief Overview of the Plan Purpose and Scope of Project
 - a. Update to the 2007 JPROS, which was a Joint Plan with Doylestown Borough
 - b. Sections / Topics to be included in PROS Plan Update
 - i. Demographic information and projections
 - ii. Inventory of parks, greenways, trails, natural areas, and agricultural areas (both mapping and calculations)
 - iii. Recreation trends and program analysis
 - iv. Meetings and KPIs
 1. 4 Public meetings (Committee/focus group meetings and one Board of Supervisors meeting to present the final plan)
 2. 5 Key person interviews with stakeholders
 - v. Goals and Recommendations
 - vi. Action Plan

3. Role of the Committee
 - a. Public input
 - b. Bring forth the opinions of the various groups and constituents and bring the committee information to the various groups they represent
 - c. Review and comment on the plan chapters and information distributed for review
 - d. Action Items

- i. KAS to provide an updated/redlined copy of the Capital Plan component of the 2007 Plan showing what items have already been completed by the Township
- ii. Committee members to bring information to their various boards and commissions and bring back information to the PROS Committee

4. Work flow

- a. Digital distribution of materials
- b. "Homework" Assignments
- c. All items go through Karen Sweeney
 - i. kasweeney@doylestownpa.org
 - ii. 215-348-9915

5. Key Person Interviews (names of individuals or groups)

- a. Seniors – Jen to talk to senior task force
- b. School-age or School District
- c. Environmental
- d. Doylestown Historical Society
- e. Focus Group (?) – Athletic Associations
 - i. JSG agreed to do one focus group in lieu of one of the 3 Committee meetings scheduled
 - ii. Thursday October 4th or Wednesday October 10th at 7pm
 - iii. Attendees to be limited to 20 people, tops + the committee
- f. Action item – all committee members to submit their recommendations to KAS by Friday June 29th - i.e. a list of names and supporting information on why they

6. Establish next meeting date and time

- a. Focus group meeting – either October 4th or October 10th

Appendix D: Key Person Interviews

Doylestown Township
Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update
Key Person Interviews
August 15, 2018

Name: Kevin Spencer

Title: Director of Operations

Organization: Bucks County General Services Division

Name: Bill Mitchell

Title: Director of Parks and Recreation

Organization: Bucks County General Services Division

Interview Time: 2:00 pm

Interviewer: JSG

- 1) What is your organization's role regarding Parks, Recreation and Open Space Preservation within the Doylestown Township Community?
 - a. The county had a regional approach to parks and recreation – all 60 municipalities
 - b. Not involved anything less than 200 acres
 - c. Multi-municipal programming
 - d. Not compete with efforts of individual
 - e. County is a property owner – leases Turk I, Turk II and Turk III to the Twp.
 - f. Middle County Greenway Trail

- 2) What recreation facilities does your organization currently use?
 - a. County has all of their county land
 - b. Fonhill – Twp. owns part of the land, the remainder is owned by the Board of Trustees of Fonhill

- 3) Do current parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of your organization?
 - a. A never-ending battle for parents to live their fantasies through their kids (Bill Mitchell)

- 4) How do you perceive your relationship with the Township?
 - a. Bill – has an issue with permitting process
 - i. Too many permits required (special use permits)
 - ii. Doesn't see need to submit permits year after year
 - b. Bill – joint planning for bike trails
 - i. County needed to “mesh” some of the Township people into the way the county wants to see things done
 - c. Kevin
 - i. Feels we have a great relationship with the Township
 - ii. Beneficial relationship – projects for the good of the community
 - d. Kevin
 - i. Working with EAC on environmental signage for Pine Run

- ii. Good working relationship with Township re: meadow and upkeep up areas around the Pine Run Reservoir
 - iii. Challenges
 - 1. When the trail went in – more people walking dogs – then people starting calling the county to complain about dogs off-leash
 - 2. It is a Township trail

- 5) What physical needs/fields, facilities, etc. are needed?
 - a. Rob Loughery would like to do a master plan for their campus and to look at their frontage along 611.
 - i. Twp. indicated it would be good for outdoor rec.
 - ii. County thinks it may be good for indoor rec. space
 - 1. Larger, regional, indoor recreational center (like a Spooky Nook)
 - 2. (Bill) Traffic and infrastructure may be an issue
 - b. Bill – use school facilities for more uses
 - 1. County could serve free lunches to students during summer (Bristol ?)
 - 2. Before and after school programs and feeding students
 - 3. Problems with coaches at schools – they conflict with programming for county events at the schools (Senior Games cancelled at CB West when coach had JV try-outs)
 - c. Indoor Space for recreation – either leverage the schools or provide another option
 - d. There is still room at Turk Park
 - e. Need to have less “provincial thinking” in looking at parks and recreation planning

- 6) What changes do you anticipate? (Programs, demographics, etc.)
 - a. County is looking more toward active recreation - not programming, but more trails (like Peace Valley Trail)
 - b. It’s an educational process
 - c. Some parks are overused – i.e. no parking is available at Peace Valley Park – people are parking everywhere and ignoring signage and roadways
 - d. Bill feels some of the county parks are overused and Kevin feels we need to find a way to manage the use of the parks (i.e. Peace Valley Park)
 - e. Need to find a way to balance the park usage and opportunities
 - f. Change in demographics and usage
 - i. Paddleboards in Lake Galena
 - ii. Trails are big – heavy usage and county is looking more into more and more trails
 - iii. Pickleball
 - iv. High ropes courses
 - v. Splash parks
 - vi. Disc golf

- 7) Any additional comments or concerns?
 - a. Lynn Bush put together a report on the 20 years of the County Open Space Program
 - i. Kevin will send a copy to me
 - b. Bill – feels we will see an increase in equestrian activity in the county

- c. Kevin – would like to sit down and look at a Master Plan for the entire County Complex in the Township
- d. Kevin – would like the cinder pile at Turk Park to go away

Doylestown Township
Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update
Key Person Interviews
August 15, 2018

Name: Dr. John Kopicki

Title: Superintendent

Name: Robert Kleimenhagen, Jr., CFM, SFP

Title: Director of Facilities & Energy Management

Name: Kimberly L. Cambra

Title: Executive Director, CB Cares

Organization: Central Bucks School District

Interview Time: 10:00 am

Interviewer: JSG

- 1) What is your organization's role regarding Parks, Recreation and Open Space Preservation within the Doylestown Township Community?

School District: Maintaining open space, improving quality of fields, accessibility, making sure they are clean and safe. Never have been discouragement of community use of the fields, but more of an encouragement. The families see what they have, and have begun requesting and using the fields.

What portion is approved use vs. ad hoc?

Most of it is planned, but there is some public just showing up and using facilities like tracks

Board initiative (Gwen, John, Beth?) to spearhead the acquisition and maintenance of great facilities.

CB Care: Our programs, which focus on youth empowerment and youth engagement, specially Youth 2 Community Arts program, in conjunction with the Thompson performing arts series. Involved with the Kids Castle launching, grant programs, bicentennial card. Basically anything that involves youth.

- 2) What recreation facilities does your organization currently use?

Use their own facilities, unsure of any examples where the school district is currently using township facilities. There have been times, such as when West's tennis courts were under construction they used the township courts at Central Park. Township is willing to work with the school district

CB Cares: Depends on the situation. This year was ambitious in the collaboration with the township. We are aligned with the family aspect as well, so we also work with the school district

to use the auditoriums for those types of programs. Would like to start a bicycle initiative in the future because it is a life long fitness opportunity.

Non script: After speaking with DH, health is on the mind. Is there anything the township could do to help support health related programs with your organization?

SD: Opportunity always exists to use park facilities and partner in that fashion, but each school has a lot of space and the ability to do a lot on their own within the curriculum.

CB Cares: I Run For Life is a great example of a way that we approached wellness and how we can reach the youth and promote a healthy life style while partnering with the park and rec department to bring various local school districts together (900 runners, plus families friends etc) to Central Park. A lot of potential going forward.

Sensory trail project was a good example of partnering with the school district. Had teachers sit on the committee for the project to help lend experience to the planning process to make sure that the goals of providing a place for those with disabilities a great place to get outdoors in Central Park. Provides inclusivity and a place for families to go with their children.

Judy: Great opportunities exist for students that are in groups that are looking for community service to come out to the local parks and participate and do their service projects. Not directly through the school district per se, but another example of how P&R and the School District benefit each other.

CB Cares Volunteers Teens- volunteer group that does community service in the area

3) Do current parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of your organization?

SD: Yes

CB Cares: Resounding Yes

4) How do you perceive your relationship with the Township?

SD: I don't perceive it I know in reality its very good. We have the best interest of the community and kids at heart. Township has been very open with communication.

CB Cares: Agree with SD, true experience is that it's a municipality that shares common goals with our organization. Very passionate about the value of helping the youth. You champion the work we do, and it is mirrored from us to some extent. Collaboration is king/queen in this town.

5) What physical needs/fields, facilities, etc. are needed?

SD: Immediately, no nothing at this time. We have a long range plan for our facilities, but nothing that the township would have involvement.

CB Cares: Ice skating rink? Other than that no. Not even pie in the sky, we are very blessed with the partnership and the available facilities in the community.

6) What changes do you anticipate? (Programs, demographics, etc.)

SD: Population shifting to an older community. CB had 17950, and there is going to be a bigger drop off in the next few years. Construction has slowed down, people are staying in their homes and not selling them. People are having less children.

CB Cares: Agree with everything you just said because I fit that demographic. I would think with some of the construction that I perceive I'm surprised that the school district is seeing a trend downward in enrollment.

7) Any additional comments or concerns?

CB Cares has been a connector that helps bring the municipalities and school district closer together.

Kids are becoming vested in their community in other areas besides sports.

Family time that comes with concert series in the park is fantastic (CB Cares).

Bucks Happening had our performance arts program in 2nd place this past year for public venues.

Doylestown Township
Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update
Key Person Interviews
August 15, 2018

Name: Dr. John Kopicki

Title: Superintendent, Central Bucks School District

Name: Robert Kleimenhagen, Jr., CFM, SFP

Title: Director of Facilities & Energy Management, Central Bucks School District

Name: Kimberly L. Cambra

Title: Executive Director, CB Cares

Organization: Central Bucks School District / CB Cares

Interview Time: 10:00 am

Interviewer: JSG

- 1) What is your organization's role regarding Parks, Recreation and Open Space Preservation within the Doylestown Township Community?
 - a. Kimberly
 - i. Through their programs
 - ii. Youth engagement and empowerment
 - iii. Thompson Perf. Arts Series
 - iv. Innovative learning grants
 - v. Everything the involves youth – Dev. Asset #7
 - vi. Focus on family aspect
 - b. CBSD
 - i. Maintaining all of the fields and open space of the CBSD
 - ii. Public - open space concept is embraced by the community and it seems that more people are taking advantage of the facilities
 - iii. Most use seems to be planned use
 - iv. Field focus (indoor and outdoor rec use)
 1. Credit to Beth Darcy, John, Sharon, Glenn Schloeffel, etc. -had an initiative to improve to fields - CB School Board initiative
 2. Loretta Jenkins (DAA) and Becky (CBAA) – work closely to meet needs for youth sports – indoor and outdoor
- 2) What recreation facilities does your organization currently use?
 - a. CBSD
 - i. use their own facilities
 1. some opportunity to bring students out to the parks
 - ii. work with Twp. when facilities are down
 - iii. CB South uses Central Park for Cross Country
 - iv. Student volunteers use the parks for service projects (Key Clubs, National Honor Society)
 - b. CB Cares

- i. Partner with DTwp. And CBSD
 - 1. Use all facilities – indoor and outdoor
 - 2. Cycling, pump tract,
 - 3. Looking at lifelong fitness activities
 - ii. I Run for Life
 - 1. Started as a pilot in 4 elementary schools
 - 2. Promotes fitness, health, character building – many of the 40 Assets
 - 3. In Central Park
 - iii. CB Cares Volunteer Teens
- 3) Do current parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of your organization?
- a. CBSD – yes
 - b. CB Cares - yes
- 4) How do you perceive your relationship with the Township?
- a. CBSD – a reality, not a perception
 - i. Very good relationship – cooperate and collaborate
 - ii. Have the best interest of the kids at heart
 - b. CB Cares
 - i. She feels the Twp. embodies the mission of CB Cares
 - ii. Embraces and values children
 - iii. Example – celebrating the efforts of the youngest children in the flag
 - iv. Stated that the Twp. leadership and Board members embrace their mission
- 5) What physical needs/fields, facilities, etc. are needed?
- a. CBSD – no needs – they are able to meet
 - b. CB Cares – feel that all needs are met – makes the best of whatever there is
- 6) What changes do you anticipate? (Programs, demographics, etc.)
- a. CBSD
 - i. Population shifting
 - ii. Decrease in school population
 - 1. In 5 years – down to 15,500 (from a high of 20,500)
 - 2. Has been 18,500 more recently for a number of years
 - b. CB Cares
 - i. The same as CBSD
- 7) Any additional comments or concerns?
- a. Always looking for new ways to partner
 - b. Kimberly – feels the region is exceptional
 - i. CB Cares is a “connector” of sorts for all schools in the CBSD and can bring the municipalities and the schools together
 - ii. Poised to grow into the next decade
 - iii. Family time available through the concert series and the movie nights are essential to the sense of community

Doylestown Township
Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update
Key Person Interviews
August 15, 2018

Name: Jim Bishop

Title: President & CEO

Organization: Cornerstone Health and Fitness/The Cornerstone Clubs

Interview Time: 1:00 pm

Interviewer: JSG

- 1) What is your organization's role regarding Parks, Recreation and Open Space Preservation within the Doylestown Township Community?
 - a. To oversee and be a guiding force with his staff to meet the needs of D. Twp. Parks and Rec to create a healthy community.
 - b. Bring the resources together
 - c. Collaboration to create an overall healthier community, with a mutually beneficial goal

- 2) What recreation facilities does your organization currently use?
 - a. Provide programs both onsite in the Twp. parks and also at Cornerstone
 - b. At the Township – they use locations in Central Park for some of their programs and events
 - i. Trails
 - ii. Fields
 - iii. Life circuit – functional fitness

- 3) Do current parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of your organization?
 - a. Yes

- 4) How do you perceive your relationship with the Township?
 - a. Excellent
 - b. Loves working with Doylestown Twp.
 - c. Provides programming and facilities for many of the Twp. rec. classes and programs

- 5) What physical needs/fields, facilities, etc. are needed?
 - a. Spartan training
 - b. Need to provide programming and energy/motivation to people to come to the parks and existing facilities

- 6) What changes do you anticipate? (Programs, demographics, etc.)
 - a. He has 10K members – 50% are over 50/60 years old
 - i. Many of them are Silver Sneakers members – out of their control – it is a loss of paying members for memberships – they only get paid when they come in to the club
 - ii. They provide a lot of senior programming – to build community for senior

- iii. If they refer Silver Sneakers participants to other programming and events at the Twp., they lose the revenue for the seniors
 - 1. Need to find a way for them to get some financial benefit from the work they do
 - 2. At some point, it actually hurts them (from a business perspective) to refer their Silver Sneakers participants to Twp. events
- b. Provide inter-generational programming (Young and Young at Heart programs)
- c. They want to continually expand the offerings for community programs
 - i. Look at what works and what needs to be done better
 - ii. What is good, what are the weak links, what needs to change or be done differently
- d. Create a population or subscriber-base to determine needs
 - i. Partnered with D. Health
 - 1. Cancer, diabetes, heart disease programs
 - ii. Committed to Central Bucks County
 - iii. Have 3 clubs to dispel the reason that people find not to exercise
 - iv. Provide a convenient health club need and then partner with
 - v. Weighted heavily toward the aging population
 - vi. Need to devote more efforts toward the millennials

7) Any additional comments or concerns?

- a. Have a similar partnership with Doylestown Health
- b. Collaboration in the community for a better quality of life and fitness in the community
- c. Up to 18% of population may join a health club
- d. Want to capture more people to participate in programming by funneling some of the programs through the Twp. Parks and Rec system
- e. Work in tandem to with organizations to provide opportunities for health, fitness, and healthy living – improve quality of life
 - 1. i.e Yoga at Cornerstone
 - 2. Parkinson’s Program – partnering with Doylestown Health
- f. He has someone that can provide Spartan Training – will coordinate with KAS
- g. Pickleball – KAS wants to work with Jim to provide indoor space (in New Hope) for the non-competitive level of play
- h. Will connect KAS to his 2 senior coordinators to work on senior programming
 - i. Create a walking programming
- i. Mission is to create opportunities for health and wellness in the community
- j. Would love to have move meetings with D. Twp. in the future to continue to collaborate
- k. Need to find a way for D. Health, Cornerstone, and D. Twp. to collaborate to promote healthy lifestyles and fitness – to educate the population on the value of health and fitness – to create a community and sense of belonging with respect to health and fitness

Doylestown Township
Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update
Key Person Interviews
August 15, 2018

Name: Jim Brexler

Title: President and CEO

Organization: Doylestown Health

Interview Time: 8:00 am

Interviewer: JSG

- 1) What is your organization's role regarding Parks, Recreation and Open Space Preservation within the Doylestown Township Community?

Its about health and wellness, broader than just illness, want to promote healthy living. The township offers a lot of opportunity. Walk with a doc, former heart patients (or anyone) does a brief education session then 2 mile walk on Dtown health campus and around the area. Anything that allows open space and trails that also provides education/promoting health is very important to Doylestown Health and the community.

- 2) What recreation facilities does your organization currently use?

Being a partner for the community and helping expand upon the facilities that encourage an active lifestyle.

Partner with the YMCA, joint programming with them. Sponsor of light the night, cancer support program that operates in Central Park. Evening walk with lights.

\$10,000 sensory trail sponsor 2 years ago. Helped restore Kids Castle. If theres an opportunity to support something in the township that fits the exercise healthy living theme they will be involved in that process

Off script: In larger cities in PA, a lot of RX for Health, physicians writing scripts for kids to go outside to develop relationships with local families to get them outdoors and bring awareness to parks. Is that something DH would be interested?

Yes, our community outreach is always looking for ways to help the community with healthy lifestyles.

At Pine Run, we have a lot of walking trails (retirement community) and we are building a new community center, pool, conference center, available to the community as well. New way to look at retirement living. Originally a passive recreation area in that community, has greatly expanded. It will encourage an active lifestyle for these residents.

Moved here because of how receptive people are to the outdoors and living an active lifestyle

3) Do current parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of your organization?

Have we identified all the needs and opportunities there are? I don't believe so.

On one hand we are responding to what is available, but on the other hand we haven't had the opportunity to sit with the township to joint plan towards new opportunities.

Karen: engaging the community to have a level of movement, at whatever level that is, to keep our mind body and spirit alive and maintain our health.

Doylestown Health willing to work with the Board of Supervisors, P&R, P&R Board to explore new opportunities

ex. Walking club (100 mile club) DH provides educators P&R provides the facilities (27 miles of trails)

Important to DH to leverage our influence to create great partnerships with community groups

Business of health care is changing, hospitals are in the business of responding to illness etc. and quite honestly you need to get sick for us to interact with you traditionally. Promoting health used to come from our marketing dollar. The idea now is to reverse that and create compensations structures for provider systems that minimize the cost of the care and keep you healthy instead of have chronic hospital visits. We are now incentivized to keep you healthy. Im a health care exec now, not a illness response exec. Now this means we need to have touchpoints in the community to reach out, instead of just waiting for you to come into the hospital with illness.

Contrarian in my world, not protect what was but build something new. We had a prescription for reading in Louisiana and we had the books at the hospital and they could take it home. We had readers at the hospital and the parents could listen to the story, take the book home and "read it" even though they couldn't. It built a little library in these homes and encouraged literacy in these homes where people didn't have the resources.

Karen: QR Trail, QR code providing some sort of knowledge or information about the community.

Integrating activity with the technology is a interesting twist to get more people outside.

4) How do you perceive your relationship with the Township?

Skip

5) What physical needs/fields, facilities, etc. are needed?

Skip

6) What changes do you anticipate? (Programs, demographics, etc.)

Gaps in our community is services and support for behavior health and mental health. My belief is activity could be a big piece to helping that. There is a need for institutional space unfortunately, but there is a need for community resources.

We are now addressing chronic disease (we've gotten so good at treating acute illness to allow you to live long enough to enjoy chronic disease)

How do you minimize the effects and optimize life? We started to do work on understanding the risk factors? Over 50% of these patients with chronic disease have some sort of depression, so I believe that exercise and activity can be a key factor that can help with that. How do we get the word out to this population about what is available to them in an effective way. Is there some sort of program that can be used as an attractor to get these people's feet wet and then have their interest expand from there.

We can get our patients and say "you need to walk" but when theres a program like walk with a doc you have that different hook with the education piece, and then the opportunity to walk with their physician and have that kind of time with them is huge. Having that mentor piece for programs is a great idea.

7) Any additional comments or concerns?

Doylestown Township
Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update
Key Person Interviews
August 15, 2018

Name: Jim Brexler

Title: President and CEO

Organization: Doylestown Health

Interview Time: 8:00 am

Interviewer: JSG

- 1) What is your organization's role regarding Parks, Recreation and Open Space Preservation within the Doylestown Township Community?
 - a. All about health, wellness, and promoting healthy lifestyles
 - b. Health and fitness
 - c. Walk with a Doc - education session and 2 mile walk with a doctor – done on campus and using the Doylestown Bike & Hike Trail through Doyle
 - d. Very important to D. Health to leverage their presence, but not necessarily to “own” the activities/events

- 2) What recreation facilities does your organization currently use?
 - a. Partner with the Y – joint programming
 - b. Sponsor Light the Night – cancer support program in Central Park
 - c. Sponsored the Sensory Trail
 - d. Sponsored Kids Castle
 - e. A willing sponsor for anything health and fitness related
 - f. He would be willing to work on a Rx for Parks program (youth and seniors)
 - i. Ashley
 - g. A lot of walking trails at Pine Run – also building a new Community Center there
 - i. Also a pool and conference center that would be available to the public
 - ii. Pine Run is now all about activity and getting residents active an outside
 - h. Doylestown Health brings a bus of Pine Run residents out to the concerts at Central Park for the concert series
 - i. They also partner with Del Val Univ. for events

- 3) Do current parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of your organization?
 - a. They take advantage of every one of them
 - b. Meet the needs is 2-part
 - i. Need to fully identify the need – they are currently responding to what is available
 - ii. But – have not yet have the opp. to plan for new activities/facilities to meet needs
 - iii. Would like to add an analysis of needs and opportunities to their internal analysis
 - iv. Would be willing to work with the Twp. to explore new opportunities and options for parks and recreation facilities/programs to promote healthy living and healthy lifestyles in the community
 1. Create a partnership
 2. KAS suggested a walking club (i.e. 50-mile club or 100-mile club)

- 4) How do you perceive your relationship with the Township?
 - a. A partner

- 5) What physical needs/fields, facilities, etc. are needed?
 - a. Did not discuss in detail – spent time discussing big picture items

- 6) What changes do you anticipate? (Programs, demographics, etc.)
 - a. Change from treating diseases to promoting health
 - b. Need to find a better way to manage and treat chronic disease
 - i. Over 50% of patients with chronic disease also have an underlying mental health issue
 - ii. Would like to see programming to promote healthy living and active health programs for the population
 - iii. Need to get the word out
 1. We have a lot of trails – need to get people to the trails
 2. Create activities or events to get people out
 - c. Services and support for behavioral health and mental health
 - i. Struggling with how to treat
 - ii. Need for community resources

- 7) Any additional comments or concerns?
 - a. On a personal note – he moved here because of the recreation opportunities for active recreation and healthy fitness/lifestyle for his family
 - b. When they went thru last strategic planning, a lot of effort went into the new name “Doylestown Health”
 - c. The business of healthcare is changing
 - i. Were in the business of responding to health issues and trauma – and payment only came if you got sick
 - ii. Now health reform issue is to reverse that and create comp. structures that reward systems to keep people healthy and eliminate need to
 1. Goal is to keep people healthy and out of the hospital
 2. Now a “healthcare exec”
 - iii. VIA – mission is health and beauty of the community
 - d. Fitness is a major component of health
 - i. Fitness
 - ii. Rehabilitation
 - e. Doesn’t want to create what was – wants to create something new
 - i. Rx for Health is similar to Rx for reading that he did in Louisiana
 - f. Would like an Rx for Health
 - i. Get people out to the parks – all ages – kids and seniors
 - g. Would like to integrate activity into electronics – i.e. apps on the phone
 - h. BIG ITEMS
 - i. Need to build the partnerships into the Plan

- ii. Doylestown Health and Doylestown Twp. Parks and Rec - work together to promote healthy lifestyles and healthy choices for the Doylestown Community
- iii. It's all about the community

Doylestown Township
Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update
Key Person Interviews
August 15, 2018

Name: Bill McTigue

Title: Director, Bucks County Senior Games

Organization: Bucks County Senior Games/Area Agency on Aging

Name: Cindy Walther

Title: Training Director, Special Olympics of Bucks County

Organization: Bucks County Senior Games / Special Olympics of Bucks County

Interview Time: 11:00 am Interviewer: JSG

- 1) What is your organization's role regarding Parks, Recreation and Open Space Preservation within the Doylestown Township Community?
 - a. They use parks for bocce and long distance running
- 2) What recreation facilities does your organization currently use?
 - a. Central Park
 - i. Bocce court
 - ii. The trails
- 3) Do current parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of your organization?
 - a. They do all the maintenance of the bocce courts
 - i. Rake, set-up, etc.
 - b. Also - concerned with drainage – had to cancel too many weeks due to rain
 - c. Use the bocce courts Saturday morning and Tuesday evening
 - d. Could also use the parks for tennis, paddle-boarding, soccer, volleyball, softball, power-lifting
- 4) How do you perceive your relationship with the Township?
 - a. They have a great relationship
 - b. They run the county competition every other year
 - c. No problem with scheduling
- 5) What physical needs/fields, facilities, etc. are needed?
 - a. The bocce courts are starting to deteriorate
 - b. Maintenance has been an issue – not everyone uses it properly
 - c. Bocce - Needs a bit of TLC
 - d. Would like to get a shade structure / pavilion roof over the bocce courts
 - i. Some athletes, because of their meds, cannot be out in the hot sun
 - e. Expressed a need for indoor recreation space
 - i. Indoor bocce
 - ii. Indoor sports (basketball, volleyball)

- iii. Indoor meeting space
 - f. If the bocce courts were covered, they could hold more competitions at the park
 - g. Really wants indoor/outdoor carpeting / turf over concrete for the playing surface for bocce – would enable them to play after rain events and would be more ADA compliant and user-friendly
- 6) What changes do you anticipate? (Programs, demographics, etc.)
- a. Bocce keeps growing
 - b. She has a waiting list – has almost 40 athletes doing bocce
 - i. Would like to encourage more older participants
 - ii. Going toward “Unified Sports”
 - 1. Would mean an increase in athletes using the bocce courts
 - 2. Would need more practice times, especially in the evening
 - c. Bocce is now going to indoor/outdoor competitions – using indoor/outdoor carpeting over concrete
 - d. The big thing now is inclusion – would like to include the Senior Games with the Special Olympics athletes
 - e.
- 7) Any additional comments or concerns?
- a. Would love more inclusion – like when the soccer kids come over and watch them play bocce
 - b. Visibility in the park is encouraging discussion about Special Olympics and Bocce
 - c. They do all of their own fundraising because they don’t charge their athletes for anything
 - d. Would like to encourage more inclusion
 - i. Buddy teams and Athletes Helping Athletes
 - ii. Unified Teams

Doylestown Township
Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update
Key Person Interviews
August 15, 2018

Name: Bill McTigue

Title: Director

Organization: Bucks County Senior Games/Area Agency on Aging

Name: Cindy Walther

Title: Training Director

Organization: Special Olympics of Bucks County

Interview Time: 11:00 am

Interviewer: JSG

- 1) What is your organization's role regarding Parks, Recreation and Open Space Preservation within the Doylestown Township Community?

We utilize facilities for bocce and long distance running (trails/paths) for our events at Central Park.

- 2) What recreation facilities does your organization currently use?

Trails/paths and bocce courts

- 3) Do current parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of your organization?

Yes they do, but we do a lot of the maintenance. We could use a cover over the Bocce courts (shade structure/pavilion) because the courts get too hot and the do not drain with certain weather so it causes some participants not to be able to play, and sometimes flooded courts cause canceled events.

Formally, we use the bocce courts Saturday mornings 8:30am-12:00pm and Tuesday evenings.

Love when soccer players come and watch practice, it's a great moment of inclusion for the bocce participants

Karen: Bocce Courts starting to deteriorate and we need a better mix for the court. Has potential to be central to a lot of groups but could use some TLC.

Tennis is a sport we do, but we do not use the courts in Dtown. Pickleball is an opportunity. Track, soccer, volleyball, long distance running, bocce, swimming, softball, power lifting etc.

Visibility in the park in encouraging discussion.

4) How do you perceive your relationship with the Township?

Good relationship, January I reserve courts, we reserve pavilions, run county competitions.

5) What physical needs/fields, facilities, etc. are needed?

Fix bocce courts, add shade structures, see notes from questions 3.

6) What changes do you anticipate? (Programs, demographics, etc.)

Bocce keeps growing, they have a waiting list. 40 athletes doing bocce. Had 10 maybe when they first started.

Unified Sports is becoming a bigger thing.

Would be nice to have more courts, and the ability to have more practice times for bocce.

7) Any additional comments or concerns?

They don't charge athletes for anything, get their own fundraising.

Encouraging more discussion for special Olympics.

Indoor activity center (bocce, basketball, meetings, all indoor sports)

Indoor outdoor astroturf for bocce?

Appendix E: Sports Focus Group Meeting Minutes

**Doylestown Township
Sports Focus Group**

**Meeting Notes
October 4, 2018**

1. Introductions
 - a. Committee, Township, and Consultant Team
2. Comments from Represented Athletic Associations
 - a. Indoor Essentials
 - i. Turf (Issues with fields during dormant times)
 - ii. Batting cages
 - iii. Basketball (Hard court – multi-use)
 - iv. Tennis (indoor asphalt surface or concrete
 1. Or an outdoor covered surface (dome)
 - b. Definition of season dates needed
 - c. Parking needs
 - i. Line spaces
 - ii. Not enough for Turk baseball fields on Warrington side
 - iii. Upper Central Park needs more (+/- 20 spaces)
 - iv. Remove gravel pile at Turk III
 - v. Sauerman – safety issues
 - d. Parking Lot at Turk I
 - i. Too close to field
 - ii. Line parking spaces and make one-way
 - e. Turk I & II Baseball
 - i. Need access to H2O to use to wet down and irrigate sod
 - ii. Hydrant needed for Turk I
 - f. Pedestrian crossing between Turk I & II needed across Almshouse Road
 - g. Field 4 – need parking to use it
 - i. Improve to use for play & rotate
 - h. Tennis/Pickleball
 - i. Need separate dedicated courts
 1. Should be dedicated and regulation courts
 - ii. Junior tennis can also be pickleball
 1. 36' courts = a win/win
 - i. Warrington Soccer
 - i. Wants Township to cover 100% of costs for good maintenance as a sports facility -or-
 - ii. "Give" fields to association and have them maintain (full freight)
 - j. Lacrosse – likes current arrangement, "they have it pretty good"
 - k. Lights wanted
 - l. Artificial turf for
 - i. Men's lacrosse
 - ii. Girls/boys lacrosse
 - iii. Soccer (boys, girls and co-ed)
 - iv. Rugby (winter/spring)

Appendix F: Sports Focus Group Questionnaires

2018 Doylestown Township Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update (PROS)

Sports Focus Group – October 4, 2018 – 7pm

Organization: ___Bucks County Tennis Association, Inc. ___ Phone: _____ 215-322-7020 _____

Primary Contact: _____ Laura Canfield _____ Email: _____ buckscountytennis@verizon.net _____

Attending Representatives: 1) ___ Laura Canfield _____ 2) _____

Sports/Activities offered through your organization (check all applicable):

- Baseball Basketball Field Hockey Football Lacrosse Pickleball Rugby Soccer
 Softball X Tennis Volleyball X-Country Other _____

Participation

- Organization Wide (per sport/activity):

Sport ___ Tennis for November 2018-Octo 31 2018 Total participants _998_

Township Resident _____ Non-Resident _____ this is a tough category to quantify as we do not ask for residency. The township is provided with rosters in July and again in November of each year including addresses—that would give some indication. Also, if needed, BCTA would provide—confidentially and with the understanding the Township will not import/use—rosters for Doylestown Borough, Plumstead and New Hope—indoor and outdoor. If the Township wanted to review those addresses to see resident participation we would make them available for review.

- Currently utilizing Township facilities:

Sport ___ Tennis _____

Total participants at Central Park for 2018 = 136. Doylestown Borough had 105 at William Neis Park and there were 103 indoors at Doyle Elementary.

See above if more data is needed re: Doylestown Township residents participating in area programs.

Population:

- Age Groups Served:

X Preschool X Elementary X Middle School X High school X Adult X Senior X

Special needs

- Genders Served (check all applicable):

Male Female X Coed

Facilities:

- Total number of Dtwp Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: _2-5 Tennis Courts _____

- Location (check all applicable): X Central Park Turk Park I Turk Park II Turk Park III Sauerman Park

Other (specify) _____

Facilities (cont.)

- Total number of Non-Township Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 70+ _____

Location(s) _____

- Doylestown Borough William Neis Park (4 courts),
- Warrington Township Palomino Park (2 courts)
- Warrington Township King Park (1 Courts)
- Warrington Township Mary Barness Swim Club (2 courts);
- Plumstead Township Tohicken Middle School (2-4 courts);
- New Hope High School (2-6 courts);
- Perkasio Borough Kulp Park (2-5 courts);
- Warminster Township Munroe Park (2-4 courts)
- Warminster Township Log College (1 court);
- Middletown township Simmons Park (3 courts)
- Middletown township Firefighters Park (2 courts),
- Quakertown Borough Memorial Park (2-4 courts),
- Frosty Hollow Tennis Center (Bucks County Parks and Recreation- Levittown – 2+ courts);
- Core Creek Park Bucks County Parks and Recreation (2-8 courts);
- Bensalem Township Gilbert Drive Park (2 courts)
- Bensalem Township Bridgewater Park (1 court)
- Bensalem Township Mill Creek Park (1 court);
- Hilltown Township Civic Park (2 courts);
- Durham Township Palisades H.S. (2-6 courts);
- Newtown Township Council Rock H,S North – (2-10 courts);
- Falls Township Penns Grant Park (2 courts),
- Northampton Tennis and Fitness (2 courts),
- Dole Elementary school gym (Central Bucks),
- Pfaff Elementary School gym (Quakertown),
- Holland Middle School gym (Council Rock)

- Size of Fields/Courts/Facility used:

All facilities have 78 foot courts except indoor locations. Most have blended lines for 36 and 60 ft play. Is the current availability of fields, courts, etc. adequate? **Yes and No**

If no, please elaborate ____ For the most part. Some locations such as Doylestown Township are very popular locations and court demand is high. More lighted facilities would be great and of course indoor. Plus many facilities are just 1-2 courts—larger complexes provide more opportunity for special events to compliment weekly instruction/practice.

- Do you currently use any indoor facilities? yes no

If yes, where (location) and which facilities (gym, multi-purpose, etc.) ____

Doyle Elementary School- gym

Holland Middle School: gym

Pfaff Elementary multipurpose room

Northampton Tennis and Fitness – indoor tennis courts.

- Are existing indoor facilities adequate? yes no **we make due**

If no, what types of facilities are needed (gym, multi-purpose, instructional space, etc.) ____ Additional ____ gym, multi-purpose, instructional space, etc. would be great—the issue is all sport groups are competing for the same time slots so for tennis to get a week night is impossible. Of course bubbling outdoor tennis courts for indoor play would be even better in an ideal world!

Usage:

- Season (check all applicable): Winter /Spring Summer Fall

- Type of Uses (check all applicable):

Organized/League Practice Games Instructional Special Event/Tournament

Self-Directed Social / Lifetime Activity Other

- Usage (days and times): ____ This depends on the location and season. Specific to Doylestown Township organized tennis programs are offered Tuesdays April-October from roughly 4:45-9:00 ____ plus often a special event (Team Challenge, etc.) on a Friday in June/July.

- Total # Hours of usage required: Winter/Spring __4__ Summer __4__ Fall

__4__ These are hours per week in Doylestown Township outdoor Tuesday programs only (approx. 80 hours total April-October). This does not include the special event held at Central park nor does it include programs

at Doylestown Borough courts, Doyle elementary, Warrington or other Doylestown area/Bucks County facilities. . BCTA runs programing approx.. 45 weeks per year county-wide..

- Do any of your current fields, courts, etc. offer lights? X yes no

If yes, where ___Doylestown Township Central Park, Warrington King Park, Middletown Township Simmons and Firefighters Parks, Perkasio Kulp Park, Quakertown Memorial Park, Frosty Hollow Tennis Center (Bucks County Parks and Recreation- Levittown)

Park Infrastructure:

- Estimated # of Spectators (please specify usage type):

Practice _____ Game _____ Tournament 40
Instructional/Program 10 per hour _____ Other _____

- Is the current availability of spectator seating adequate? X yes no Bleachers would be nice but most people bring their own chairs.

Park Infrastructure (cont.)

- Estimated Parking Needs (please specify event type):

Practice 12 per hour _____ Game _____ Tournament _____
40
Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

- Is the current availability of parking adequate? X yes no

- Comfort facilities/Restrooms:

Are existing comfort facilities/Restrooms located within the parks system adequate? yes X no

They are adequate but they are not convenient to the tennis facility

Anticipated Trends:

- Participation: X Increasing Decreasing About the same
- Are there any changes you have noticed in the sport that could influence your future needs?

____ Certainly the popularity of Pickleball—a related racquet sport—_is influencing a trend for tennis courts to become multi-purpose. See attached documents for solutions and recommendations.

Anticipated Future Needs:

_____ see below plus the following link re: the Health benefits of tennis.

[_https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/05/well/move/the-best-sport-for-a-longer-life-try-tennis.html__](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/05/well/move/the-best-sport-for-a-longer-life-try-tennis.html)

<http://www.healthfitnessrevolution.com/top-10-health-benefits-tennis/>

[__https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyiving/tennis-health-benefits](https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyiving/tennis-health-benefits)

Additional Comments:

See below attachments regarding recreational Pickleball play on tennis courts.

Recommendations:

Since the Township tennis courts are in high demand for both tennis and Pickleball (very likely because of the lights which so few tennis courts have), the suggestion coming from the meeting was to convert one of the basketball courts to Pickleball since basketball was pick-up play and no organized play. That would keep 5 tennis courts and also provide 5 Pickleball courts so the racket playing residents will be very happy—everyone wins and no one loses—except basketball players looking for a pick-up game. . As mentioned at the meeting, if tennis courts must be taken away to satisfy the Pickleball players (but will make the tennis players angry) then a thought is to take just one tennis court and convert to 4 Pickleball—at least that way it will provide 4 tennis and 4 Pickleball so does not show partiality . The recommendation was also to make 36 foot blended line tennis courts around the Pickelball courts to accommodate adult Touch Tennis and youth 36 foot play. This could also be done on the basketball courts if the Township elects to put the Pickleball on the basketball courts. Netting similar to that used to separate indoor tennis courts could be used although would require access to/installation of poles string enough to support the weight of the netting. This appeases tennis instructions—provides the Township with the only stand-alone 36 foot courts in the county—but for the tennis player playing on 60 and 78 foot courts it is still a loss—but at least they only lose 1 court not two. There may also be some USTA funding for the 36 foot courts. Happy to discuss in more detail.

2018 Doylestown Township Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update (PROS)

Sports Focus Group – October 4, 2018 – 7pm

Organization: CBAA / Buckingham Vtd Phone: 215.489.6146

Primary Contact: Becky Barlow Soccer Email: becky.barlow@cbaaasports.org

Attending Representatives: 1) James Ivers 2) Becky Barlow

Sports/Activities offered through your organization (check all applicable):

- Baseball Basketball Field Hockey Football Lacrosse Pickleball Rugby Softball
 Tennis Volleyball X-Country Other Soccer

CBAA Ball & Lacrosse will/can answer on own

Participation

- Organization Wide (per sport/activity):

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Sport <u>Intramural Soccer</u> | Total participants | <u>1200</u> | Township Resident | <u>490</u> | Non-Resident | <u>710</u> |
| Sport <u>Travel Soccer</u> | Total participants | <u>625</u> | Township Resident | <u>265</u> | Non-Resident | <u>360</u> |
| Sport <u>Camps</u> | Total participants | <u>280</u> | Township Resident | <u>135</u> | Non-Resident | <u>145</u> |
| Sport <u>Adaptive Needs</u> | Total participants | <u>75</u> | Township Resident | <u>37</u> | Non-Resident | <u>38</u> |
| Sport <u>Bball/Lax</u> | Total participants | <u>1700</u> | Township Resident | <u>710</u> | Non-Resident | <u>990</u> |

- Currently utilizing Township facilities:

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|-----------|
| Sport <u>Travel Soccer</u> | Total participants | <u>180</u> | Township Resident | <u>105</u> | Non-Resident | <u>75</u> |
| Sport <u>Im Soccer</u> | Total participants | <u>175</u> | Township Resident | <u>98</u> | Non-Resident | <u>77</u> |
| Sport _____ | Total participants | _____ | Township Resident | _____ | Non-Resident | _____ |
| Sport <u>Bball</u> | Total participants | _____ | Township Resident | <u>380</u> | Non-Resident | <u>?</u> |
| Sport <u>Lax</u> | Total participants | <u>unknown</u> | Township Resident | _____ | Non-Resident | _____ |

Population:

- Age Groups Served:

Preschool Elementary Middle School High school Adult Senior Special needs

- Genders Served (check all applicable):

Male Female Coed

Facilities:

- Total number of Dtwp Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 2 11v11 fields
- Location (check all applicable): Central Park Turk Park I Turk Park II Turk Park III Sauerman Park
 Other (specify) _____

Facilities (cont.)

• Total number of Non-Township Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: _____
Location(s) Buckingham Twp (4 fields), Herbst Sports Complex (4 fields)
CBSD 4 schools (4 fields) Plumstead (2 fields)

• Size of Fields/Courts/Facility used:
(2) 11v11
micro (at times - "Fit in")

• Is the current availability of fields, courts, etc. adequate? yes no
If no, please elaborate We could use 7v7 & 9v9 fields
to accommodate our younger ages and
adaptive needs program.

• Do you currently use any indoor facilities? yes no
If yes, where (location) and which facilities (gym, multi-purpose, etc.)
Gayman ES, BUSC, ITC - used for Rainouts,
Indoor training etc

• Are existing indoor facilities adequate? yes no
If no, what types of facilities are needed (gym, multi-purpose, instructional space, etc.)
Hard court & turf is desperately needed
Lighted fields

Usage:

• Season (check all applicable): Winter/Spring Summer Fall
• Type of Uses (check all applicable):
 Organized/League Practice Games Instructional Special Event/Tournament
 Self-Directed Social / Lifetime Activity Other _____

• Usage (days and times): 7 days (eves wknds)
Total # Hours of usage required: Winter/Spring Summer Fall

• Do any of your current fields, courts, etc. offer lights? yes no
If yes, where Plumstead Twp Hanusey (limited)

Park Infrastructure:

• Estimated # of Spectators (please specify usage type):
Practice 4-5 per 1/2 field Game 28-60 max Tournament 28-60 per game
(coaches, some parents) dependent on field size
(add 1-2 referees for 11+)
Instructional/Program 20-30 per field Other _____

o Is the current availability of spectator seating adequate? yes no
Most games parents bring chairs. We have
supplied team benches & spectator

Park Infrastructure (cont.)

- Estimated Parking Needs (please specify event type):

Practice _____ Game _____ Tournament _____

Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

- o Is the current availability of parking adequate? yes no not always but we encourage carpools

- Comfort facilities/Restrooms:

Are existing comfort facilities/Restrooms located within the parks system adequate? yes no ok :-

Comments:

Anticipated Trends:

- Participation: Increasing Decreasing About the same

- Are there any changes you have noticed in the sport that could influence your future needs?

Smaller rosters for small sided games -
More teams anticipated with this trend for
Under 13 yo.

Anticipated Future Needs:

Indoor Space - large Field w/ small side game markings
Artificial Turf
Lights
Indoor Hard Courts

Additional Comments:

Clover seems to be an increasing issue.
↳ regular treatment would help
AEDs in close proximity to fields
Storage Sheds

Recommendations:

Mow Game Fields (and small area surrounding)
to a lower cut. Mow 2x's week in
high growth times. (Tighter cuts on fields)
Fields could use aeration & rolling

Thank you for taking time to provide valuable data.

2018 Doylestown Township Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update (PROS)

Sports Focus Group – October 4, 2018 – 7pm

Organization: Doylestown Athletic Association Phone: 267 872-7697

Primary Contact: Loretta Jenkins Email: Lorjenk1@aol.com

Attending Representatives: 1) Mark Tierney (DAA Baseball) 2) Loretta Jenkins (DAA Admin)

Sports/Activities offered through your organization (check all applicable):

- Baseball Basketball Field Hockey Football Lacrosse Pickleball Rugby Softball
 Tennis Volleyball X-Country Other _____

Participation

• Organization Wide (per sport/activity):

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sport <u>baseball</u> | Total participants <u>913</u> | Township Resident <u>65%</u> | Non-Resident <u>35%</u> |
| Sport <u>softball</u> | Total participants <u>314</u> | Township Resident <u>65%</u> | Non-Resident <u>35%</u> |
| Sport <u>basketball</u> | Total participants <u>863</u> | Township Resident <u>70%</u> | Non-Resident <u>30%</u> |
| Sport <u>field hockey</u> | Total participants <u>423</u> | Township Resident <u>70%</u> | Non-Resident <u>30%</u> |
| Sport <u>volleyball</u> | Total participants <u>562</u> | Township Resident <u>65%</u> | Non-Resident <u>35%</u> |

• Currently utilizing Township facilities:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sport <u>baseball</u> | Total participants <u>768</u> | Township Resident <u>65%</u> | Non-Resident <u>35%</u> |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |

Population:

• Age Groups Served:

- Preschool Elementary Middle School High school Adult Senior Special needs

• Genders Served (check all applicable):

- Male Female Coed

Facilities:

- Total number of Dtwp Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 5 Turk fields + 1 Saureman = 6 baseball fields
 • Location (check all applicable): Central Park Turk Park I Turk Park II Turk Park III Saureman Park
 Other (specify) _____

Facilities (cont.)

- Total number of Non-Township Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 16 fields, 8 basketball courts, 4 volleyball crt
Location(s) 2 BB Maplewood, 4 SB Neiss/Burpee, 7 CBSD; 2BB Lenape, 2 SB Lenape, 3 Field hockey Lenape, 3 BB GMBush. Basketball courts - 8 CBSD buildings. Vball courts - CBSD Tohickon, Fanny Chapman

- Size of Fields/Courts/Facility used:
60/70 baseball = 9, 90' baseball = 3, softball = 6 Vball=4, 3 MS indoor Tohickon, 1 FC outdoor
Basketball; 5 Elem, 2 MS, 1 HS

- Is the current availability of fields, courts, etc. adequate? yes no

If no, please elaborate There is a need for additional 60/70 size fields. The current inventory at Turk I & II are in dire need of maintenance. Annual maintenance must plan for current weather patterns

NOTE: DAA pays rental fees in excess of \$7K annual for Turk/Saureman + \$5K for additional grass cut for 1 season play. Addioinally putting in \$35K to fix MAJOR safety & drainage issues. For 2017-18, DAA will contribute just under \$50K.

- Do you currently use any indoor facilities? yes no *NOTE - indoor usage is NOT D Twp facilities

If yes, where (location) and which facilities (gym, multi-purpose, etc.)

CBSD gym rentals to run DAA boys & girls program for almost 900 children.

Cold Spring, Doyle, Groveland, Kutz, Linden, Lenape, Tohickon & West

- Are existing indoor facilities adequate? yes no

If no, what types of facilities are needed (gym, multi-purpose, instructional space, etc.)

Additional indoor gym space. There is not enough gym time between 11/1-3/31 to hold 10 game seasons AND weekly practices for each grade level. DAA shares the use of CBSD gyms with CBAA, WWAA & LV, which have evening use AFTER all school functions and events.

Usage:

- Season (check all applicable): Winter/Spring Summer Fall

- Type of Uses (check all applicable):

Organized/League Practice Games Instructional Special Event/Tournament

Self-Directed Social / Lifetime Activity Other _____

- Usage (days and times): Spring Field (M-F 6pm-dusk, Sat 9am-dusk, Sun noon-dusk)= 25hrs/week

Total # Hours of usage required: Winter/Spring _____ Summer _____ Fall _____

- Do any of your current fields, courts, etc. offer lights? yes no **but it would be a welcomed addition
If yes, where _____

Park Infrastructure:

- Estimated # of Spectators (please specify usage type):

Practice avg 20 cars/2 hrs Game avg 20 cars/2 hrs Tournament n/a

Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

- Is the current availability of spectator seating adequate? yes no

Turk Park bleachers, some ok, some need replacing. 1 per side/field is adequate

PLAYER BENCHES are a need. Dug out roofs for sun protection would be a nice addition, like those recently built and placed at Neiss/Burpee/Maplewood 2 and planned for GMB Oct 2018.

Park Infrastructure (cont.)

• Estimated Parking Needs (please specify event type):

Practice _____ Game _____ Tournament _____
Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

- Is the current availability of parking adequate? yes no Major SAFETY/TRAFFIC issue at Turk park crossing Almshouse Rd from Turk 1 to Turk 2 UNSAFE for kids/parents to cross road.

• Comfort facilities/Restrooms:

Are existing comfort facilities/Restrooms located within the parks system adequate? yes no
Port a pots have been in use since Turk park opened. For that size park/usage, there should be a more permanent bathroom facility like those at Central Park.

Anticipated Trends:

- Participation: Increasing Decreasing About the same
- Are there any changes you have noticed in the sport that could influence your future needs?

With all the options young children have for sport choices in any one season, there may be some fluctuation between sports- baseball to lax to soccer and back again. However the housing is in place and that number provides a view of recreational needs of the children that inhabit them.

Anticipated Future Needs:

Back stop replacement T6 (T5 underway for fall 2018 :) Bathroom facilities at Turk Park
Drainage/safety field concerns Turk park based on weather patterns
Water main on Turk 1 side More 60/70 fields - dedicated in 1 park location instead of shared sport use. Dedicate to CP
Safe pedestrain crossing from T1 to T11 across Almshouse Rd. to soccer/lax and Turk to baseball

Additional Comments:

DAA is grateful for the use of Turk Park and we're very proud of the partnership we have established with the Twp to assist in maintaining the fields. We think its important the D twp BOS are made aware of DAA's annual financial contributions to this partnership. In 2017-2018 that contribution will be just shy of \$50K with the focus on Turk Park safety improvements.

Recommendations:

Annual maintance of baseball fields requires evaluation of drainage in relationship to existng terrain and changing weather patterns. There is a need to build this perspective into the plan to keep Turk baseball fields in safe playing conditions for the children in the community.

Thank you for taking time to provide valuable data.

2018 Doylestown Township Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update (PROS)

Sports Focus Group – October 4, 2018 – 7pm

Organization: Curiosity Athl./Doylestown Pickleball Phone: 267.362.9619

Primary Contact: Jeremiah Email: jeremiah@campcuriosity.com

Attending Representatives: 1) Jeremiah 2)

Sports/Activities offered through your organization (check all applicable):

- Baseball Basketball Field Hockey Football Lacrosse Pickleball Rugby Softball Tennis Volleyball X-Country Other

Participation

- Organization Wide (per sport/activity): Sport Pickleball Total participants 358 Township Resident ? Non-Resident ?

Population:

- Age Groups Served: Preschool Elementary Middle School High school Adult Senior Special needs
Genders Served (check all applicable): Male Female Coed

Facilities:

- Total number of Dtwp Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 0
Location (check all applicable): Central Park Turk Park I Turk Park II Turk Park III Sauerman Park Other (specify)

Facilities (cont.)

- Total number of Non-Township Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 2
Location(s) Camp Curiosity & Doylestown Tennis Club

- Size of Fields/Courts/Facility used:
CC: 8 Outdoor Pickleball, DTC: 6 Indoor Pickleball Courts
5 Indoor Pickleball

- Is the current availability of fields, courts, etc. adequate? yes no
If no, please elaborate we would like to offer morning times in the summer.

- Do you currently use any indoor facilities? yes no
If yes, where (location) and which facilities (gym, multi-purpose, etc.)
5 Indoor Pickleball @ Camp Curiosity 6 Indoor Pickleball @ Doylestown Tennis Club

- Are existing indoor facilities adequate? yes no
If no, what types of facilities are needed (gym, multi-purpose, instructional space, etc.)

Usage:

- Season (check all applicable): Winter/Spring Summer Fall
- Type of Uses (check all applicable):
 Organized/League Practice Games Instructional Special Event/Tournament
 Self-Directed Social / Lifetime Activity Other _____
- Usage (days and times): _____
Total # Hours of usage required: Winter/Spring _____ Summer _____ Fall _____
- Do any of your current fields, courts, etc. offer lights? yes no
If yes, where _____

Park Infrastructure:

- Estimated # of Spectators (please specify usage type):
Practice _____ Game _____ Tournament _____
Instructional/Program _____ Other _____
- Is the current availability of spectator seating adequate? yes no

Park Infrastructure (cont.)

• Estimated Parking Needs (please specify event type):

Practice _____ Game 30-40 Vehicles Tournament 70-100 Vehicles
Instructional/Program 10-20 Vehicles Other _____

o Is the current availability of parking adequate? yes no

• Comfort facilities/Restrooms:

Are existing comfort facilities/Restrooms located within the parks system adequate? yes no

Anticipated Trends:

• Participation: Increasing Decreasing About the same

• Are there any changes you have noticed in the sport that could influence your future needs?

We gain 1-5 members a week. The pickleball sport is constantly growing.

We are getting constant requests for morning play for the retired players.

Anticipated Future Needs:

Larger Amount of designated courts to

meet the demands of the growing sport.

Additional Comments:

Recommendations:

Thank you for taking time to provide valuable data.

2018 Doylestown Township Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update (PROS) Sports Focus Group –

October 4, 2018 – 7pm

Organization: Lenape Lacrosse Summer League Phone: 215.828.4826

Primary Contact: Walt Szambelak Email: Lenapelacrosse@aol.com

Attending Representatives: 1) Walt Szambelak 2) _____

Sports/Activities offered through your organization (check all applicable):

Baseball Basketball Field Hockey Football Lacrosse Pickleball Rugby Softball Tennis Volleyball X-Country Other _____

Participation

• Organization Wide (per sport/activity):

Sport _____ Total participants _____ Township Resident _____ Non-Resident _____

Sport _____ Total participants _____ Township Resident _____ Non-Resident _____

Sport _____ Total participants _____ Township Resident _____ Non-Resident _____

Sport _____ Total participants _____ Township Resident _____ Non-Resident _____

Sport _____ Total participants _____ Township Resident _____ Non-Resident _____

• Currently utilizing Township facilities:

Sport Men's Lacrosse Total participants 400-450 Township Resident about 5% Non-Resident about 95%

Sport _____ Total participants _____ Township Resident _____ Non-Resident _____

Sport _____ Total participants _____ Township Resident _____ Non-Resident _____

Sport _____ Total participants _____ Township Resident _____ Non-Resident _____

Sport _____ Total participants _____ Township Resident _____ Non-Resident _____

Population:

• Age Groups Served:

Preschool Elementary Middle School High school Adult Senior Special needs

• Genders Served (check all applicable):

Male Female Coed Facilities:

• Total number of Dtwp Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 4 or 5

• Location (check all applicable): Central Park Turk Park I Turk Park II Turk Park III Sauerman Park Other (specify)

Page 2 of 3

Facilities (cont.)

• Total number of Non-Township Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 1

Location(s) Championship Game at Germantown Academy Turf

• Size of Fields/Courts/Facility used: 110 yards x60 yards

• Is the current availability of fields, courts, etc. adequate? yes no If no, please elaborate
YES

Do you currently use any indoor facilities? yes no If yes, where (location) and which facilities (gym, multi-purpose, etc.)

This is actually a yes when available. It used to run an indoor league but there is never time available so it went belly up

• Are existing indoor facilities adequate? yes no If no, what types of facilities are needed (gym, multi-purpose, instructional space, etc.)

Not even close. Turf fields and or indoor rink sare desperately needed

Usage:

• Season (check all applicable):

Winter /Spring Summer Fall

• Type of Uses (check all applicable): Organized/League Practice Games Instructional Special Event/Tournament Self-Directed Social / Lifetime Activity Other

• Usage (days and times): Tuesday Nights from 6:00 to 8:00

Total # Hours of usage required: Winter/Spring _____ Summer 20 Fall _____

• Do any of your current fields, courts, etc. offer lights? yes no If yes, where

Park Infrastructure:

• Estimated # of Spectators (please specify usage type):

Practice _____ Game 150 Tournament _____
Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

Is the current availability of spectator seating adequate? yes no

Page 3 of 3

Park Infrastructure (cont.)

• Estimated Parking Needs (please specify event type):

Practice _____ Game Double Turk III Tournament _____
Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

Is the current availability of parking adequate? yes no

• Comfort facilities/Restrooms: Are existing comfort facilities/Restrooms located within the parks system adequate? yes no

Anticipated Trends:

• Participation: Increasing Decreasing About the same • Are there any changes you have noticed in the sport that could influence your future needs?

Anticipated Future Needs: A storage shed

Additional Comments: I believe that the Parks & Rec Department in Doylestown is unmatched ny any in the area. Karen should be proud of what she has built in her time with the township

Recommendations: Turf Field and an indoor facility

2018 Doylestown Township Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update (PROS)

Sports Focus Group – October 4, 2018 – 7pm

Organization: OLMC(Romans CYO Football) Phone: 215-432-6516

Primary Contact: Sean Sharp Email: SeanSharp72@gmail.com

Attending Representatives: 1) Sean Sharp 2)

Sports/Activities offered through your organization (check all applicable):

- Baseball Basketball Field Hockey Football Lacrosse Pickleball Rugby Softball Tennis Volleyball X-Country Other Track

Participation

- Organization Wide (per sport/activity): Volleyball Basketball Track & X Country
Currently utilizing Township facilities: Football

Population:

- Age Groups Served: Elementary Middle School High school
Genders Served: Male Female Coed

Facilities:

- Total number of Dtwp Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 1
Location: Turk Park I

Facilities (cont.)

- Total number of Non-Township Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 6

Location(s) Maennerchor, Central Bucks gyms for basketball

- Size of Fields/Courts/Facility used:

Football fields

Basketball courts

- Is the current availability of fields, courts, etc. adequate? yes no

If no, please elaborate The fields are adequate but lights would make it better.

- Do you currently use any indoor facilities? yes no

If yes, where (location) and which facilities (gym, multi-purpose, etc.)

- Are existing indoor facilities adequate? yes no

If no, what types of facilities are needed (gym, multi-purpose, instructional space, etc.)

Getting gym time when we need it for 25 teams can be challenging.

Usage:

- Season (check all applicable): Winter/Spring Summer Fall

- Type of Uses (check all applicable):

Organized/League Practice Games Instructional Special Event/Tournament

Self-Directed Social / Lifetime Activity Other _____

- Usage (days and times): _____

Total # Hours of usage required: Winter/Spring _____ Summer _____ Fall _____

- Do any of your current fields, courts, etc. offer lights? yes no

If yes, where _____

Park Infrastructure:

- Estimated # of Spectators (please specify usage type):

Practice 30 Game 100 Tournament _____

Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

- Is the current availability of spectator seating adequate? yes no

Park Infrastructure (cont.)

- Estimated Parking Needs (please specify event type):

Practice 50 cars Game 75 cars Tournament _____

Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

- Is the current availability of parking adequate? yes no

We do struggle at Turk if there is soccer across the street.

- Comfort facilities/Restrooms:

Are existing comfort facilities/Restrooms located within the parks system adequate? yes no

Anticipated Trends:

- Participation: Increasing Decreasing About the same

- Are there any changes you have noticed in the sport that could influence your future needs?

Anticipated Future Needs:

We may be adding soccer as a sport which may require us to explore getting soccer fields.

Additional Comments:

Recommendations:

As I mentioned previously lights would be a great addition to allow more flexibility at the football field

Thank you for taking time to provide valuable data.

2018 Doylestown Township Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update (PROS)

Sports Focus Group – October 4, 2018 – 7pm

Organization: PA Rush Soccer Club Phone: 267-403-1021

Primary Contact: Amber Mault Email: amault@parush.com

Attending Representatives: 1) kristian Bates 2)

Sports/Activities offered through your organization (check all applicable):

- Baseball Basketball Field Hockey Football Lacrosse Pickleball Rugby Softball Tennis Volleyball X-Country Other soccer

Participation

Organization Wide (per sport/activity):

Table with 4 columns: Sport, Total participants, Township Resident, Non-Resident. Rows include Travel soccer, Intramural soccer, and Adult league.

Currently utilizing Township facilities:

Table with 4 columns: Sport, Total participants, Township Resident, Non-Resident. Row includes soccer.

Population:

Age Groups Served:

- Preschool Elementary Middle School High school Adult Senior Special needs

Genders Served (check all applicable):

- Male Female Coed

Facilities:

- Total number of Dtwp Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 3 grass fields #1, #2 and #3
Location (check all applicable): Central Park Turk Park I Turk Park II Turk Park III Sauerman Park Other (specify)

Facilities Survey

• Total number of Non-Township Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 4
Location(s) PA Rush Complex- Upper State Road, Doylestown. Unami Middle School. North Branch Park, West Branch Park

• Size of Fields/Courts/Facility used:
Complex- 2x11v11 , 1x7v7 and 1x9v9 North Branch 3x soccer fields
Unami 1x11v11 west branch 1x11v11

• Is the current availability of fields, courts, etc. adequate? yes no
If no, please elaborate in the last 3 years we have grown as an organization and we do need more soccer fields in the area. We are based in Doylestown.

• Do you currently use any indoor facilities? yes no
If yes, where (location) and which facilities (gym, multi-purpose, etc.)
we rent SMG in warminster for the winter training

• Are existing indoor facilities adequate? yes no
If no, what types of facilities are needed (gym, multi-purpose, instructional space, etc.)
we would love to have more indoor facilities as we pay a lot of money for SMG to rent.

Usage:

• Season (check all applicable): Winter/Spring Summer Fall
• Type of Uses (check all applicable):
 Organized/League Practice Games Instructional Special Event/Tournament
 Self-Directed Social / Lifetime Activity Other _____
• Usage (days and times): Monday through to Thursday
Total # Hours of usage required: Winter/Spring 342 hours Summer _____ Fall _____
• Do any of your current fields, courts, etc. offer lights? yes no
If yes, where _____ lights are a huge need for the club

Park Infrastructure:

• Estimated # of Spectators (please specify usage type):
Practice 10 per team Game 20 per team Tournament _____
Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

○ Is the current availability of spectator seating adequate? yes no

Park Infrastructure (cont.)

- Estimated Parking Needs (please specify event type):

Practice 10 Game 10 Tournament _____
Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

- Is the current availability of parking adequate? yes no

- Comfort facilities/Restrooms:

Are existing comfort facilities/Restrooms located within the parks system adequate? yes no

Anticipated Trends:

- Participation: Increasing Decreasing About the same

- Are there any changes you have noticed in the sport that could influence your future needs?

we are growing organization and we do need more fields and we really need fields with lights.

Anticipated Future Needs:

more fields

lights

Additional Comments:

We have noticed that other fields are not always used that other organizations have rented and we have grown almost 300 players this year and many of them are from CB schools and doylestown area. We are a no for pro offer life lessons within the game of sport.

Recommendations:

We would love to have fields with lights and hopefully get access to more fields if possible.

Thank you for taking time to provide valuable data.

2018 Doylestown Township Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update (PROS)

Sports Focus Group – October 4, 2018 – 7pm

Organization: USAPA / Upper Bucks Pickleball Phone: 215-485-0463
Primary Contact: Barbara Matase Email: BAM311@verizon.net
Attending Representatives: 1) Barbara Matase 2)

Sports/Activities offered through your organization (check all applicable):

- Baseball Basketball Field Hockey Football Lacrosse Pickleball Rugby Softball
Tennis Volleyball X-Country Other

Participation

- Organization Wide (per sport/activity): Upper Bucks - which is 50% increase y-to-y.
Sport Pickleball Total participants 338 Township Resident ? Non-Resident ?
Currently utilizing Township facilities:
Sport Total participants Township Resident Non-Resident

Population:

- Age Groups Served:
Preschool Elementary Middle School High school Adult Senior Special needs
Genders Served (check all applicable):
Male Female Coed

Facilities:

- Total number of Dtwp Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 1
Location (check all applicable): Central Park Turk Park I Turk Park II Turk Park III Sauerman Park
Other (specify)

Facilities (cont.)

- Total number of Non-Township Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: MANY
 Location(s) Robert O Keller Park in Richland Twp, Upper Bucks Quakertown YMCA, Tennis Zone, Camp Cynosity, Franconia Township Park, Montgomery Rec Center, Upper Gwynedd - Parkside Place,
- Size of Fields/Courts/Facility used: XL Sport - Hatfield Hatfield outdoor Upper Dublin Tennis Frog Hollow Tennis Club, Indian Valley YMCA, Green Valley CC
VARIES
Some dedicated to pickleball others utilizing badminton or tennis courts

- Is the current availability of fields, courts, etc. adequate? yes no
 If no, please elaborate The sport of pickleball is growing quickly + there are not enough courts for people. Some travel as far as 30 min to 1 hr to play competitively

- Do you currently use any indoor facilities? yes no
 If yes, where (location) and which facilities (gym, multi-purpose, etc.)
Quakertown YMCA, Indian Valley YMCA Camp Cynosity, Montgomery Twp Rec Center, Green Valley Country Club, Frog Hollow Tennis Club, XL Sport in Hatfield

- Are existing indoor facilities adequate? yes no
 If no, what types of facilities are needed (gym, multi-purpose, instructional space, etc.)
A lot of availability during day but not evening and weekends for those who work during the day. Indoor in winter or colder months.

Usage:

- Season (check all applicable): Winter/Spring Summer Fall
- Type of Uses (check all applicable):
 Organized/League Practice Games Instructional Special Event/Tournament
 Self-Directed Social / Lifetime Activity Other _____
- Usage (days and times): _____
 Total # Hours of usage required: Winter/Spring _____ Summer _____ Fall _____

- Do any of your current fields, courts, etc. offer lights? yes no
 If yes, where Upper Gwynedd - Parkside Place, Quaker town - Robert O Keller Park

Park Infrastructure:

- Estimated # of Spectators (please specify usage type):
 Practice 16-20 Game 25 Tournament 100's
 Instructional/Program VARIES Other _____

- Is the current availability of spectator seating adequate? yes no usually BYOC bring your own chair

Park Infrastructure (cont.)

- Estimated Parking Needs (please specify event type):

Practice _____ Game 20-30 vehicles Tournament 70-90

Instructional/Program 10-25 vehicles Other _____

- Is the current availability of parking adequate? yes no

- Comfort facilities/Restrooms:

Are existing comfort facilities/Restrooms located within the parks system adequate? yes no

Anticipated Trends:

- Participation: Increasing Decreasing About the same

- Are there any changes you have noticed in the sport that could influence your future needs?

2.8 million nationwide (USAPA) pickleball players, which is a 12.3% increase year over year.

Anticipated Future Needs:

More indoor + outdoor permanent pickleball courts to accommodate growth of sport.

Additional Comments:

Great sport for all ages not just active adults.

Noise can be an issue with pickleball, so should have pickleball courts placed in remote area.

Recommendations:

Thank you for taking time to provide valuable data.

2018 Doylestown Township Park Recreation and Open Space Plan Update (PROS)

Sports Focus Group – October 4, 2018 – 7pm

Organization: WARRINGTON Soccer Phone: 215-343-7470

Primary Contact: Jeremy Victor Email: _____

Attending Representatives: 1) Jeremy Victor 2) Joe McInnis

Sports/Activities offered through your organization (check all applicable):

- Baseball Basketball Field Hockey Football Lacrosse Pickleball Rugby Softball
- Tennis Volleyball X-Country Other Soccer

Participation

• Organization Wide (per sport/activity):

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sport <u>Soccer</u> | Total participants <u>2,000</u> | Township Resident <u>5%</u> | Non-Resident <u>95%</u> |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |

• Currently utilizing Township facilities:

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sport <u>Soccer</u> | Total participants <u>250*</u> | Township Resident <u>5%</u> | Non-Resident <u>95%</u> |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |
| Sport _____ | Total participants _____ | Township Resident _____ | Non-Resident _____ |

Population: * WE GENERALLY HAVE 250-300 kids each week practicing or playing games each week.

• Age Groups Served:

- Preschool Elementary Middle School High school Adult Senior Special needs

• Genders Served (check all applicable):

- Male Female Coed

Facilities:

• Total number of Dtwp Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: 4

• Location (check all applicable): Central Park Turk Park I Turk Park II Turk Park III Sauerman Park

Other (specify) TURK PARK III - Tournament Only

Facilities (cont.)

- Total number of Non-Township Fields/Courts/Facilities currently used: over 25
Location(s) Warrington, Warwick, School district
- Size of Fields/Courts/Facility used:
Full Size Soccer fields 11v11, 9v9, 7v7, 4v4
- Is the current availability of fields, courts, etc. adequate? yes no
If no, please elaborate need more lighted field space, turf
- Do you currently use any indoor facilities? yes no
If yes, where (location) and which facilities (gym, multi-purpose, etc.)
District, PSG, Warminster Sportsplex
- Are existing indoor facilities adequate? yes no
If no, what types of facilities are needed (gym, multi-purpose, instructional space, etc.)
turf indoors

Usage:

- Season (check all applicable): Winter/Spring Summer Fall
- Type of Uses (check all applicable):
 Organized/League Practice Games Instructional Special Event/Tournament
 Self-Directed Social / Lifetime Activity Other
- Usage (days and times): Sunday - SATURDAY WEEKDAY EVENINGS / SUNRISE TO SUNSET WEEKENDS
Total # Hours of usage required: Winter/Spring 40 Summer 40 Fall 40
- Do any of your current fields, courts, etc. offer lights? yes no
If yes, where King Fields Warrington

Park Infrastructure:

- Estimated # of Spectators (please specify usage type):
Practice 30-40 Game 60-75 Tournament _____
Instructional/Program _____ Other _____
- Is the current availability of spectator seating adequate? yes no NO SEATING @ TURK II

Park Infrastructure (cont.)

- Estimated Parking Needs (please specify event type):

Practice 30-40 Game 60-75 Tournament _____
Instructional/Program _____ Other _____

- Is the current availability of parking adequate? yes no

- Comfort facilities/Restrooms:

Are existing comfort facilities/Restrooms located within the parks system adequate? yes no

Portas are generally clean.

Anticipated Trends:

- Participation: Increasing Decreasing About the same
- Are there any changes you have noticed in the sport that could influence your future needs?

NEED FOR TURK

Anticipated Future Needs:

Lights

Turf

Additional Comments:

our club invests heavily in maintenance of fields including extra grass cutting and fertilization.

Recommendations:

Add lights @ Turk II & Turk III

Thank you for taking time to provide valuable data.

Appendix G: Visioning Meeting Data

Appendix G: Visioning Meeting Responses

| Question #1: What activities/programs would you like to see provided in an Indoor Recreation Facility for Doylestown Township? | | |
|---|--|-------------------|
| Group 1 Responses | | # of Votes |
| 1 | Classes | 4 |
| 2 | Basketball | 4 |
| 3 | Ping Pong | 3 |
| 4 | Soccer | 1 |
| 5 | Volleyball | 0 |
| 6 | Scouts | 1 |
| 7 | Flag Football | 1 |
| 8 | Senior Daycare | 0 |
| 9 | Exercise for Individuals with Disabilities | 1 |
| 10 | Batting Cages | 0 |
| 11 | Game Room (board games, etc.) | 4 |
| 12 | Social Events | 0 |
| 13 | Club Meetings | 1 |
| 14 | Net Sports | 1 |
| 15 | Floor Hockey/Broom Hockey | 5 |
| 16 | Homework Help | 1 |
| 17 | Cooking Classes | 8 |
| 18 | Music | 0 |
| 19 | Lacrosse | 1 |

Question #1: What activities/programs would you like to see provided in an Indoor Recreation Facility for Doylestown Township?

| Group 2 Responses | | # of Votes |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Youth Basketball | 0 |
| 2 | All Ages Basketball | 3 |
| 3 | Yoga/Tai Chi | 0 |
| 4 | Senior Socialization | 3 |
| 5 | Bingo/Board Games | 1 |
| 6 | Educational Programs | 2 |
| 7 | Badminton | 0 |
| 8 | Instructional Classes | 9 |
| 9 | Volleyball | 0 |
| 10 | Pickleball | 0 |
| 11 | Family Movie Night | 4 |
| 12 | Dance Programs | 0 |
| 13 | Swimming Pool | 2 |
| 14 | Indoor Track | 2 |
| 15 | Ping Pong | 0 |
| 16 | Blood Drives | 0 |
| 17 | First Aid/CPR Training | 2 |
| 18 | Scout Meetings | 1 |
| 19 | Weight Room/Lifting | 0 |
| 20 | Shelter/Emergency Services | 7 |
| 21 | Afterschool Programs | 0 |

| Question #1: What activities/programs would you like to see provided in an Indoor Recreation Facility for Doylestown Township? | | |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Group 3 Responses | | # of Votes |
| 1 | Educational Lectures/Talks | 12 |
| 2 | Children's Programs | 0 |
| 3 | Travel Team Sports | 2 |
| 4 | Dog Training (Therapy) | 6 |
| 5 | Languages | 3 |
| 6 | Ping-Pong | 2 |
| 7 | Board Games | 0 |
| 8 | Specialty Programs (Children's) | 2 |
| 9 | Indoor Soccer | 0 |
| 10 | Music Education Programs | 2 |
| 11 | Performances | 2 |
| 12 | Balls/Dances/Special Events | 3 |
| 13 | Card Games | 0 |
| 14 | Puzzles | 0 |
| 15 | Affordable/Free Activities | 3 |
| 16 | Intergenerational Activities | 2 |
| 17 | Food/Cooking | 1 |

| Question #2: What activities/programs do you feel should not be provided in an Indoor Recreation Facility for Doylestown Township? | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Group 1 Responses | | # of Votes |
| 1 | Basketball | 6 |
| 2 | Swimming | 9 |
| 3 | Alcohol Events | 4 |
| 4 | Cooking Classes | 0 |
| 5 | Witchcraft | 1 |
| 6 | Religious Activities | 5 |
| 7 | Electronic Activities | 2 |
| 8 | Regional Sports | 4 |
| 9 | Political Activities | 5 |

| Question #2: What activities/programs do you feel should not be provided in an Indoor Recreation Facility for Doylestown Township? | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Group 2 Responses | | # of Votes |
| 1 | Indoor Shooting Range | 7 |
| 2 | Any Religious Activities/Programs | 6 |
| 3 | Political Rallies | 10 |
| 4 | Aquatics | 10 |
| 5 | Catered Events | 3 |

| Question #2: What activities/programs do you feel should not be provided in an Indoor Recreation Facility for Doylestown Township? | | |
|---|---|-------------------|
| Group 3 Responses | | # of Votes |
| 1 | No Duplicating Existing Programs | 17 |
| 2 | Expensive Programs | 19 |

Question #3: What spaces/facilities or types of spaces do you want to see included in a future Indoor Recreational Facility for Doylestown Township?

| Group 1 Responses | | # of Votes |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Kitchen (Cooking) | 8 |
| 2 | Game Room | 0 |
| 3 | Field House | 3 |
| 4 | Flex Space | 5 |
| 5 | Turf Field | 3 |
| 6 | Activity Rooms | 2 |
| 7 | Two Gyms (Full Court) | 3 |
| 8 | Locker Room | 0 |
| 9 | Bathroom | 2 |
| 10 | Universal Access Spaces | 3 |
| 11 | Workout Room | 0 |
| 12 | Equipment Storage | 0 |
| 13 | Track | 5 |
| 14 | Wifi | 0 |
| 15 | Charging Station | 0 |
| 16 | Water Bottle Filling Station | 1 |
| 17 | Lounge | 0 |
| 18 | Accessible Parking | 1 |
| 19 | Natural Light | 0 |
| 20 | Stage | 0 |
| 21 | Community Art | 0 |
| 22 | Quiet/Sensory Room | 0 |

Question #3: What spaces/facilities or types of spaces do you want to see included in a future Indoor Recreational Facility for Doylestown Township?

| Group 2 Responses | | # of Votes |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 1 | Gym (Full Court – 2) | 9 |
| 2 | Classroom Style Meeting Space | 2 |
| 3 | Multipurpose Rooms with Wifi and Technology | 8 |
| 4 | Dividable Spaces/Rooms | 5 |
| 5 | Full Kitchen | 2 |
| 6 | ADA Compliant Locker Rooms/Changing Areas | 0 |
| 7 | Swimming Pool | 1 |
| 8 | Courtyard | 1 |
| 9 | Emergency Management Staging Area | 8 |

Question #3: What spaces/facilities or types of spaces do you want to see included in a future Indoor Recreational Facility for Doylestown Township?

| Group 3 Responses | | # of Votes |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 1 | Large Event Space with Hard Floor Suitable for Dancing/Balls | 3 |
| 2 | Free Meeting Space | 9 |
| 3 | Cooking Kitchen | 1 |
| 4 | Partitions/Flexible Space | 5 |
| 5 | Good Sound/Acoustic System | 3 |
| 6 | Full Basketball Courts | 1 |
| 7 | Multi-use Gym | 2 |
| 8 | Quiet Room | 1 |
| 9 | Storage Room | 0 |
| 10 | Swimming Pool | 0 |
| 11 | Technologically Up-to-date | 1 |
| 12 | Eco-friendly/ "Green" Building | 6 |
| 13 | Restrooms | 5 |

| Question #4: What spaces/facilities or types of spaces do you feel should not be included in a future Indoor Recreational Facility for Doylestown Township? | | |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Group 1 Responses | | # of Votes |
| 1 | Pool | 6 |
| 2 | Arcade | 6 |
| 3 | Dark (Paint/Rooms) | 3 |
| 4 | Office Spaces | 2 |
| 5 | Kitchen | 2 |
| 6 | Turf Fields | 4 |
| 7 | Climbing Wall | 2 |
| 8 | Exercise Room/Equipment | 5 |
| 9 | Laundry | 2 |
| 10 | Lost and Found Space | 0 |
| 11 | Track | 0 |
| 12 | Basketball Court | 4 |

| Question #4: What spaces/facilities or types of spaces do you feel should not be included in a future Indoor Recreational Facility for Doylestown Township? | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Group 2 Responses | | # of Votes |
| 1 | Swimming Pool/Saunas | 11 |
| 2 | Spa | 7 |
| 3 | Weight Room | 1 |
| 4 | Locker Rooms | 5 |
| 5 | Café | 6 |
| 6 | Kitchen (Commercial) | 6 |

| Question #4: What spaces/facilities or types of spaces do you feel should not be included in a future Indoor Recreational Facility for Doylestown Township? | | |
|--|---|-------------------|
| Group 3 Responses | | # of Votes |
| 1 | Swimming Pool | 7 |
| 2 | Indoor Running Track | 2 |
| 3 | Basketball Court | 2 |
| 4 | Gun Range | 3 |
| 5 | Facilities that would increase debt | 10 |
| 6 | Bowling Alley | 2 |
| 7 | Facilities that already exist in the community | 10 |

Appendix H: Maintenance/Project/ Improvement Assessment

Doylestown Township Parks and Recreation
Parks Department Maintenance/Improvements and Support Projects
- 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update -

All Parks:

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- Monitor and remove graffiti
- Monitor and repair/replace vandalism
- Bathroom cleaning and repair
 - Porty Potty monitoring and replacement as necessary
- Monitor and repair/replace general park support structures as needed (i.e., light posts, trash receptacles posts, sign frames, kiosks, etc.)
- Monitor, maintain, repair/replace picnic tables and benches

Recurring Maintenance (seasonal)

- Mowing Plan & Maintenance: Parks, fields, open areas, meadows, basins, etc.)
- Turf management: Develop and implement plan for field improvement of fields, treatment schedule
- Tree Management & Maintenance: Identify and schedule annual tree maintenance and hazard pruning as needed
- Paver path maintenance and upkeep - monitor repair and weeding (Triangle Park, Dog Park, Kids Castle)
- Identify/repair/remove graffiti and vandalism
- Clean and seal wooden pavilions, kiosks and other structures/equipment

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Develop and implement a Maintenance Management Plan
- Asset Management – Develop and maintain all-inclusive inventory of park amenities and structures utilizing the Township Asset Management Software Program

- Develop and implement a hazard identification and action protocol
- Improve/add directional signage throughout parks
- In Park Trails - Install distance markers and/or create trail map showing distances

Project Major (over \$15K)

- Parking Lots - Schedule, add stone or pave, seal and stripe all parking Lots to ADA compliant
- Replace park pavilion and amenity lighting with LED fixtures
- Replace/Update Park entrance signs
- Update/Replace Rules Signs
- Restroom Plan - evaluate restroom/comfort station facilities, best location and all-in costs for each park
- Parking – Develop plan for future parking (all parks are under parked)
- Restrooms – Develop plan for future park system restroom facilities

Trails / Open Space (trail sections and parks):

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- All trails – maintain, inspect and repair as needed
- Inspect, maintain and manage invasive plants in naturalized areas.

Recurring Maintenance (seasonal)

- Inspect and maintain basins as needed (i.e., clear infall, outfall and overflow areas annually)

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Greenway Trail: Install fencing and cross pipes as needed
- Doylestown Lea – Replace drainage pipe
- Doyle pedestrian bridge – Replace top handrail
- Turk Rd (between Easton Rd and Sauerman Rd) pedestrian bridge – Replace top handrail
- Plan, identify trail sections and develop interpretive QR Code walks

- Replace fence posts / rails as needed

Project Major (over \$15K)

- Plan/develop/install new trail sections as developed and approved

Bridgepoint:

- Clear silt from outfall pipe and seed area (storm event based)
- Pressure wash "Flood" mud from path, picnic table pad (storm event based)

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- Replace sign (Bridgepoint)
- Reset pavers as needed
- Reset electric box in turf
- Reset trash receptacles (2), replace 1 lid
- Fill large sinkhole near road (turf area)
- Remove 1 Ash (save/preserve wood for P&R program use)
- See "all parks" items

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- See "all parks" items

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Replacement large white door when necessary (end of useful life)

Project Major (over \$15K)

- Replace roof of Wheelright Building and sign
- Replace fascia, install gutter
- Repair/replace gable end board & batten
- Parking lot: Repave and/or seal, stripe, ADA sign install

Castle Valley:

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- Replace fence posts / rails as needed: usually from vehicle hits
- Remove stumps from path area to make mowing easier
- Clear, trash removal behind entire length of guiderail
- Paint sign holder by road
- Repair/replace plant beds and borders
- See "all parks" items*

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- See "all parks" items*

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Repair/replace sign structures

Project Major (over \$15K)

- Pave parking Lot

Central Park:

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- Replace wood perimeter on bocce courts
- Replace fencing around bocce courts
- Replace fascia on Pavilion #2
- Reset pavers at pavilion #2
- Replace boards on pedestrian bridge (near Morgan Hill)
- See "all parks" items*

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- Replace Belgian blocks where missing / damaged
- Repair/replace shade structure (near game grove)
- Paint sign holders, bollards

- Replace post and rail fencing as needed along Doylestown Station property line
- Pond cleanup, restoration and access
- See “all parks” items

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Replace 2 picnic shelters near Kids Castle
- Replace hand washing station at Kids Castle - 2021
- Pavilion #1 - Replace bathroom partitions within 5 years
- Clean / seal inside amphitheater, especially front supports
- Remove old irrigation covers / fill in on fields
- Install Grill area in place of existing Tot Lot
- Pedestrian waling bridge (near Kids Castle) - replace handrail
- Install “little library” near game grove
- Incorporate Disc Golf Course
- Storybook Walk - Plan, identify, install
- Amphitheater - Improve/upgrade lighting
- Install Electronic sign at amphitheater
- Amphitheater - Incorporate screen
- Sensory Stations - Along trail leading to sensory trail
- Environmental Education area – Install pond observation deck

Project Major (over \$15K)

- Kids Castle Structural Evaluation/Inspection
- Kids Castle – Pressure wash wood and seal/stain
- Resurface Courts (Tennis, Pickleball, Basketball)
- Replace Court Fencing, Lights windscreens
- Rebuild Bocce Courts (artificial turf over concrete)
- Rebuild Picnic Shelters
- Relocate & Replace Tot Lot
- Kids Castle - tot area fence installation, new play piece and poured-in-place surfacing

- Amphitheater - Enlarge “green room”
- Amphitheater - Upgrade lighting
- Install shade structure at Amphitheater for performance concessions, etc.
- Install Electronic sign at Entrance
- Sensory Trail - Add additional sensory “pod”

Neamand:

- Remove Leyland Cypress and Bamboo along Radcliff entrance.
- Add new fencing
- Mow meadow areas

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- See “all parks” items*

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- See “all parks” items*

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Plan, design and install interpretive signage along trail

Project Major (over \$15K)

- NA*

Ridings:

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- See “all parks” items*

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- See “all parks” items*

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Replace springhouse

Project Major (over \$15K)

- NA

Sauerman:

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- Paint sign holder by road
- See “all parks” items

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- Player shelters safety inspections
- Monitor baseball field for sinkholes and fill (ongoing)
- Nature walk trail mowing (3 times per year)
- See “all parks” items

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Remove / grind stumps in turf area
- Replace all post & rail fencing
- Replace backstop and sideline fencing
- Inspect/monitor - repair/replace wood foot bridges (6) as needed
- Add welcome/playground rules sign (Playworld) (2021)
- Add message / display board
- Storybook Walk - Plan, identify, install

Project Major (over \$15K)

- Install Pavilion at previous volleyball location
- Pond Restoration / Fountain (\$200K)
- Playground replacement (5 years)

Triangle Park:

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- Reset paver edging as needed
- See “all parks” items

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- Replace flags (twice per year)
- See “all parks” items

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- New landscape design around flag pole area
- Landscape parking lot area

Project Major (over \$15K)

- NA

Turk Park

- Field improvements/upgrade (football – drainage, crown, topsoil) – all rectangle fields

Turk 1:

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- See “all parks” items

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- Paint sign holder at Almshouse entrance
- Stain tot lot fence
- Repair/replace bleachers as needed
- Move player benches as needed
- Repair/replace football goals
- See “all parks” items

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Paving to divert parking lot runoff (near field #2)
- Replace wooden guardrails with post and rail fence
- Fence – Add mid-rails (baseball warmup areas)

Project Major (over \$15K)

- Replace Backstop on Field #3
- Develop T-Ball Field #4

Turk 2:

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- See “all parks” items

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- Repair/replace rotted barrier guardrails
- Remove root balls from fallen White Pines
- See “all parks” items

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- New plantings among White Pines to maintain screening
- Design/Install storage for Infield mix
- Tree planting near playground to provide shade
- Install water fountain along trail
- Add welcome/playground rules sign (Playworld) (2021)

Project Major (over \$15K)

- Replace Fitness Stations (1-2 years)
- Playground Replacement (10 years)
- Remove and Relocate Sand Volleyball Court (x2)
- Replace gazebo with small pavilion structure (near playground)
- Install Outfield Fencing for baseball

- Pave walking path

Turk 3:

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- See “all parks” items

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- Mow meadow area (annually)
- See “all parks” items

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Install wood screening around portable restrooms

Project Major (over \$15K)

- Pave parking lot and drive to Dog Park W/ ADA Parking

Dog Park:

General Maintenance (ongoing)

- Remove soil pile / return to turf
- Install NO Parking Signs

Recurring Maintenance (annual, seasonal, etc.)

- Maintain access gates
- Tree enclosure maintenance
- Red Stone Areas maintenance
- Pavilion plant bed maintenance, develop plan for alternative bed material to reduce maintenance labor and frequency
- Clean / seal large pavilion

Project Minor (under \$15 K)

- Entryway - New gate and design and install

- Secure Exit Gate from outside access
- Replace fencing fabric posts & rails good
- Vestibule areas - Replace "Canine Grass"
- Address concrete slab freeze/thaw to address tripping hazards
- Gutter installation on pavilion
- Repair/replace sign structures (leaning)
- Re-install "Rainbow Bridge" structure
- Install general LED lighting (internal activity/event use)

Project Major (over \$15K)

- Install canine agility and/or other play equipment
- Install dog rinse/wash station

- m. Field drainage should be addressed
 - n. Field/turf management should be addressed
 - i. Turf at Turk II & III
 - ii. Grading at Turk III
 - o. Maintain fields for safety (Baseball)
 - i. No additional fields needed, just maintenance
 - ii. Address drainage issues and perform annual maintenance
 - p. Indoor sports facility similar to Spooky Nook requested
 - q. Add sponsor signs for joint revenue for associations
 - i. More permanent signs
 - r. Extend fall sports practice time by adding lights or indoor facilities
3. Immediate Needs
- a. Pickleball designated courts
 - i. Sport is inter-generational and multi-generational
 - b. Warrington Soccer
 - i. Address grading and drainage at Turk III
 - ii. Add lights or portable lights
 - iii. Central Park Field #5 roll and seed
 - c. DAA Baseball
 - i. Address drainage and maintenance at Field #1 at Turk I and Field #5 at Turk II
 - d. Lacrosse
 - i. Like field #5
 - ii. Request fields be mowed on Monday/Tuesday
 - e. Rugby
 - i. Needs space in spring
 - f. CBAA Lacrosse
 - i. Turk III – restore fields from Fair
 - g. PA Rush
 - i. Lights
 - ii. Turf or more fields