



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FAYETTE COUNTY PARKS PLAN MOVING AHEAD

Uniontown, PA – County officials are gearing up for the next phase of development at two Fayette County parks.

Fayette County commissioners Dave Lohr, chairman; Vincent Vicites and Scott Dunn recently approved the final Master Site Development Plans for Dunlap Creek and German-Masontown parks, following a lengthy process and collaboration with the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

Large groups of park users and surrounding community members were asked to weigh in on the project in fall 2019, providing crucial input that led to the initial site plan designs. County officials, along with David King of Gibson-Thomas Engineering and parks and recreation professional Jim Watenpool, then presented the proposed designs during an open house for all Fayette County citizens in June.

Fayette County Community Development Specialist Sue Martin said the open house resulted in more detailed plans including the community's likes, dislikes, wants and needs.

Under the plans, pavilions, playground equipment, the amphitheater and baseball fields will be upgraded and/or moved at German-Masontown Park. New park features will include a walking loop trail, skate park, splash pad, all-purpose court, dog park, hiking trails and more.

At Dunlap Creek Park, a walking/bike trail circling the lake, dog park, "green" community and education center and more will be added.

"Since the open house, the changes were few, and what has been completed are the narratives that DCNR then approved," Martin said. "The resolutions will be signed at the December commissioners meeting, and I will send them to DCNR for the grant to be closed out. Implementation of the plans can begin after that, depending on funding availability."

The Fayette County Parks Master Plans project was financed in part by a grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program (Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund and Environmental Stewardship Fund), under the administration of DCNR's Bureau of Recreation and Conservation.

Martin said, while no date has been set for work to begin, county officials plan to partner with the parks' municipalities and other local organizations to pursue grants for in-kind work.

"This project is important to the county and its citizens because we now have a thoughtful plan designed to improve two more of our county parks," Martin said. "The community and local municipal officials have had continual input during the planning process to ensure the parks are responsive to the wants and needs of our citizens."

To learn more about Fayette County, visit www.FayetteCountyPA.org.

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