



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION
VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, May 18, 2021 12:00pm

To view the virtual meeting directly through Zoom, please visit:

<https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 825 7614 6048

Meeting Password: 5151

To participate in public comment during the virtual meeting, please call 517.349.1232.

If you are unable to access the meeting due to technical difficulties, please contact Director of IT, Stephen Gebes at 517.853.4222 or geb@meridian.mi.us.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. PRESENTATIONS
 - A. Pathway Master Plan Review -Derek Perry, Director of Engineering and Public Works; Deputy Township Manager
 - B. Eagle Scout Project Proposal Zachary Sieloff – Bike Fix-it Station at Eastgate Park
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. March , 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
6. COMMUNICATIONS
7. ACTION ITEMS
 - A. Recommendations for Pathway Master Plan
 - B. DNR Grant Agreement-Okemos Road Parcel Acquisition
 - C. Labyrinth Proposal for Central Park
 - D. Eagle Scout Project, Zachary Sieloff
9. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - A. Love a Park Day – Wednesday, May 26 6pm-8pm
 - B. Ribbon Cutting Events in June
10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
11. PUBLIC COMMENTS
12. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS
13. ADJOURNMENT

Next Park Commission Meeting: Tuesday, June 8, 2021, Zoom Meeting at 12:00 PM

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: Zoom

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.

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To: Parks Commission Members

**From: Derek N. Perry, Deputy Township Manager
Director of Public Works & Engineering**

Date: 04.26.2021

Re: Pathway Master Plan Update

The Meridian Township Pathway system was started in 1974, and currently encompasses over 70 miles of pathway and 36 miles of paved shoulders. The program is funded by a dedicated pathway millage consistently approved by the voters of the Township. The current millage (0.3308) approved in 2016, annually provides approximately \$600,000 to maintain, leverage grant funding and construct new pathways throughout the community as identified in the Pathway Master Plan.

Our most recent update to the Pathway Master Plan was in 2016, and we aspire to have a formal review and affirmation every five (5) years to keep it current and reflective of the needs of the community. To accomplish this review, we present the existing plan to various Boards and Commissions to solicit input from the membership and the community at-large, and ultimately have the Township Board formally adopt the vetted Master Plan update.

The update has two parts, and includes a recommended 5-year priority plan identified by the Department of Public Works (DPW) and a list of additions recommended for inclusion in the revised plan. These recommendations originate from a variety of sources including the public.

The attached priority list provides the DPW team with a short-term annual working plan, and the recommended additions provide for future long-range forecasting of the plan as a whole.

For your reference, the first three years of the 2021-2025 Priority List are tied to grant funding obligations, but for years 2024-2025, the goal is to develop a plan that works to eliminate the historical gaps in the pathway network. As you review the Master Plan, the 2024-2025 gap projects (year-priority) have been identified on the map in *red* with a location arrow.

The ten (10) recommended new routes are identified on the map in *yellow* and have a corresponding number for identification. These include 1. Green Road Extension, 2. Carlton Road connector, 3. Towner Road connector, 4. Hillbrook Park connector, 5. Consumers Energy – Haslett to Grand River connector, 6. Consumers Energy - Grand River to Legg Park connector, 7. Sturk Land Preserve connector, 8. Delta Dental Middle School connector, 9. Lodges Loop, and 10. Raby connector.

We look forward to your review, potential additions and comments.

2021-2025 Pathway Master Plan Priority List

2021

Priority	Project Description	Section	Street	Side	From	To
1	MSU- LL (Ph 1)	20	Trail along Red Cedar River	North	Hagadorn	Grand River/Park Lake
2	RRFB	12, 15	At Haslett west of Van Atta, and Central Park Drive by new Farmer's Market	Both		
3	MSU- LL (Ph 2)	16	Trail within Campus Hills apt & Rysberg preserve	N/A	Grand River	Okemos
4	MSU- LL (Ph 2b)	16	Okemos	N/A	Gaylord C Smith	Old Interurban
5	MSU- LL (Ph 3 Connector)	10	Shaw Street	East side south of Lake Dr, west side north of Lake Dr.	Haslett	Lake Lansing Road
6	Misc. pathway Repairs	Township - wide				

2022

Priority	Project Description	Section	Street	Side	From	To
1	MSU- LL (Ph 1)	20	Trail along Red Cedar River	North	Hagadorn	Grand River/Park Lake
2	East Lansing Norther Tier Connector	6	Towar	West	Lake Lansing Rd.	East Lansing City limits
3	MSU- LL (Ph 3)	1, 2, 11	Along CE ROW	Northwestern side of CNRR	Marsh/Interurban	County Parks/Green Road
4	Misc. pathway Repairs	Township - wide				

2023

Priority	Project Description	Section	Street	Side	From	To
1	MSU- LL (Ph 3)	1, 2, 11	Along CE ROW	Northwestern side of CNRR	Marsh/Interurban	County Parks /Green Road
2	Misc. pathway Repairs	Township - wide				

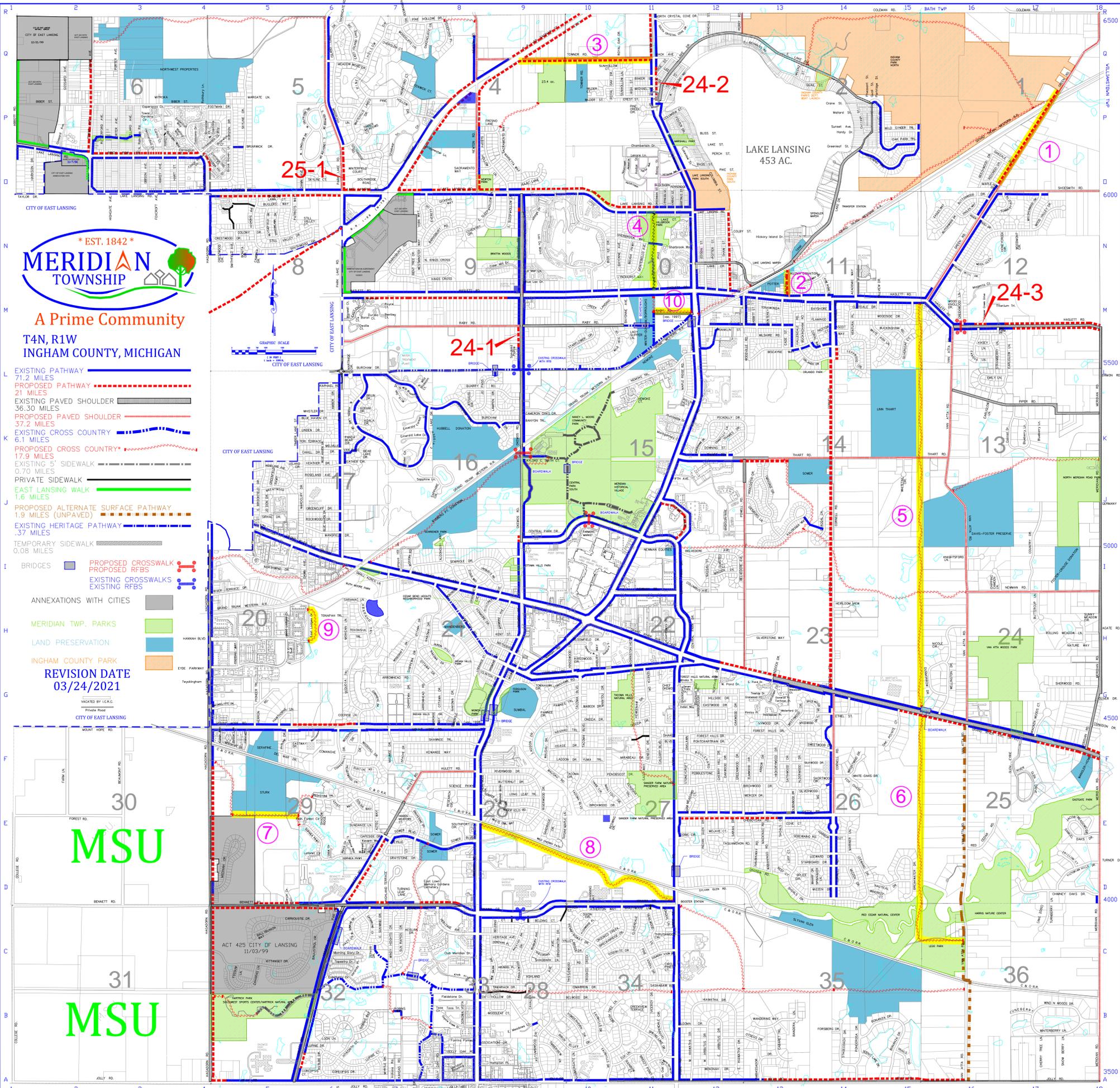
2024

Priority	Project Description	Section	Street	Side	From	To
1	System Gap	9	Okemos	West	Raby Road	Existing pathway
2	System Gap	3	Marsh	East	W Reynolds	South of Mack
3	System Gap	12	Haslett	North	East of Crooked Creek	West of Copper Creek Way
4	Misc. pathway Repairs	Township - wide				

2025

Priority	Project Description	Section	Street	Side	From	To
1	System Gap	5	Park Lake	East	Lake Lansing Rd	Pine Hollow
2	Misc. pathway Repairs	Township - wide				

PATHWAY MASTER PLAN



- EXISTING PATHWAY 71.2 MILES
 - PROPOSED PATHWAY 21 MILES
 - EXISTING PAVED SHOULDER 36.30 MILES
 - PROPOSED PAVED SHOULDER 37.2 MILES
 - EXISTING CROSS COUNTRY 6.1 MILES
 - PROPOSED CROSS COUNTRY* 17.9 MILES
 - EXISTING 5' SIDEWALK 0.70 MILES
 - PRIVATE SIDEWALK
 - EAST LANSING WALK 1.6 MILES
 - PROPOSED ALTERNATE SURFACE PATHWAY 1.9 MILES (UNPAVED)
 - EXISTING HERITAGE PATHWAY .37 MILES
 - TEMPORARY SIDEWALK 0.08 MILES
- BRIDGES
 - PROPOSED CROSSWALK
 - PROPOSED RFB'S
 - EXISTING CROSSWALKS
 - EXISTING RFB'S
- ANNEXATIONS WITH CITIES
- MERIDIAN TWP. PARKS
 - LAND PRESERVATION
 - INGHAM COUNTY PARK
- REVISION DATE
03/24/2021
- VACATED BY I.C.R.L.
Private Road
CITY OF EAST LANSING

A	O-1	BONANZA DR.	A-15	COLUMBUS AVE.	I-12	EAST REYNOLDS RD.	O-11	HAGARDORN RD.	A-4	JACOB MEADOWS DR.	E-18	MACK AVE.	O-11	SHAGBARK LN.	C-9	TAYLOR CT.	O-11*	WESTMINSTER WAY	N-8

NOTE: PRIVATE ROADS * HAVE AN ASTERISK



Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Eagle Scout candidate's full legal name Zachary Sieloff

Eagle Scout Service Project Name Bike Repair Station for Meridian Township Parks

Eagle Scout Requirement 5

While a Life Scout, plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community. (The project must benefit an organization other than the Boy Scouts of America.) The project proposal must be approved by the organization benefiting from the effort, your unit leader and unit committee, and the council or district before you start. You must use the *Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook*, No. 512-927, in meeting this requirement.

Instructions for Preparing Your Proposal

Meeting the Five Tests of an Acceptable Eagle Scout Service Project

Your proposal must be prepared first. It is an overview, but also the beginnings of planning. It must show your unit leader, unit committee, and council or district that your project can meet the following tests.

1. ***It provides sufficient opportunity to meet the Eagle Scout service project requirement.*** You must show that planning, development, and leadership will take place; and how the three factors will benefit a religious institution, a school, or your community.
2. ***It appears to be feasible.*** You must show the project is realistic for you to carry out.
3. ***Safety issues will be addressed.*** You must show you have an understanding of what must be done to guard against injury, and what will be done if someone gets hurt.
4. ***Action steps for further detailed planning are included.*** You must make a list of the key steps you will take to make sure your plan will have enough details so it can be carried out successfully.
5. ***You are on the right track with a reasonable chance for a positive experience.***

When completing your proposal you only need enough detail to show a reviewer that you can meet the tests above. If showing that you meet the tests requires a lengthy and complicated proposal, your project might be more complex than necessary. Remember, the proposal is only the *beginnings* of planning. Most of your planning will come with the next step, preparation of your project plan.

If your project does not require materials or supplies, etc., simply mark those spaces "not applicable." As a reminder, do not begin any work, or raise any money, or obtain any materials, until your project proposal has been approved.

Consider also, that if you submit your proposal too close to your 18th birthday, it may not be approved in time to finish planning and executing the project.

Working with Your Project Beneficiary

On the last two pages of this workbook there is an information sheet called, "Navigating the Eagle Scout Service Project." This is for you to print and give to the religious institution, school, or community that will benefit from your efforts. You should do this as part of your first meeting with your beneficiary and use the sheet to help explain how the Eagle Scout service project works. Be sure to read it carefully so you can explain what it says.

"Navigating the Eagle Scout Service Project" will help you communicate a number of things to your beneficiary. For example, it provides thanks and congratulations for accepting the project; and it gives some background, discusses the requirements, and points out the responsibilities connected with approving your project proposal. It also explains that the beneficiary has the right to review, and also to require changes in your project plan.

Again, be sure to read carefully "Navigating the Eagle Scout Service Project" so you will have a full understanding of the role of your beneficiary.

Next Step: Your Project Plan

Once your proposal is approved, you are ***strongly encouraged*** to prepare your project plan using the form in this workbook. Doing so increases the likelihood your project will be approved at your Eagle Scout board of review. As you begin preparing it, you should meet with a project coach. Check with the person who handled the approval of your project proposal to learn how coaches are designated in your community.

Your designated coach can help you avoid the common pitfalls associated with Eagle Scout service projects and be a big part of your success. You may also want to talk to your unit leader. There may be adults in your troop who are experts in conducting the kind of project you are planning. It's ok for you to work with them as well. The more coaching you get, the better your results will be.

Beginning Work on Your Project

Once your proposal has been fully approved and you have finished your project planning, only then, may you begin work on your project.

Contact Information

Eagle Scout candidates should know who is involved, but contact information may be more important to unit leaders and others in case they want to talk to one another. While it is recognized that not all the information will be needed for every project, Scouts are expected to provide as much as reasonably possible. Approval representatives must understand, however, that doing so is not part of the service project requirement.

Eagle Scout Candidate

Name: Zachary Sieloff		Birth date: 12/28/2004	
Email address: zwsieloff@gmail.com		BSA PID number*: 134656735	
Address: 1423 Kalorama Way	City: Okemos	State: MI	Zip: 48864
Preferred telephone(s): 734-258-9477		Life board of review date: 09/23/2019	

*BSA PID No., found on the BSA membership card

Current Unit Information

Check one: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Troop <input type="checkbox"/> Crew <input type="checkbox"/> Ship		Unit Number: 0125	
Name of District: Chief Okemos District 20		Name of Council: Michigan Crossroads Council	
Unit Leader Check one: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scoutmaster <input type="checkbox"/> Crew Advisor <input type="checkbox"/> Skipper			
Name: Timothy Beemer		Preferred telephone(s): 517-204-3082	
Address: 3590 E Hiawatha Dr	City: Okemos	State: MI	Zip: 48864
Email address: beemerfam1@yahoo.com			

Unit Committee Chair

Name: Wayne Sieloff		Preferred telephone(s): 734-576-9573	
Address: 1423 Kalorama Way	City: Okemos	State: MI	Zip: 48864
Email address: wgsieloff@outlook.com			

Unit Advancement Coordinator *(If your unit has one)*

Name:		Preferred telephone(s):	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Email address:			

Project Beneficiary *(Name of religious institution, school, or community)*

Name: Meridian Township		Preferred telephone(s): 517-853-4000	
Address: 5151 Marsh Road	City: Okemos	State: MI	Zip: 48864
Email address: webmaster@meridian.mi.us			

Project Beneficiary Representative *(Name of contact person for the project beneficiary)*

Name: Kati Adams		Preferred telephone(s): 517-853-4616	
Address: 3998 Van Atta Rd	City: Okemos	State: MI	Zip: 48864
Email address: kadams@meridian.mi.us			

Your Council Service Center

Contact name: Cameron Todd		Preferred telephone(s): 224-623-3609	
Address: 14258 Michigan St PO Box 129	City: Eagle	State: MI	Zip: 48824

Council or District Project Approval Representative

(Your unit leader, unit advancement coordinator, or council or district advancement chair may help you learn who this will be.)

Name: Tim Musson		Preferred telephone(s): 517-648-7728	
Address: 1131 Hillgate Way	City: Lansing	State: MI	Zip: 48912
Email address: tlm63t2@gmail.com			

Project Coach *(Your council or district project approval representative may help you learn who this will be.)*

Name: Timothy Ekola		Preferred telephone(s): 517-775-2764	
Address: 4169 Indian Glen Drive	City: Okemos	State: MI	Zip: 48864
Email address: Timothy.ekola@hotmail.com			

Project Description and Benefit

Briefly describe your project.

My project is to install a durable, external grade, bike repair station at a one of three locations proposed by Meridian Township. I am going to evaluate and choose one location as part of my project.

Attach sketches or "before" photographs if these will help others visualize the project.

Please click below to add images (JPEG, JPG, BMP, GIF, TIF, PNG, etc.)



Alternate Location 1 - Riverfront Park Eastgate



Alternate Location 2 - Interurban Trail North



Alternative Location 3 - Interurban Trail South
Source: Meridian.mi.us

Tell how your project will be helpful to the beneficiary. Why is it needed?

My project will be helpful because it will provide a place where community members can fix their bikes and safely be able to ride on Meridian Township's Trails.

When do you plan to begin carrying out your project? Spring 2021

When do you think your project will be completed? Spring 2021

Giving Leadership

Approximately how many people will be needed to help on your project? 6-10

Where will you recruit them (unit members, friends, neighbors, family, others)? Explain:

I will recruit helpers from my troop and from my family.

What do you think will be most difficult about leading them?

I think that maintaining the safety of helpers will be most difficult especially because COVID-19.

Materials

Materials are things that become part of the finished project, such as lumber, nails, and paint.

What types of materials, if any, will you need? You do not need a detailed list or exact quantities, but you must show you have a reasonable idea of what is required. For example, for lumber, include basic dimensions such as 2 x 4 or 4 x 4.

- Exterior commercial grade bike pump
- Concrete mix
- three 2x4 8ft studs
- one 4x4 post 10 ft long
- several different size (mm) box wrenches
- tire lever
- Braided steel coil
- Screws and bolts

Supplies

Supplies are things you use up, such as food and refreshments, gasoline, masking tape, tarps, safety supplies, and garbage bags.

What kinds of supplies, if any, will you need? You do not need a detailed list or exact quantities, but you must show you have a reasonable idea of what is required.

- Water for volunteers and for concrete
- Garbage bags
- Food/snacks for volunteers
- Hand Sanitizer

Tools

Include tools, and also equipment, that will be borrowed, rented, or purchased.

What tools or equipment, if any, will you need? You do not need a detailed list, but you must show you have a reasonable idea of what is required.

- Battery powered drill
- Hammer
- Shovel
- Screw driver
- Post hole digger
- Saw
- Wrenches
- Tools for finishing concrete

Other Needs

Items that don't fit the above categories; for example, parking or postage, or services such as printing or pouring concrete, etc.

What other needs do you think you might encounter?

- Cart to transport materials to location of installation.

Permits and Permissions

Note that property owners should obtain and pay for permits.

Will permissions or permits (such as building permits) be required for your project? Who will obtain them? How long will it take?

Per my inquiry with Meridian Township Parks staff I will not need to obtain a permit for my project.

Preliminary Cost Estimate

You do not need exact costs yet. Reviewers will just want to see if you can reasonably expect to raise enough money to cover an initial estimate of expenses. Include the value of donated material, supplies, tools, and other items. It is not necessary to include the value of tools or other items that will be loaned at no cost. Note that if your project requires a fundraising application, you do not need to submit it with your proposal.

Enter estimated expenses below: <i>(Include sales tax if applicable)</i>		Fundraising: Explain how you will raise the money to pay for the total costs. If you intend to seek donations of actual materials, supplies, etc., then explain how you plan to do that, too.
Materials:	\$900.00	To raise money for the project I will ask local businesses and residents and apply to a funding program through MSU Credit Union. MSUFCU will match \$1.00 per \$1.00 up to \$500.00. I will ask Home Depot for \$50.00 towards my project.
Supplies:	\$50.00	
Tools:		
Other:		
Total costs:	\$950.00	

Project Phases

Think of your project in terms of phases, and list what they might be. The first may be to prepare your project plan. Other phases might include fundraising, preparation, execution, and reporting. You may have as many phases as you want, but it is not necessary to become overly complicated; brief, one line descriptions are sufficient.

1. Prepare project plan
2. Get approval from the Township & Meridian Park's Board
3. Fundraise to buy materials and supplies
4. Buy all materials and supplies needed
5. Prep for project by getting materials ready
6. Install bike repair station
7. Clean up area

8. Finish eagle scout project workbook

Logistics

How will you handle transportation of materials, supplies, tools, and helpers?

I will transfer materials, supplies and tools with our car. Project volunteers will have to provide their own transportation because of COVID-19 safety restrictions. To get the materials to the installation site we will use a cart.

Safety Issues

The Guide to Safe Scouting is an important resource in considering safety issues.

Describe the hazards and safety concerns you and your helpers should be aware of.

- The correct use of electric saws and drills and the sawdust create by sawing wood forms.
- Staying 6ft apart and wearing masks to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Staying Hydrated.

Project Planning

You do not have to list every step, but it must be enough to show you have a reasonable idea of how to prepare your plan.

List some action steps you will take to prepare your project plan. For example "Complete a more detailed set of drawings."

- Contact Township, evaluate three proposed locations provided by the Township, determine single best location for installation, make presentation to parks board, and obtain approval for installation.
- Complete a drawings showing final location and route for transport of materials.

Candidate's Promise* Sign below before you seek the other approvals for your proposal.

On my honor as a Scout, I have read this entire workbook, including the "Message to Scouts and Parents or Guardians" on page 5. I promise to be the leader of this project, and to do my best to carry it out for the maximum benefit to the religious institution, school, or community I have chosen as beneficiary.

Signed Zachary Sieloff Date 3/31/21

* Remember: Do not begin any work on your project, or raise any money, or obtain any materials, until your project proposal has been approved.

Unit Leader Approval*	Unit Committee Approval*
<p>I have reviewed this proposal and discussed it with the candidate. I believe it provides impact worthy of an Eagle Scout service project, and will involve planning, development, and leadership. I am comfortable the Scout understands what to do, and how to lead the effort. I will see that the project is monitored, and that adults or others present will not overshadow him.</p> <p>Signed <u>Timothy Beemer</u> Date <u>3-28-21</u> Name (Printed) <u>Timothy Beemer</u></p>	<p>This Eagle Scout candidate is a Life Scout, and registered in our unit. I have reviewed this proposal, I am comfortable the project is feasible, and I will do everything I can to see that our unit measures up to the level of support we have agreed to provide (if any). I certify that I have been authorized by our unit committee to provide its approval for this proposal.</p> <p>Signed <u>Wayne G. Sieloff</u> Date <u>3/28/21</u> Name (Printed) <u>WAYNE G. SIELOFF</u></p>
Beneficiary Approval*	Council or District Approval
<p>This service project will provide significant benefit, and we will do all we can to see it through. We realize funding on our part is not required, but we have informed the Scout of the financial support (if any) that we have agreed to. We understand any fund raising the Scout conducts will be in our name and that funds left over will come to us if we are allowed to accept them. We will provide receipts to donors as required.</p> <p>Our Eagle candidate has provided us a copy of "Navigating the Eagle Scout Service Project, Information for Project Beneficiaries."</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Signed _____ Date _____ Name (Printed) _____</p>	<p>I have read topics 9.0.2.0 through 9.0.2.15, regarding the Eagle Scout service project, in the <i>Guide to Advancement</i>, No. 33088. I agree on my honor to apply the procedures as written, and in compliance with the policy on "Unauthorized Changes to Advancement." Accordingly, I approve this proposal. I will encourage the candidate to prepare a project plan and share it with the designated project coach.</p> <p>Signed _____ Date _____ Name (Printed) _____</p>

While it makes sense to obtain approvals in the order they appear, there shall be no required sequence for the order of obtaining those approvals marked with an asterisk (). Council or district approval, however, must come after the others.

Eagle Scout Service Project Fundraising Application

Before filling out this application, it is important to read "Procedures and Limitations on Eagle Scout Service Project Fundraising." This can be found on the next page: "Fundraising Application Page B." Once completed, you must obtain approval from the project beneficiary and your unit leader, and then submit the fundraising application to your council service center at least two weeks in advance of your fundraising efforts. You will be contacted if it cannot be approved or if adjustments must be made. Use this form, not the Unit Money-Earning Application.

Eagle Scout Candidate

Name: Zachary Sieloff Preferred telephone(s): 734-258-9477
 Address: 1423 Kalorama Way City: Okemos State: MI Zip: 48864
 Email address: zwsieloff@gmail.com
 Check one Troop Crew Ship Unit No. 0125
 Name of district: Chief Okemos District 20 Name of council: Michigan Crossroads Council

Project Beneficiary (Name of the religious institution, school, or community)

Name: Meridian Township Preferred telephone(s): 517-853-4000
 Address: 5151 Marsh Road City: Okemos State: MI Zip: 48864
 Email address: webmaster@meridian.mi.us

Project Beneficiary Representative (Name of contact person for the project beneficiary)

Name: Kati Adams Preferred telephone(s): 517-853-4616
 Address: 3998 Van Atta Rd City: Okemos State: MI Zip: 48864
 Email address: kadams@meridian.mi.us

Describe how funds will be raised:

To raise money for the project I will ask local businesses and residents and apply to a funding program through MSU Credit Union. MSUCFU will match \$1.00 per \$1.00 up to \$500.00. I will ask Home Depot for \$50.00 towards my project. I also plan to ask local bike shops, family and friends for donations.

Proposed date the service project will begin: Spring 2021

Proposed dates for the fundraising efforts: Spring 2021

How much money do you expect to raise? \$1,000.00

If people or companies will be asked for donations of money, materials, supplies, or tools, how will this be done and who will do it?*

I will request financial assistance by personal visits and/or email.

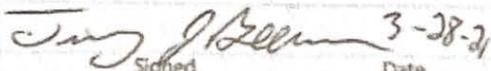
**You must attach a list of prospective donor names and what they will be asked to donate. This is not required for an event like a car wash.*

Are any contracts to be signed? no If so, by whom?

Contract details:

Approvals

The beneficiary and unit leader sign below, in any order, before authorized council approval is obtained.

Beneficiary		Unit Leader		Authorized Council Approval*	
			3-28-21		
Signed	Date	Signed	Date	Signed	Date

**Councils may delegate approval to districts or other committees according to local practices.*



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Location: ZOOM

DATE: March 9, 2021

PRESENT: Amanda Lick, Michael McDonald, Mary Nardo Farris, Mark Stephens, Ami Van Antwerp

EXCUSED: None

STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation; Jane Greenway, Senior Parks and Land Management Coordinator

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Lick called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm

2. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Open Public Hearing:

Chair Lick opened the public hearing at 12:02 pm and outlined procedure of public hearing and possible actions of the Commission during the meeting

2. Summary of Subject Matter:

Senior Park and Land Management Coordinator Greenway summarized the Towner Road Park Inter-Generational Exercise Play Space project. This will be a development project in Towner Road Park.

Director Maisner outlined project costs and requesting a 50% match for the grant

3. Park Commissioners' Questions and Comments

- Longevity and weather affect – maintenance is minimal as compared to the engineered wood fiber playground areas, which requires on-going maintenance and yearly replenishing. Staff believes the warranty period is 10-15 year but will confirm it.
- Surface cost of approximately \$150,000 and \$120,000 for equipment
- DNR has used this type of surface for years. It is accessible and requires less maintenance

4. Public Comment

None

5. Close Public Hearing

Chair Lick closed the public hearing at 12:18 pm and stated action on this topic will take place later on the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner McDonald moved TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Gryffin Porter – Eagle Scout Report - Dog Agility Equipment – Scout Leader Thomas Porter stated Eagle Scout Candidate Porter is beginning the fundraising phase, working with staff to reach out to the dog park users and then will start construction.

B. Austin McCormick – Eagle Scout Final Report - Bat Houses – Eagle Scout Candidate McCormick outline the construction and installation of five bat houses.

Chair Lick moved TO ACCEPT THE FINAL REPORT ON BAT HOUSES IN THE PARKS FROM EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATE MCCORMICK AND EXPRESSED GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION FOR HIS WORK. Seconded by Commissioner VanAntwerp.

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT-NONE

None

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

Remove the arrival time after the name of Amanda Lick in the PRESENT line.

Commissioner McDonald moved TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. Seconded by Commissioner Nardo-Farris

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

A. To: Dr. Paul Morrow, RE: thank you for fishing rods

B. To: Dan Stephens, RE: 2021 Township Fishing Event Video

C. Winter 2021 The Corps Rapport

D. HNC Press Release:

1. Learn about Michigan Song Birds at the Harris Nature Center- Bring your family to HNC for a private-guided nature program

2. Attract Birds and Butterflies to Your Garden with Native Plants - Harris Nature Center Hosts a Native Plants Sale

Commissioner McDonald moved TO ACCEPT AND PLACE THE ITEMS OF COMMUNICATION ON FILE. Seconded by Commissioner VanAntwerp

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

8. ACTION ITEMS

A. Eagle Scout Project Acceptance

1. Gryffin Porter - Dog Agility Equipment – No action was required.

2. Austin McCormick – Bat Houses – This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

B. Micro-Food Pantry Request

Director Maisner outlined the request to install micro-pantry in Wonch and Hartrick Parks with hygiene products, the Township's application process for the installation of a pantry and the requirement for Park Commission approval for installation in the parks.

Kelly Bianchi, Girl Scout Troop #30293, outline the project to install micro-pantries with primarily hygiene products in the two parks. The initial request was for five (5) locations but recently added three (3) more locations in the Haslett area. The troop will be visiting the site every two weeks but will also be setting up a Facebook page, similar to the one used for the food pantries, to assist with the management of the pantries.

Discussion:

- Suggested starting in one park to see if there is support for a second location
- Requested a maintenance and sustainability plan and list of potential items to be included in the pantry
- Suggested a quarterly update from the Troop be included in the plan
- Suggested tabling the motion and hold a work session to review the progress at the other pantry locations and see if accepted by the community

Chair Lick moved TO TABLE ACTION ON THIS ITEM AND TO RESUME THE DISCUSSION IN TWO-THREE MONTHS. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

Commissioner McDonald offered a FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO DISCUSS THIS TOPIC AT THE MAY MEETING AND TO MEET AT ONE OF THE PARKS BEING DISCUSSED. Supported by Commissioner VanAntwerp. Friendly Amendment accepted by Chair Lick and Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

C. 2021 DNR Grant submission –Towner Road Playground

Director Maisner summarized the proposed project, project costs and public hearing held earlier in the meeting.

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner McDonald and supported by Commissioner Nardo-Farris:

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 50% of the total project cost funded by the Land and Water Conservation 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 Land and Water Conservation Fund for \$350,000 of improvements to Towner Road Park consisting of a Play Space to improve and expand recreation opportunities and accessibility for visitors of all abilities; 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 2021-2027 Capital Improvements Program adopted by the Township Board and Park Commission; and

WHEREAS, this grant request was open to public review on March 9, 2021; 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 development of a Play Space in Towner Road Park with a total project cost of \$350,000. The fifty (50%) percent local match of \$175,000 will be funded by the Park Millage, with the remaining fifty (50%) percent (\$175,000) funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Commissioners Stephens, Nardo-Farris, VanAntwerp, McDonald, Chair Lick

NAYS: None

The resolution passed 5-0

D. Lake Lansing Goose Management Request

Director Maisner outlined the resident's request for a goose cull on Lake Lansing. She suggested the action that could be taken is: 1) no action or 2) refer the request to the Lake Lansing Advisory Board.

Discussion:

- Water fowl is a federally protected species and questioned who had the authority to start a cull. There are mitigating steps such as buffer strip that can be taken to try to prevent geese access onto private property
- Suggested referring the resident to the DNR
- Question raised about hunting the geese on the Lake
- The Township owns Lake Lansing Marsh and Spengler Marsh on south end of Lake Lansing and the land preservation parcel does not have lake frontage

Chair Lick directed staff to communicate its thanks to Mr. Card for bringing this topic to the Commission and to direct the information to the Lake Lansing Advisory Board.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Labyrinth Donation – working with a local resident and update at next meeting
- B. Tree City USA Designation Update – Environmental Commission is working on this designation and will have an update at a future meeting
- C. Ice Fishing Derby – 22 children Awesome video by Dan Stephens
- D. Rotary Club and Kiwanis Club – Director Maisner was a speaker outlining the updates in the parks
- E. Trail map and Historical Markers – working on the funding through the County Trail Millage
- F. Working to secure an ATM Machine at Marketplace on the Green with MSUFCU
- G. Park Promotional videos – will be working on them with Dan Stevens, will be creating an RFP for the project, like to start promoting Central Park using a drone
- H. Friends of Historic Meridian Memorandum of Understanding – ongoing discussing on the memorandum and funding assistance requests
- I. Park Ordinance – Update on tree planting and maintenance guidelines
- J. 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update – expires in 2022, suggest discussing a survey and its questions, hold the Commission monthly meetings in the parks to obtain public input
- K. May Commission Meeting – Chair Lick suggested added a 2-3 hour work session to address the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan survey, promotional videos, micro-food pantry request, etc. Director Maisner reported Supervisor Styka has asked that Boards and Commissions not meet in person until after June but will obtain clarification about meeting outdoors in a park pavilion.

11. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

12. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- A. Commissioner Comments
- B. Events Calendar:
 - 1. Farmers' Market:
 - a. First and Third Saturdays, 11 am – 1 pm, January-April, Marketplace on the Green

13. CLOSED SESSION - NONE

14. ADJOURNMENT – Hearing no objections, Chair Lick adjourned the meeting adjourned at 1:24 pm

15. NEXT MEETING

- A. The next meeting is scheduled to be held virtually on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 12 noon via zoom.

From: [Emma Campbell](#)
To: [LuAnn Maisner](#); [Wilson, Belinda](#)
Cc: [Tsao, Jean](#)
Subject: Re: Nancy Moore Park Tick Sampling
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 8:57:32 AM

This is great Belinda, please let me know if I can assist you in any way. Good luck with the project!



Emma Campbell
she/her/hers
Land Stewardship Coordinator
Parks and Recreation
ecampbell@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853.4614 | F 517.853.4099
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI 48864
meridian.mi.us

From: LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 3:03 PM
To: Wilson, Belinda <wils1494@msu.edu>
Cc: Tsao, Jean <tsao@msu.edu>
Subject: RE: Nancy Moore Park Tick Sampling

Hi Belinda,

Please accept this email as authorization to move forward with tic sampling and monitoring activities in Nancy Moore Park. Please provide us a copy of your report when completed to share with our Park Commission. Good luck with your project!

Sincerely,

LuAnn Maisner, CPRP
Director of Parks and Recreation
517-853-4604

From: Wilson, Belinda <wils1494@msu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 1:39 PM
To: LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: Tsao, Jean <tsao@msu.edu>
Subject: Nancy Moore Park Tick Sampling

Hello,

My name is Belinda Wilson. I am working with Dr. Jean Tsao at Michigan State University (Department of Fisheries & Wildlife) studying the emerging risk of ticks and tick-borne pathogens in Michigan. We're monitoring the invasion of black-legged (=deer) ticks, which are responsible for transmitting the Lyme disease pathogen.

We were hoping to sample Nancy Moore Park starting this spring and hopefully continuing into the summer and fall as well. We were looking for permission to sample the site and we will let you know the exact dates that we will be sampling when that time approaches. We would be glad to share what we find with your department as well.

Thank you very much for your help! I look forward to hearing back from you at your earliest convenience.

Best,
Belinda

Belinda Wilson

Michigan State University - Class of 2021

Dual Bachelor of Science - Fisheries and Wildlife, Animal Science

Disease Ecology Laboratory, *Research Assistant*

MSU Wildlife Disease Association Student Chapter, *President*

(740) 816-8485

(she/her/hers)

From: [Emma Campbell](#)
To: [Jane Greenway](#)
Cc: [LuAnn Maisner](#); [Kati Adams](#); [Mike Devlin](#); [Allison Goodman](#); [Robin Faust](#)
Subject: Re: Spring Cleaning at Hartrick Park this Saturday!
Date: Friday, May 7, 2021 2:26:16 PM
Attachments: [corps events banner.png](#)

Yep, that's how it's been going lately I am living the volunteer coordinator dream!



Emma Campbell
she/her/hers
Land Stewardship Coordinator
Parks and Recreation
ecampbell@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853.4614 | F 517.853.4099
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI 48864
meridian.mi.us

From: Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 2:12 PM
To: Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>; Kati Adams <kadams@meridian.mi.us>; Mike Devlin <devlin@meridian.mi.us>; Allison Goodman <goodman@meridian.mi.us>; Robin Faust <faust@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Re: Spring Cleaning at Hartrick Park this Saturday!

That's great that it filled up!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 11:35:14 AM
Cc: LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>; Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>; Kati Adams <kadams@meridian.mi.us>; Mike Devlin <devlin@meridian.mi.us>; Allison Goodman <goodman@meridian.mi.us>; Robin Faust <faust@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Re: Spring Cleaning at Hartrick Park this Saturday!

Hello Corps!

The workday at Hartrick park tomorrow is currently filled up, so we will no longer be able to take more volunteers for the workday tomorrow, May 8th. Thank you to those of you coming out tomorrow, and if you missed this one, there will be plenty of work yet this year! Please let me know if you have any questions or plan to attend any future events or Stewardship Saturdays. Thanks again!



Emma Campbell
she/her/hers
Land Stewardship Coordinator
Parks and Recreation
ecampbell@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853.4614 | F 517.853.4099
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI 48864
meridian.mi.us

From: Emma Campbell

Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 12:55 PM

Cc: LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>; Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>; Kati Adams <kadams@meridian.mi.us>; Mike Devlin <devlin@meridian.mi.us>; Allison Goodman <goodman@meridian.mi.us>; Robin Faust <faust@meridian.mi.us>

Subject: Spring Cleaning at Hartrick Park this Saturday!



Hello Corps!

This is a reminder of our spring-cleaning workday taking place this Saturday at Hartrick Park! We will be working to clean up our beloved Monarch Waystation Garden, as well as picking garlic mustard and dame's rocket from the maple-beech forest located behind the sports field at Hartrick Park. I have included some pictures of the Monarch Waystation, planted by kids from Bennett Woods Elementary, so you can see how beautiful and colorful it will get this summer. I do have some native seeds collected locally that we can spread in the garden after we clean it up. It is not a very large space, so we may need to split our group up to do some of the invasive pulling - trash pickup would be great as well!

We just want to show Hartrick some love

Please let me know if you plan to attend and how many people will be attending with you. I do want to thank those of you who came out to the Towar Tree Planting and the Sower Woods invasive cleanup. Both events were very successful and now we have 205 more native trees in the township and have removed even more invasives - all thanks to you!! I have attached a video covering the Towar planting, thanks to HOMTV's Courtland Jenkins, as well as a video recorded a few weeks ago by Jackson Boomer, at Ted Black Woods about Stewardship Saturdays. I am very excited to release the Spring Newsletter soon so you can all see the amazing work you have helped accomplish. The MCC has completed 250 volunteer hours in April alone, which is half of the hours we logged for all of 2020! #EarthMonth was a huge success, thanks to you all!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5pfSwF4SYB4>



Towar Woods Community Tree Planting Day

Volunteers in the community plant 205 native trees at the Towar Woods Preserve on Saturday, May 1 at 9:00 am in East Lansing in honor of Arbor Day, which was celebrated this year on April 30th. HOMTV "Your Source for Community News" is Meridian Township's award-winning

www.youtube.com

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dj4EW_Iv-sU



Stewardship Saturday with the Meridian Conservation Corps - YouTube

HOMTV "Your Source for Community News" is Meridian Township's award-winning Government Access Channel housed inside the Meridian Township Municipal Building...

www.youtube.com



Emma Campbell

she/her/hers

Land Stewardship Coordinator

Parks and Recreation

ecampbell@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853.4614 | F 517.853.4099

2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI 48864

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Meridian Deer Management Program Entering 11th Year

In 2011 when Meridian Township was exploring deer management options, they gathered together a group of experts for advice. Jim Leonard from the Lansing Chapter of Safari Club International stepped forward to help.

Flash forward ten years and Meridian Township is now preparing for their 11th year of deer management. This popular program places volunteer archery hunters on select Township and County owned properties to manage the deer population. Meridian Township has an over-population of deer that has resulted in an increase of damage to landscaping, reports of vehicle/deer accidents, concern for public health, and a disruption to the ecological balance of our natural areas.

In response, the Meridian Township Board directed staff to develop and implement a deer management plan that outlines measures for a highly managed program to harvest white-tailed deer in a number of selected township-owned properties. The program began in 2011 and has been conducted each year since that time.

- The harvest is held during the regular archery season, October 1st through January 1st
- The managed harvest is NOT open to the general public.
- All hunters must be approved by the Township and are tested for proficiency at the MSU Demmer Archery Center. Only approved, qualified, competent and experienced hunters will be considered to access Township property for the managed harvest.
- Neighboring property owners are notified of the harvest each year. All parks and land preserves remain open to the public during archery season. The hunters have proven to be valuable partners and act as the eyes and ears on Township-owned properties.

Meridian Township's Deer Management Website Page:

<http://www.meridian.mi.us/residents/living-with-wildlife/deer-management-program>

To sign up to participate in the program please email Jane Greenway at greenway@meridian.mi.us

Bridget A. Cannon

To: Conway, Emily; Emma Campbell; Jane Greenway
Subject: RE: Small Scale Prairie Restoration Project

Excellent! thank you.

LuAnn

From: Conway, Emily <conwaye2@msu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 12:06 PM
To: LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>; Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>; Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Re: Small Scale Prairie Restoration Project

Hi LuAnn,

Thank you for your suggestion! Once we settle on where the plantings will be I will be sure to provide information to neighbors and likely some signage at the plantings themselves.

Best,
Emily Conway
PhD Student | Brudvig Lab
Department of Plant Biology
Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior Program
Michigan State University
she/her/hers

From: LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 12:24 PM
To: Conway, Emily <conwaye2@msu.edu>; Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>; Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: RE: Small Scale Prairie Restoration Project

Hi Emily,
Please take one more step and send a letter to the adjoining neighbors introducing yourself and sharing your project outline, timetable and outcomes. Your project will run much more smoothly with their understanding of what, when why and how. We can send you the addresses of these neighbors or you could easily just hand-deliver your information to their front doors. I believe there are only 4-5 houses.
I'm pretty sure they like having vegetation in that space to provide a buffer from Grand River Ave traffic noise. So you may want to address that in your communication. You should also include your email address as well as request theirs so you are able to communicate with them throughout your project.

Thank you!

From: Conway, Emily <conwaye2@msu.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 10:46 AM
To: Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>; Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>
Cc: LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Re: Small Scale Prairie Restoration Project

Hi all,

Wow this sounds great! I would like to put just one 5x5 meter plot per park. I am working on writing up the protocols but essentially the timeline is as follows:

May – June 2021

I will come and look at the area you have designated for the planting and, if suitable, I will ask you to mow the area as close to the ground as possible to remove as much of the existing vegetation as possible. I will then lay down cardboard in order to smother and kill the remaining vegetation within the planting area.

July – September 2021

Keep the planting area covered in cardboard so that the area will be ready for seeding in the late fall!

October – November 2021

I will come and remove the cardboard, and I will spread a prairie species seed mix that will stay on the ground through the fall and winter.

July – August 2022

If possible, I would ask that the restored prairie areas be mowed 1-2 times during the summer to help reduce the height of any potential weed plants and encourage the growth of the prairie plants. This could be done by setting a lawn mower to the highest setting. I will come back and visit the plantings to survey which plants have grown!

July-August 2023

If possible, I would ask that the restored prairie areas be mowed 1-2 times during the summer to help reduce the height of any potential weed plants and encourage the growth of the prairie plants. This could be done by setting a lawn mower to the highest setting. I will come back and visit the plantings to survey which plants have grown!

July-August 2024

If possible, I would ask that the restored prairie areas be mowed 1-2 times during the summer to help reduce the height of any potential weed plants and encourage the growth of the prairie plants. This could be done by setting a lawn mower to the highest setting. I will come back and visit the plantings to survey which plants have grown!

The seed mix will likely consist of ~20 species and all will be shortgrass species to maintain visibility around the planting. Those parks you had mentioned sound good, if there are any that are little less rural that would be great too!

Thanks,

Emily Conway

PhD Student | Brudvig Lab

Department of Plant Biology

Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior Program

Michigan State University

she/her/hers

From: Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>

Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 12:55 PM

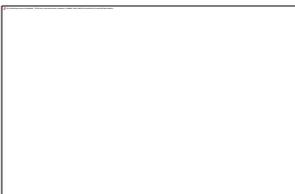
To: Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>; Conway, Emily <conwaye2@msu.edu>

Cc: LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>

Subject: Re: Small Scale Prairie Restoration Project

Emily, this sounds great! I am already in the process of installing native seed bank gardens at various preserves and parks this year, so I think your project would fit in nicely. Our Davis-Foster Preserve is the first site that comes to mind, since it is already being managed for oak savannah-prairie habitat. We have a lot of lawn space at the front that you could utilize, and that is also where I will be planting seed bank gardens. That area also gets full sun, so it is perfect. You probably want a variety of soils to study - we also have a preserve around the corner on Tihart road that is abandoned farm field in front of a historic wetland habitat. This would be an interesting place to see how prairie species do since it has been farmed for many years before it's acquisition - we have already done two scattered native plantings in that area, so we are trying to restore it slowly. Of course, there are several other areas we can consider, but these are just a few ideas off the top of my head.

I look forward to your project, this is great work. Any materials you have I would welcome! Whenever you have time, I would love to peruse over seed lists you are planning on utilizing and more project information. Thank you for thinking of us!

 **Emma Campbell**
she/her/hers
Land Stewardship Coordinator
Parks and Recreation
ecampbell@meridian.mi.us
W 517.853.4614 | F 517.853.4099
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI 48864
meridian.mi.us

From: Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>

Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 11:53 AM

To: Conway, Emily <conwaye2@msu.edu>

Cc: Emma Campbell <ecampbell@meridian.mi.us>; LuAnn Maisner <maisner@meridian.mi.us>

Subject: RE: Small Scale Prairie Restoration Project

Hi Emily,

Thank you for reaching out to us. The short answer is: YES PLEASE!! We will give you as much land as you need for studying restoration and prairie installation in our almost 2,000 acres of parks and land preserves. Are you thinking about doing one plot that is 5m x 5m?

I am going to cc Emma Campbell our Stewardship Coordinator on this email. I think that Emma will be able to select the best spot based on your needs. I'm also cc-ing our Director of Parks and Recreation, LuAnn Maisner, as she may have input as well.

We look forward to this project.

Thank you,
Jane



Jane Greenway, LLA

Senior Parks & Land Management Coordinator

greenway@meridian.mi.us

W 517.853-4610 / F 517.853-4099

2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI 48840

meridian.mi.us

From: Conway, Emily <conwaye2@msu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 11:29 AM
To: Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Small Scale Prairie Restoration Project

Hi,

My name is Emily Conway, and I am a graduate student in Lars Brudvig's lab in the Dept. of Plant Biology and the Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior Program. I study plant restoration ecology, primarily in urban areas (towns, cities, etc.) and I am interested in setting up a series of small-scale prairie restorations in and around the Lansing area as part of my dissertation to study the process of urban prairie restoration. My focus is on plants and I would like to understand how differences among sites (e.g., soil attributes, proximity to a road, amount of nearby impervious surface) affect which plant species establish and how the plant community develops during restoration.

That being said, I am looking for people and groups that might be interested in converting a small part of their property or park into a prairie planting. I was given your contact information from Frank Hatfield, and he said that Meridian Parks may be interested in something like this. If you are interested, I would install a small prairie planting by removing some of the existing lawn this summer (a 5x5m area ideally), adding prairie species as seeds this fall, and then monitoring their establishment and growth over the next couple of years each summer. Once the study is over, these plantings would be yours to do with as you'd like.

I am happy to provide some more information about the project if this is something that you or Meridian Parks might be interested in - looking forward to hearing from you!

Best,

Emily Conway

PhD Student | Brudvig Lab

Department of Plant Biology

Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior Program

Michigan State University

she/her/hers

Jane Greenway

From: Jill Batten <battenjr@haslett.k12.mi.us>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 2:59 PM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: Towner Road Park Support

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. The importance of fun and accessible social spaces in our parks is what makes our community attractive to families. A Fitness and Play Development at Towner Road Park would be an extremely valuable asset to the Haslett area.

Sincerely,
Jill Batten
Meridian Township Resident

--

Jill Batten
Academic Intervention
Wilkshire Early Childhood Center
(517) 339-8208

"We rise by lifting others." Robert Ingersoll

be kind.

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY: This is a transmission from Haslett Public Schools and the information contained is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed. If you are not the addressee, please note that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the contents of this message is prohibited.

Jane Greenway

From: Carnahan, Amy <carnah10@msu.edu>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 12:50 PM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: Towner Road Park

Good afternoon,

As an avid park and trail user, I am in support of improving and maintaining the parks system in Meridian Township. The Towner Road Park Intergenerational Fitness and Play Space Development Project will provide a fun, accessible, and comfortable multi-aged fitness and social space where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy fitness alongside play within a community park.

We adore this park and look forward to the new developments. Please let me know if you have further questions,

Amy



Amy Carnahan
(she/her/hers)
Director, Grandparents University/Alumni University

MSU Alumni Office
535 Chestnut, Room 300 | E. Lansing, MI 48824
Phone: 517.884.8979 | Toll free: 877.MSU.ALUM
carnah10@msu.edu | alumni.msu.edu

I recognize that my working day may not be your working day. Please do not feel obliged to respond outside of your working hours.

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [Pinterest](#), [Livestream](#) and [LinkedIn](#)

March 29, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. I have been a resident of Meridian Township for nearly 20 years and am an avid park and trail user. Our parks bring together diverse families and provide a sense of community for individuals of all ages.

A Fitness and Play Development at Towner Road Park would be a great addition to our community and would be an extremely valuable asset to the Haslett area. I'm excited about the proposed project that will provide a fun, accessible, and comfortable multi-aged fitness and social space where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy fitness alongside play within a community park.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Manuela K. Kress, Ph.D.
1376 Biscayne Way
Haslett, MI 48840

Jane Greenway

From: Dyer, Lauren <lauren.dyer@analysts.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 12:43 PM
To: Jane Greenway
Cc: Meridian Township Parks and Recreation
Subject: Fitness / Play Area at Towner Road Park

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. The importance of fun and accessible social spaces in our parks is what makes our community attractive to families. A Fitness and Play Development at Towner Road Park would be an extremely valuable asset to the Haslett area. Our family moved to the Lansing area 8 years ago and settled on Haslett in large part due to the amazing outdoor spaces in the area.

If you have questions please feel free to reach out.

Thank you for your support!

Lauren and Ben Dyer
Haslett residents



LAUREN DYER
Recruiter

A: 3800 Heritage Drive #A4, Okemos, MI 48864
P: (+1) 517-347-7632

in   

Jane Greenway

From: Chelcee Dalla-Vecchia <chelceedallavecchia@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 12:49 PM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: Letter of Support for Upgrades to Towner Park

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road.

As an avid park and trail user, I am in support of improving and maintaining the parks system in Meridian Township. The Towner Road Park Intergenerational Fitness and Play Space Development Project will provide a fun, accessible, and comfortable multi-aged fitness and social space where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy fitness alongside play within a community park.

Both of my kids take advantage of the recreational activities that Meridian Township offers and having a play area would be a welcome addition to distract my youngest child when my oldest plays baseball at Towner Park.

Thank you,

Chelcee Dalla-Vecchia

Jane Greenway

From: Amy Fielbrandt <afielbrandt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 12:40 PM
To: Jane Greenway

As an avid park and trail user, I am in support of improving and maintaining the parks system in Meridian Township. The Towner Road Park Intergenerational Fitness and Play Space Development Project will provide a fun, accessible, and comfortable multi-aged fitness and social space where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy fitness alongside play within a community park.

Amy Fielbrandt

Jane Greenway

From: nide@idealmortgage.org
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 10:02 AM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. The importance of fun and accessible social spaces in our parks is what makes our community attractive to families. A Fitness and Play Development at Towner Road Park would be an extremely valuable asset to the Haslett area. Our family uses that Towner Road Park quite often and this would be a great addition to our community.

Please feel free to call me with any further questions.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Nate Ide, Owner and Operations Manager

Ideal Mortgage Services, LLC

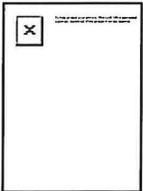
517-339-5300 (*office*)

517-339-5301 (*fax*)

Company NMLS ID:131221

Individual NMLS ID:138386

Click [here](#) to upload documents to us securely!



IdealMortgage.org

Click [here](#) to "Like" my Facebook Page!

Jane Greenway

From: Jane Greenway
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:47 PM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: add this letter to LOS under towner

-----Original Message-----

From: richard holcomb <richardholcomb77@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 3:12 PM
To: Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Letter Supporting A New Fitness & Play Area At Towner Park.

To Whom It May Concern,

Developing a fitness and play area at Towner Park is an excellent idea, and would add yet another dimension to this popular community park. As a senior and regular user of the Meridian parks and trails, I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to use fitness equipment at Towner, the closest park to our home. Thank you for constantly improving and maintaining the parks and equipment for us.

Richard Holcomb
6315 Sunhollow Lane
Haslett, MI 48840

Sent from my iPhone

Jane Greenway

From: Andrea Beauman <andreabeauman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:04 PM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: Towner Road

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. The importance of fun and accessible social spaces in our parks is what makes our community attractive to families. A Fitness and Play Development at Towner Road Park would be an extremely valuable asset to the Haslett area. As an avid park and trail user, I am in support of improving and maintaining the parks system in Meridian Township. The Towner Road Park Intergenerational Fitness and Play Space Development Project will provide a fun, accessible, and comfortable multi-aged fitness and social space where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy fitness alongside play within a community park.

Thank you for your consideration!!
Andrea
Beauman

Jane Greenway

From: Leah Arendt <leahkarendt@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 12:05 AM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: Letter of Support for Towner Rd Park Project

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road.

As a Meridian Township resident and avid park and trail user, I am in support of improving and maintaining the parks system in Meridian Township. The Towner Road Park Intergenerational Fitness and Play Space Development Project will provide a fun, accessible, and comfortable multi-aged fitness and social space where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy fitness alongside play within a community park. Further, the importance of fun and accessible social spaces in our parks is what makes our community attractive to families, including my own. A Fitness and Play Development at Towner Road Park would be an extremely valuable asset to the Haslett area.

Thank you for your time and consideration in reading this letter of support.

Sincerely,
Leah Arendt
5308 Chantilly Ln
Haslett, MI 48840

Jane Greenway

From: Indy R. Sochor <indysochor@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 6:23 AM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. As an avid park and trail user, I am in support of improving and maintaining the parks system in Meridian Township. The Towner Road Park Intergenerational Fitness and Play Space Development Project will provide a fun, accessible, and comfortable multi-aged fitness and social space where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy fitness alongside play within a community park.

--Indy R. Sochor**

Jane Greenway

From: Erin Hamilton <minnema@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 8:49 AM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: Letter of Support for a fitness and play area at Towner Road Park

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. The importance of fun and accessible social spaces in our parks is what makes our community attractive to families. A Fitness and Play Development at Towner Road Park would be an extremely valuable asset to the Haslett area.

Thank you,

--

Erin Hamilton
minnema@gmail.com

Jane Greenway

From: Christina Morey <morey.christina@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:54 PM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: Meridian Township Application

To Whom it May Concern,

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. This will be a great addition to this new park and something so many in the community can use and benefit from. This park is in a great central location and would be a unique asset to the community. Our family loves the Meridian Park system and admires the townships drive to improve and expand the park system.

Thank you,

Christina Morey

Jane Greenway

From: Niki McGuire <nikimcguire@me.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 7:20 PM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: Supporting grant application

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. The importance of fun and accessible social spaces in our parks is what makes our community attractive to families. A Fitness and Play Development at Towner Road Park would be an extremely valuable asset to the Haslett area. My kiddos would really love this addition!

Thank you for considering this grant application.

Regards,
Niki McGuire

Sent from my iPhone

Jane Greenway

From: Marikay Molnar <molnar@ceicmh.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 9:33 AM
To: Jane Greenway
Subject: RE: Letter of Support

Thank you so much for your reply. I appreciate the information. MKM

Marikay Molnar, M.A, RSST
Developmental Disabilities Clinician
CMHA-CEI

From: Jane Greenway [greenway@meridian.mi.us]
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 2:49 PM
To: Marikay Molnar
Subject: FW: Letter of Support

CAUTION

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Do not click any links or open any attachments unless
you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Thank you for your support of the Towner Road Park development project. At this point we do not have a swing in the project but there are other accessible pieces of exercise equipment and play areas. We can certainly look into the option of the swing. The surface beneath the play/fitness equipment will be poured-in-place rubber surfacing and will be totally accessible.

Thanks again,
Jane



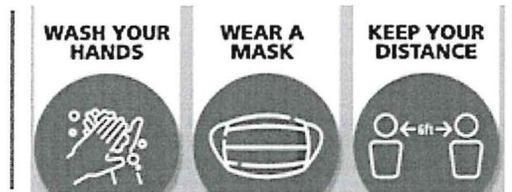
Jane Greenway, LLA
Senior Parks & Land Management Coordinator
greenway@meridian.mi.us
W 517.853-4610 / F 517.853-4099
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI 48840
meridian.mi.us

From: Mike Devlin <devlin@meridian.mi.us>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 2:05 PM
To: Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: FW: Letter of Support

From: Marikay Molnar <molnar@ceicmh.org>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 1:36 PM
To: Mike Devlin <devlin@meridian.mi.us>; Mike Devlin <devlin@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: RE: Letter of Support

Hello. Do the new plans include a wheelchair accessible swing/glider? Aside from the 'paved loop walking path,' will the access areas to the play equipment be paved, or have indoor/outdoor carpet, for wheelchair accessibility? Your feedback will be greatly appreciated. MkM

Marikay Molnar | MA, RSST
CSDD Life Consultation Case Manager
Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, Ingham Counties



telephone: 517-237-7056
fax: 517-346-8245
email: molnar@ceicmh.org
website: www.ceicmh.org

This email might contain confidential patient or other information that is protected by federal and state law. If you believe that this email reached you accidentally please reply back to notify me about the error, and please do not share this email with anybody else. If you are not the intended recipient do not review, distribute or duplicate any portion of this email.

From: ActiveNet@active.com <ActiveNet@active.com> **On Behalf Of** Meridian Township Parks and Recreation
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 12:26 PM
To: Marikay Molnar <molnar@ceicmh.org>
Subject: Letter of Support

CAUTION

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Hello Haslett Community!

The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of applying for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for a fitness and play area at Towner Road Park. It would be helpful if you could send a letter of support for the grant application.

Please email support letters to: greenway@meridian.mi.us and call 517-853-4610 with any questions. The letters may be addressed: To Whom it May Concern

Thank you in advance for advocating for your park system.

Description of project:

Towner Road Park Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area

The Towner Road Park proposed development will provide a fitness and social space for all ages and abilities within an existing community park. Towner Road Park is a 24-acre park surrounded by woods and wetlands. It includes four VERY popular pickleball courts, ball diamonds, a paved loop walking path, pavilion, restroom, and other park comforts. The new 5000 square foot Intergenerational Play and Fitness Zone development will include outdoor exercise equipment for adults, a small play structure for younger children, and FUN and

engaging "Ninja" exercise options for young teens. This development will improve this park by adding an energizing dimension that will attract new users.

Examples of letters of support:

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. The importance of fun and accessible social spaces in our parks is what makes our community attractive to families. A Fitness and Play Development at Towner Road Park would be an extremely valuable asset to the Haslett area.

OR:

As an avid park and trail user, I am in support of improving and maintaining the parks system in Meridian Township. The Towner Road Park Intergenerational Fitness and Play Space Development Project will provide a fun, accessible, and comfortable multi-aged fitness and social space where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy fitness alongside play within a community park.

Meridian Township Parks and Recreation
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court
Haslett, MI
48840

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Jane Greenway

From: Jane Greenway
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:21 AM
To: Mike Devlin
Cc: 'michelebsly@gmail.com'
Subject: RE: Letter of Support

Hi Michele,

Thank you for your questions regarding the proposed Towner Road Park Development project. At this point we do not have specific equipment selected but we would definitely like to include things that are, in fact, accessible to a child who requires a wheelchair.

This May we will be holding a Zoom meeting for the Universal Access Advisory Board. We would be very interested in hearing from you regarding existing parks and plans for park development as we move forward.

Would it be ok if I added your name and email to the list of people who may be interested in attending the meeting?

Thank you,
Jane



A Prime Community

Jane Greenway, LLA
Senior Parks & Land Management Coordinator
greenway@meridian.mi.us
W 517.853-4610 / F 517.853-4099
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI 48840
meridian.mi.us

From: Mike Devlin
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 10:36 PM
To: Jane Greenway <greenway@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Fwd: Letter of Support

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Michele Brock <michelebsly@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:54:33 PM
To: Mike Devlin <devlin@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Re: Letter of Support

Good Evening,

I am very interested in supporting Meridian township and a grant to improve parks. I am curious if you would be willing to share if creating the accessible park area you describe includes creating an adaptive playground or if the ninja course for young teens includes adaptive equipment within it? Part of being an accessible community and creating parks that all can use is creating them using universal design. I would not want a person or child with a disability to see our parks as stating they are accessible when, in fact, a child who requires a wheelchair cannot benefit from the equipment beyond a swing.

I look forward to hearing more and will happily write a letter when I know more about what access means.

Thank you,
Michele

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 29, 2021, at 12:01 PM, Meridian Township Parks and Recreation
<MeridianTownship@active.com> wrote:

Hello Haslett Community!

The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of applying for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for a fitness and play area at Towner Road Park. It would be helpful if you could send a letter of support for the grant application.

Please email support letters to: greenway@meridian.mi.us and call 517-853-4610 with any questions. The letters may be addressed: To Whom it May Concern

Thank you in advance for advocating for your park system.

Description of project:

Towner Road Park Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area

The Towner Road Park proposed development will provide a fitness and social space for all ages and abilities within an existing community park. Towner Road Park is a 24-acre park surrounded by woods and wetlands. It includes four VERY popular pickleball courts, ball diamonds, a paved loop walking path, pavilion, restroom, and other park comforts. The new 5000 square foot Intergenerational Play and Fitness Zone development will include outdoor exercise equipment for adults, a small play structure for younger children, and FUN and engaging "Ninja" exercise options for young teens. This development will improve this park by adding an energizing dimension that will attract new users.

Examples of letters of support:

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Meridian Township's 2021 application for the development of an Intergenerational Fitness and Play Area at Towner Road Park, 2055 Towner Road. The importance of fun and accessible social spaces in our parks is what makes our community attractive to families. A Fitness and Play Development at Towner Road Park would be an extremely valuable asset to the Haslett area.

OR:

As an avid park and trail user, I am in support of improving and maintaining the parks system in Meridian Township. The Towner Road Park Intergenerational Fitness and Play Space Development Project will provide a fun, accessible, and comfortable multi-aged fitness and social space where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy fitness alongside play within a community park.

Meridian Township Parks and Recreation
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court
Haslett, MI
48840

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To: Park Commission
From: LuAnn Maisner, CPRP
Director of Parks and Recreation
Date: May 13, 2021
Re: Recommendation of Township Board entering into Project Agreement
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund – Grant Acquisition
MSU to Lake Lansing Trail Hub Acquisition, Project # TF20-0096
5280 Okemos Road

Meridian Township was awarded a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) acquisition grant to acquire a 1.8-acre property located at 5280 Okemos Road. The total estimated project cost is \$170,000. Of that amount, Meridian Township will provide a 25% local match in the amount of \$42,500 and will receive \$127,500 in grant funding. **At this time the Township is required to enter a Project Agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.** The Project Agreement describes the purpose and scope of the acquisition project, as well as the responsibilities the Township is committing to undertaking by accepting the grant, including the long-term obligation to commit the project area to public outdoor recreation in perpetuity.

Property interest:

- 5280 Okemos Road, Haslett, MI 48840
 - Adjacent to Central Park/Nancy Moore Park
 - Parcel number #33-02-02-16-200-011
 - Area: 1.85 acres

Acquisition of this property supports the Township Goals and Objectives from the 2017 Master Plan: Goal 2: Preserve Open Spaces and Natural Areas and Goal 4: Expand and maintain park system.

Motion for Consideration:

MOVE TO REQUEST THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD ENTER INTO A PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING A 1.85-ACRE PARCEL (PARCEL #33-02-02-16-200-011) LOCATED AT 5280 OKEMOS ROAD, HASLETT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$170,000 WITH 75% OF THE COSTS (\$127,500) FUNDED BY THE MNRTF GRANT AND COMMITTING \$42,500 OR 25% OF COSTS FROM THE TOWNSHIP'S PARK MILLAGE FUND. THIS SITE, WHEN ACQUIRED, WILL HOST A DEDICATED ENTRANCE TO NANCY MOORE PARK AND SERVE AS A TRAILHEAD AREA FOR USERS OF THE PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE PATHWAY SYSTEM.



MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND
LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT AGREEMENT

This information is required by authority of Part 5 of Act 451, P.A. 1994 as amended, to receive funds.

This Agreement is between Meridian Charter Township in the county of Ingham County hereinafter referred to as the "GRANTEE," and the MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, an agency of the State of Michigan, hereinafter referred to as the "DEPARTMENT."

The purpose of this Agreement is to provide funding to acquire land or rights in land for the project named below . This Agreement is subject to the terms and conditions specified herein.

Project Title: MSU to Lake Lansing Trail Hub Acquisition Project #: TF20-0096
Amount of grant: \$127,500.00 75% PROJECT TOTAL: \$170,000.00
Amount of match: \$42,500.00 25%
Start Date: Date of Execution by DEPARTMENT End Date: 05/31/2023

As a precondition to the effectiveness of this Agreement, the GRANTEE is required to sign and return it to the DEPARTMENT with the necessary attachments by 07/06/2021, or the Agreement may be cancelled by the DEPARTMENT. This Agreement is not effective until the GRANTEE has signed it, returned it, and the DEPARTMENT has signed it.

The individuals signing below certify by their signatures that they are authorized to sign this Agreement on behalf of their agencies , and that the parties will fulfill the terms of this Agreement, including any attached appendices, as set forth herein.

GRANTEE

SIGNED
By [Print Name]:
Title:
Organization:
Date:

DUNS #
SIGMA Vendor Number SIGMA Address ID

Required - Please choose one
Acquisition Closing Option Desired:
[] This project will be completed utilizing a grant reimbursement process.
[] This project will be completed utilizing an escrow closing process.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SIGNED:
By
Grants Section Manager
Date of Execution by DEPARTMENT

1. This Agreement shall be administered on behalf of the DEPARTMENT by the Grants Management Section within the Finance and Operations Division. All notices, reports, documents, requests, actions or other communications required between the DEPARTMENT and the GRANTEE shall be submitted through the department's online grant management system, MiRecGrants, which is accessed through www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants, unless otherwise instructed by the DEPARTMENT. Primary points of contact pertaining to this agreement shall be:

GRANTEE CONTACT

Name/Title

Organization

Address

Address

Telephone Number

E-mail Address

DEPARTMENT CONTACT

MNRTF Grant Program Manager

Name/Title

Grants Management/DNR Finance & Operations

Organization

525 W. Allegan Street, Lansing, MI 48933

Address

P.O. Box 30425, Lansing, MI 48909

Address

517-284-7268

Telephone Number

DNR-Grants@michigan.gov

E-mail Address

2. The legal description of the project area, boundary map of the project area, and the land acquisition grant application bearing the number **TF20-0096** uploaded to MiRecGrants are by this reference made part of this Agreement. The Agreement together with the referenced documents in MiRecGrants constitute the entire Agreement between the parties and may be modified only in writing and executed in the same manner as the Agreement is executed.
3. The time period allowed for project completion is from **05/07/2021** through **05/31/2023**, hereinafter referred to as the "project period." Requests by the GRANTEE to extend the project period shall be submitted in MiRecGrants before the expiration of the project period. Extensions to the project period are at the discretion of the DEPARTMENT and may only be extended by an amendment to this Agreement.
4. The grant herein provided is for the acquisition by the GRANTEE of **1.85** acres of land in **Fee Simple** title free of all liens and encumbrances, situated and being in the city/village/township of **Meridian Township**, in the County of **Ingham County**, **STATE OF MICHIGAN** as described in the uploaded legal description and shown on the uploaded boundary map. As used in this Agreement, the words "project area" shall mean the lands acquired under this Agreement as described in this Section.
5. The project area shall be used for **trail purposes and general outdoor recreation and park use**, as further described in the GRANTEE'S proposal to the DEPARTMENT and approved by the MNRTF Board. Significant changes in the use of the project area as described in this Section require the prior written authorization of the DEPARTMENT.
6. In order to preserve the financial resources of the State of Michigan and to prevent unjust enrichment of a third party interim owner, if the landowner listed in the project application grants any rights in the real property to an individual or agency other than the GRANTEE, the DEPARTMENT may inspect the terms of the conveyance as a condition to approving the GRANTEE to close.
7. The DEPARTMENT will:
 - a. grant to the GRANTEE a sum of money equal to **Seventy-Five percent (75%)** as reimbursement or as payment

into an escrow account for escrow closing, of the total eligible cost of acquisition of fee simple title free of all liens and encumbrances to the lands in the project area, not to exceed the sum of **One Hundred and Twenty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$127,500.00)**. Acquisition of easements or other rights in land less than fee simple will be considered on a case by case basis at the discretion of the DEPARTMENT .

- b. include the following in the total cost of acquisition eligible for grant funding (based on grant percentage) as provided for in Section 7(a):
 - i. Purchase price of the land, up to the market value, in the project area acquired by the GRANTEE during the project period as provided for in section 9(f) of this Agreement;
 - ii. Reasonable and appropriate costs incurred and paid by the GRANTEE during the project period for recording fees, title insurance, transfer tax, prorated property tax, closing fees and environmental assessments; and
 - iii. Costs incurred and paid by the GRANTEE for appraisal(s) as provided for in Section 9(f) and approved by the DEPARTMENT.
- c. grant funds to the GRANTEE for eligible costs and expenses incurred, as follows:
 - i. Payments will be made on a reimbursement basis or to an escrow account for escrow closing for **Seventy-Five percent (75%)** of the eligible expenses incurred by the GRANTEE up to 90% of the maximum amount allowable under the grant.
 - ii. Reimbursement (or payment to an escrow account for escrow closing) will be made only upon DEPARTMENT review and approval of a complete reimbursement (or escrow closing) request submitted by the GRANTEE on forms provided by the DEPARTMENT that meet all documentation requirements set forth by the DEPARTMENT. A complete reimbursement or escrow closing request must document the total cost of the acquisition and the GRANTEE's compliance with Section 8 of this Agreement and DEPARTMENT acquisition project procedures.
 - iii. The DEPARTMENT shall conduct an audit of the project's financial records upon approval of the final reimbursement request or completion of the escrow closing. The DEPARTMENT may issue an audit report with no deductions or may find some costs ineligible for final audit reimbursement.
 - iv. The final 10% of the grant amount will be released upon completion of a satisfactory audit by the DEPARTMENT and documentation that the GRANTEE has erected proper signage acknowledging MNRTF assistance in compliance with Section 9(q) of this Agreement.

8. Closing Options:

a. FOR REIMBURSEMENT PROJECTS:

The GRANTEE shall be eligible for reimbursement only upon GRANTEE'S completion of all of the following:

- i. Electing to use the grant reimbursement closing process at time of signing this project agreement (See grey box prior to signature section).
- ii. Acquisition by GRANTEE of fee simple title free of all liens and encumbrances of all land in the project area. Acquisition of easements or other rights in land less than fee simple will be considered on a case by case basis at the discretion of the DEPARTMENT.
- iii. Submission of proof of acquisition of marketable record title to the DEPARTMENT in the form of a policy of title insurance ensuring the GRANTEE possesses marketable record title in fee simple, free of all liens and encumbrances to the land in the project area. Said policy is to insure the GRANTEE against loss or damage at least equal to the purchase price of the subject land.
- iv. Proper conveyance to the State of Michigan of all mineral interest to which the State is entitled under this Agreement as outlined in Section 9(m).
- v. Submission of a complete request for reimbursement as set forth in this Agreement.

b. FOR ESCROW CLOSING PROJECTS:

The GRANTEE shall be eligible for grant funding through escrow closing process only upon GRANTEE'S completion of the following:

- i. Electing to use the escrow closing process at time of signing this project agreement (See grey box prior to signature section).
- ii. Securing the services of a reputable title company who will agree to serve as the escrow closing agent.
- iii. Execution of escrow closing agreement by GRANTEE, DEPARTMENT, LANDOWNER/SELLER and title

company (agent).

- iv. Providing Department and title company an approximate desired timeframe for closing.
- v. Sending DEPARTMENT the draft closing packet (reference Land Acquisition Escrow Closing Package Checklist) at least 60 days prior to the desired closing date.
- vi. Coordinating with title company to schedule the exact closing date after DEPARTMENT'S approval of draft closing documents and submitting to DEPARTMENT an updated closing statement from the title company at least 10 days before the desired closing date.
- vii. Submitting local matching funds plus 10% of the eligible grant amount to title company for deposit into escrow account and providing proof of escrowed funds to the DEPARTMENT.

9. The GRANTEE will:

- a. immediately make available all funds needed to pay all necessary costs required to complete the project and to provide **Forty-Two Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$42,500.00)** as local match to this project. This sum represents **Twenty-Five percent (25%)** of the total eligible cost of acquisition including incidental costs. Any cost overruns incurred to complete the project called for by this Agreement shall be the sole responsibility of the GRANTEE.
- b. complete the acquisition in compliance with the acquisition project procedures set forth by the DEPARTMENT.
- c. make no written offer or commitment to purchase lands in the project area before execution of this Agreement and before written DEPARTMENT approval as provided for in Section 9. Failure to comply with this requirement shall, at the option of the DEPARTMENT, make the cost of the property an ineligible expense under this Agreement and subject this Agreement to termination by the DEPARTMENT.
- d. provide verification that the site is not a facility as defined in Part 201 of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended, based on the results of due diligence and, if needed, an environmental assessment or, if the site has been determined to be a facility, to provide documentation of due care compliance. The results of the due diligence must be accounted for in the appraisal(s).
- e. complete a 40-year title review on the property. The results of the title review must be accounted for in the appraisal(s).
- f. obtain an appraisal of the real estate within the project area in accordance with standards established by the DEPARTMENT to determine the market value thereof; two appraisals meeting these standards being required for properties valued at \$750,000 or more. Failure to complete the appraisal(s) in this manner shall make the cost of said appraisal(s) an ineligible expense under this Agreement.
- g. submit the appraisal(s) to the DEPARTMENT for approval no later than 120 days after the date of execution of this Agreement. No written offer or commitment to purchase land in the project area shall be transmitted by the GRANTEE until after approval has been given in writing by the DEPARTMENT.
- h. perform, or to directly contract for the performance of, all appraisal(s), appraisal review(s), title review, closing and acquisition of all lands in the project area.
- i. eliminate all pre-existing non-recreation uses of the project area within 90 days of the date of acquisition, unless otherwise approved by the DEPARTMENT in writing.
- j. remove existing structures or make ready for an appropriate use in a reasonable time frame after completion of the acquisition.
- k. complete acquisition of the entire project area before **05/31/2023**. Failure to acquire the project area by **05/31/2023** shall constitute a breach of this Agreement and subject the GRANTEE to the remedies provided by law and set forth in Section 23 of this Agreement.
- l. provide the DEPARTMENT all documents and information as specified in Sections 8a or 8b of this Agreement. If utilizing reimbursement process, documents must be submitted within 60 days after the transaction is closed. If utilizing escrow closing process, documents must be submitted no later than 60 days prior to desired closing. Failure to submit the required documents and information for review shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement. Proof of payment to seller (such as cancelled check, wire confirmation, etc.), recorded warranty deed, recorded mineral royalty deed and recorded Declaration and Notice must be submitted to the DEPARTMENT within 60 days after closing. The final 10% of eligible grant amount will be released upon satisfactory audit review and approval by the DEPARTMENT.
- m. for parcels over 5 acres, execute, acknowledge and deliver to the DEPARTMENT a deed conveying to the State of Michigan a perpetual nonparticipating royalty equal to 1/6 of the gross proceeds of sale of all oil and/or gas and other minerals produced and saved in any combination from the mineral rights in, on or under the lands in the project area.
- n. retain all rights acquired by the GRANTEE in coal, oil, gas, sand, gravel or any other minerals in, on or under the lands in the project area in perpetuity.
- o. not develop any rights acquired by the GRANTEE in coal, oil, gas, sand, gravel or any other minerals in, on or under

the lands in the project area in a manner that diminishes the usefulness of the project area for its intended purposes. In addition, GRANTEE agrees not to develop, or allow others to develop, any such minerals from sites adjacent to the project area in a manner that diminishes the usefulness of the project area for its intended purposes.

- p. maintain satisfactory financial accounts, records, and documents and to make them available to the DEPARTMENT for auditing upon request. Such accounts, records, and documents shall be retained by the GRANTEE for not less than three years following submittal of the final audit reimbursement request.
 - q. erect and maintain a sign or other acknowledgement as approved by the DEPARTMENT on the property which designates this project as one having been acquired with the assistance of the MNRTF. The size, color, and design of this sign shall be in accordance with DEPARTMENT specifications.
 - r. conduct a dedication/ribbon-cutting ceremony as soon as possible after the project is completed and the MNRTF sign is erected within the project area. At least 30 days prior to the dedication/ribbon-cutting ceremony, the DEPARTMENT must be notified in writing of the date, time, and location of the dedication/ribbon-cutting ceremony. GRANTEE shall provide notice of ceremony in the local media. Use of the grant program logo and a brief description of the program are strongly encouraged in public recreation brochures produced by the GRANTEE. At the discretion of the DEPARTMENT, the requirement to conduct a dedication/ribbon-cutting ceremony may be waived.
 - s. provide the DEPARTMENT for approval, a complete tariff schedule containing all charges to be assessed against the public utilizing the project area and/or any facilities constructed thereon, and to provide the DEPARTMENT for approval, all amendments thereto before the effective date of such amendments. Any tariff schedule proposed shall provide solely for sufficient revenues to cover the costs of operating, maintaining and/or developing the premises and/or any facilities provided thereon. Preferential membership or annual permit systems are prohibited at this site. Differences in admission and other fees may be instituted on the basis of residence. Nonresident fees shall not exceed twice that charged residents. If no resident fees are charged, nonresident fees may not exceed the rate charged residents at other comparable state and local public recreation facilities.
 - t. separately account for any revenues received from the project area which exceed the demonstrated operating costs and to reserve such surplus revenues for the future maintenance and/or expansion of the GRANTEE'S park and outdoor recreation program.
 - u. furnish the DEPARTMENT, upon request, detailed statements covering the annual operation of project area and/or facilities, including income and expenses and such other information the DEPARTMENT might reasonably require.
 - v. adopt such ordinances and/or resolutions as shall be required to effectuate the provisions of this Agreement; certified copies of all such ordinances and/or resolutions adopted for such purposes shall be forwarded to the DEPARTMENT before the effective date thereof.
 - w. maintain the premises in such condition as to comply with all federal, state, and local laws which may be applicable and to make any and all payments required to pay any and all taxes, fees, or assessments legally imposed against the project area.
 - x. make the project area and any facilities located thereon, as well as the land and water access ways to them, open to the public within 90 days of the date of acquisition and keep them open to the public at all times on equal and reasonable terms. No individual shall be denied ingress or egress thereto or the use thereof because of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, residence, age, height, weight, familial status, marital status or disability.
 - y. make the project area and any future facilities provided thereon available for public outdoor recreation in perpetuity and in accordance with uses described in this Agreement and APPENDIX C, to regulate the use thereof and to provide for the maintenance thereof to the satisfaction of the DEPARTMENT, and to appropriate such moneys and/or provide such services as shall be necessary to provide such adequate maintenance.
10. The GRANTEE shall acquire fee simple title, free of all liens, encumbrances, or restrictions on future use to the lands in the project area. The fee simple title acquired shall not be subject to (1) any possibility of reversion or right of entry for condition broken or any other executory limitation which may result in defeasance of title or (2) to any reservations or prior conveyance of coal, oil, gas, sand, gravel or any other mineral interests.
11. The GRANTEE shall not allow any encumbrance, lien, security interest, mortgage or any evidence of indebtedness to attach to or be perfected against the project area.
12. The project area and any facilities located thereon shall not be wholly or partially conveyed, either in fee, easement or otherwise, or leased for a term of years, or for any other period, nor shall there be any whole or partial transfer of title, ownership, or right of ownership or control without the written approval and consent of the DEPARTMENT.
13. The assistance provided to the GRANTEE as a result of this Agreement is intended to have a lasting effect on the supply of outdoor recreation, scenic beauty sites, and recreation facilities beyond the financial contribution alone and permanently commits the project area to Michigan's outdoor recreation estate, therefore:

- a. The GRANTEE agrees that lands in the project area are being acquired with MNRTF assistance and shall be maintained in public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. No portion of the project area shall be converted to other than public outdoor recreation use without the approval of the DEPARTMENT. The DEPARTMENT shall approve such conversion only upon such conditions as it deems necessary to assure the substitution by GRANTEE of other outdoor recreation properties of equal or greater market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location. Such substituted land shall become part of the project area and will be subject to all the provisions of this Agreement.
 - b. Approval of a conversion shall be at the sole discretion of the DEPARTMENT.
 - c. Before completion of the project, the GRANTEE and the DEPARTMENT may mutually agree to alter the project area through an amendment to this Agreement to provide the most satisfactory public outdoor recreation area.
14. Should title to the lands in the project area or any portion thereof be acquired from the GRANTEE by any other entity through exercise of the power of eminent domain, the GRANTEE agrees that the proceeds awarded to the GRANTEE shall be used to replace the lands affected with outdoor recreation properties of equal or greater market value, and of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location. The DEPARTMENT shall approve such replacement only upon such conditions as it deems necessary to assure the substitution with other outdoor recreation properties of equal or greater market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location. Such replacement land shall be subject to all the provisions of this Agreement.
15. The GRANTEE acknowledges that:
 - a. The GRANTEE has examined the project area and has found the property safe for public use or actions will be taken by the GRANTEE to make the property safe for public use no later than 90 days after the date of acquisition; and
 - b. The GRANTEE is solely responsible for development, operation, and maintenance of the project area, and that responsibility for actions taken to develop, operate, or maintain the project area is solely that of the GRANTEE; and
 - c. The DEPARTMENT'S involvement in the premises is limited solely to the making of a grant to assist the GRANTEE in acquiring the premises.
 - d. The GRANTEE acknowledges that the DEPARTMENT is not responsible for any tax liability assessed on the property after closing by the GRANTEE. Further, the eligible amount of tax pro-rated at time of closing will be determined by the DEPARTMENT.
16. Before the DEPARTMENT will give approval to make a written offer to purchase the property included in this project, the GRANTEE must provide documentation to the DEPARTMENT that indicates either:
 - a. It is reasonable for the GRANTEE to conclude, based on the advice of an environmental consultant, as appropriate, that no portion of the project area is a facility as defined in Part 201 of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended;or
 - b. If any portion of the project area is a facility, documentation that Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy-approved response actions have been or will be taken to make the site safe for its intended use within the project period, and that implementation and long-term maintenance of response actions will not hinder public outdoor recreation use and/or the resource protection values of the project area.
17. If the DEPARTMENT determines that, based on contamination, the project area will not be made safe for the planned recreation use within the project period, or another date established by the DEPARTMENT in writing, or if the DEPARTMENT determines that the presence of contamination will reduce the overall usefulness of the property for public recreation and resource protection, the grant may be cancelled by the DEPARTMENT with no reimbursement made to the GRANTEE.
18. The GRANTEE shall acquire and maintain, or cause to be acquired or maintained, insurance which will protect the GRANTEE from claims which may arise out of or result from the GRANTEE'S operations under this Agreement, whether performed by the GRANTEE, a subcontractor or anyone directly or indirectly employed by the GRANTEE, or anyone for whose acts may hold them liable. Such insurance shall be with companies authorized to do business in the State of Michigan in such amounts and against such risks as are ordinarily carried by similar entities, including but not limited to public liability insurance, worker's compensation insurance or a program of self-insurance complying with the requirements of Michigan law. The GRANTEE shall provide evidence of such insurance to the DEPARTMENT at its request.

19. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to impose any obligation upon the DEPARTMENT to operate , maintain or provide funding for the operation and/or maintenance of any recreational facilities in the project area.
20. The GRANTEE hereby represents that it will defend any suit brought against either party which involves title, ownership, or any other rights, whether specific or general, including any appurtenant riparian rights, to and in the project area and any lands connected with or affected by this project.
21. The GRANTEE is responsible for the use and occupancy of the premises, the project area and the facilities thereon. The GRANTEE is responsible for the safety of all individuals who are invitees or licensees of the premises. The GRANTEE will defend all claims resulting from the use and occupancy of the premises, the project area and the facilities thereon. The DEPARTMENT is not responsible for the use and occupancy of the premises , the project area and the facilities thereon.
22. Failure by the GRANTEE to comply with any of the provisions of this Agreement shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement.
23. Upon breach of the Agreement by the GRANTEE, the DEPARTMENT, in addition to any other remedy provided by law and this Agreement, may:
 - a. Terminate this Agreement; and/or
 - b. Withhold and/or cancel future payments to the GRANTEE on any or all current recreation grant projects until the violation is resolved to the satisfaction of the DEPARTMENT ; and/or
 - c. Withhold action on all pending and future grant applications submitted by the GRANTEE under the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Recreation Passport Grant Program ; and/or
 - d. Require repayment of grant funds already paid to GRANTEE; and/or
 - e. Seek specific performance of the Agreement terms .
24. This Agreement may be canceled by the DEPARTMENT , upon 30 days written notice, due to Executive Order, budgetary reduction, other lack of funding, upon request by the GRANTEE, or upon mutual Agreement by the DEPARTMENT and GRANTEE. The DEPARTMENT may honor requests for just and equitable compensation to the GRANTEE for all satisfactory and eligible work completed under this Agreement up until 30 days after written notice, upon which time all outstanding reports and documents are due to the DEPARTMENT and the DEPARTMENT will no longer be liable to pay the GRANTEE for any further charges to the grant.
25. The GRANTEE agrees that the benefit to be derived by the State of Michigan from the full compliance by the GRANTEE with the terms of this Agreement is the preservation , protection and the net increase in the quality of public outdoor recreation facilities and resources which are available to the people of the State and of the United States and such benefit exceeds to an immeasurable and unascertainable extent the amount of money furnished by the State of Michigan by way of assistance under the terms of this Agreement. The GRANTEE agrees that after final audit reimbursement has been made to the GRANTEE, repayment by the GRANTEE of grant funds received would be inadequate compensation to the State for any breach of this Agreement. The GRANTEE further agrees therefore, that the appropriate remedy in the event of a breach by the GRANTEE of this Agreement after final audit reimbursement has been made shall be the specific performance of this Agreement.
26. The GRANTEE agrees not to discriminate against an employee or applicant for employment with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, or a matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, height, weight, marital status, partisan considerations, or a disability or genetic information that is unrelated to the person's ability to perform the duties of a particular job or position. The GRANTEE further agrees that any subcontract shall contain non-discrimination provisions which are not less stringent than this provision and binding upon any and all subcontractors. A breach of this covenant shall be regarded as a material breach of this Agreement.
27. The GRANTEE may not assign or transfer any interest in this Agreement without prior written authorization of the DEPARTMENT.
28. The rights of the DEPARTMENT under this Agreement shall continue in perpetuity.

If this Agreement is approved by Resolution, a true copy must be attached to this Agreement. A sample Resolution is on the next page.

To: Park Commission **7-C**
From: LuAnn Maisner, CPRP
Director of Parks and Recreation
Date: May 6, 2021
Re: Proposed Labyrinth Donation – Meridian Historical Village

Meridian Township Parks and Recreation was approached by the Rajendra Family, long-time residents of Okemos, with a proposal to donate a labyrinth in Central Park. The Rajendra Family is proposing to make this generous donation for the purpose of improving their community by providing an area for public enjoyment in the form of a peaceful and beautiful labyrinth area within a park.

The Rajendra Family has expressed the following wishes for the labyrinth design:

1. The design shall be unique, inviting, and enhance the surrounding park and Meridian Township, in general.
2. The labyrinth and garden space shall be simple and low-maintenance.
3. The design of the labyrinth and surrounding landscaping shall be beautiful, colorful but not overwhelming, comprised of shrubs and perennials that are low-maintenance, deer-resistant, and native to Michigan.
4. The area shall be accessible and inviting to persons with disabilities.
5. Include an explanation on-site for visitors to understand and benefit the with the enjoyment of the facility and the sign will include the Rajendra family name.
6. Develop a maintenance agreement of understanding for the park improvement.

Staff has been working with the Rajendra Family to develop plans and cost estimates for the labyrinth project. It is our hope that the labyrinth can be installed in late spring/early summer 2021.

Motion for Park Commission Consideration:

MOVE TO SUPPORT THE REQUEST FOR MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF TO WORK WITH THE RAJENDRA FAMILY ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A LABYRINTH IN CENTRAL PARK, MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN. THIS PARK

IMPROVEMENT WILL SERVE THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY AND WILL BE A BEAUTIFUL
PARK IMPROVEMENT DESIGNED FOR REST, RELAXATION, AND GENERAL ENJOYMENT.

Attachment

1. Proposed labyrinth plans



RAJENDRA FAMILY HEALING LABYRINTH

CENTRAL PARK
OKEMOS, MICHIGAN
2021



DESIGN PROGRAM

Design a **labyrinth in Central Park** as a donation from the Rajendra Family, who are long-time residents of Okemos. The Rajendra Family is proposing to make this generous donation for the purpose of improving their community by providing an area for public enjoyment in the form of a peaceful and beautiful labyrinth area within a park.

The design shall be **unique, inviting, and enhance the surrounding park and Meridian Township**, in general.

The labyrinth and garden space shall be **simple and low-maintenance**.

The design of the labyrinth and surrounding landscaping shall be **beautiful, colorful** but not overwhelming, comprised of shrubs and perennials that are **low-maintenance**, deer-resistant, and **native** to Michigan.

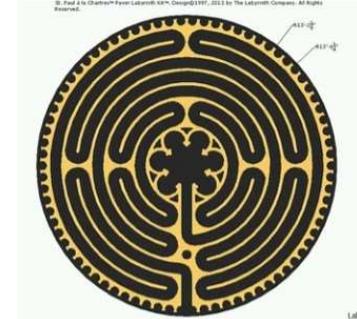
The area shall be **accessible and inviting** to persons with disabilities.

Include an **explanation** on-site for visitors to understand and benefit the with the enjoyment of the facility.



WHAT IS A LABYRINTH?

A labyrinth **represents a journey** to our own center and back again out into the world. A labyrinth is looked upon as a place of **safety** and **rejuvenation**. It is all about the **journey** to the center of the labyrinth and a traveler is to walk it with **intent and purpose**.



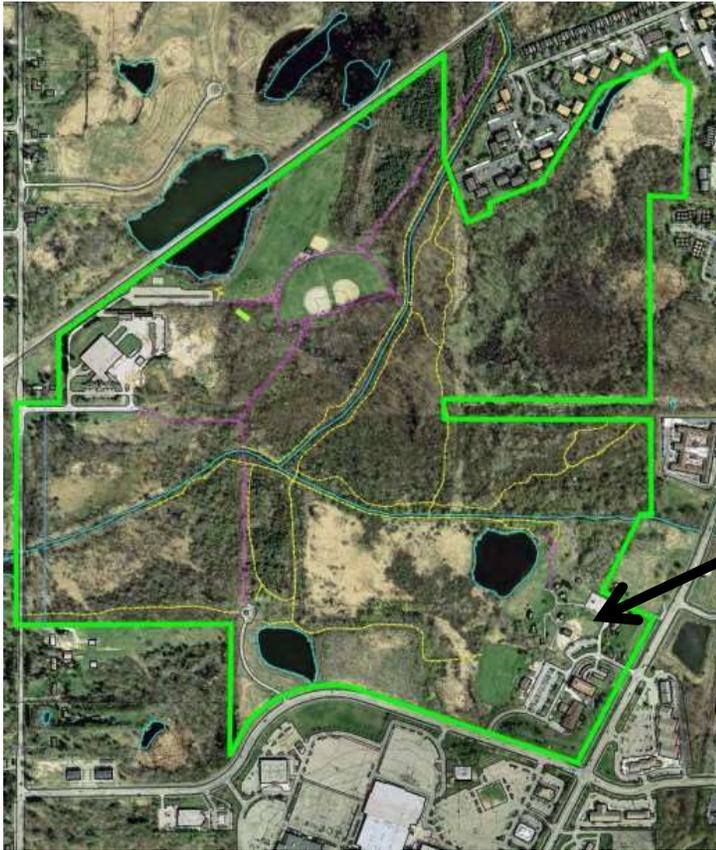
It combines the imagery of the circle and the spiral into a **meandering but purposeful path**.

It has **only one path** that leads from the outer edge in a circuitous way to the center. Unlike a maze where you lose your way, **the labyrinth can help you find your way**. There are no dead ends.

Labyrinths are currently being **used world-wide** as a way to **quiet the mind**, recover a **balance** in life, and encourage **insight, self-reflection,** and **stress reduction**.

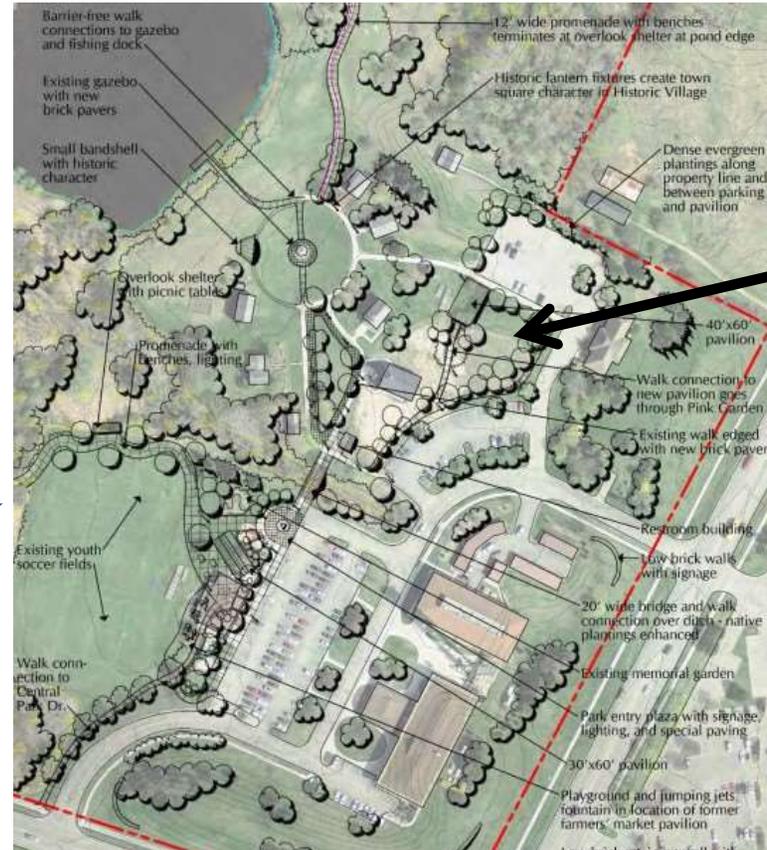
They are **open to all people** as a non-denominational, cross-cultural space for **well-being**. The practice of **labyrinth walking** integrates the body with the mind and the mind with the spirit.

They can be found in medical centers, **parks**, churches, schools, prisons, memorial parks, spas, cathedrals and retreat centers as well as in people's backyards.



CENTRAL PARK, 204 ACRE PARK

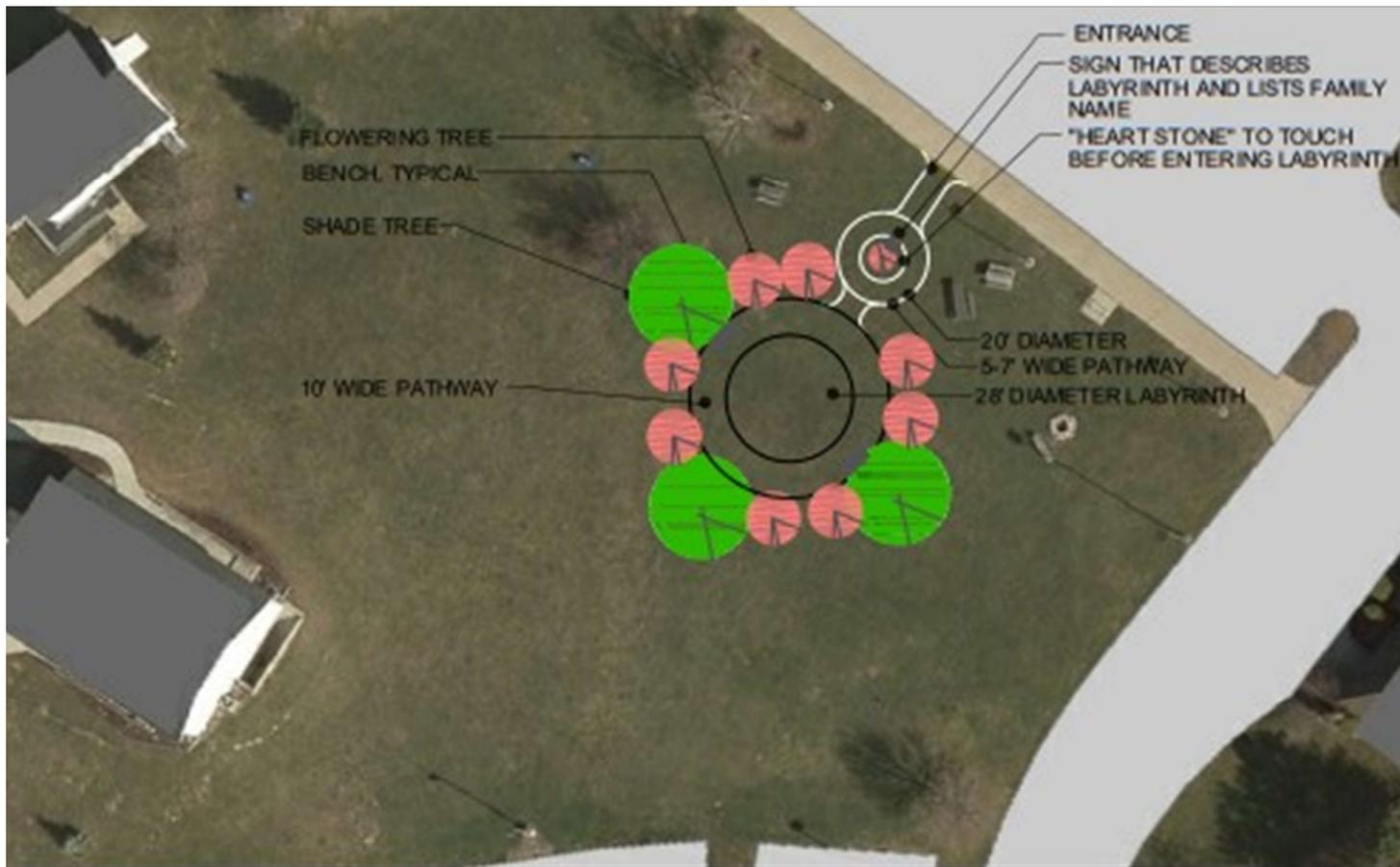
**5151 MARSH ROAD
OKEMOS, MICHIGAN 48864**



MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

MERIDIAN HISTORICAL VILLAGE AND GARDENS





CONCEPTUAL LABYRINTH DESIGN

28' diameter labyrinth with additional 10' wide pathway with benches

Heart Stone entrance, 20' diameter, 7' wide pathway, recognition sign and description of labyrinth

Native trees and shrubbery to provide natural buffer and beauty

Design Inspiration and Plant Palette

A formal labyrinth surrounded by a peaceful planting area that will attract pollinators.



Heart space to touch before entering the space. The Heart Space can be a boulder or any other physical symbol. The walker can touch the boulder before they begin the journey.

Eastern redbud, sand coreopsis, bee-balm, little bluestem, lavender, wild geranium, dogwood (all Michigan natives that are suited to this area)



Boulders for resting

DESIGN ELEMENTS

The visitor will **approach the labyrinth space** from the parking area in the Meridian Historical Village.

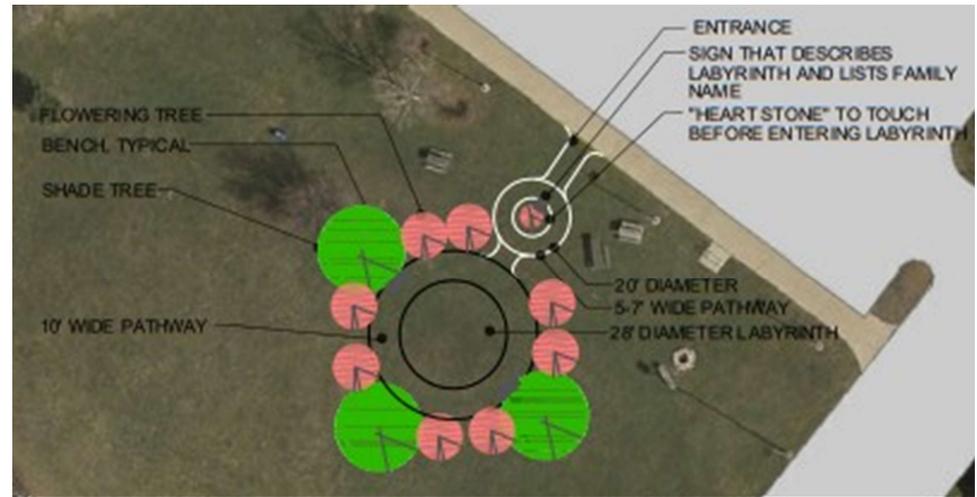
A **7' wide concrete path** will lead the visitor to the **Heart Space**, which is the **entrance** to the labyrinth and the first stop. A **plaque** will honor the donation and describe the **labyrinth journey**.

The visitor will then enter the **Labyrinth**, which has a **28' diameter** and is comprised of a pre-planned design of **pavers**. The pavers will be installed on a layer of stone and sand and will be installed by professionals. Pavers will be very low-maintenance and long lasting.

A **10' wide concrete path** surrounds the labyrinth. This will allow for a **separation** between park visitors who would like to simply sit on a bench and relax or “people watch” vs. someone who is quietly utilizing the labyrinth (or not-so-quiet children who will likely enjoy running along the labyrinth path.)

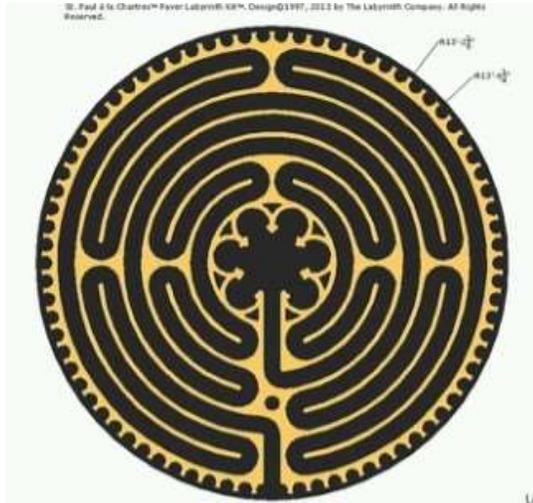
Boulders and benches on the perimeter of the labyrinth area will provide places for **resting** and will enhance the journey.

Native, low-maintenance, deer-resistant **landscaping** will surround the perimeter to create a **peaceful and beautiful garden area**.



LABYRINTH DESIGN

There are **many options** for labyrinth design. The option here is a Contemporary Medieval design which is a simplified version of the 850 year old labyrinth found at the **Chartres Cathedral in Paris**. This design gives you a long journey in a small space.



This company has numerous options for pre-planned paver kits and includes designs and prices:
<https://www.labyrinthcompany.com/collections/paver-brick-kits>



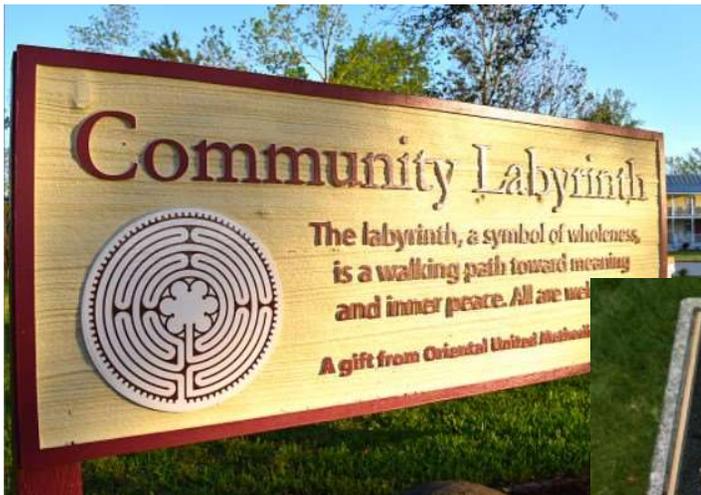
LABYRINTH USE

The labyrinth will be a space that is accessible available to the public for a variety of uses and enjoyment.

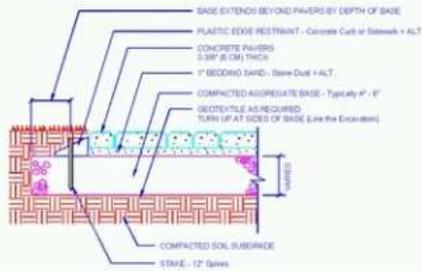


EXAMPLES OF PLAQUES AND SIGNS

The sign will be located in the **Heart Space** and will serve to describe the purpose of a labyrinth and provide instruction for use. The sign will also honor the donation from the Rajendra Family.



TYPICAL PAVER LABYRINTH INSTALLATION CROSS-SECTION



NOTE:
THICKNESS OF AGGREGATE BASE WILL VARY WITH SUBGRADE CONDITIONS AND CLIMATE.
COLDER CLIMATES MAY REQUIRE THICKER BASES.

PATIO - PLAZA - WALKWAY
WITH PLASTIC EDGE RESTRAINT



NEXT STEPS

1. Rajendra Family reviews the plans and provides input. <https://www.labyrinthcompany.com/collections/paver-brick-kits>
2. Township staff obtains cost estimate and presents it to Dr. Rajendra for consideration and potential revisions.
3. Township refines plans (develop construction plans).
4. Rajendra Family provides final input.
5. Township obtains bids for project installation (pavers, landscaping, concrete, plaque, benches)
6. Award bid, develop contract with installation company
7. Build project

Celebrate project! Ribbon cutting!





THANK YOU!

CONTACTS:

LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation

517-853-4604

Maisner@meridian.mi.us

Jane Greenway, LLA, Senior Parks and Land
Management Coordinator

517-853-4610

greenway@meridian.mi.us



MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
DONATION AND GIFT AGREEMENT

This agreement signed on: _____ between Meridian Charter Township and the Donor: Dr. Rajendra, specifies the terms of a restricted gift, which may include provisions regarding maintenance, life span, and Donor recognition.

The purpose of this agreement is to set forth the mutual agreement and understanding for accepting and maintaining the donation or memorial between the Donor and Meridian Charter Township. This agreement shall adhere to the **MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP DONATION/GIFT/MEMORIAL ACCEPTANCE POLICY**.

1. LIFE SPAN OF DONATION

General description of donation: Paver stone labyrinth, concrete paths, donor plaque, and landscape beds.

Reasonably expected lifespan: 20 years

2. MAINTENANCE

Township Obligations: The Township will be responsible for general maintenance of the donation for the anticipated lifespan of 20 years.

Annual Maintenance Items: Potential annual maintenance items may include: shrub/tree replacement, general landscape bed maintenance, mulch replenishment, sweeping and cleaning pavers, periodically replacing the sand between the pavers.

Estimated cost of maintenance: The estimated cost to maintain the donation is \$500 per year (\$500/year x 20 years= \$10,000). It is acknowledged that the first 5 years will likely require less maintenance than when the donation begins to mature. The maintenance

fund will only be utilized for the purpose of maintaining this donation.

3. DONOR RECOGNITION

The donor recognition plaque sign will serve to describe the purpose of the labyrinth and provide instruction for use. The sign will also honor the donation from the Rajendra Family.

4. COST OF DONATION

Materials and installation: Paver stone labyrinth, concrete paths, donor plaque, and landscape beds

\$ _____

Anticipated maintenance expense: \$10,000

Reasonably expected lifespan: 20 years

Total donation/maintenance fund amount= \$ _____

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Name:

Signature:

Date: