



Dauphin-Middle Paxton
Joint Park Authority
March, 2023

DAUPHIN-MIDDLE PAXTON *Community Park*

Master Site Development Plan

This plan was funded entirely by an allocation of Local Share Account (LSA) funds through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) and the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA).



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INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Study

This Master Plan was commissioned by the Dauphin-Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority (the “Authority”) for the redevelopment of the 34.2-acre Dauphin Middle Paxton (DMP) Community Park, located in Dauphin Borough. This document is intended to guide the Authority in decisions about facility upgrades, capital improvements, and maintenance of the Park. The completed Master Plan is the result of a collaboration between the public, a project steering committee, the Authority, the Dauphin Recreation Association, Dauphin Borough and Middle-Paxton Township staff, and project consultants. It outlines the planning process and provides a vision for the future of the Park as a valuable resource to the community.

This plan was funded entirely by grants, including an allocation of gaming revenues from the Local Share Account through the Commonwealth Financing Authority.

Dauphin Middle Paxton Community Park: Organizational Structure

The land commonly referred to as the Dauphin Middle Paxton (DMP) Community Park is comprised of four (4) parcels owned by the Dauphin Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority (Authority), one small privately owned parcel and one parcel owned by Dauphin Borough, for a total of 34.2 acres.

Within the total acreage, there are six (6) t-ball/baseball/softball fields, the Dauphin Community Pool, a veterans memorial area, courts, playgrounds, pavilions, various support structures, parking and sidewalks. The Authority acts as 'owner' of the park and manages all financial, maintenance and utility obligations through its all-volunteer Board of Directors (7 members representing both Middle Paxton Township and Dauphin Borough.) Specific programming and maintenance information follows:

Programming Responsibilities

Dauphin Recreation Association (DRA)

The DRA was established in 1964 as a non-profit corporation established to operate and oversee the Dauphin Community Pool. (The Pool itself opened in 1966). The DRA is run by a Board of Director who oversee season hiring, maintenance, concession stand operation, membership and pool finances. The DRA is a 100% volunteer Board who actively seek other volunteers to assist in the operation of the Pool from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The Dauphin Swim Team operates under the auspices of the DRA. 'Learn to Swim' programs operated by the DRA were initially begun by the Dauphin Lions who still actively support programs that allow community members to partake in swim safety instruction.

Dauphin Athletic Association (DAA)

The DAA is an umbrella organization which oversees the following programs for residents of Middle Paxton Township and Dauphin Borough: baseball, softball, basketball and soccer. Dauphin Baseball (established in 1967) and Dauphin Girls Fast Pitch Softball use the DMP Community Park fields. Lease agreements with the Authority are executed annually. Other baseball and softball organizations may approach the Authority for field rentals.

Maintenance Responsibilities

Dauphin Borough & Middle Paxton Township

The Borough and Township jointly contribute financially to the Authority for the maintenance of the Park. They also share some of the typical maintenance required for the Park: grass cutting, fence repairs, driveway patching.

DRA

The DRA handles maintenance and repair of the pool structures and the bathhouse and concessions buildings.

DAA

The DAA handles the specific maintenance of the six (6) ballfields: infield, home plate area, base lanes, and field lining.





Project Goals

It is the Authority's desire and intent that the Plan will:

- Provide a continued vision for the Park and an action plan for implementation of park improvements for the next ten (10) years;
- Include improvement recommendations based on a needs analysis, prioritization of improvements, any needed land acquisition, trail development and connections, recreation services, cultural amenities, cost estimates, and funding mechanisms;
- Plan for equitable distribution and access of these services and amenities throughout the communities that the Park serves;
- Provide for and recommend best practices for the provision and maintenance of the recreation services and assets.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Master Plan for the Dauphin Middle Paxton Community Park is to:

- Honor the history of the Community Park that has served residents for generations;
- Provide cost-effective and beautiful improvements that will serve park visitors of all ages and abilities; and
- Preserve and enhance the natural resources that make the Park a community oasis.

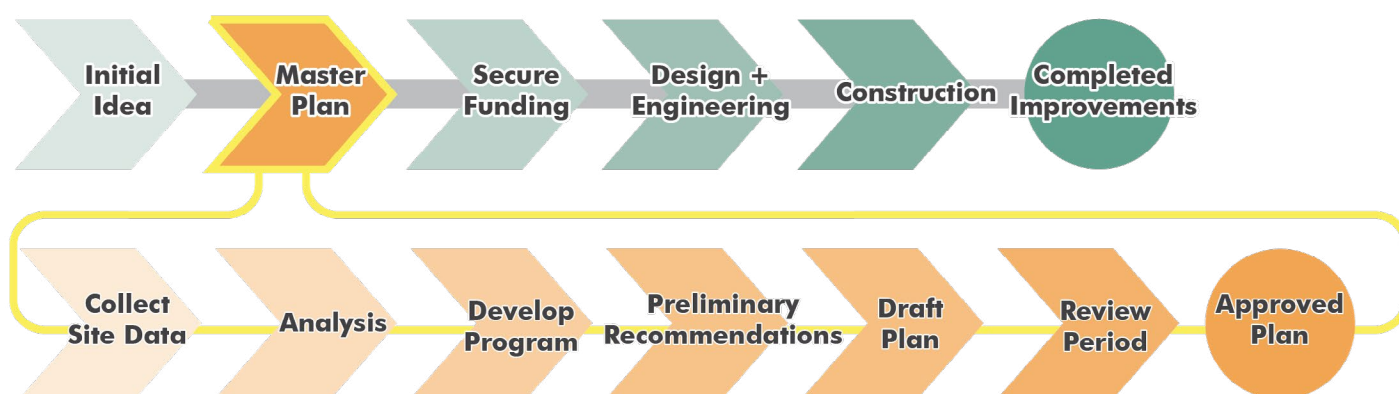


Figure 1.1 Master Planning Process

Master Planning Process

This master plan is an initial step towards the improvement of the park, presenting a consensus direction on desirable facility improvements for Dauphin-Middle Paxton (DMP) Community Park. The master plan provides estimates of probable costs of development, outlines a strategy for phasing improvements, and positions the Authority to pursue funding from a variety of potential sources. The master plan is a flexible guidance document; a blueprint that can be adapted to the future needs of the community.

The next step is to identify and acquire funding for improvements. Once funding is obtained, detailed design and engineering can be completed. Construction documents will be publicly bid, and a contract awarded for construction. A master plan is typically implemented through a series of phases, dependent upon funding, over a period of

years. In the case of DMP Community Park, four (4) phases spanning 5 to ten 10 years is a realistic time frame for the implementation of all park improvements. Alternatively, smaller and less costly facility improvements can be undertaken by the various sports organizations who work closely with the Authority.

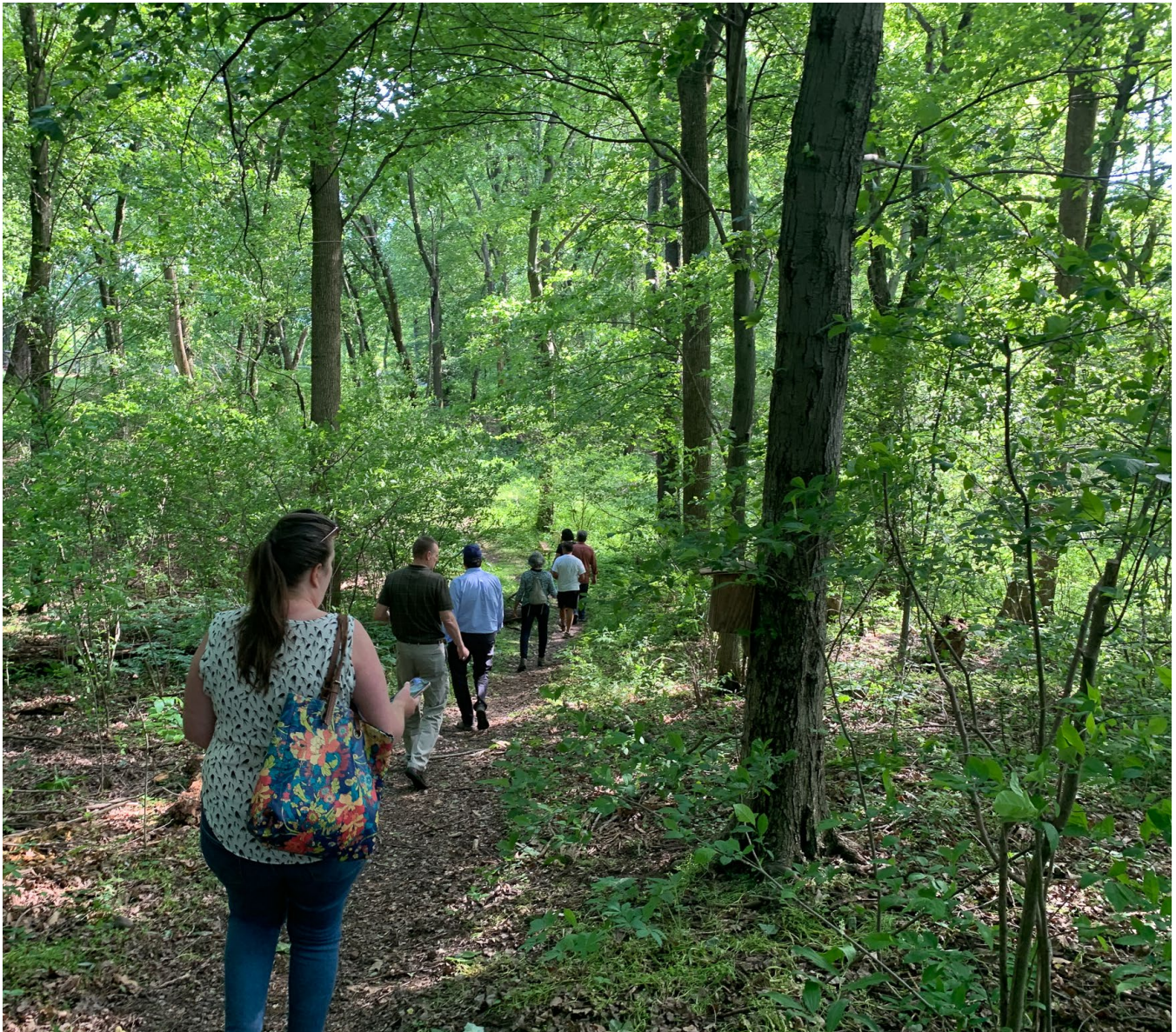
Project Team

A project team included the Steering Committee, the Authority, and Consultants who guided the master plan process. The Committee was comprised of residents, professionals, stakeholders, Borough and Township Staff, and Authority members. Led by Authority Vice President Nichole Staley O’Gorman, the Authority has helped to coordinate the process and provided input and comment on the plan. Committee and Authority members’ insights informed and guided the consultants throughout the process.

The Authority retained a consultant team that consisted of American Engineers Group and Simone Collins Landscape Architecture, who led the team.

Simone Collins Landscape Architecture (SC) is a planning and design firm based in Norristown, Pennsylvania with expertise in parks, trails, greenways, and recreational facilities. SC served as prime consultant and was responsible for overall facility design, public participation, and coordination with the Committee, the Authority, and Project Team.

American Engineers Group (AEG) is a professional consulting firm and a comprehensive MBE/DBE/SDB/SBE-certified organization that provides civil, structural, transportation, and geotechnical engineering, along with surveying, environmental, water resources, and construction testing and inspection services. AEG served as the team's environmental services consultant, assisting with the natural resource inventory, forest stewardship plan and invasive species analysis and plan. AEG also developed conceptual stormwater management plan.



Public Participation

Public participation is an important part of any master plan and helps to ensure the success of the project. A park master plan such as this can only be realized through the involvement of groups and individuals who know the park and community. Their participation lends credence to the need for this plan and, ultimately, justification for support and implementation of its recommendations.

The consultants worked with the Steering Committee to tailor the public participation process to the project. The 10-month process provided the team with access to citizens' observations, needs, and ideas for the Park and critical feedback on Park concepts and plans.

The process for this plan included four (4) steering committee meetings, four (4) public meetings, and two (2) focus group meetings. In addition, an online public opinion survey

Meetings	Purpose	Date	Time
Committee Meeting #1	Kick-off	Thursday, May 19, 2022	7:00-8:30 PM In-person
Web Based Survey		June 27 through November 14	
Public Meeting #1	Programming	Monday, June 27, 2022	7:00-9:00 PM In-person & virtual
Committee Meeting #2	Analysis & Initial Concepts	Monday, August 15, 2022	7:00-8:30 PM Virtual
Focus Group Meeting #1	Active Recreation	Monday, September 19, 2022	7:00-8:30pm Virtual
Public Meeting #2	Initial concepts	Monday, September 26, 2022	7:00-9:00 PM In-person & virtual
Committee Meeting #3	Draft Plan Preview	Monday, October 17, 2022	7:00-8:30 PM Virtual
Focus Group Meeting #2	Passive Rec/ Senior/ Community Groups	Monday, October 24, 2022	6:00-7:30 PM Virtual
Public Meeting #3	Draft Presentation	Monday, November 14, 2022	7:00-9:00 PM In-person & virtual
Committee Meeting #4	Revisions to Draft Plan	Monday, January 30, 2023	7:00-8:30 PM Virtual
Public Meeting #4 - Final Plan to Authority	Final Plan	Monday, February 13, 2023	7:00-9:00 PM In-person & virtual

Figure 1.2 Project Schedule

was posted and advertised on the Dauphin-Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority website to gather additional public input. It was important for the project team to learn about citizens' observations, needs, and visions, and to incorporate what was learned into the master plan.

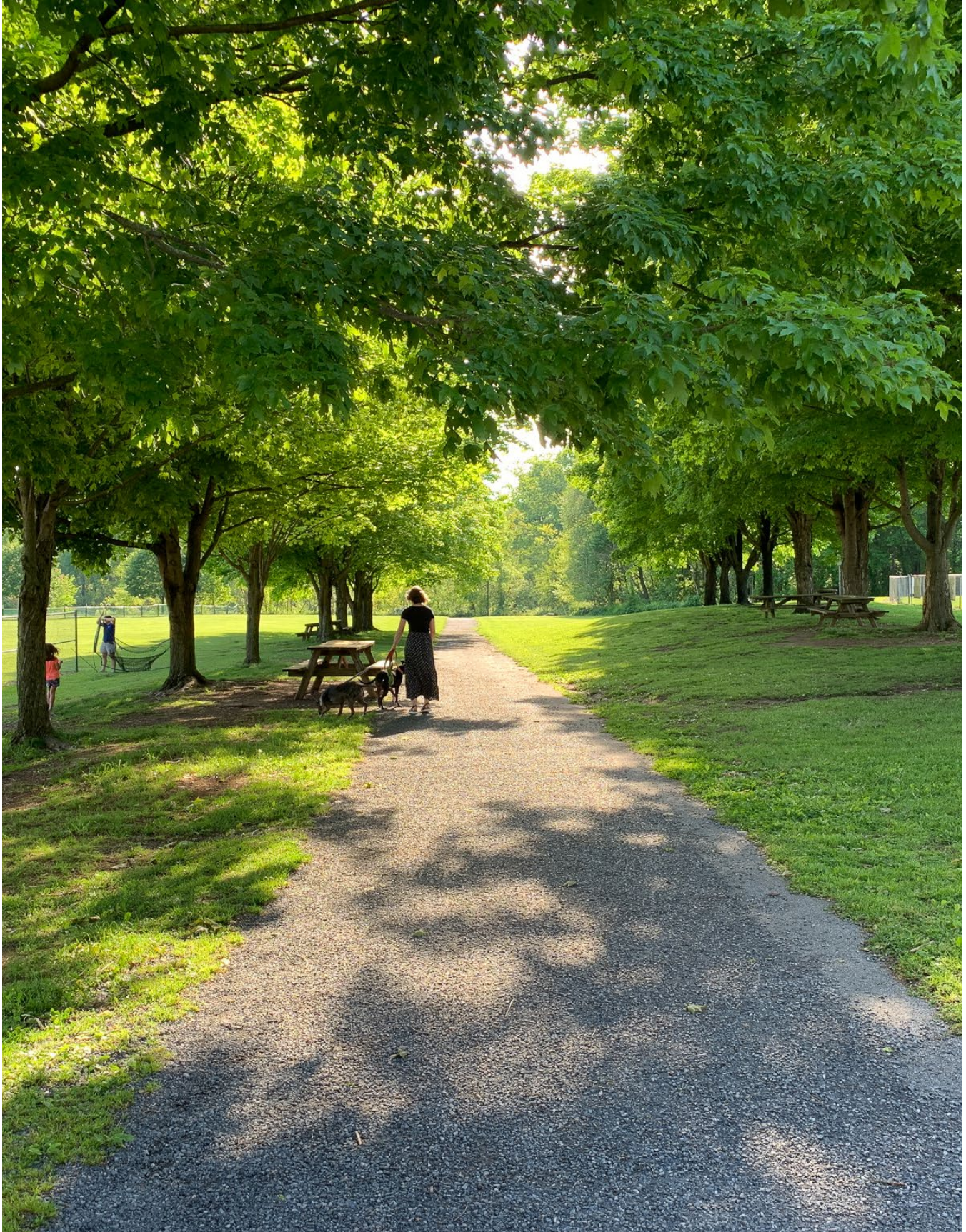
Data Collection & Methodology

Elements for this plan were compiled using the best available information. This includes Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping from Dauphin County and

topographic information from PASDA (Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access). Site reconnaissance visits and photos, utility mapping, and previous development plan applications supplied by Dauphin Borough supplemented the GIS information.

The consultants performed an initial field reconnaissance in May 2022 to inventory and document existing conditions of the Park. The consultants visited the site again in September 2022, as well as on additional dates, to gather data related to specific questions regarding park facilities. Site photographs, measurements, and field observations gathered during site visits were valuable throughout the project process.









2 INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Park Description

Dauphin-Middle Paxton Community Park (DMP Park) is a 34.2-acre park located in Dauphin Borough, Pennsylvania. The Park provides the communities in Dauphin Borough, Middle Paxton Township, and the broader region with a variety of amenities and facilities for active and passive recreation.

Regional Context

Middle Paxton Township (the Township) and Dauphin Borough (the Borough) are located within Dauphin County, PA in the south-central area of the Commonwealth. The Borough is located entirely within the Township, except for its western boundary, which is the Susquehanna River. Dauphin County is home to the City of Harrisburg and is bounded by Northumberland County to the north; Perry County to the west; Lebanon and Schuylkill Counties to the east; and York and Lancaster Counties to the south. The region boasts a beautiful confluence of the Appalachian Mountains and the Susquehanna River, with natural and cultural resources that lend themselves to a wide variety of recreational amenities.

Reed, Halifax, and Wayne Townships border Middle Paxton Township to the north; Susquehanna, Lower Paxton, and West Hanover Townships border the Township to the south; East Hanover and Rush Townships to the east; and, across the River, Marysville Borough and Rye and Penn Townships in Perry County to the west.

Middle Paxton Township and Dauphin Borough are in close proximity to a major network of state and interstate highways – SR 0022 and SR 0015 (N-S); Interstates 76, 81, and 83 (E-W) – contributing to ease of access for both employment and recreation in this community.



History

The history of the Dauphin Middle Paxton Community Park has its origins in baseball – long being the favorite pastime for Dauphin. Baseball teams representing Dauphin and associated with the Dauphin Fire Company competed for years in the Dauphin-Perry Leagues. The present-day Kennedy Field was

purchased by the Dauphin Fire Company in 1940. In 1947 – along with the dedication of the Veterans Memorial on the Dauphin-owned parcel – Kennedy Field was dedicated and named to honor the team manager of many years, Joseph Kennedy.

The Middle Paxton Lions Club sponsored ‘Learn to Swim’ programs for many years in the 1950s. The popularity and growth



Dauphin Baseball Club, 1915



Dauphin High School, 1925



Kennedy Field, circa 1950s

of the program inspired the Lions Club to advance funds to form a separate, non-profit corporation to investigate the feasibility of a new swimming pool to serve the community. Mr. Charles Adler donated approximately 7 acres adjacent to site of the Borough-owned Veterans Memorial Park; land grants and incorporation followed, and memberships were sold to purchase and construct a



First Swim Team, circa 1966

community pool at its current site. Significant community support and donations assisted with the financial picture, and the Dauphin Community Pool was opened on May 30, 1966.

In the 1970s, a planning committee composed of Dauphin and Middle Paxton Township representatives developed a plan to construct a community park along Route 225 (now Claster Boulevard) next to Kennedy Field and the swimming pool. The roughly 19-acre site was purchased from Charles Adler & Son Real Estate. Again, the community's financial support in fund raising endeavors supported the creation of the Joint Park Authority, land acquisition, and federal grants for construction. The park began as multi-purpose playing fields, a basketball court, tennis courts, children's play area, toilet facilities/refreshments stand, and a walking course. The DMP Community Park was dedicated in May 1984.



Flag Raising at War Memorial Dedication, 1947

Area & Regional Parks

Middle Paxton Township and Dauphin Borough are part of a region where opportunities to enjoy open space and participate in a variety of recreational activities are many. A wide array of County and State-owned lands complements the recreational offerings of both communities and are listed below:



Detweiler Park, Dauphin County, PA

Municipal Parks

DMP Community Park (owned and operated by the Joint Park Authority) is one of four (4) parks within either Middle Paxton Township or Dauphin Borough. Together, the Township and Borough offer approximately 85 acres of parkland and open space. They offer a varied list of recreational opportunities as well as rental facilities for local events. Walking trails are included in three of the four municipal parks.

Hagy Park

Hagy Park is a semi-wooded area that hosts athletic fields (approximately eight (8) acres), a playground, a tennis court, basketball court, and picnic pavilion. (Located approximately 5 miles from DMP Community Park).

Fishing Creek Community Center

The community center located at Fishing Creek includes a building with kitchen facilities that is available for rent by residents and community groups. In addition, the park boasts a tennis court, basketball court, and playground. The site is approximately 20 acres. (Located approximately 4.5 miles from DMP Community Park).

Ibberson Conservation Area

This beautiful site of approximately 25 acres, tucked in the eastern portion of the Township, has hiking trails and permits hunting. The site is adjacent to the larger, State-operated Ibberson State Park. (Located approximately 3.5 miles from DMP Community Park.)

County Parks

Detweiler Park

Located less than two miles from DMP Community Park, Detweiler Park is the largest park owned and managed by Dauphin County (411 acres). A master plan was recently completed for the future management of the beautiful lands as a passive recreation area. Seven miles of trails traverse the park with the opportunity for visitors to see many varied biosystems, habitats, birds, and animals. (Located approximately 1.5 miles from DMP Community Park.)

Fort Hunter Park and Conservancy

Fort Hunter Park and Conservation area represents a donation of over 50 acres by a philanthropic family for a playground, picnic pavilion, and play field. The mansion that remains on the property is open for tours and features overlooks for taking in magnificent views of the Susquehanna River. Events and festivals are regularly scheduled at Fort Hunter. (Located approximately 5.5 miles from DMP Community Park.)

State Parks & Gamelands

Joseph E. Ibberson State Park

Open to hunting and hosting over 8 miles of hiking trails, the 800-acre Ibberson State Park and Conservation Area occupies a hard-wood forest that makes a connection to the Appalachian Trail via the Victoria Trail. The trails afford lengthy hikes of moderate difficulty as well as snowshoeing in the winter. (Located 10 miles from DMP Community Park.)

Boyd Big Tree Preserve & Conservation Area

A newer acquisition to the State Park system, this 1,025-acre site has an interconnected trail system with varying difficulty levels and ridgetop views. It also allows seasonal hunting. (Located five miles from DMP Community Park.)

State Game Lands

State Game Lands No. 211 provides approximately 45,000 acres in Dauphin, Lebanon, and Schuylkill Counties with connections to the Appalachian Trail and the Horseshoe Trail and hiking and hunting opportunities. A former railroad bed traverses these game lands and provides opportunities for multi-seasonal activities. The Pennsylvania Game Commission regulates the public shooting range located within the game lands, as well as the safety and use of the remainder of the site.

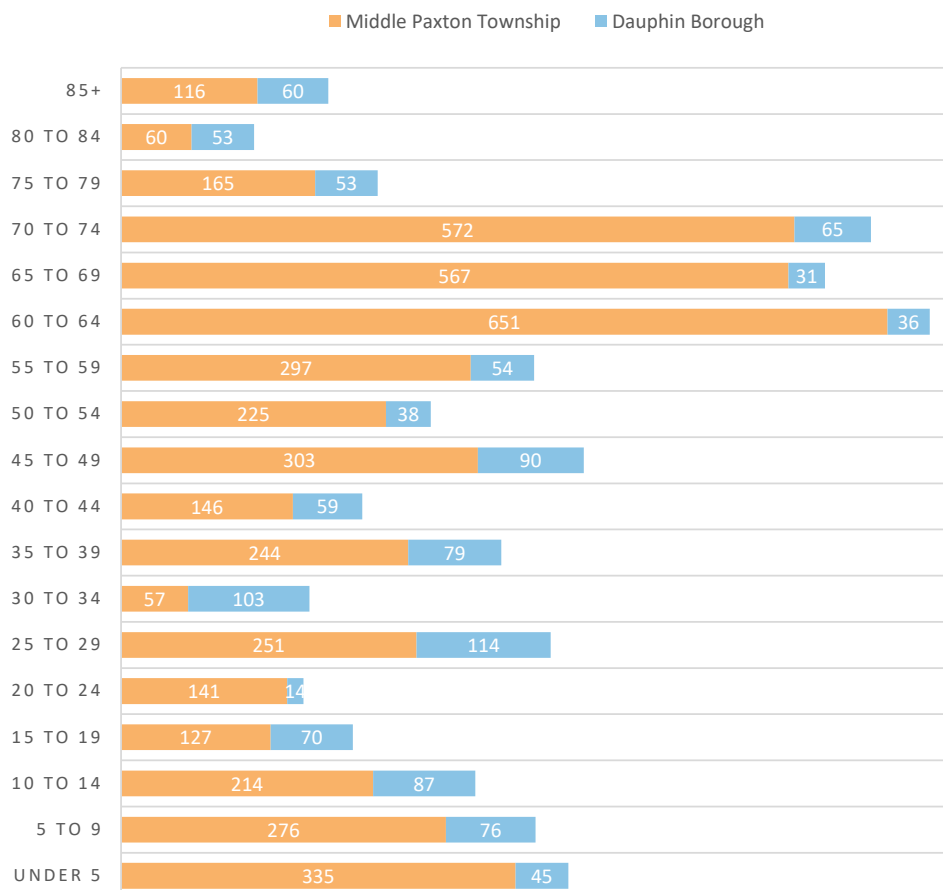
Demographics

Demographic data for Dauphin-Middle Paxton was also compared to Dauphin County and Pennsylvania to assess general demographics within the region.

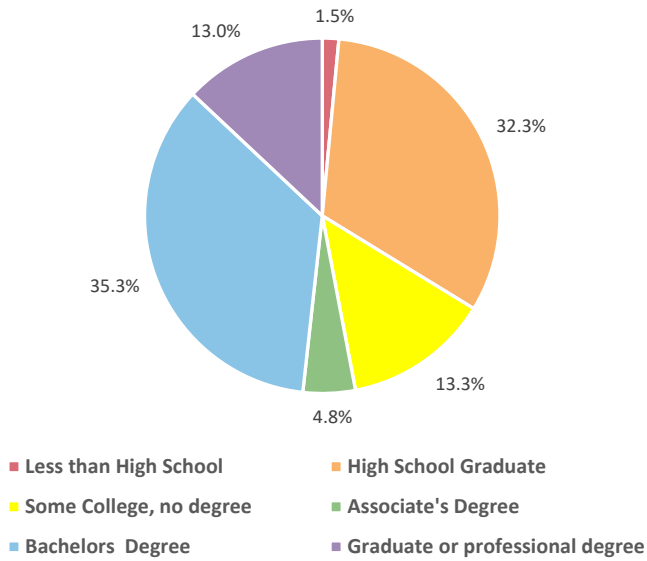
According to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS), Dauphin Borough and Middle Paxton Township had a combined population of 6,121 residents in 2021. The Tri-County Regional Planning Commission population growth projections estimate that Dauphin Borough will remain stable over the next two decades, with a growth of only 2% from 2020 to 2040; while Middle Paxton Township is predicted to grow by 10% in population in the same time period.

For the DMP Community Park Master Plan, the Authority explored activities that are meaningful to all ages and abilities. The data presented above reveal that, currently, the largest percentage of the Dauphin-Middle Paxton population (33%) are residents 60-75 years. Forecasted growth in Dauphin Borough is low due to the full development within the Borough boundaries. The growth projected for Middle Paxton Township is moderate. Based on the desires expressed in the Comprehensive Plan, residents do not support infrastructure that encourages growth. Rather, they see the need for services to match the needs of the current population.

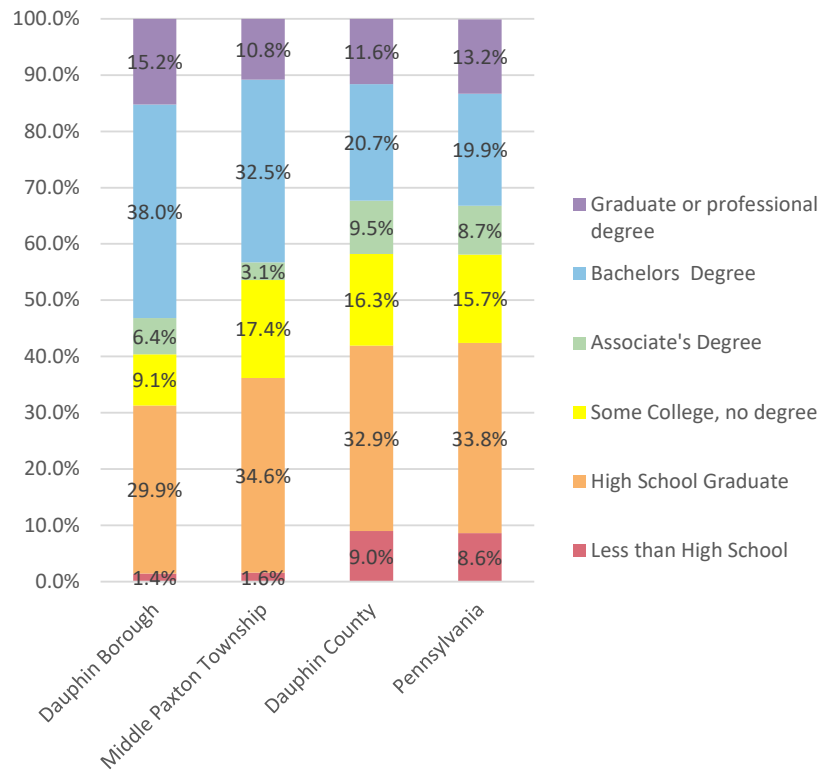
POPULATION BY AGE GROUP



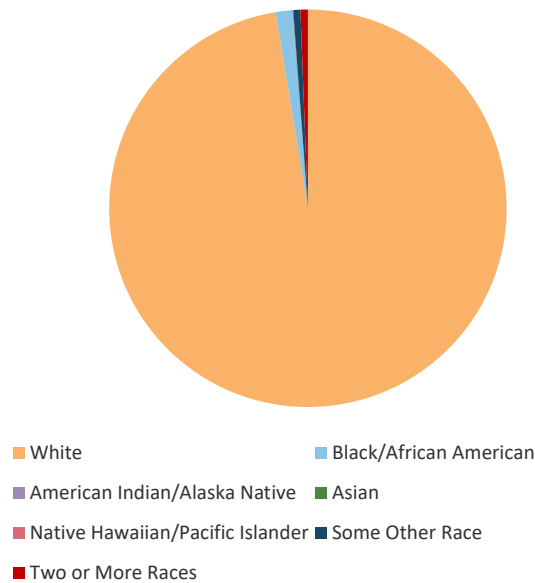
Educational Attainment, 25 Years and Over
Dauphin Borough + Middle Paxton Township Avg.



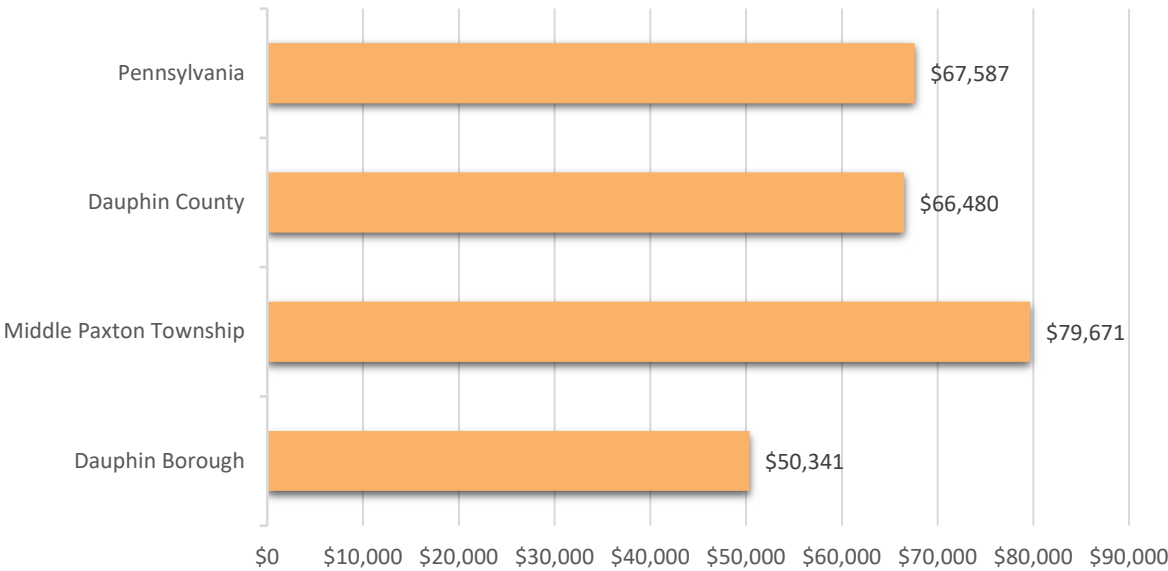
Educational Attainment, 25 Years and Over



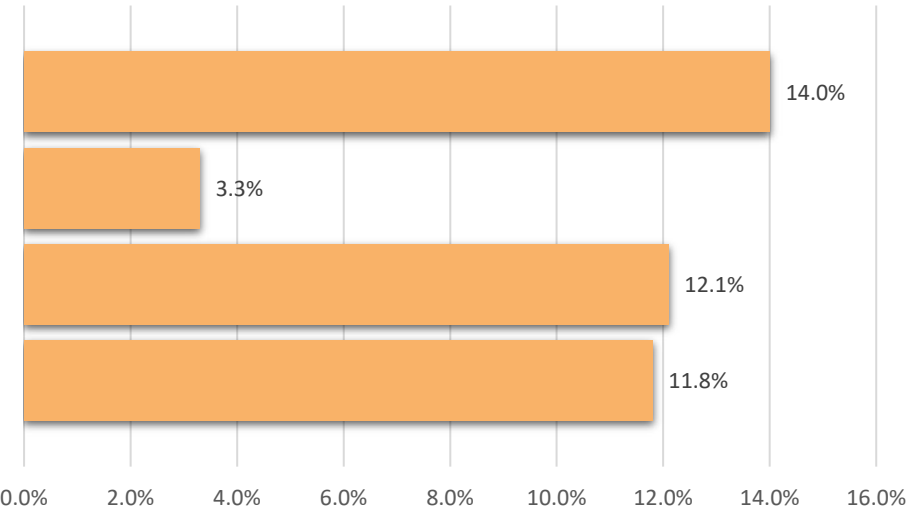
Racial Makeup of Middle Paxton
Township + Dauphin Borough



Median Household Income 2021



Poverty Rates 2021



Existing Regional and Local Planning Documents

Pennsylvania Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: Recreation for All, 2020

The goal of Pennsylvania's 2020-2024 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan is to help all Pennsylvanians achieve greater access and enjoyment from experiences in the Commonwealth's abundance of local and state parks, state and national forests, trails, rivers, lakes, game lands, and other recreation spaces. Priorities and Recommendations of this plan are as follows:

Health and Wellness

- Educate on the connection between health and outdoor recreation.
- Support programs that connect health and outdoor recreation.
- Equip health care providers with the tools needed to promote the health benefits of outdoor recreation.
- Create walking and biking networks that provide safe, close-to-home access to recreation and encourage healthy behavior in communities.

Recreation for All

- Provide opportunities for everyone to regularly engage in outdoor recreation.
- Enhance recreational amenities to fit the needs and expectations of underserved people.
- Provide equitable access to outdoor recreation and conservation programs.

- Build a diverse workforce and volunteer base.

Sustainable Systems

- Address infrastructure and maintenance needs in Pennsylvania's existing outdoor recreation areas.
- Protect and conserve lands and waters considering the impacts of climate change on outdoor recreation.
- Foster stewardship for Pennsylvania's recreation areas and natural, cultural, and historic resources.
- Design outdoor recreation areas to minimize impacts on the environment or conflicts among user groups.

Funding and Economic Development

- Protect and expand public and private investments in outdoor recreation.
- Build strategic coalitions to maximize the economic impacts of outdoor recreation in Pennsylvania.
- Demonstrate the benefits and impacts of nature-based solutions to addressing community needs.

Technology: Using New Tools to Improve Engagement

- Increase mobile connectivity in outdoor recreation.
- Develop best practices for emerging outdoor recreation technologies.
- Use technologies to support health goals and find places to recreate outdoors.
- Enrich the understanding of the natural, cultural, and historic aspects of the outdoors through technology.

The DMP Joint Park Authority has considered all of these elements for the master site development plan for the DMP Community Park.

Dauphin County Comprehensive Plan: “Growing Together”, 2016, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission

The Tri-County Regional Planning Commission spear-headed the drafting and enactment of the Dauphin County Comprehensive Plan entitled ‘Growing Together’. The public opinion survey for this effort clearly identified community desire for providing park and recreation areas throughout the County as a priority for all planning efforts. The ‘Parks & Recreation’ section under ‘Growing our Communities’ emphasized that access to parks from residential communities should be a guiding principle in locating park facilities. A one-mile radius is considered a reasonable distance for biking and walking, showing that the DMP Community Park facility exists in a prime location for access. Additionally, safe, non-motorized access to parks should be feasible. ‘Growing our Environment’ stresses the need for strict adherence to governing water quality, stormwater management, and floodplain, wetland, and riparian buffer controls within all developed areas including park development.

Dauphin County Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Study, 2009, Dauphin County Parks and Recreation Department, Dauphin County Planning Commission, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission

Dauphin County boasts 167 county and municipal parks with a total of 2,381 acres. The Northern Section of the County (including the DMP Community Park)

was assessed for its current inventory of recreational amenities and found to be in the surplus of most indicators for fields and courts. The planning for improvements to county and municipal parks should consult current NRPA (National Recreation Planning Association) guidelines for proposed amenities based on populations and age. Attention to this report and associated metrics should be considered as the Authority manages the future of the Park.

Dauphin County Return on Environment Study, 2016

This study, produced by Dauphin County in association with Audubon Pennsylvania and the Appalachian Conservancy, documents and encourages a ‘return on environment’ matrix of cost-based decisions when approaching decisions on land use, infrastructure investments, and the preservation and protection of open spaces.

Middle Paxton Township & Dauphin Borough Joint Comprehensive Plan: The Place We Call Home, 2016, Middle Paxton Township and Dauphin Borough

The most recent update to the Joint Comprehensive Plan for Middle Paxton Township and Dauphin Borough in 2016 provides two key points that are directly related to the master planning efforts of the DMP Community Park: (1) The community supports the current services offered to its residents with little support to expand infrastructure for the purpose of encouraging development; and (2) The Dauphin-Middle Paxton Joint Park (DMP Community Park) is a true community identifier and asset.

A full build-out of Middle Paxton Township anticipates that the Township could realize an additional 8,200 residents, based on the current zoning, while Dauphin Borough may realize an additional 113 persons (by 2036).

Key recommendations from the Plan affecting the master planning effort at DMP Community Park include:

1. Improvements to Claster Boulevard at Peters Mountain Road (SR 225)
2. Completion of an overall parks and recreation plan for the main parks located in the community, and
3. Provide a primary and secondary trail system to connect Middle Paxton Elementary School to Dauphin Borough and, ultimately, the Susquehanna River.

Items #2 and #3 were included in the Action Plan from this document. Item #3 has been included as a component of the DMP Community Park Master Plan.

Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP). A ‘greenway’ is defined as a strip of undeveloped land near an urban area set aside for recreational use or environmental protection. The mission of the SGP, established in 2007, is to “...grow the Greenway by connecting communities, promoting active healthy living and facilitating collaborative partnerships along the Susquehanna River...”. Collaborations with the SGP on the Comprehensive Plan’s stated desire to connect the community through the DMP Community Park to the Dauphin Borough boat launch access point on the river may be beneficial to both parties.

Local Recreational Planning

Dauphin Swimming Pool- Conditions Assessment & Feasibility Study, August 2022, Dauphin Recreation Association

The Dauphin Recreation Association (DRA) commissioned a study of the Dauphin Swimming Pool in 2020 to assist in the planning for rehabilitation and enhancements necessitated by age and use. The study included a physical assessment of the facility (pool, support buildings, and grounds), data gathering, and a public participation process. Because the Pool exists within the limits of the DMP Community Park, the Steering Committee has decided to include the planning elements and recommendations into this master planning effort for the Park. This includes the prioritization of pool improvements within the context of the full park master plan. The full Study is included in the Appendix of this report.

The master planning effort for the Park was underway approximately five (5) months prior to the completion of the DRA pool study.

Water Resources Planning

Susquehanna River Management Plan, 2011, PA Fish & Boat Commission

This planning document provides a comprehensive look at the biological, hydrological, and geomorphic features of the second largest drainage area east of the Mississippi River and the largest of the Atlantic coast. As Dauphin Borough and the DMP Community Park are direct neighbors to this resource, this plan can provide the basis for significant educational opportunities for the recreating residents of Dauphin Borough and Middle Paxton Township.

Comprehensive Plan for the Water Resources of the Susquehanna River Basin, 2021 – 2041, Susquehanna River Basin Commission

This Comprehensive Plan serves as a framework for the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) to manage the Basin's water resources and as a guide for SRBC programs and activities. The Plan establishes goals and objectives for four main areas: water supply, water quality, flooding & drought, and watershed management. The Susquehanna River Basin is divided into six (6) subbasins. The DMP Community Park in Dauphin Borough is located in Area '6' – the Lower Susquehanna Basin. Proposed maintenance activities for the Park should be reviewed regularly to ensure they support water quality and watershed management goals.

Source Water Protection Plan, 2015, Capital Region Water and Susquehanna River Basin Commission

A joint effort of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission and the Capitol Region Water, this plan addresses critical measures to employ to protect the safe drinking water supply for the region. There are two (2) intakes for the Lower Susquehanna Basin: DeHart Reservoir in Rush Township, Pa and the Susquehanna River in Harrisburg, PA. The DMP Community Park location is associated with the Susquehanna River intake in Zone A of the Source Water Protection (SWP) Area---within a 0.25-mile buffer area which includes Clarks Creek and Stoney Creek. Attention to and education about emergency planning for spill responses are included as proposed maintenance activities for the DMP Community Park.

Stormwater Management & Flood Control Planning

Dauphin County Stormwater Management Plan, Act 167, Dauphin County Conservation District

Dauphin County, acting through its Conservation District, established the required stormwater management regulations in 2010 as an update to the initial Act 167 Plan for the Mid-Dauphin Basins in 2003. Six (6) watersheds exist within the Mid-Dauphin Basin and the release rates described in this Act 167 plan reflect the same ones developed in 2003. The DMP Community Park exists within the Clark Creek watershed of the 'Central Planning Region' along with Stony Creek, Fishing Creek, Powell Creek, Armstrong Creek and Gurdy Run. All of these watersheds represent rural and mountainous areas with some residential and commercial developments. The plan directs the technical guidelines for water quality control, volume control, peak rate control and total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for development activities subject to stormwater management requirements. The Clark Creek (the current watershed area that encompasses DMP Community Park) is classified as a high-quality-cold water fishery special protection water.

Cultural & Historic Resources Planning

Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan - Building Better Communities: The Preservation of Place in Pennsylvania, 2012-2017, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Residents of Dauphin Borough and Middle Paxton Township have expressed their desire to retain the charm and character of their communities, which exist in a unique setting that enjoys the natural beauty of both the mountains and the Susquehanna River. This Statewide preservation plan provides guidance for communities interested in restoring and protecting important historical and cultural resources – as well as suggesting important partners in documenting these places.

Kennedy Field has been noted by the community as a facility that represents a unique relationship to the history of athletics in the Dauphin Middle Paxton community. The Veterans Memorial, a tribute to those who served in the two World Wars, was established within the Borough parcel of the DMP Community Park in 1948 and offers the opportunity to showcase another historical treasure. It is recommended that the Dauphin Middle Paxton Historical Society be engaged in any efforts to provide cultural or historic information about the DMP Community Park in interpretive panels, signage, etc.

Site Conditions

DMP Community Park is a 30.7-acre park located in Dauphin Borough. The Park site sits 'up the mountain' from Dauphin Borough and is bounded by Claster Boulevard to the east, SR 225/Peters Mountain Road to the north, residences that abut Erie and High Street to the south, and a wooded residential parcel to the west.

The site that is known as the "DMP Community Park" is composed of several parcels. Most of the parcels are owned by the Dauphin Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority, which was established in 1979 to oversee all aspects of the Park. It is governed by a seven (7) member board with representation from both Dauphin Borough and Middle Paxton Township. One parcel is under the ownership of Dauphin Borough; based on the history of park usage, easements still exist adjacent to the parcel showing past pedestrian access pathways from the Park down into the Borough. However, the consultant team was unable to obtain any reliable information confirming the legal status of these access ways.

Land Use and Zoning

Dauphin County and the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission prepared the Zoning Map for Dauphin Borough, which was adopted in 2007. The DMP Community Park occupies the Conservation and R-3 Residential Zones:

R-3 Residential Zone

Purpose: To encourage: a more efficient use of land and public services; more flexible land development; innovations in residential development so as to conserve and to promote the efficient use of open space; and various forms of single-family and multi-family residential development.

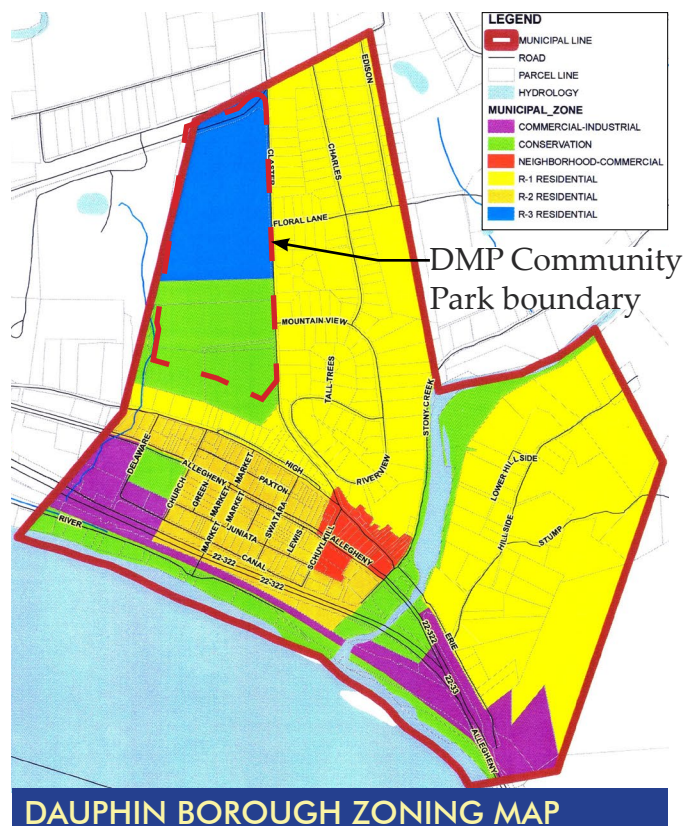
Uses permitted by right: Single-family detached, semi-detached, and attached dwellings; two-family dwellings; apartments; public park, playground, or recreation area; churches; accessory buildings incidental to the uses mentioned.

Conservation Zone

Purpose: To protect certain areas of the Borough because of problems or difficulties that either exist or could be created if improper development were to occur.

Uses permitted by right: Woodland, game preserve, wildlife sanctuary, conservation activity, public parks or recreation areas, outdoor plant nurseries, single-family detached dwellings, and accessory buildings incidental to the uses mentioned. Private recreation areas and home occupations are uses permitted by special exception.

Proposed improvements to the DMP comply with the full intent of the zoning regulations.





EXISTING CONDITIONS MAP

Deed Restrictions & Parcel Information

Easements: Several utility access easements exist on the park parcels. There are gas, sanitary sewer, and water supply easements. These are shown on the various utility plans/partial surveys that are contained in the appendix of this report.

Utilities

The site is served by the following public utilities: water, sanitary sewer, natural gas and electric.

Water: Supplied to the site by Capitol Region Water. An 8” PVC main is located on the eastern side of Claster Boulevard. Two separate existing services exist for the pool complex. An additional service line exists to the restroom and concession buildings near Sheetz Field.

Sanitary Sewer: The Borough services the Park with 8-inche PVC sanitary sewer mains that exist in Claster Boulevard in two disconnected locations; approximately 176 linear feet near Floral Lane and approximately 115 linear feet near Mountainview Lane. A deep, 8-inch PVC (15-foot depth) sanitary lateral with a meter connects to this Mountainview Lane section and traverses the site to the east before turning south down the slope and connecting into the 12” PVC main located in Erie. Connections from the restroom buildings near Sheetz Field are made to the shallower system in Floral Lane. Connection locations to the system from the abandoned restroom structure at Kennedy Field are unknown. Any new connections should be discussed with the Borough’s Public Works Director and Borough engineer to establish which sewer district would receive the proposed flow.

Natural Gas: UGI maintains a high-pressure 12-inch gas main on the Park site which enters the Park at the northwest corner of the site from Peters Mountain Road. The main traverses the site between the T-Ball field and Sheetz Field before re-connecting to the system in Claster Boulevard. There are no service connections to the Park from this main.

Electric: Pennsylvania Power and Light (PPL) services the Park site with overhead service on poles located at various between the pool complex and fields and extending to the rear (western edge) of the site.

Topography

The topography of the Park site reflects its location at the “top of the hill”. The site occupies an elevation of approximately 100 feet above the Susquehanna River and the downtown area of the Borough below, affording excellent views of the Susquehanna River from the southern boundary of the Park.

The wooded southern boundary of the parcel reflects the most extreme slope (3:1 or 33.3%). Kennedy Field represents the beginning of the “plateau”. From the southern boundary to the northern boundary of the parcel, the site enjoys a modest grade toward its terminus with Peters Mountain Road for the multiple field, court, and pavilion uses. These grades were based on the planned field development. There are several areas between the athletic facilities where greater slopes exist.

The wooded western area of the Park begins a “drop” to a tributary of the Susquehanna River located past the site’s western boundary. From the western edge of the playing fields and tennis courts, the site descends approximately 30 feet to the property line.

Soils & Hydrology

DMP Community Park exists at the confluence of both river and mountain geomorphic entities. Soils represented include shaly silt loams at varying and increasing slopes on the site. The site exists within areas generally used for agricultural purposes, are well-drained, and support strong vegetative growth opportunities. A full Custom Soil Resource Report provided by the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) can be found in the Appendix of this report.

Three specific types of shaly silt loams are noted in the soil survey and are differentiated by slope:

1. CIB2—Calvin-Leck Kill shaly silt loams, 3 to 8 percent slopes, moderately eroded
2. CIC2—Calvin-Leck Kill shaly silt loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes, moderately eroded
3. KaE2—Klinesville shaly silt loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes, moderately eroded

Calvin-Leck Kill shaly silt loams, specifically, represent soils weathered from shale and siltstone. They have a high degree of ability to transmit water. Infiltration rates are expected to be good for any stormwater management practice employing infiltration for water quality purposes. Additionally, the soils receive a high rating for the recreational uses of parks and trails.

The site exists in the Lower Susquehanna River Basin watershed and drains to a tributary of the Susquehanna River.

Circulation & Access

The DMP Community Park receives all access from Claster Boulevard, an arterial feeder road that extends north from the riverfront

area of Dauphin Borough. Currently, five (5) vehicular access points exist off of Claster Boulevard for the Park:

- One at Kennedy Field for access to a gravel road to storage/restroom buildings,
- Two for the parking area of Dauphin Pool, and
- Two for the parking area at the northern portion of the site that serves the field complex.

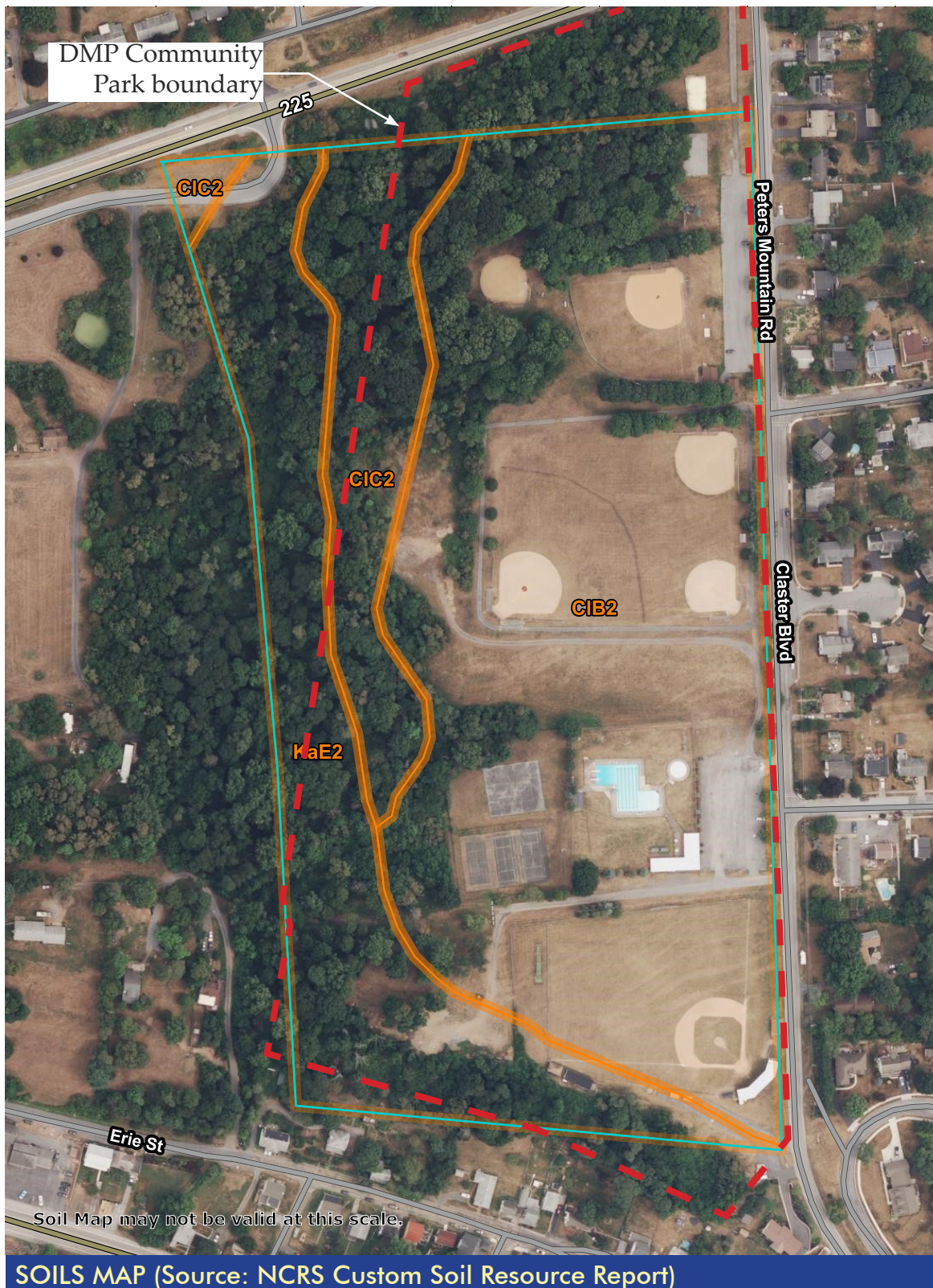
The southern-most access point at Kennedy Field is located where sight distance is limited, due to the vertical alignment and horizontal curve of Claster Boulevard. Additionally, this access shares space with a residential driveway. The posted speed limit is 25 mph. Residents report having noticed higher speeds in this area. The northern two existing access points to the Park on Claster Boulevard have good sight distances.

Pedestrian access to the site from the neighboring residential area is provided by two striped crosswalks located at Mountainview Lane and Floral Lane. The landings of these crossings do not directly connect to the paved asphalt walking trail on the site.

The Comprehensive Plan has noted that the Claster Boulevard/Peters Mountain Road intersection requires attention, as Peters Mountain Road (SR 225) is a major artery that connects to SR 22.

Historic & Cultural Features

The Dauphin-Middle Paxton communities have a rich industrial history. The Dauphin and Susquehanna Coal Company owned much property in both communities. Dauphin was a transportation hub that prospered as home to the Pennsylvania Canal before the railroads were built to connect coal mines



to the outside world. The DMP Historical Society has chronicled the history of Kennedy Field from 1947, when it once served as a home to the professional baseball team, the Harrisburg Senators.

In 1948, the Borough erected a Veterans Memorial to honor those who served in the two World Wars. The memorial is located within the Park site and is maintained by the Historical Society.

Opportunities and Constraints

Opportunities

Centralized Location & Ease of Access

The 30+ acres on Claster Boulevard represents a logical placement of a recreation area – close to the denser population center of Dauphin Borough and within two (2) miles of the majority of the residential population of Middle Paxton Township. The park site has existed as part of the community for nearly 40 years and is well-known and appreciated by the community.

Vibrant Use as Active Recreation

The Park is home to active recreation programs of the Dauphin Recreation Association (DRA-pool) and the Dauphin Athletic Association (DAA-softball, baseball, basketball). As families participate with these active organizations, multiple generations have had the opportunity to both spectate and engage in other park activities during game times and swimming events.

Engaged Volunteer Base

While overall operations and maintenance costs and tasks are shared by both municipalities, the upkeep of the fields, concession, and restroom areas is largely done by an organized and energized volunteer base. The interest and effort of this group ensures that the “life” of future improvements envisioned for the park have “ownership” beyond municipal involvement. The monetary value of the labor expended over the life of the park could represent a significant match to future grant applications.

Constraints & Challenges

Environmental

The “active” portion of the DMP Community Park occupies a flat, established recreation area. Plans to utilize the remaining wooded sections for passive, walking trails and nature-observing area will require major effort to both remove invasive plants and install native species. Additionally, foot trails will need to be improved so that they are sustainable. Please see Chapter 4 for Implementation recommendations.

Activities and Facilities

Existing Facilities and Structures

Structural & Use Assessment

The following existing structures within the Park were inspected and reviewed with the Steering Committee during the initial site visit held on May 19, 2022 and a follow-up September 2022 site visit with the Active Recreation Focus group members (mostly members of the DAA).

Picnic Pavilions

Two (2) open-air picnic pavilions are located in the northeastern portion of the park within the existing woodland area. The pavilions are available for rental by the community and host picnic tables, a charcoal grill and trashcans. The pavilions are timber-beam roof structures over a reinforced concrete base slab. The structures are in generally good structural condition. Their location within a shaded area and near the playground is good. They are located at an inconvenient distance from the parking area; this has been noted in public comment. The location of the pavilions in a shaded, private area must be weighed against travel distance.



Sheetz Field Restroom Building

Both the men's and women's restroom structures are sound. Upgrades to both have been made recently and each have one (1) ADA accessible toilet. The men's restroom has two (2) urinals and two (2) stalls. The women's restroom has three (3) stalls. The DAA reports maintenance concerns about the sanitary sewer service connecting the facility to the Borough system across Cluster Boulevard to the system in Floral Lane, with minimal slopes causing capacity issues for flushing.

Sheetz Field Concession/Storage Building

The concession/ storage building adjacent to the restroom facility is timber frame constructed building with a small concession area/ kitchenette, service windows facing the ballfields, and a storage space accessible by two garage bay doors in the rear. Lack of concession space was cited multiple times in the Active Recreation Focus group discussion. Concession sales are a vital component of the DAA program. Participants discussed re-allocating some of the storage space for concession use. The storage portion of the building is ideally located to be central to all of the fields and close to parking.





Kennedy Field Storage Building

Located on the southern boundary of the Park, the storage building is located on a gravel drive approximately 500 feet west of the driveway intersection with Cluster Boulevard. The storage facility currently houses maintenance equipment (mowers, tools, etc.) for the upkeep of the Park. The building is a masonry block building and in sound condition.

Kennedy Field Restroom Building

The restroom building associated with Kennedy Field has been inoperable for the past several years due to water supply problems. Little to no maintenance has been performed on the structure in recent years. This building is an identical style masonry block building to the adjacent storage building. A portable toilet is currently located near the field grandstand.





Kennedy Field Grandstands & Dugouts

Grandstand seating has been recently replaced and is in very good condition. Dugouts, too, are in sound structural condition and offer seating and shade. There are currently no ADA accessible ramps for seating in the grandstand area. Modifications to the current entrance to the grandstand would be required to be consistent with accessibility requirements. Additionally, a separate ADA-accessible seating area with shade could be developed adjacent to the dugout area.

Kennedy Field Concessions & Storage Building

A small building sits adjacent to the grandstand and dugout, on Cluster Boulevard. It features a small concessions area and storage room, which houses DAA equipment. Due to its proximity to the curved portion of the road, this building is said to have been hit by a vehicle on at least one occasion.





*Dauphin Pool Building***

**The Dauphin Pool building bathhouse and concession area evaluation is contained in the DRA 'Pool Conditions Assessment & Feasibility Study' contained in the appendix of this report. Modifications and enhancements to the current structures are proposed as part of the overall pool improvement plan which has been incorporated into this master plan.



Programming

Dauphin Recreation Association (DRA)

In 1964, the Dauphin Recreation Association was created as a non-profit corporation established to oversee and operate the swimming pool. The Association has maintained and enhanced the original Lions' "Learn to Swim" program and swim team program to include aquatic programs for adults, water safety, and life-saving. The DRA programming is limited to summertime usage of the pool from Memorial Day through Labor Day each year. Pool memberships and day-passes are sold for the enjoyment of the pool.

Dauphin Athletic Association (DAA)

The DAA was established to 'provide eligible athletic participants the opportunity to participate in a variety of athletic programs to promote athletic fitness, skill and awareness... and to uphold the highest standard of ethical practice of all athletic committees...and to oversee all operational aspects of each athletic committee'. Current programs exist under the DAA umbrella for baseball, softball, soccer and basketball. Currently, only the baseball and softball programs use the DMP Community Park for practices and games. The baseball and softball seasons generally open in late March and extend through October of each calendar year.

Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

Dauphin and Middle Paxton scouting programs have utilized the DMP Community Park for aspects of their programs. These groups have also participated with the Joint Park Authority as volunteers. Service and Eagle Scout projects have provided the Park with the woodland walking trails that currently exist. The scouting community continues to assist with the upkeep of these trails, as well as creation of informational kiosks, benches, and signage. Both the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts had representation at the Passive Recreation Focus Group and indicated their willingness to participate in future service endeavors with the Authority.

Ecological Management Plan Summaries

As part of this report, three (3) ecological management plans were created by American Engineers Group (AEG). Full copies of the Natural Resource Management Plan, Invasive Species Management Plan, and Forest Stewardship Plan can be found in the appendix of this report. These plans are summarized below:

Natural Resource Management Plan

The primary objective of the Natural Resource Management Plan is to develop a baseline of natural resources within Dauphin-Middle Paxton Community Park and identify steps to maximize community value of these resources. Based on community input, the multiple goals of the Natural Resources Management Plan include: Improve Habitat Quality, Improve Recreational Access, Improve Scenic Beauty, Protect Water Quality, and Provide Other Resource Benefits such as Soil Conservation, Air Quality Improvement, Carbon Sequestration.

The dominant forest type found in Dauphin-Middle Paxton Community Park is identified as a red oak – mixed hardwood forest. The geology of the park consists of the Mauch Chunk red shale while the soils include the Calvin-Leck Kill shaly silt loam and Klinesville shaly silt loam. A comprehensive inventory of wildlife species in the park has not been completed; however, casual observations made by park users and county-wide inventories indicate a variety of species that may be encountered. iNaturalist (a social network of naturalists, citizen scientists, and biologists built on the concept of mapping and sharing observations of biodiversity) users have identified 156 bird species, 32 mammal species, 21 reptile species, 18 amphibian species, 1,232 insect species, 108 arachnid species, and 26 species of other invertebrates in the vicinity of Dauphin County.

The management of the natural resources of the Dauphin-Middle Paxton Community Park is closely tied to the management of the forest resource and the control of invasive species. Habitat improvement involves restoring or enhancing conditions necessary to establish or maintain native plant and animal communities. Trails and wildlife viewing areas are vital for educational and passive recreation activities such as nature study, photography, birdwatching, etc. Enhancing the aesthetic value of the park's natural areas by planting wildflowers, flowering shrubs and trees, and plants with seasonal interest can have a myriad of benefits that increase value for the community. Natural vegetation buffers act to stabilize soil, prevent erosion and filter contaminants before they enter waterways. Trees also improve air quality and store carbon dioxide in their fibers, helping to clean the air and reduce the negative effects that this CO₂ could have had on our environment.

Invasive Species Management Plan

The primary objective of the Invasive Species Management Plan is to develop a baseline of invasive species currently found within Dauphin-Middle Paxton Community Park and identify steps to remove and manage these species to support habitat improvement goals identified in the Natural Resources Management Plan.

Invasive species are capable of causing displacement of native plants and animals, reducing biodiversity, competing with native organisms for limited resources, and altering habitats. Invasive species are non-native species whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm. If left to spread, invasive species can have devastating consequences on ecosystems. This can result in adverse impacts and fundamental disruptions of ecosystems.

There are three broad methods of invasive species control: manual, mechanical, and chemical. The most appropriate method depends on a number of factors including the species in question, the size of the population, labor force available, financial resources, etc.

Forest Stewardship Plan

The primary objective of the Forest Stewardship Plan is to protect and develop the forest resources within Dauphin-Middle Paxton Community Park in support of the Natural Resources Management Plan. Key components include ensuring the sustainability and recreational use of the forest land; sustaining non-commodity woodland values such as wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration, water conservation, soil protection, and air quality improvement; protecting the forest lands from threats such as fire, pests, and invasive plants; and maintaining forest health.

The general removal of invasive species and replacement with native plants is the primary recommendation to improve the overall health and function of the forest community and improve the habitat value. The methods for removal of invasive species will depend on the species, size, and availability of labor and professional oversight. When removing invasive species, it is important to re-establish a native plant community as quickly as possible to prevent re-colonization by invasive species. When conducting native re-establishment plantings, consideration should be given to protecting the new plantings from herbivory by deer, rabbits, groundhogs, voles, and other wildlife. Protecting desirable, naturally regenerating seedlings may also be helpful.

Public Participation

Public Meetings

Four (4) public meetings were held between Summer of 2022 and Winter of 2023. Meetings were held in a hybrid format, with attendees participating both in-person and virtually.

Public Meeting 1 – June 27th, 2022

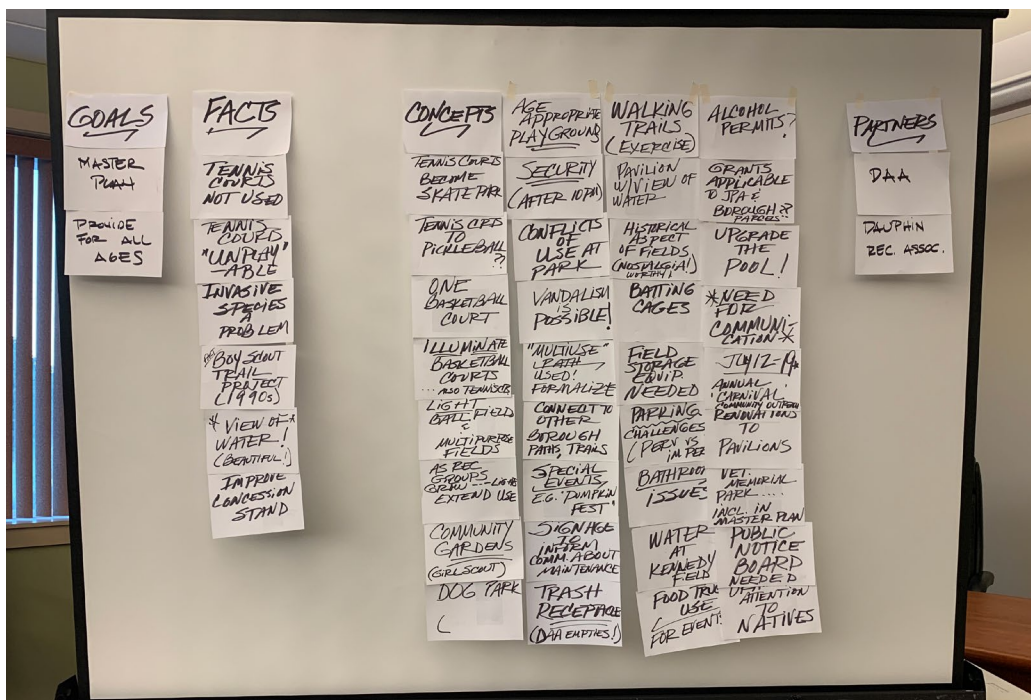
The first public meeting introduced the project, Steering Committee, and consultant team. The team explained the importance of planning; reviewed the project schedule, public participation process, and the project scope; and presented information regarding existing conditions and facilities of the site. The consultant team then facilitated a brainstorming session, during which members of the public offered information about the site and ideas for moving forward. This information was organized into four categories: goals, facts, concepts, and partners. The discussion initiated a wide array of ideas to rejuvenate the Park.

Public Meeting 2 – September 26th, 2022

At the second public meeting, the team reviewed the project schedule, public feedback, and public opinion survey results to date. The consultants presented the draft Mission Statement, a summary of the recently completed Pool Conditions Assessment and Feasibility Study, initial ecological findings, and overall site analysis. Three (3) preliminary concept plans were presented to attendees for their review, questions, and comment. Attendees were each given two sticker “dots” to place on their preferred concepts. The meeting provided direction on which concept should be advanced as the draft master plan. Concept 2 received the most favorable response from the attendees.

Public Meeting 3 – November 14th, 2022

At the third public meeting, the team reviewed the project schedule, public feedback, and public opinion survey results



Ideas generated during a brainstorming session at Public Meeting 1.

to date. The opinion survey was officially closed to responses. The consultants proposed that the draft Park Mission Statement be finalized. Plan refinements that were included from comments received at Public Meeting #2 and Focus Groups were presented by the consultants. The resulting draft master plan was presented to attendees for their review, questions, and comment. A significant amount of discussion centered around the community's desire to retain the current location of the Veterans Memorial and what possibilities existed for pedestrian connections through the Park to the 'lower' section of the Borough near the River.

Public Meeting 4 – February 13th, 2023

To be written.

Focus Group Meetings

The consultant facilitated two (2) focus group meetings to gain the feedback and insights of specific park user groups. The first meeting focused on active recreation and included representation from the Dauphin Athletic Association (DAA – baseball and softball) and Dauphin Recreation Association (DRA – swim team). The second meeting was centered around passive recreation and included representation from park volunteers, Scout organizations, and the Dauphin Middle Paxton Historical Society. Full meeting minutes from these meetings can be found in the appendix of this report.

Active Recreation – September 19th, 2022

The Active Recreation Focus group as attended by DAA officers and members who had prepared for the meeting with a listing of concerns and desires for the programs hosted by DAA (baseball, softball, T-ball, and basketball). Each of the items were

discussed, with priorities being shade and dugout structures for all of the fields. The DRA was also represented, and a discussion of circulation and parking during the peak spring and summer months when baseball and swim team programs overlap was conducted.

Passive Recreation – October 24th, 2022

The Passive Recreation Group contained representation from the local Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the DMP Historical Society and several of the dedicated volunteers who maintain existing woodland trails in the Park, originally cleared and located by Boy Scout service projects. AEG consultants engaged the group with a discussion on the natural “good, bad, and ugly” of the woodland area that buffers the western boundary of the Park from its residential neighbors. Discussion centered on preserving the natural habitats within the area while also entertaining the possibilities for trails that lend themselves to exploration of the area with the careful balance of access and ecological sensitivity. The Historical Society provided insight into the value of the current Veterans' Memorial location and expressed a preference for maintaining that location.

Steering Committee Meetings

Four (4) Committee meetings were held between May of 2022 and January of 2023. The consultants worked with the Committee throughout this master planning process, presenting progress updates and receiving guidance and critical feedback. Full meeting minutes can be found in the appendix of this report.

Public Opinion Survey

A 30-question online public opinion survey was open to the public from June 27th, 2022, until November 14th, 2022. The survey received a total of 269 responses. Responses were kept confidential, and responses were compiled together, analyzed, and used to inform the draft concept plans discussed with the Steering Committee. The complete survey can be found in the appendix of this report. A generalized summary of respondent demographics, park usage, and primary recreational preferences is below.

Important to note is that the survey contained a full section of questions related to the Dauphin Pool. As noted below under “Local Recreational Planning”, the DRA commissioned a study on the pool to inform capital expenditures for modernization. This report was published in August 2022. This DMP Community Park Master Plan includes the recommendations of this report in the overall recommendations for the Park. The opinion survey questions related to the pool help inform the importance residents place on including the pool as part of the overall Park.

Residency of Respondents

- Middle Paxton Township: 72%
- Dauphin Borough: 17%
- 60% of respondents have lived in their homes for >15 years.

Age of Respondents & Household Size

- Respondents age 0-24 years: 4%
- Respondents age 25-64: 83%
- Respondents age 65+: 13%

Where do you live in relation to DMP Community Park?



Area Park Usage

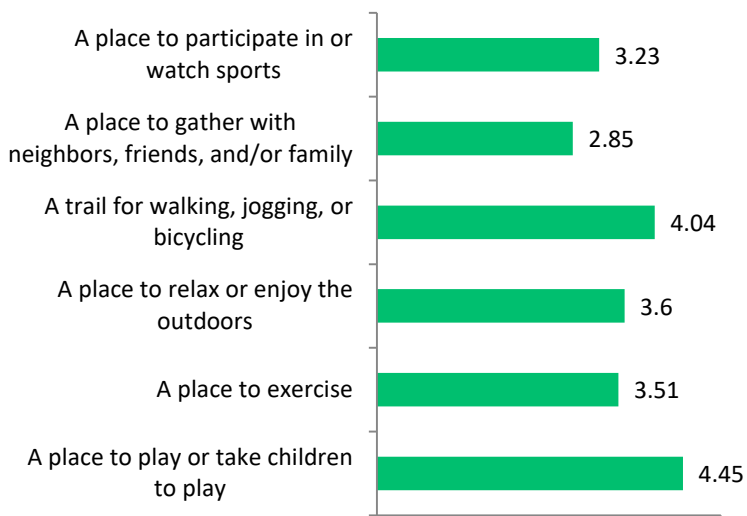
While respondents indicated healthy usage of all the regional parks noted in the ‘Regional Parks System’ section of the report below, the DMP Community Park was overwhelmingly the most noted park when asked about frequency of use.

Primary Informal Recreational Activities

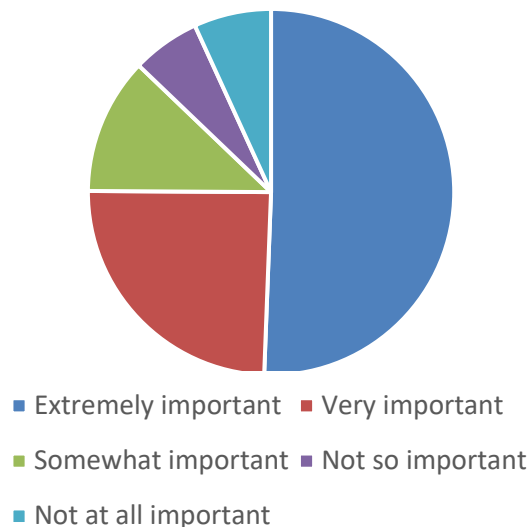
When asked about informal recreational activities currently enjoyed most *within area parks*, the top responses were as follows:

- Walking/hiking: 82%
- Pool swimming: 61%
- Outdoor family events/recreation: 54%
- Playgrounds: 45%
- Nature viewing/ birdwatching: 44%

*Rank the recreational opportunities you want from **DMP Community Park** in order of preference (1 being most preferred)*



How important is retaining the community pool located in DMP Community Park?



Pool Questions

Of the respondents who answered, 42% indicated that they were current members of the pool; 58% were not members.

When asked “How important is retaining the community pool in DMP Community Park?”, over 78% responded that the pool was “very important” or “extremely important” to them.

Why Not?

While some respondents noted that the price of the pool membership, family situation, or family’s lack of enjoyment of swimming were reasons for their lack of membership, the majority of responses indicated the following ‘Other’ responses:

- Outdated facilities; needed maintenance
- Pool schedule
- Lack of shade
- Ownership of pool
- Concession availability

time Close home go Nature trails love walking dog s swim nice available area Trees
space Convenient location park shade playground swim team
community use Location play pool place
kids ball fields walking lot sports trail great convenient
family gather activities picnic good well maintained nature walking track fields
don t Convenience

"Word Cloud" of responses: "What do you like most about DMP Community Park?"

What do you like MOST about DMP Community Park?

Category	# of Mentions
Convenience	44
Pool/Swim Team	41
Sports Teams/Facilities	23
General Park Characteristics	21
Playground	20
Trails/Paths	18
Meeting Space/Pavilion/Community	17
Nature	17
Variety of Activities	13
Maintenance/Quality of Facilities	9
Dog Related	5
Other	3

What do you like LEAST about DMP Community Park?

Category	# of Mentions
Lack of Maintenance/Quality of Facilities	38
Lacking Facilities/Activities	37
Parking Challenges	20
General Concerns	14
Bathrooms	13
Trash	8
Safety/Oversight	7
Focus on Baseball/Softball	6
Organizational Layout	4
Lack of Privacy	1

Many disc golf course tennis courts Dauphin Borough Dauphin help will love community
 participate dog park updating use add dog play need plenty park field
 pool available area think great much nice new years open really
 watch place take keep fenced area upgrades baseball softball fields Keep pool well

"Word Cloud" of responses: "Please share comments/thoughts on DMP Community Park."

Please share comments/thoughts on DMP Community Park.

Ninety five (95) respondents took the time to share specific feedback as noted below:

Category	# of Mentions
Desired Facilities/Infrastructure	40
Pool-Related	24
General Feedback	22
General Maintenance	7
Communication	2

Desired Facilities

The desired facilities included:

- Dog Park
- Renovation of tennis courts; pickleball
- Upgrades to concession areas
- Woodland Trail
- Better bathrooms and maintenance
- Activities for all ages and that reflect current popularity
- Community events: e.g., fall festivals, movies in the park, trivia nights
- Splash pad
- Disc golf
- Walking connections
- Large support for the pool

