



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FAYETTE COUNTY PARKS RECEIVING UPGRADES

Uniontown, PA – Major renovation projects at two Fayette County parks are now moving to the funding phase.

Fayette County Commissioners Dave Lohr, Vince Vicites and Scott Dunn on Thursday approved the Master Plan Project design drafts for both German-Masontown and Dunlap Creek parks.

County officials, along with David King of Gibson-Thomas Engineering and parks and recreation professional Jim Watenpool, presented the designs during an open house last week at the Public Service Building in Uniontown.

Fayette County Community Development Specialist Sue Martin said the event was a chance for citizens to learn more about the changes coming to their hometown parks, as well as discuss their likes, dislikes and other ideas for incorporation.

“The plans are what the community wants, and the type of each facility is dependent on what the committees who are involved at the time decide,” Martin said. “They’re not written in stone, but the designs will be followed for future development of the parks.”

The plans were designed following two public meetings held last fall, where large groups of park users and surrounding community members were able to share their input on the projects.

As a result, pavilions, playground equipment, the amphitheatre 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.

The Fayette County Parks Master Plans project was financed in part by a grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program; Keystone Recreation; and Park and Conservation Fund. The grant is administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources’ 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 is exciting because the plans enable the county to seek funding for the various projects at the parks and enhance our chances of receiving that funding, as we will have a well-thought-out plan that foundations and DCNR require,” Martin said. “Those groups ultimately don’t want us to just apply for projects that aren’t what the community wants and needs.”

For more information, contact the Fayette County Office of Planning, Zoning and Community Development through www.fayettecountypa.org.

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

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