



**AMENDED AGENDA**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
PARK COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, April 9, 2019 - 6:30 pm

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**REGULAR MEETING – MERIDIAN SERVICE CENTER – 6:30 PM**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - A. March 12, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes
5. COMMUNICATIONS
6. ACTION ITEMS
  - A. Wonch Park Mitigation Plan
  - B. Dog Park Administration and Fee Proposal
7. DISCUSSION ITEMS
8. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
10. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS
  - A. Commissioner Comments
  - B. Events Calendar:
    1. April 27: Spring Recycling, Chippewa Middle School Parking Lot, 9 am – 2 pm
    2. May 4: HNC Native Plant Sale and Fundraiser, 9 am -1 pm
    3. May 7: Evening Wildflower Walk, Harris Nature Center, 7 – 8 pm
    4. May 10: Mother's Day Tea & Bunch, Meridian Senior Center, 10:30-12:30 pm
    5. May 17: Meridian Garden Club Annual Plant Sale, Central Park Pavilion, 9 am – 2 pm
    6. May 18: Love a Park Day, Hillbrook and Ferguson Parks, 9:30 am – 12 pm
    7. May 29: Senior Health & Fitness Day, Wonch Park, 11 am – 1 pm
  - C. Next Park Commission Meeting – Tuesday, May 14, 6 pm work session, 7 pm regular meeting at the Township Hall
11. ADJOURNMENT

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All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Parks & Recreation Director, LuAnn Maisner:  
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48864 or 517.853.4600 - Ten Day Notice is Required.  
Meeting Location: 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI

Park Commission Meeting  
April 9, 2019

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. March 12, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING **DRAFT** MINUTES

Location: Service Center Building  
Okemos, MI 48864

**DATE:** March 12, 2019

**PRESENT:** Amanda Lick, Annika Schaetzl, Mark Stephens, Ami Van Antwerp

**EXCUSED:** Michael McDonald

**STAFF:** LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation, Kelsey Dillon, Park Naturalist

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Lick called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**2. WELCOME OF NEW PARK COMMISSIONER**

Ami VanAntwerp was officially appointed to the vacant seat for the remainder of the term (2020). The Commissioners welcomed her to the board.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Director Maisner distributed the amended agenda which moved Approval of Agenda forward to item #3 and renumbered items #4, 5, and 6 and added a new item #11E, Actions Items, #E. Dog Park Fee Schedule.

Commissioner Schaetzl moved TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

None

**5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**6. PUBLIC HEARING**

A. Vice Chair Lick declare the public hearing open at 6:45 pm.

B. Director Maisner provided an overview of the proposed acquisition request that would be placed under consideration for funding to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. The parcel is located adjacent to Nancy Moore Park and would provide a dedicated direct entrance to the park. The parcel consists of 1.86 acres located at 5280 Okemos Road with a house structure that if acquired, would be removed. An appraisal was conducted by Meridian Township that identified a value of \$143,000. The property owner also had an

appraisal done with a value of \$158,000. Based on these values, we are recommending that the requested grant amount be \$170,000. We are proposing a 25% local match in the amount of \$42,500 from the Park Millage. The application is due on April 1, 2019 with a decision made in early December.

C. Staff acknowledge received items of communications  
None

D. Public comment  
None

E. Commissioners comment

- Supports the idea of a dedicated park entrance.
- The parcel is located along the proposed MSU to Lake Lansing trail and could serve as a trail head park for the pathway system as well as to enhance the park entrance.

F. Vice Chair Lick declared public hearing closed at 6:58 pm.

## 7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. February 13, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Stephens moved TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2019 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Seconded by Commissioner Schaeztl.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

## 8. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Items to/from the Public

1. From: Riley Millard; To: Ami Van Antwerp, RE: Meridian Township Park Commission welcome
2. From: Patrick Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner, RE: Towar Garden Residents

B. Commission Information

1. Park Commission Membership List
2. Summary of Funds for Marketplace on the Green Campaign
3. Press Releases:
  - a. \$67,145 is Raised for the Marketplace on the Green Project! Patronicity Crowdfunding Campaign Exceeds Fundraising Goal
  - b. MParks 2019 Outstanding Design Award Harris Nature Center Receives Award for Nature Exploration Area

C. Staff Inquiries/Response  
None

Items distributed the meeting:

B. Commission Information

3. Press Releases:
  - A. Controlled Burn Planned Within Next Several Weeks

- B. Sign Up for Spring/Summer Adult Sports
- C. Photography Class at the Harris Nature Center
- D. Native Plants Make Gardening Easier
- 4. Harris Nature Center Foundation Minutes
  - A. December 10, 2018
  - B. January 14, 2019
  - C. February 11, 2019

Commissioner Stephens moved TO ACCEPT AND PLACE THE ITEMS OF COMMUNICATION ON FILE. Seconded by Commissioner Schaetzl.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

## 9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Maisner shared the site plans for expansion of the North Meridian Road Park parking lot and the proposed Marketplace on the Green projects. Other projects being worked on currently include the pavilion and restroom at Harris Nature Center, large and small dog parks in Central Park, Central Meridian Regional Trail connector and the Gateway footbridge and restroom in the Historical Village.

## 10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Dog Park Administration  
Park Naturalist Kelsey Dillon presented proposed rules, applications and a fee schedule for implementation of the dog parks. This item will return to the next meeting for additional discussion.

## 11. ACTION ITEMS

### A. Resolution of Declaration and Notice MDNR – North Meridian Road Park

The following resolution of Declaration and Notice was offered by Commissioner Schaetzl and supported by Commissioner Stephens:

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Meridian, governing body, hereinafter called Meridian Township, being the owner of all the property described as North Meridian Road Park:

The Northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the Southeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  and the West  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the Southeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the Southeast  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 13, T4N, R1W, Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan.  
Tax ID #33-02-02-13-426-001

Herein after referred to as the Property, attached hereto, located in the Township of Meridian, County of Ingham, Michigan, hereby makes the following declaration to which the Property may be put.

WITNESSETH:

This declaration contained herein is based on the following factual recitals:

- A. Meridian Township developed the Property, in part, through the grant money from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.

- B. As a condition of the grant by the DNR, Meridian Township has agreed to impose certain restrictions on the developed portion of the Property.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, HEREBY DECLARES THAT THE PORTION OF THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS THE PROJECT AREA IS AND SHALL BE HELD, TRANSFERRED, SOLD, CONVEYED, LEASED, OCCUPIED AND USED SUBJECT TO THE OBLIGATION HEREINAFTER SET FORTH, ALL OF WHICH SHALL RUN WITH THE LAND.

THE LANDS INCLUDED IN THIS DEED DEVELOPED BY MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP WITH FUNDING ASSISTANCE FROM THE MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND PURSUANT TO PROJECT AGREEMENT TF-15-0070, NORTH MERIDIAN ROAD PARK ACCESSIBLE PAVILION DEVELOPMENT, BETWEEN THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP, EXECUTED ON MAY 3, 2016. THE PROJECT AGREEMENT DESCRIBES CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE THE LONG-TERM CONSERVATION OF THE PROPERTY AND ITS USE FOR PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP IS PLACING THIS NOTICE ON RECORD AS CONFIRMATION OF ITS OBLIGATIONS AS SET FORTH IN THE PROJECT AGREEMENT, INCLUDING THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE CONSENT OF THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE CONVEYANCE OF ANY RIGHTS OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY TO ANOTHER ENTITY, OR FOR THE USE OF THE PROPERTY FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN CONSERVATION OR PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION.

ROLL CALL:

YEAS: Mark Stephens, Annika Schaetzl, Ami Van Antwerp, Amanda Lick

NAYS: None

Resolution passed.

**B. Disposal of Equipment – Cross Country Ski Equipment**

Director Maisner reported approximately fifteen years ago, Ingham County Parks donated their outdated and used cross-country skis, boots and poles to Meridian Township as they were replacing theirs with new. A ski rental program continues to exist at Lake Lansing North Park today.

Since that time, we have rented and stored this equipment at Harris Nature Center. The equipment has gotten to a point where it is extremely degraded. With the new restroom and pavilion scheduled for construction this summer, there will no longer be a space for storage, therefore staff is recommending that the skis and boots be removed from our equipment inventory. We plan to keep the poles as they can be utilized for walking programs.

Commissioner Stephens TO APPROVE DISPOSAL OF THE USED CROSS-COUNTRY SKIS AND BOOTS THAT ARE STORED IN THE POLE BARN AT HARRIS NATURE CENTER AS THEY ARE IN AN EXTREME DEGRADED CONDITION. Seconded by Commissioner Schaetzl.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Disposal of Equipment – Pole Barn at Harris Nature Center**

Director Maisner reported in preparation for the new restroom building and pavilion at the Harris Nature Center, the pole barn will need to be demolished. A Meridian Township staff member has expressed an interest in removing the structure at his own expense. The removal of this structure by “others” will reduce the overall cost of the pavilion construction project as the building demo will not be part of the bid. The pole barn was on the site long before the Township acquired the property.

Commissioner Van Antwerp moved TO APPROVE DISPOSAL OF THE POLE BARN AT HARRIS NATURE CENTER. Seconded by Commissioner Schaetzl.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

**D. Grant Application Submittal – MNRTF Acquisition**

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Schaetzl and supported by Commissioner Stephens:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources accepts grant requests from local units of government to assist in the development and acquisition of recreation properties; and

WHEREAS, it is possible to have up to 75% of the total project cost funded by the Natural Resources Trust Fund program; and

WHEREAS, the Park Commission is interested leveraging local Park Millage Funds by obtaining supplemental grant funding for park projects whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, Meridian Township has prepared a grant application for submission to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for \$170,000 for the acquisition of 1.858 acres which will serve as the new entrance into Nancy Moore Park on Okemos Road; and

WHEREAS, this project is identified and supported in the 2017-2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan adopted by the Meridian Township Board and Park Commission, and is on file with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the grant request is outlined and justified in the 2017-2021 Capital Improvements Program adopted by the Township Board and Park Commission; and

WHEREAS, park development and improvements are supported by Township Board Policy and 2018 Goals and Objectives; and

WHEREAS, this grant request was open to public review on March 12, 2019; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, as follows:

To support submission of a grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for the acquisition of 1.858 acres for the new entrance into Nancy Moore

Park with a total project cost of \$170,000. The twenty-five (25%) percent local match of \$42,500 will be funded by the Park Millage, with the remaining seventy-five (75%) percent (\$127,500) funded by the MNRTF grant.

ROLL CALL:

YEAS: Mark Stephens, Ami Van Antwerp, Annika Schaetzl, Amanda Lick

NAYS: None

Resolution passed.

**E. Dog Park Fee Administration**

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

**12. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

**13. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

A. Commissioner Comments - None

B. Event Calendar:

1. Family Special: Lucky Shamrocks; Saturday, March 17, 2 pm; Harris Nature Center

C. Next Park Commission Meeting – Tuesday, April 6, 6:30 pm; non-televised; Meridian Service Center

**14. CLOSED SESSION**

None

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Lick adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

**16. NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 9, 2019**, in the Service Center Building; 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI, with the non-televised regular meeting at 6:30 pm.

# Park Commission Meeting

## April 9, 2019

### 5. COMMUNICATIONS

#### A. Items to/from the Public

None

#### B. Commission Information

##### 1. Press Releases:

- A. Preschoolers Discover Turtles – Preschool Science Exploration Class Investigates Turtles
- B. Bird Watching in Meridian Township Parks – Capital Area Audubon Leading Walks at Local Parks
- C. Explore Nature Open House part of the MSU Science Festival – Harris Nature Center Open House Spotlights Nature Exploration Area
- D. New Interpretive Signs Arrive at the Harris Nature Center – Boulder Garden Enhanced by Interpretive Signs
- E. Chipmunk Story Time at the Harris Nature Center – Chicory Chipmunk presents “Counting Nature”
- F. Howl at the Moon – Guided Evening Walk for People and Dogs

#### C. Staff Inquiries/Response

None



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 18, 2019**

**CONTACT:** Kit Rich, Harris Nature Center Coordinator  
517.349.3866 | [rich@meridian.mi.us](mailto:rich@meridian.mi.us)

**Harris Nature Center**  
A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



### **Preschoolers Discover Turtles**

*Preschool Science Exploration Class Investigates Turtles*

**Meridian Township, MI-** Curious preschool children will enjoy hands-on science exploration activities at the Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, in Meridian Township on Thursday, April 4th at 1-2 pm. This month's Preschool Science Exploration theme is Terrific Turtles. The program is designed for 4-5 year old children. The fee is \$3/child and is due at the time of the program. For more information, contact [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) or 517.349.3866.

"Preschool children always seem to love turtles," said Senior Park Naturalist Kati Adams, "and we love introducing them to the many Michigan species living here".

April's exploration will include meeting live turtles. Each Preschool Science class has a different science topic and will always include a walk in addition to the science activities.

For more information about this and other programs offered at the Harris Nature Center, contact 517.349.3866 or [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) and find out more online at [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us) and [www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter](http://www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter) and [www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt](http://www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt).

###

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# Preschool Science Exploration

at the **Harris  
Nature Center**  
3998 Van Atta Road  
in Meridian Twp



Curious preschool children explore nature through hands-on science activities and discovery walks with a naturalist guide.

*Appropriate for 4 & 5  
year old children.*

## 2019 Schedule Thursdays at 1 pm

No Classes in Jan, Feb & Mar

- April 4 Terrific Turtles
- May 2 Wildflowers Blooming
- June 6 Fun with Fireflies

No Classes in July & August

- Sept 5 Nocturnal Nature
- Oct 3 Animals in Autumn

No Classes in Nov & Dec

**\$3/child**  
**payable at the program**

### For More Information:

[hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us)  
517.349.3866

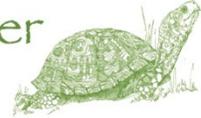




**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 25, 2019**

**CONTACT:** Kit Rich, Harris Nature Center Coordinator  
517.349.3866 | [rich@meridian.mi.us](mailto:rich@meridian.mi.us)

**Harris Nature Center**  
A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



**Bird Watching in Meridian Township Parks**  
*Capital Area Audubon Leading Walks at Local Parks*

**MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP, MI** — Enjoy bird watching with an experienced Capital Area Audubon Society (CAAS) leader in Meridian Township Parks and Preserves on three Sundays this spring.

On April 14th at 9 am, meet in the parking lot of Eastgate Park, 4203 S. Meridian Road in Okemos for the first walk. There is no fee for these walks and participants must provide their own binoculars. For more information, contact the Harris Nature Center at [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) or 517.349.3866.

“Many of Meridian Township Parks and Preserves have great bird habitats and CAAS has enthusiastic birding leaders,” said Harris Nature Center Coordinator Kit Rich. “Together they provide a wonderful opportunity for people to watch birds locally.”

There will be two more guided bird walks this spring. Sunday April 28th at 8 am at Nancy Moore Park and Sunday May 5th at 8 am at the Harris Nature Center. Participants must provide their own binoculars on these walks.

For more information about this and other programs offered at the Harris Nature Center, contact 517.349.3866 or [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) and find out more online at [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us) and [www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter](https://www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter) and [www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt](https://www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt).

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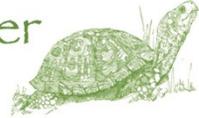
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 25, 2019

**CONTACT:** Kit Rich, Harris Nature Center Coordinator  
517.349.3866 | [rich@meridian.mi.us](mailto:rich@meridian.mi.us)

Harris Nature Center  
A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



**Explore Nature Open House part of the MSU Science Festival**  
*Harris Nature Center Open House Spotlights Nature Exploration Area*

**Meridian Township, MI-** Explore the Nature Exploration Area at the Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road in Meridian Township, on Sunday April 14th at 12 -4 pm. There is no fee for this event which is part of the many MSU Science Festival activities going on all week. For more information, contact [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) or 517.349.3866.

“Tree buds are popping, the first wildflowers are stirring, birds are nesting and animals are bustling through the woods,” said Senior Park Naturalist Kati Adams. “This is a great time to discover nature!”

Participants will be given an activity sheet to help them use the Nature Exploration features to play in nature.

This event is part of the MSU Science Festival. Find out more about the entire festival at [sciencefestival.msu.edu](http://sciencefestival.msu.edu).

For more information about this and other programs offered at the Harris Nature Center, contact 517.349.3866 or [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) and find out more online at [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us) and [www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter](http://www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter) and [www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt](http://www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt).

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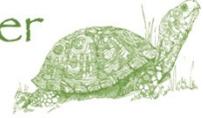
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 29, 2019

**CONTACT:** Kit Rich, Harris Nature Center Coordinator  
517.349.3866 | [rich@meridian.mi.us](mailto:rich@meridian.mi.us)

Harris Nature Center  
A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



**New Interpretive Signs Arrive at the Harris Nature Center**  
*Boulder Garden Enhanced by Interpretive Signs*

**Meridian Township, MI-** On your next visit to the Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road in Meridian Township, take a look at the new Boulder Garden Interpretive Signs.

The four signs show each group of boulders: igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary, and give the name of each rock as well as several interesting facts about the rock group.

“We’re very happy with the way the signs turned out,” commented geology volunteers, Bob Reszka and Steve Wilson.

The Boulder Garden is located in the center of the parking circle near the nature building. The park is open from dawn to dusk every day.

The Boulder Garden and interpretive signs were made possible by donations from Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society, Sunrise Aggregates, Steve Wilson, and volunteer time from Brian Van Order, Michigan Demolition and Excavation, Bob Reszka, Ron Elowski, and Steve Wilson.

For more information about this and other programs offered at the Harris Nature Center, contact 517.349.3866 or [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) and find out more online at [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us) and [www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter](http://www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter) and [www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt](http://www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 1, 2019

CONTACT: Kit Rich, Harris Nature Center Coordinator  
517.349.3866 | [rich@meridian.mi.us](mailto:rich@meridian.mi.us)

Harris Nature Center  
A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



**Chipmunk Story Time at the Harris Nature Center**  
*Chicory Chipmunk presents "Counting Nature"*

**Meridian Township, MI-** Story time comes alive as children interact with puppets Chicory Chipmunk and his animal friends at the Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, in Meridian Township on Thursday, April 18th at 10 am for this month's Chipmunk Story Time, "*Counting Nature*". The story times are open to preschool and elementary children. The fee is \$3/ child/ session and is due at the time of the program. For more information, contact [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) or 517.349.3866.

"This month our stories are about using nature to practice counting," said Senior Park Naturalist Kati Adams. "The stories are lively and the pictures full of color."

The stories will be followed by a walk in nature to do our own counting.

For more information about this and other programs offered at the Harris Nature Center, contact 517.349.3866 or [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) and find out more online at [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us) and [www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter](http://www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter) and [www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt](http://www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt).

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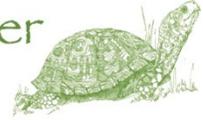
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 1, 2019**

**CONTACT:** Kit Rich, Harris Nature Center Coordinator  
517.349.3866 | [rich@meridian.mi.us](mailto:rich@meridian.mi.us)

**Harris Nature Center**  
A Meridian Township Park Millage Facility



### **Howl at the Moon**

*Guided Evening Walk for People and Dogs*

**Meridian Township, MI-** Enjoy the full moon while taking a guided walk through the moonlit woods of the Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road in Meridian Township on Friday, April 19th at 8:30 pm. Dogs are welcome and the group meets in the parking lot. The fee is \$3/person, due at the time of the walk. For more information, contact [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) or 517.349.3866.

“Dogs love to smell all the fresh spring scents in the woods,” said Nature Center Coordinator, Kit Rich. “However, it is not necessary to have a dog to attend the walk”

Participants are reminded that dogs must be on non-retractable leashes and flashlights are permitted.

For more information about this and other programs offered at the Harris Nature Center, contact 517.349.3866 or [hnc@meridian.mi.us](mailto:hnc@meridian.mi.us) and find out more online at [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us) and [www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter](http://www.facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter) and [www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt](http://www.twitter.com/HarrisNatureCnt).

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[meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)

# PARK COMMISSION

April 9, 2019

## 6. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Wonch Park Mitigation Plan
- B. Dog Park Administration and Fee Proposal

April 2, 2019

Meridian Township  
5151 Marsh Road  
Okemos, Michigan 48864

Attn: Ms. LuAnn Maisner, Director  
Parks and Recreation Department

Re: Wonch Park River Improvements  
Mitigation Needs for Elevation Okemos

HRC Job No. 20180546

Dear Ms. Maisner and Park Commission Members:

On behalf of Mr. Will Randle of Okemos Pointe, LLC and the Elevation Okemos Development, we respectfully request an opportunity to present this exciting project to the Park Commission on April 9, 2019. Enclosed herewith are copies of this correspondence and supporting materials to describe our request for consideration.

### **Background**

The Elevation Okemos development is proposing to enclose 389 feet of the Smith Consolidated Drain within that property to facilitate the approved final site plan. In accordance with state and federal laws, the applicant must offset the potential impacts created with the enclosure by providing stream mitigation. The offsetting stream mitigation must improve the functionality of an existing impaired or degraded stream across several categories. Previous efforts to perform the mitigation on site have not been successful, mainly due to the constraints the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's office has in working with the MDEQ.

We met several times with Township staff looking for suitable sites for mitigation on Township owned parcels and Wonch and Ferguson Parks appeared the most viable. With Township approval, we explored the potential use of these parks to fulfill the mitigation requirements. MDEQ has agreed that the Red Cedar River in these parks is degraded and making improvements would generate the needed functional enhancements. Additional details and explanation are attached in our October 23, 2018 Memo to MDEQ.

### **Proposal**

We have surveyed this stretch of the river, performed our technical review, and generated an overall Master Plan for the area (attached). In general, the proposed work includes making geometric changes to the river (namely reducing the low flow width), softening shorelines, removing log jams, providing in stream structures to move the energy away from the steep and eroding valley wall, stabilizing active erosion areas, protecting the existing sanitary sewer and manhole, and clearing and grading the inner bank for stabilization and river access. All woody materials removed would eventually be used to naturally stabilize the shoreline. Once the Ingham County Road Department (ICRD) completes their bridge project, access from one park to the other along the river may be available. These improvements fit perfectly with the Township's Parks and Recreation Master Plan goals and objectives.

Considering the upcoming ICRD bridge project, critical need to protect the sanitary sewer and manhole, and discussions with Township staff, we felt that proceeding with the Wonch Park portion of the project made the most sense. Further, the scope and scale of the mitigation requirements from Elevation do not cover the full Master Plan.

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313-965-3330

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Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
616-454-4286

**Howell**  
105 W. Grand River  
Howell, MI 48843  
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**Kalamazoo**  
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Suite 107  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
269-665-2005

**Lansing**  
215 S. Washington SQ  
Suite D  
Lansing, MI 48933  
517-292-1488

At this time, Phase 1 of the improvements proposed by Elevation include building three (3) in stream structures, protecting the sanitary sewer and manhole, and clearing and grading the inner bank. As noted above, all vegetative materials would be stockpiled and made available for reuse in restoring the south side of the river at a later date. We have discussed this phase with MDEQ, but still need to confirm the exact limits of restoration. Plans showing the proposed Phase 1 Improvements are attached.

### **Impacts to the Park**

The long-term benefits to the park include the protection of the sanitary system, a more stable river reach, reduced erosion, protection against continued loss of the valley wall, access to the river, a better view of and options to engage with the river, and possibly leveraging this work for future phases.

These benefits are not without impacts. Short term typical construction impacts will be necessary to build the work. This work should be done by closing this portion of the park, the smaller parking lot, and a portion of the trail (due to proximity to the work zone). The remainder of the park can stay open. In stream erosion protective measures will be installed, but this type of work usually stirs up the water. The most visible change will be the removal of a significant portion of the vegetation between the trail and the river. There are several large and healthy trees which we will work around. But the area has a number of trees leaning over the river which will eventually fall, some dead or dying trees, and some dense but smaller understory trees. These will be removed and used for restoration at a later time. To correct the river dimensions, improve stability, and provide construction and permanent access to the river, removal of this vegetation is unavoidable.

Overall, a construction window of 2-3 months would be needed and ideally be in the late summer or early fall when flows in the river are at their lowest. However, this may need to be phased or shifted to meet MDEQ and MDNR restrictions.

### **Protection of the Mitigation Work**

To ensure the mitigation work is left in place and not altered or removed, MDEQ requires restrictive covenants be placed on the property in the form of a Conservation Easement or Agreement. We will need to explore this further with Township staff and MDEQ, but some form of protection over the improvements will be needed.

### **Request**

To move forward with a full application to perform the mitigation at Wonch Park, we need Park Commission and Township approval. Therefore, we hereby request your consideration and favorable support of this proposal.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

HUBBELL, ROTH & CLARK, INC.



James F. Burton, P.E.  
Vice President

Enclosure

pc: Elevation; Mr. Will Randle  
HRC; Files

# WONCH PARK RIVER IMPROVEMENTS

A public-private partnership to improve the park, river, and community.

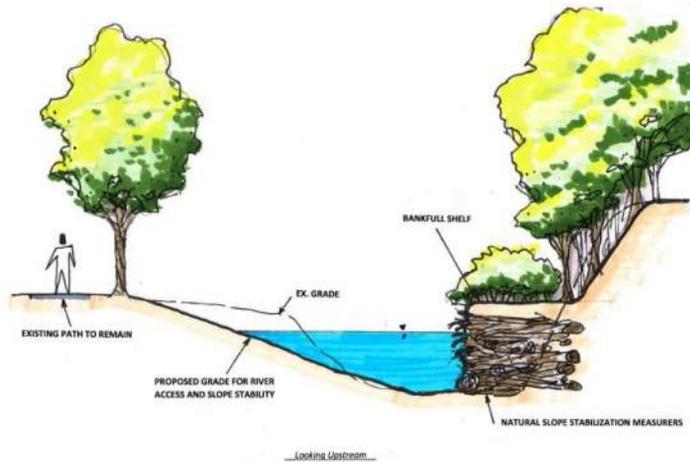
## BACKGROUND

The Elevation Development is required to provide stream mitigation to offset impacts of enclosing a drain on their property.

Wonch Park provides a great opportunity for this work. A master plan for the river restoration will be provided by Elevation. With Township approval, Phase 1 along the south shore line and instream structures would be completed in 2019, **OR** the cost of Phase 1 used as match to leverage grant funding for a larger project.

Stream mitigation can stabilize the stream bank, protect the existing sanitary manhole structure from erosion, improve the natural habitat and riparian area, and provide nice riverside viewing areas.

## SOLUTION



## TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Many goals of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan can be achieved by mitigating the Red Cedar River.



Stream bank stabilization improvements



Connector trail to downtown Okemos



Fishing dock/canoe launch



Landscaping

## CONCEPT PLAN



October 23, 2018

**Mitigation Plan for the Development of the  
Okemos Pointe Apartment Complex (Elevation)**  
MDEQ/USACE Joint Permit Application

HRC Job No. 20180546

Required Mitigation Plan

Based upon a permit No. WRP006251 received by Okemos Pointe, LLC. on May 22, 2018, constructing 525 ft of stream mitigation is required as a mitigation activity for enclosing 389 ft, Smith Consolidated Drain. The proposed mitigation plan is required to meet the following performance standards (or functional lift):

- Floodplain Connectivity: weighted bank height and entrenchment ratio
- Bedform Diversity: the pool to pool spacing ratio and pool max depth ratio.
- Bank Migration and lateral Stability: bank erosion hazard index (BEHI) score and near bank stress (NBS)
- Large Woody Debris (LWD)
- Vegetated Riparian Buffer
- Riparian Vegetation Cover: mean percent cover of native species
- Riparian Vegetation Diversity
- Riparian Vegetation Density

Mitigation Plan – Site 1

Site 1 includes daylighting 90 ft of the existing enclosure, and constructing 110 ft two-stage channel with riffle-pool sequence and plunged pool right after the pipe outlet. The functional lift associated with this plan is:

- Daylighting current enclosure used to calculate total new enclosure length.
- Providing lateral stability and preserving bank migration
- Preventing the channel downcutting
- Improving the natural habitat
- Eliminating sources of excess sediment
- Increasing bedform diversity
- Increasing the floodplain connectivity

Mitigation Plan – Site 2

The Red Cedar River near Wonch and Ferguson Parks in Meridian Township is impaired. The River east of the Okemos Road Bridge is over-widened and does not have enough power to move the sediment downstream. This results in excess sediment deposition and aggradation. The outer bank west of the Okemos Road Bridge is severely eroded against the valley wall. Eventually, this will threaten adjacent properties, parking areas, and structures. A sanitary manhole structure located on the eroded outer bank is exposed. Failure of this structure would endanger stream habitat and public health. The inner bend shows signs of erosion in the upper portion

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of the bank. Log jams are prevalent in this area. The Okemos Road Bridge is proposed for replacement in the next 2-3 years by the Ingham County Road Department. Retrofitting this crossing in a more sustainable manner will connect both sides of the river and reduce the impacts of the existing infrastructure.

Site 2 can provide functional lift of the Red Cedar in the Wonch Park area. A master plan for the full restoration would be created and potentially permitted by the Applicant, Okemos Point. This would likely consist of:

- Constructing bankfull benches to narrowing down the stream east side of Okemos Road. With constructing the bankfull bench, the stream will have enough power to move the excess sediment to the downstream and decrease sediment deposition,
- Establishing the bankfull bench so it can also connect both parks; Wonch Park and Ferguson Park to provide the foot traffic between parks.
- Constructing toe wood along the eroded outer bank and provide the bankfull bench and increase floodplain connectivity.
- Installing J-hook structures to pull the shear stress away from the stream bank and direct the stresses into the thalweg and provide the lateral stability.
- Address stream bank erosion on the inner bend by shaping the banks.
- Using all trees removed from the log jams and inner banks in the toe wood structures and increasing LWD index.
- The Streambank stabilization improvement for the Red Cedar will help fulfill part of the 5- year Township's Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2017-2021.

In conclusion, the functional lift for the proposed mitigation plan:

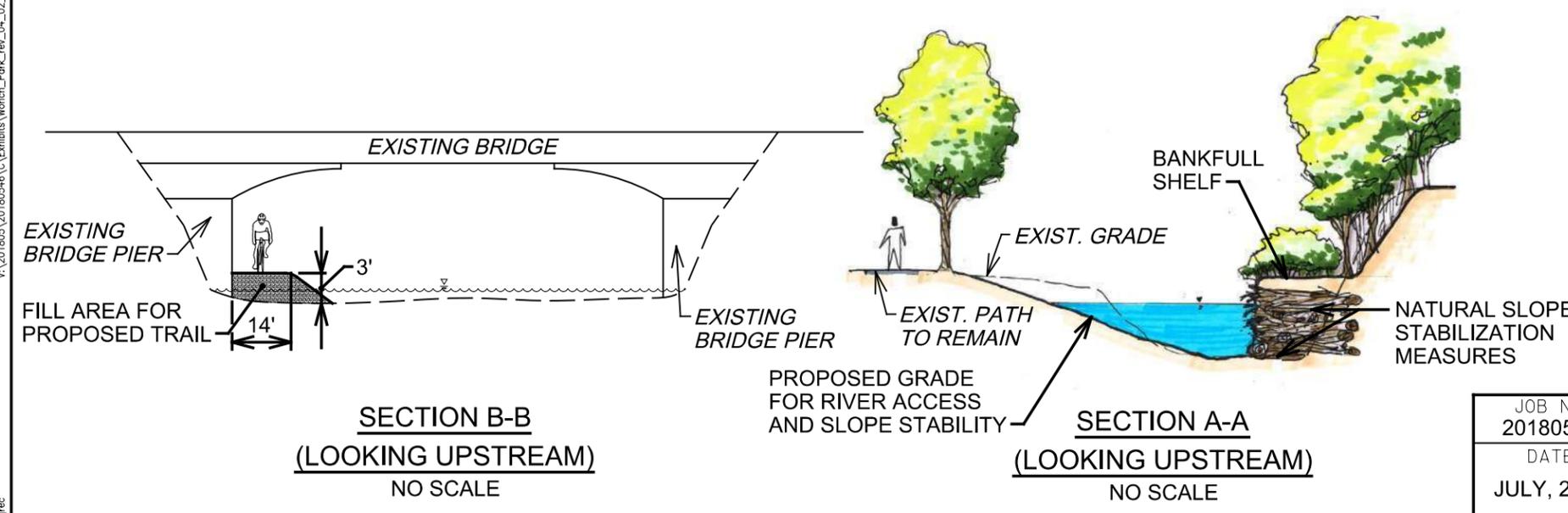
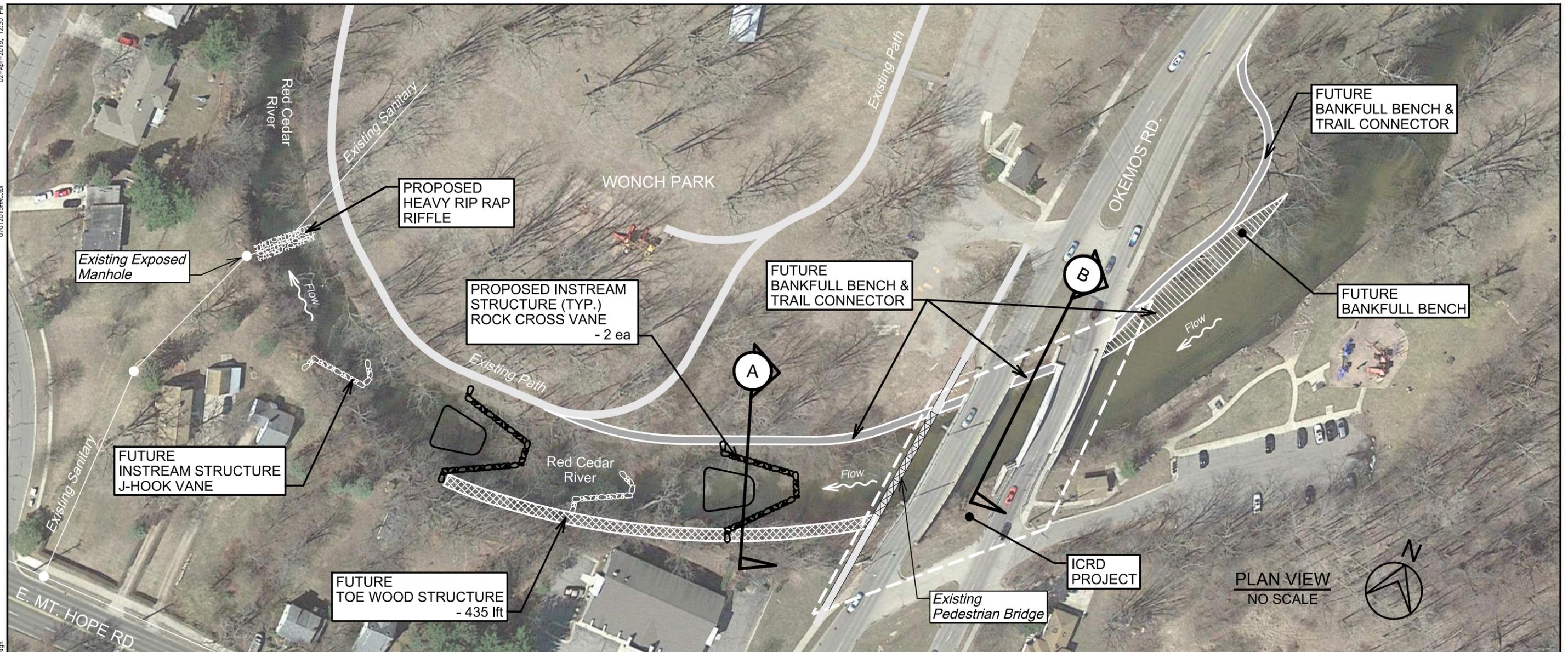
- Reconnecting Floodplain
- Protecting the outer bank from erosion and preserving bank migration
- Protecting the existing sanitary manhole structure from erosion and failure
- Improving the natural habitat throughout the corridor
- Eliminating sources of excess sediment load
- Improving the riparian area
- Dissipate and redirect shear stress away from the valley wall
- Improve the sediment transport capacities of the River

### Opportunities

With Township approval:

- 1) Okemos Pointe will complete the first Phase of this work to meet mitigation requirements in 2019, or
- 2) The cost of Phase 1 can be used as a match to leverage grant funding for a larger project.

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## MASTER PLAN ELEVATION MITIGATION AT WONCH PARK

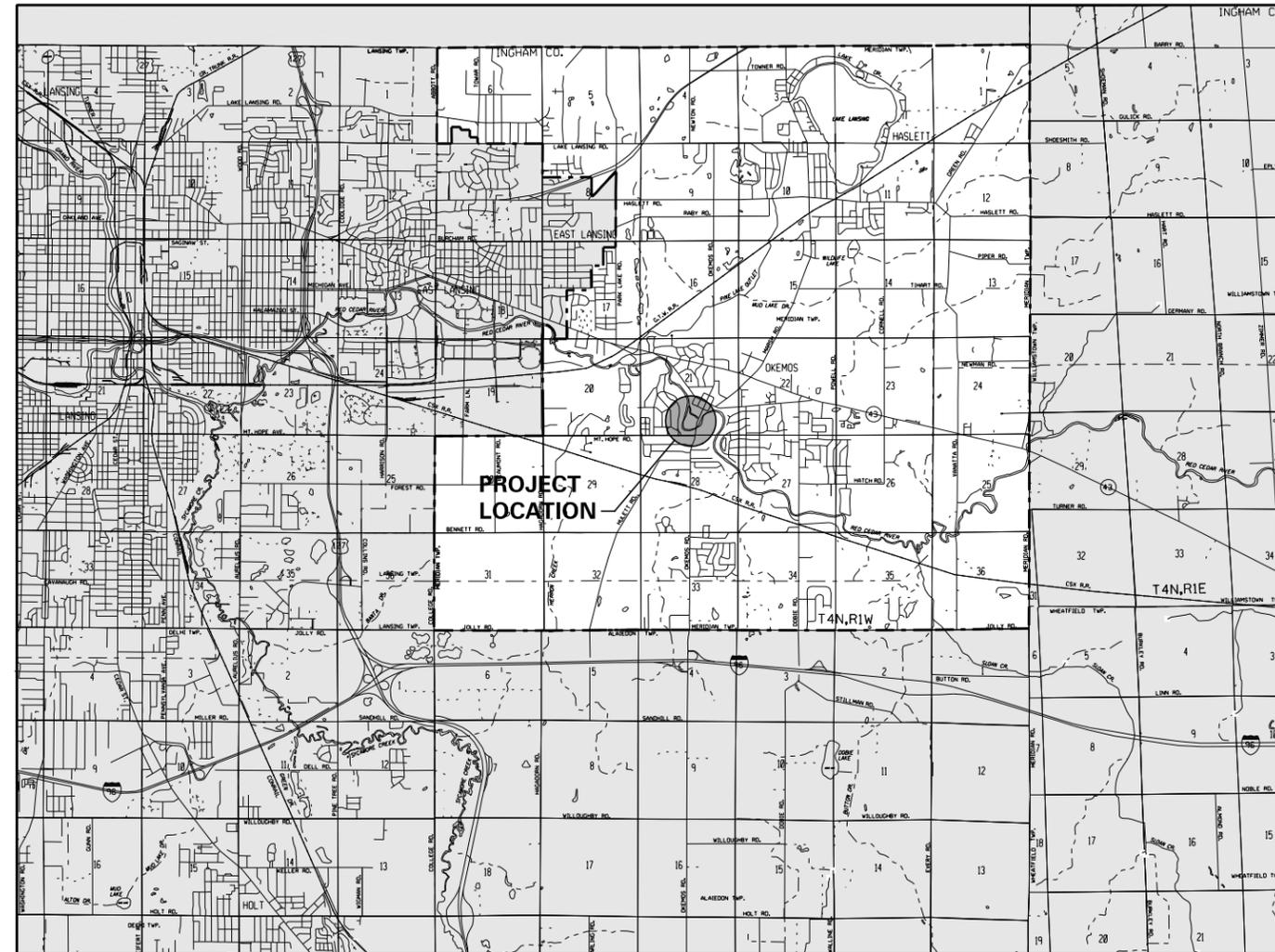
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| JOB NO.<br><b>20180546</b> | <br><b>HRC</b><br>HUBBELL, ROTH & CLARK, INC<br>CONSULTING ENGINEERS SINCE 1915 | 555 HULET DRIVE<br>BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICH.   | P.O. BOX 824<br>48303 - 0824 | FIGURE<br><h1 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">A</h1> |
| DATE<br><b>JULY, 2018</b>  |   | PHONE: (248) 454-6300<br>FAX (1st. Floor): (248) 454-6312<br>FAX (2nd. Floor):<br>WEB SITE: <a href="http://www.hrcengr.com">http:// www.hrcengr.com</a> |                              |   |

# ELEVATION MITIGATION AT WONCH PARK

## HRC JOB No. 20180546



MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP  
INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
NO SCALE



| PLAN SHEET INDEX | SHEET No. |
|------------------|-----------|
| COVER .....      | 1         |
| PLAN .....       | 2         |
| SECTIONS .....   | 3         |
| SECTIONS .....   | 3         |
| DETAILS .....    | 4         |

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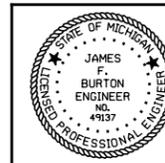
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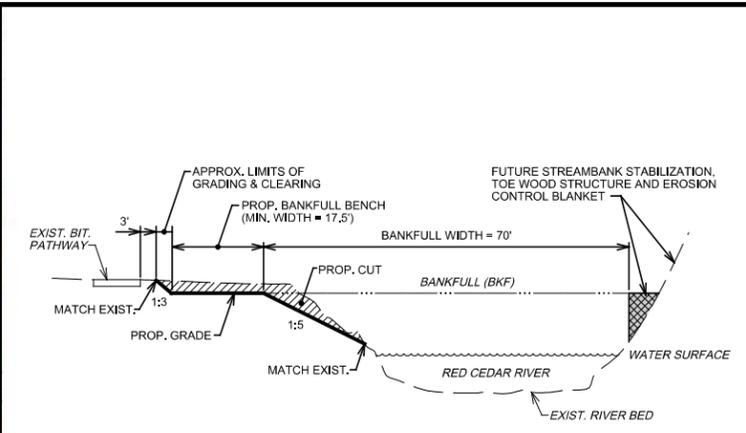
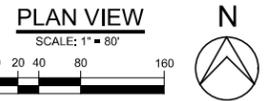
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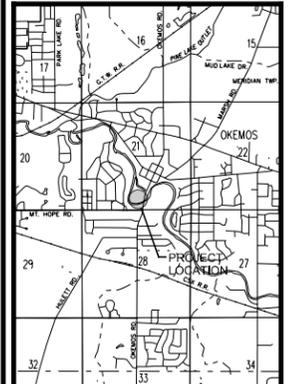


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MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP  
**ELEVATION MITIGATION AT WONCH PARK**  
**- PHASE 1 -**  
 INGHAM COUNTY MICHIGAN

PLAN VIEW

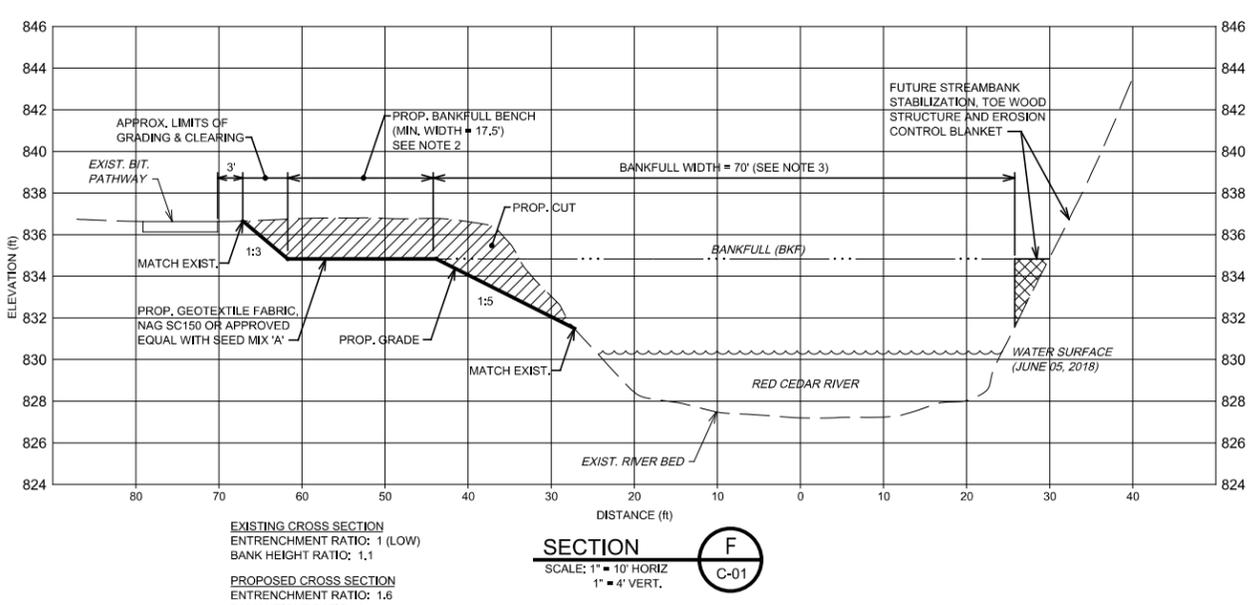
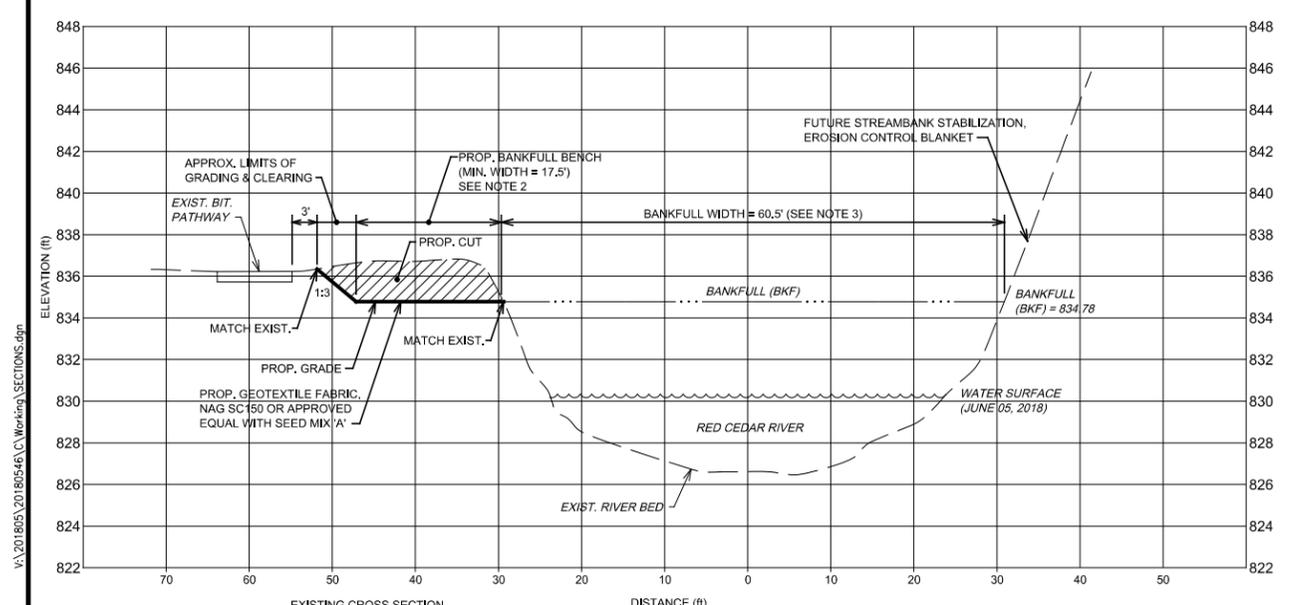
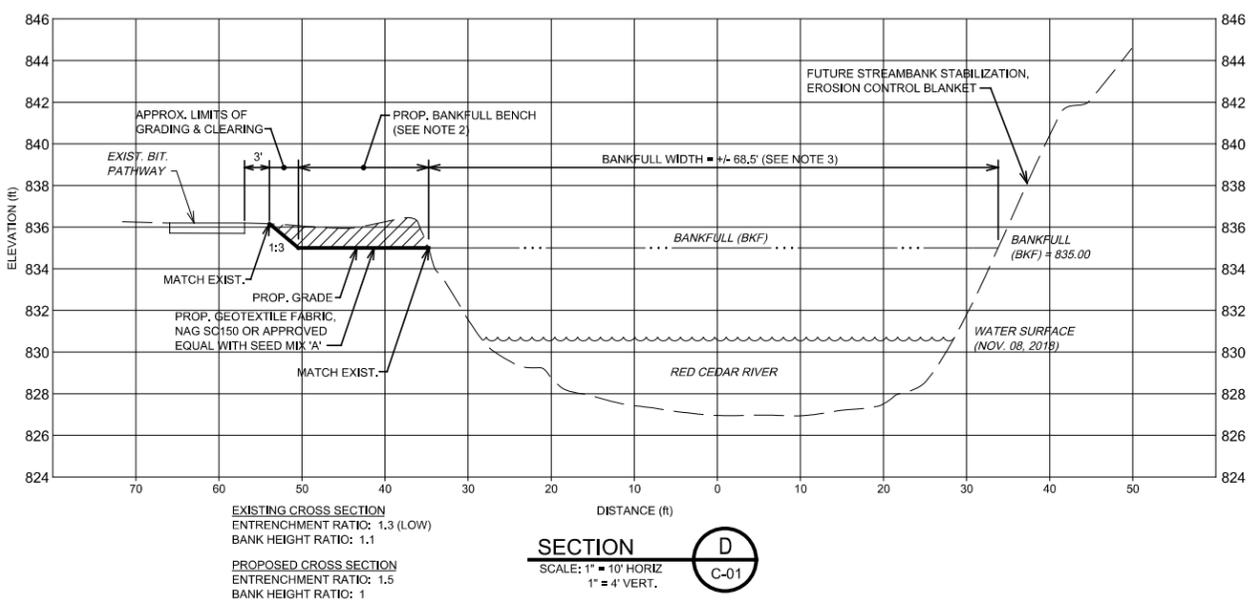
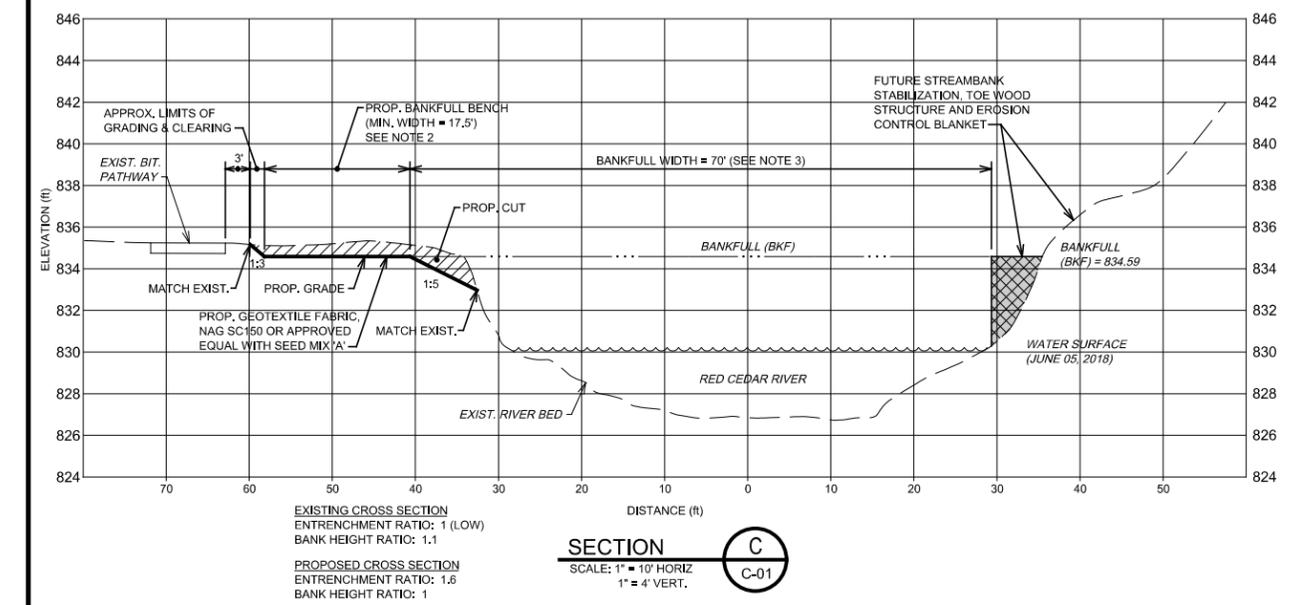
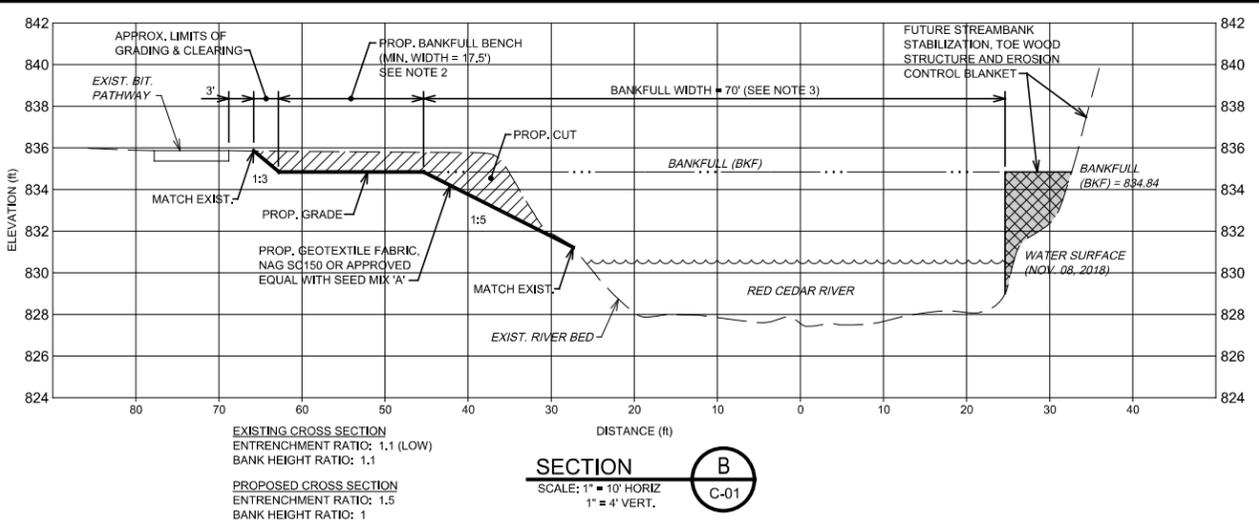
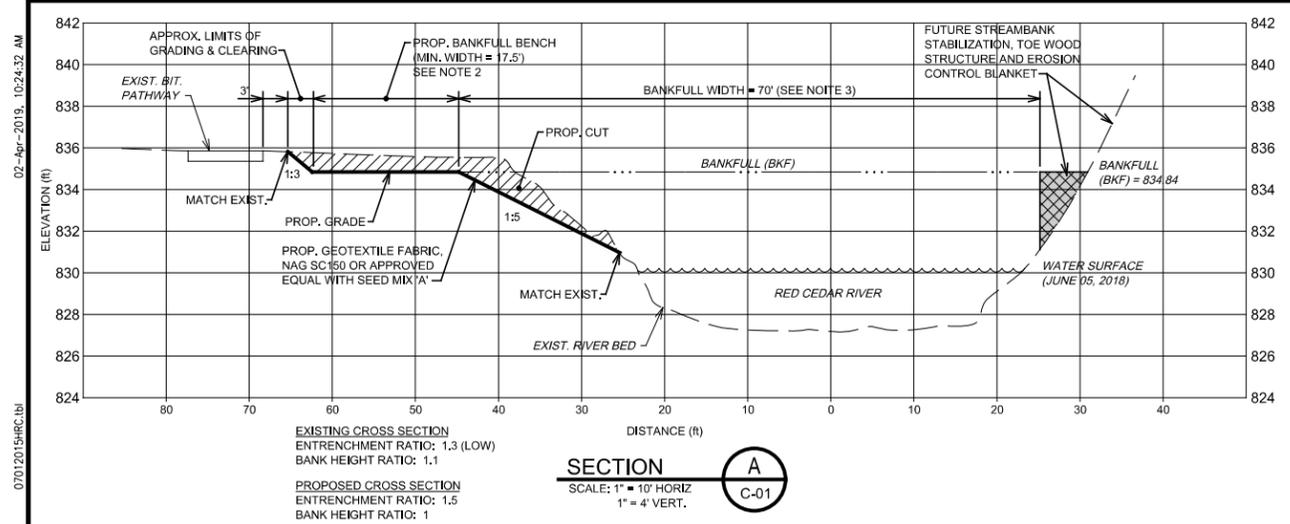
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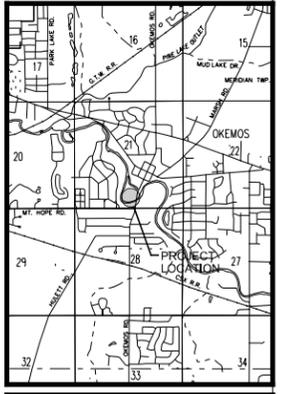
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**MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP**

**ELEVATION MITIGATION AT WONCH PARK - PHASE 1 -**

INGHAM COUNTY MICHIGAN

**CROSS SECTIONS**

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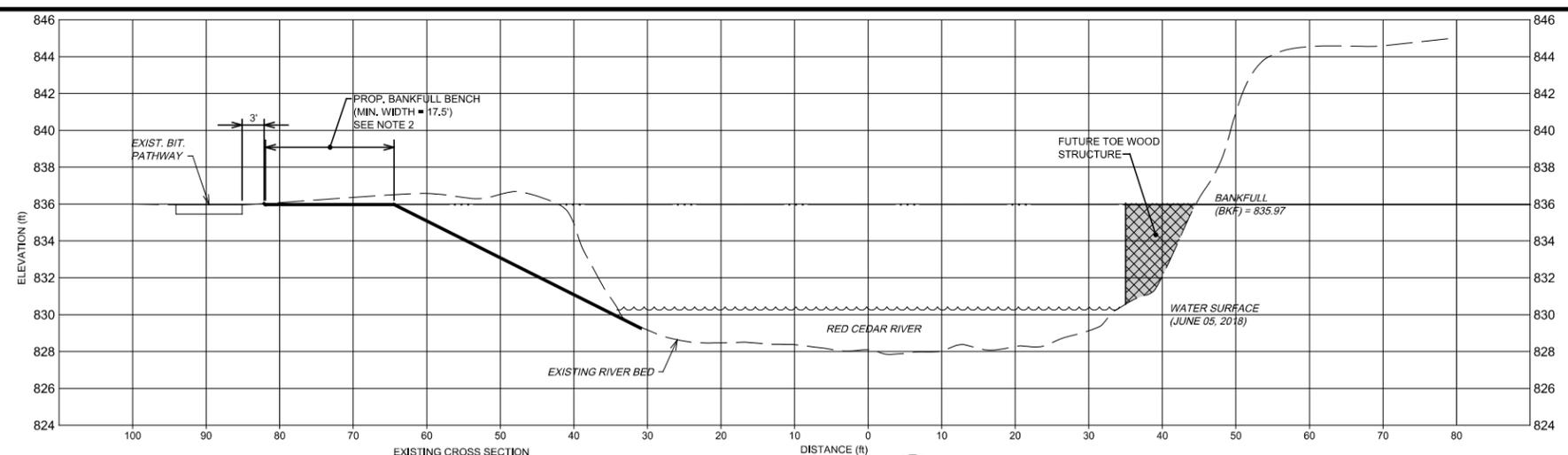
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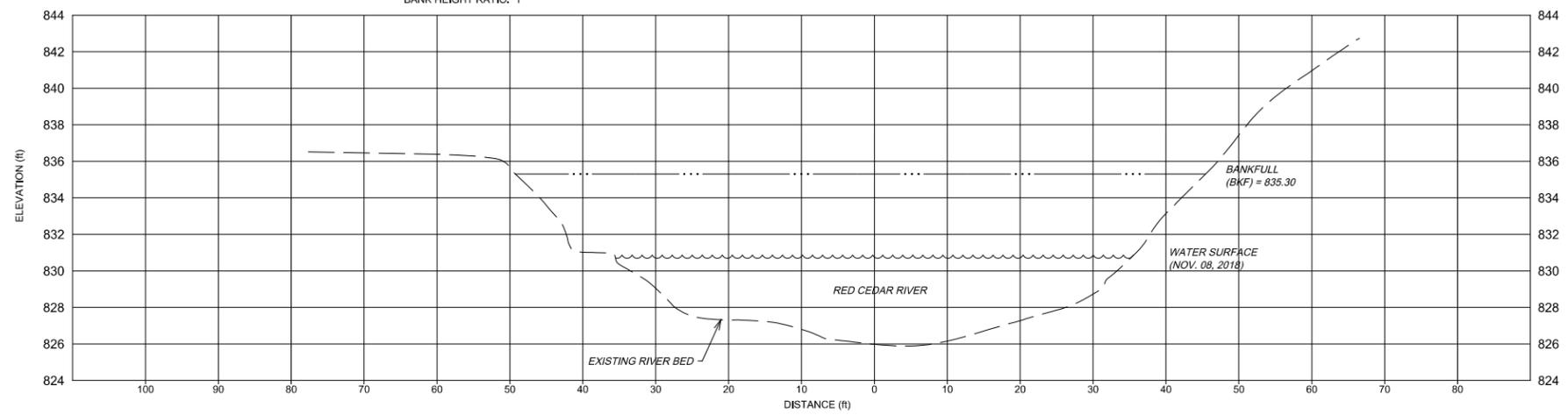
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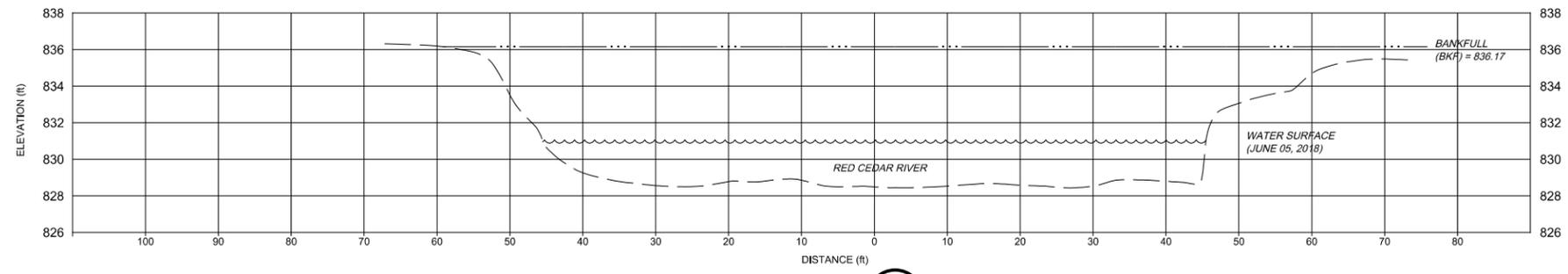
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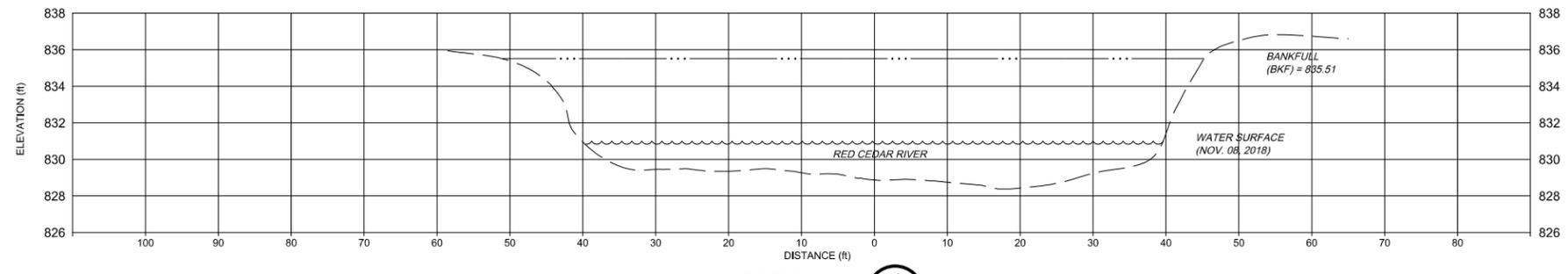
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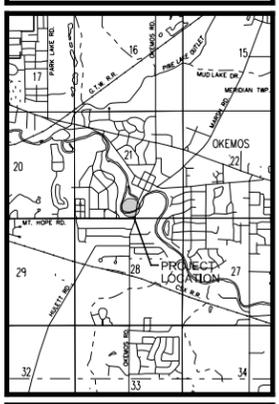
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**MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP**

**ELEVATION MITIGATION AT WONCH PARK - PHASE 1 -**

INGHAM COUNTY MICHIGAN

**CROSS SECTIONS**

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| DATE<br>MARCH 2019      | SHEET NO.<br><b>C 03</b><br>OF           |

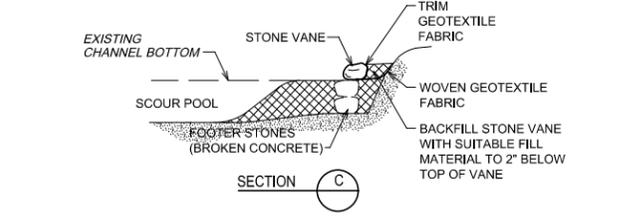
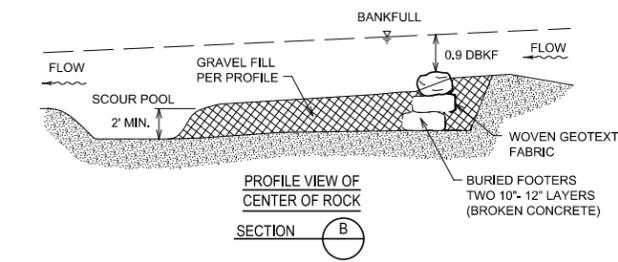
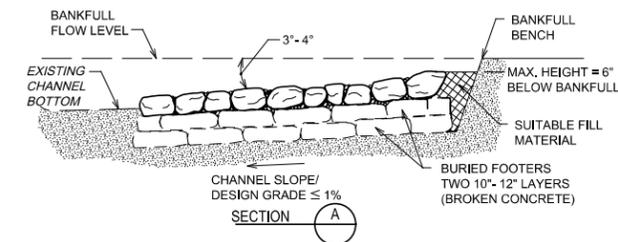
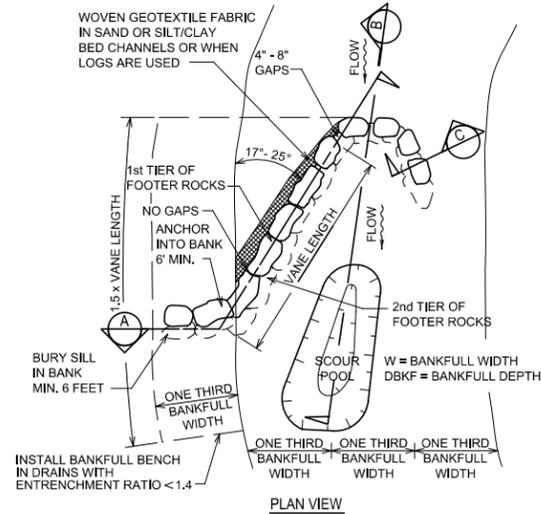
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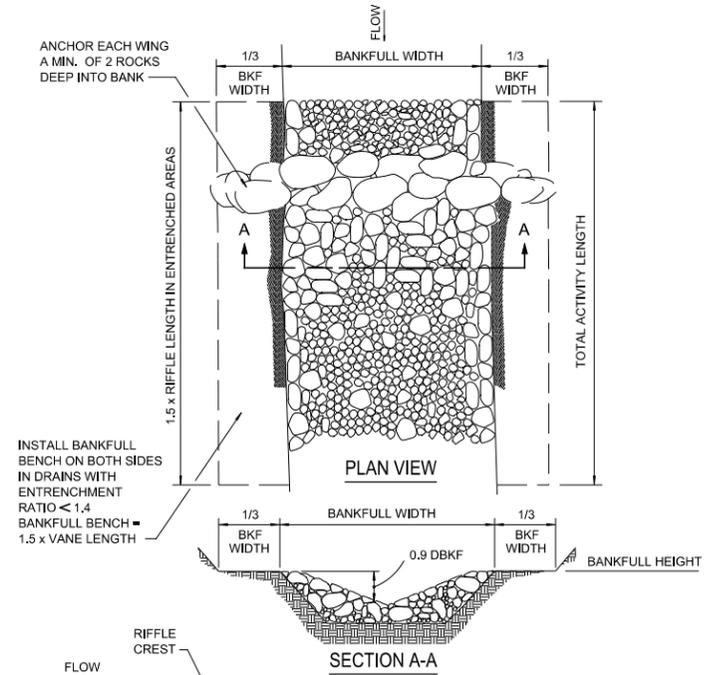
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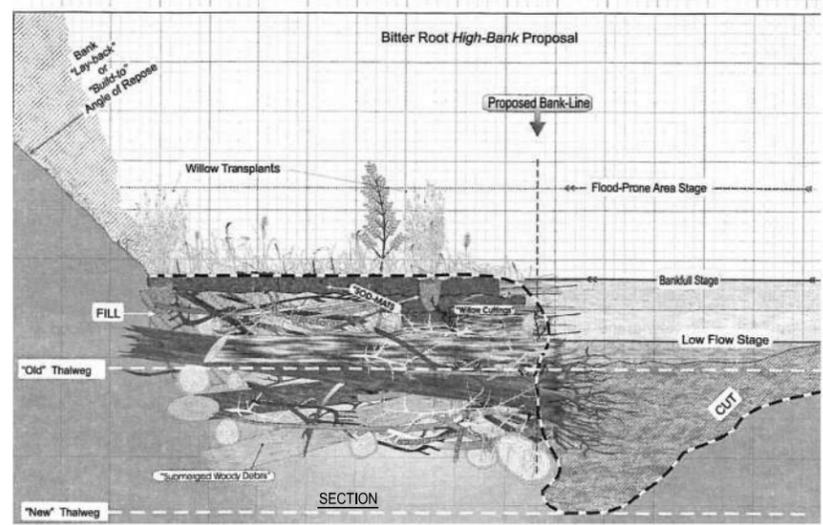
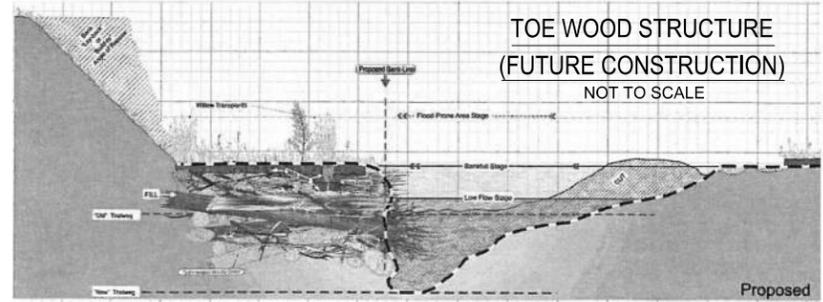


- J-HOOK VANE NOTES:**
1. OVERALL MAXIMUM DROP CONTROLLED BY THE VANE SHALL NOT EXCEED 0.9 x BANKFULL DEPTH.
  2. ALL STONE USED IN VANE ARM CONSTRUCTION SHALL BE 10" - 12" THICK, 30" WIDE, LENGTH VARIES - 32" MIN. DESERT LEDGE ROCK.
  3. VANE HOOK SHALL BE MOSTLY FLAT 24" - 36" FIELD STONE CHOKED WITH GRAVEL.

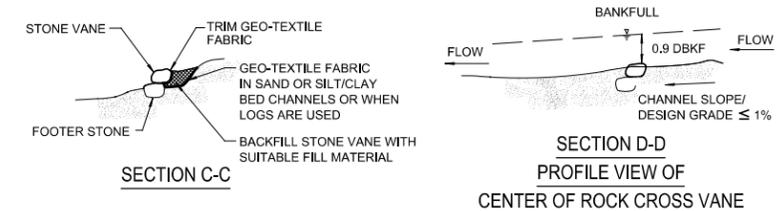
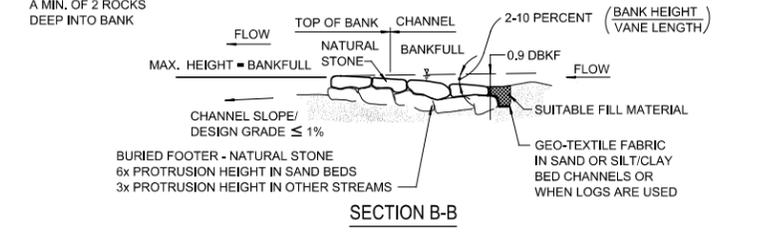
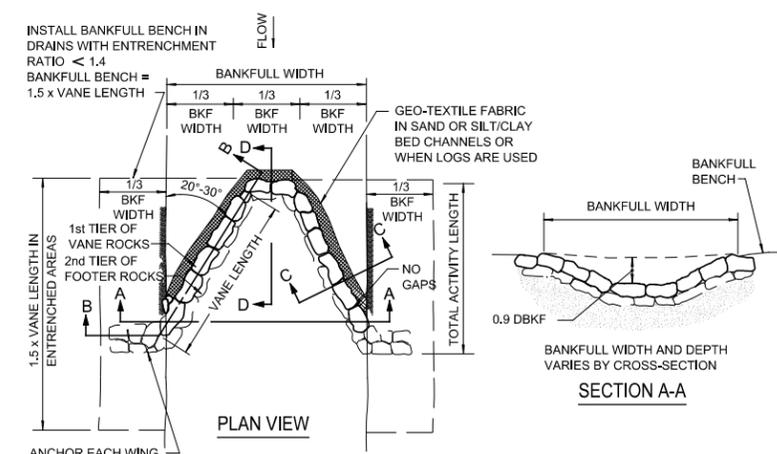
**J-HOOK VANE  
(FUTURE CONSTRUCTION)  
NOT TO SCALE**



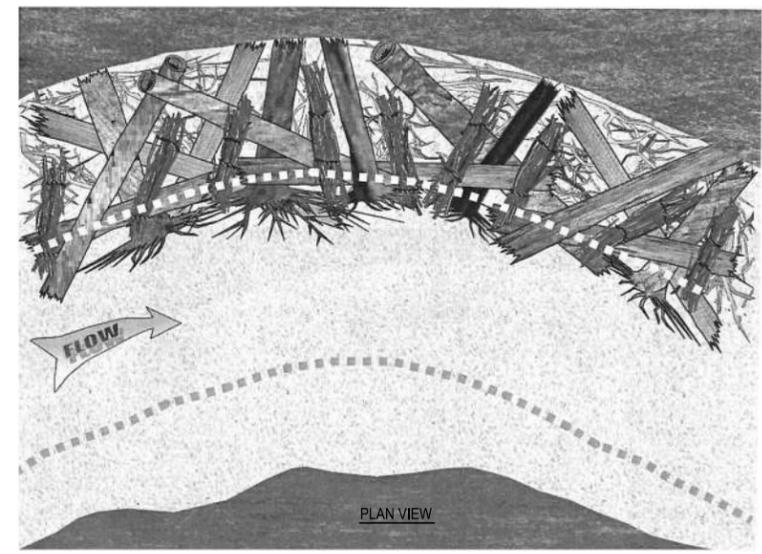
- GENERAL NOTES:**
1. MINIMUM ROCK SIZE DETERMINED BY BANKFULL SHEAR STRESS.
  2. VOIDS FILLED WITH A MIX OF 1/2" TO 3" DIA. ROCKS.
  3. THE MINIMUM ROCK SIZE OF THE FOOTERS SHALL BE DETERMINED BY CALCULATING THE BANKFULL SHEAR STRESS AND THEN MULTIPLYING BY 1.5.
- RIFFLE  
NOT TO SCALE**



**TOE WOOD STRUCTURE  
(FUTURE CONSTRUCTION)  
NOT TO SCALE**



- GENERAL NOTES:**
1. THE INVERT OF THE VANE SHALL BE SET AT AN ELEVATION OF 0.1 x BANKFULL DEPTH ABOVE THE BED.
- ROCK CROSS VANE  
NOT TO SCALE**



**TOE WOOD STRUCTURE  
(FUTURE CONSTRUCTION)  
NOT TO SCALE**

**NOTICE:**  
ALL EXISTING UTILITIES SHOWN ON THIS TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM VISUAL OBSERVATION AND RECORD MAPPING WHERE AVAILABLE. NO GUARANTEE IS MADE OR SHOULD BE ASSUMED, AS TO THE COMPLETENESS OR ACCURACY OF THE UTILITIES SHOWN ON THIS DRAWING. PARTIES UTILIZING THIS INFORMATION SHALL FIELD VERIFY THE ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.

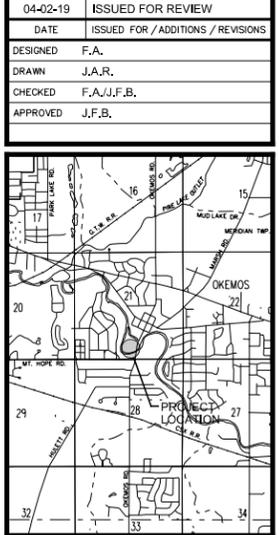
**811**  
Know what's below. Call before you dig.  
CALL 811.COM (TOLL FREE)

CALL MISS DIG 72 HOURS (3 WORKING DAYS) BEFORE YOU DIG  
1-800-482-7171 or 811 (TOLL FREE)



**HRC**  
**HUBBELL, ROTH & CLARK, INC**  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS SINCE 1915  
555 HULET DRIVE BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICH. P.O. BOX 824 48303 - 0824  
PHONE: (248) 454-6300 FAX (1st Floor): (248) 454-6312 FAX (2nd Floor): (248) 454-6359  
WEB SITE: http://www.hrcengr.com

|          |                                    |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| 04-02-19 | ISSUED FOR REVIEW                  |
| DATE     | ISSUED FOR / ADDITIONS / REVISIONS |
| DESIGNED | F.A.                               |
| DRAWN    | J.A.R.                             |
| CHECKED  | F.A./J.F.B.                        |
| APPROVED | J.F.B.                             |



**MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP**  
**ELEVATION MITIGATION AT WONCH PARK - PHASE 1 -**  
INGHAM COUNTY MICHIGAN

**PROJECT DETAILS**

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| HRC JOB NO. | SCALE        |
| 20180546    | NOT TO SCALE |
| DATE        | SHEET NO.    |
| MARCH 2019  | C-04 OF      |

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**To: Park Commissioners**  
**From: LuAnn Maisner, CPRP**  
**Director of Parks and Recreation**  
**Date: April 4, 2019**  
**Re: Dog Park Fees**

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The Meridian Township small and large dog parks are set to open in 2019. At the March 12, 2019 Park Commission meeting, Commissioners asked staff to do additional research on the fee control systems. A poll was sent out through the Meridian Parks and Recreation Facebook page (and shared to the Friends of the Meridian Dog Park group) asking the community whether they would like an access control system with a fee or no control and no fee. The response was about 55% for and 45% against a control system with fee. Comments included the need for license and vaccination verification and some felt the fee was too high and others were happy with the fee.

Data gathered from other communities with dog parks showed that a fee with a control system allows for better management of the dog park when issues arise. It also provides funds to ensure the dog park is well maintained and programmed. Also, there are other dog parks locally that are open for no fee (East Lansing and DeWitt). All Meridian Township Parks and Land Preserves welcome dogs while leashed.

Staff recommends the following fees for both dog parks:

Resident Fee:  
\$20 for first dog, \$15 for the second dog

Non-resident Fee:  
\$35 for first dog, \$20 for the second dog

Motion for Consideration:

**MOVE TO SUPPORT THE ADOPTION OF A FEE SCHEDULE FOR DOG PARK USERS AS FOLLOWS: RESIDENT, \$20 FOR ONE DOG AND \$15 FOR A SECOND DOG, AND NON-RESIDENT, \$35 FOR ONE DOG AND \$20 FOR A SECOND DOG. ANNUAL FEES ARE ESSENTIAL FOR MONITORING USE AND USERS, FUNDING THE ASSIGNED FOB, AND TO ASSIST IN OFFSETTING MAINTENANCE COSTS.**



# Dog Park Registration

**Owner Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Meridian Township Resident:  YES  NO

**Dog Information: Dog #1**

Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Breed or Mix: \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex:  Male  Female

Dog License #: \_\_\_\_\_

Small Dog Park  Large Dog Park

**Dog Information: Dog #2**

Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Breed or Mix: \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex:  Male  Female

Dog License #: \_\_\_\_\_

Small Dog Park  Large Dog Park

*\*Must provide verification that your dog has current license*

*\*Must provide documentation that your dog is spayed/neutered.*

I have carefully read and understand the release of liability information and I agree/accept its terms and conditions. I also acknowledge I received a copy of the Meridian Township Dog Park Rules and agree to abide to them. This permit shall be valid only until the specified expiration date. Issued id tags will include a registration number and year registered for each tag. This tag must be visibly attached to your dog's collar at all times. I understand that Meridian Township reserves the right to close the dog park at anytime due to weather, park conditions, or scheduled maintenance.

Owner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### OFFICE USE:

Dog #1 Verified (spayed/neutered)

Dog #2 Verified (spayed/neutered)

Dog #1 Verified License

Dog #2 Verified License

License # \_\_\_\_\_

License # \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Information:

#### Meridian Township Resident

Dog #1 : \$20

Dog #2 : \$15

#### Non-Resident

Dog #1 : 35

Dog #2 : \$20

FOB Number #: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Issued by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Issued: \_\_\_\_\_



## Meridian Township Parks & Recreation

# Dog Park Rules

**Hours of Operation:** **Nancy Moore Park:** Open from dusk to dawn daily  
**Central Park:** Open from dusk to dawn daily

**Park Locations:** **Nancy Moore Park:** 1960 Gaylord C. Smith Ct. Haslett, MI 48840  
**Central Park:** 5153 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864

### Dog Park Rules & Policies:

1. Dogs must wear a collar and display a valid dog license and current rabies vaccination
2. Dogs must be leashed if outside of the fenced dog area
3. Maximum of two dogs per visitor
4. Your dog must be in sight at all times and under your voice control
5. Stop your dog from digging and fill in any holes immediately
6. No aggressive dogs, dogs in heat, sick dogs or dogs with parasites (fleas, ticks, worms, etc.)
7. No strollers, bicycles or children's toys allowed inside the dog park
8. Dogs must be older than 4 months old
9. Clean up after your dog and dispose of all waste
10. No infants or toddlers in the dog park
11. Children under 13 must be supervised at all times
12. Please take all dog toys with you when you leave
13. No tobacco use, food or dog treats allowed
14. Only non-alcoholic beverages in a container with a cap/lid are permitted
15. Please remove your dog if his/her excessive barking becomes bothersome to other guests
16. Use at your own risk
17. All bites MUST be reported immediately to the Ingham County Animal Control at 517.676.8370

### DOG PARK FEE SCHEDULE

#### Meridian Township Resident

Permit only

Dog #1 : \$20

Dog #2 : \$15

Replacement Fob: \$10

#### Non-Resident

Permit only

Dog #1 : \$35

Dog #2 : \$20

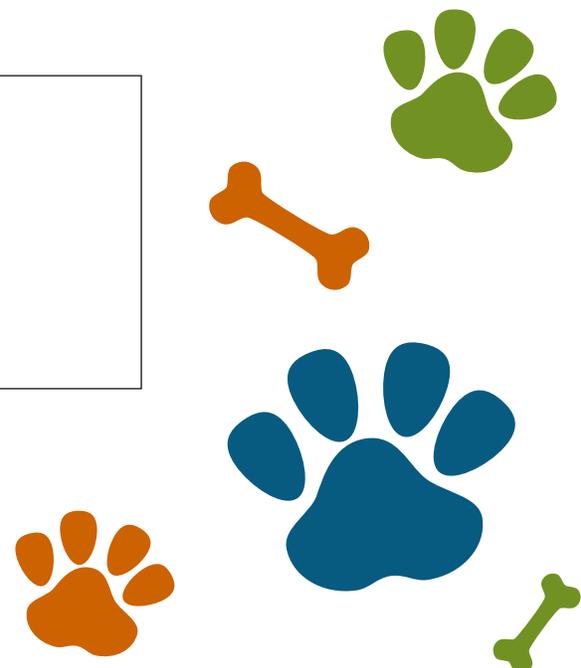
Replacement Fob: \$10

### Dog Park Registration Forms Available at:

#### Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Department

2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48840 | 517.853.4600

[www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us)





## Dog Park Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: What is a dog park?

A: A dog park is a location set aside for dogs and their owners to exercise and play off leash in a controlled (i.e., fenced) environment.

### Q: Does Meridian Township have a dog leash law?

A: Per Chapter 54, Article 37:

(a) Permitted. Dogs and other pets may be brought upon park property, unless posted otherwise.

(b) Control. Any dog on park property shall be upon a leash of six feet or less, unless posted otherwise, and shall be under the immediate control of a competent person at all times.

(c) Removal of feces. Any person having custody of a dog on park property shall immediately remove all feces deposited by such dog on any public footpath, athletic field or other area frequented by the public, and shall dispose of same in a sanitary manner.

(d) Public buildings. No dog or pet shall be allowed to enter any public building.

(e) Application to guide, service, or leader dogs. This section does not prohibit the use of guide dogs, service dogs, or leader dogs as provided and defined in § 502c of the Michigan Penal Code (MCL § 750.502c).

### Q: What are the hours of the dog parks?

A: Park hours are dawn to dusk (subject to closures for required maintenance operations). Under no circumstances are you permitted in the park before 6 a.m. and after 10 p.m.

### Q: If I observe a problem at the park, what should I do?

For an emergency, please call 911.

For disruptive animals, dogs lacking the proper tags, etc. please call the Police non-emergency number at 517-332-6526

For maintenance at the dog parks please call: 517-853-4624

For Parks customer service 517-853-4600

### Q: Can I bring more than one dog to these parks?

A: No more than two dogs are permitted per handler, at one time. Professional dog trainers are not permitted to conduct training onsite.

### Q: In addition to registering my dog and having my key fob, what else should I have?

A: Dog owners must have their dog licensed with the township, city, county, or other municipal jurisdiction. Current dog licenses must be displayed.

### Q: Am I responsible for cleaning up after my dog?

A: Yes. A receptacle for waste and dog clean up bags will be located on site.

### Q: What should I bring with me to the park?

A: Please remember to have your dog(s) license and permit tags visible at all times and that they are current.

### Q: Will the dog parks be policed or monitored by the township parks department?

A: There will not be a park staff person stationed at the dog parks, however, police and park rangers will monitor the areas periodically. Additionally, volunteers in the community are organizing a group to monitor the parks during peak hours.



Meridian Township Parks & Recreation

## Dog Park Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: When does my dog have to be on a leash at the park?**

A: Dogs must be leashed at all time unless both the dog and owner are inside a designated fenced in dog play area which are located at Nancy Moore Park and Central Park South.

**Q: Why is there a fee for the dog park and what will the monies be used for?**

A: An annual off-leash dog permit will be required for access to the designated off-leash dog play areas. The permitting requirement will enable the township to provide safe environments in off-leash dog play areas for users and their pets. The fees will be used to maintain the high standards of Meridian Township's two dog parks.

**Q: If my pet is a service dog, do I need to purchase a dog park permit in Meridian Township?**

A: The fee for the permit will be waived, however, you will still be required to fill out the appropriate paperwork for an application and have the tag displayed.

**Q: Who should I contact for information about volunteer opportunities in the dog parks?**

A: Please contact Kelsey Dillon or Jane Greenway at the Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Department at 517-853-4614.

**Q: Do I need to be a resident of Meridian Township to obtain a dog park permit?**

A: No, anyone can use the dog parks once their pet meets the requirements to obtain a permit but the fees are different depending on resident status:

Meridian Township Residents: \$20 for first dog, additional \$15 for second dog.

Non-residents: \$35 for first dog, \$20 for second dog.